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Declaration

The research work presented in this thesis entitled "Studies on Nitrifying Microorganisms in Cochin Estuary and Adjacent Coastal Waters" submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, is a bonafide record of the research work done by me under the supervision of Dr. Shanta Achuthankutty, Chief Scientist, National Institute of Oceanography, Regional Centre, Kochi, 682018. No part of this work has previously formed the basis for the award of any degree, diploma, associateship, fellowship or any other similar title or recognition in any universities or institutes.

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