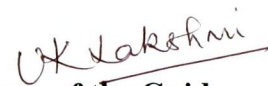


DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis entitled “**Neural Tube Defects (NTDs) and effect of counseling and folic acid supplementation**” submitted to the Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the **Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Food Science and Nutrition** is a record of original research work done by me under the supervision and guidance of **Dr. (Mrs.) U.K. LAKSHMI, M.Sc., M.Phil., Dip.Ed., (Madras), Ph.D. (Avinashilingam) Professor**, Department of Food Science and Nutrition and that it has not formed the basis for the award of any Degree / Diploma / Associateship / Fellowship or similar title to any candidate of any other university.



Signature of the Candidate



Signature of the Guide