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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis entitled "**STUDIES ON HYDROLOGY AND MICROBIOLOGY IN THE ESTUARINE ENVIRONMENT OF THENGAPATTINAM , SOUTHWEST COAST OF INDIA**" submitted by me for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy is the result of my original and independent research work carried out under the guidance of **Dr. A. Palavesam, Professor**, Centre for Marine Science and Technology, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Rajakkamangalam and it has not been submitted for the award of any degree, diploma, associateship, fellowship of any University or Institution.

(J. Mary Bency Bai)

Place: Rajakkamangalam

Date