

DECLARATION

I, Bharat K Pradhan, hereby declare that the thesis entitled, “**Population Studies and Habitat Characteristics of *Swertia Chirayita* (Roxb ex. Fleming) H. Karst., A Threatened Medicinal Herb in Sikkim Himalaya, and its Conservation**” submitted for the degree of ‘**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**’ in **Science (Botany)** to the **University of North Bengal**, is a *bona fide* and original piece of research work carried out by me under the supervision of Dr Hemant K. Badola, Scientist ‘E’ (Conservation of Biodiversity), at G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development, Sikkim unit, Pangthang-Gangtok, Sikkim as a regular and full time research fellow. I am registered with the University of North Bengal, Raja-Rammohunpur, Dist. Darjeeling, for the Ph.D. with Registration No.168/Ph.D./Bot/1657(R)06(4), dated 11.9.06.

No part of this thesis work has been submitted for the award of any other degree or equivalent elsewhere and is entirely original.

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Place: Pangthang-Gangtok



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