



Rayat Shikshan Sanstha's

**R. B. Narayanrao Borawake College, Shrirampur**

*Affiliated to S.P. Pune University, Pune*

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## **Code of ethics to check malpractices and plagiarism in research**

### **1. Background:**

Teaching, research and extension are vital parts of any higher educational institutions. The status of any institute depends on the excellence of research and education. National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and ranking agencies (NIRF) give considerable weightages to the quality of research undertaken by faculty and students of the institute. Research quality can be considered in various ways. The number of good quality research publications in peer-reviewed reputed journals; their citations, h-index, patents and utility of such research are usually used for such metrics. Research publications carry extensive weightages in the faculty selection, promotions, increment and academic performance index (API) as recommended by the University Grants Commission (UGC) time to time. Therefore, simplicity of what should be considered as a 'research publication' becomes very essential.

Therefore, College has formulated an Anti-plagiarism Committee constituted under the chairmanship of Prin. Dr. N. S. Gaikwad. Committee has framed the guidelines for Research Publications and checks the M. Phil. and Ph.D. thesis and manuscript before publication in journals or seminars/conferences and suggests some corrections to avoid the malpractices in research if any. The college has full-fledged research committee and academic research coordinator reviews the Minor/Major research proposals before submission to different funding agencies. College also follows the guideline made by Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune for research ethics.

### **2. Objectives:**

To create more awareness about predatory publishers and significance of publication ethics so that faculty and students are encouraged to do high quality rigorous research and not submit to desperation to publish poor quality work by taking shortcuts and easy ways.

College provides access to **URKUND** anti-plagiarism detection software. College also has uploaded code of ethics in research on the college website.

### **3. The Anti-plagiarism Committee:**

1. Prin. Dr. N. S. Gaikwad : Chairman
2. Prof. S. N. Shelke : Academic Research Coordinator (Department of Chemistry)
3. Prof. U. L. Bhor : Member (Department of Marathi)
4. Prof. R. R. Sanap : Member (Department of Botany)
5. Dr. S.G. Vaidya : Member (Department of Economics)
6. Mr. A. B. Anandkar : Member (Department of Library)

### **4. Guidelines for Research Publications and Ethics:**

- i. Generally, those journals which are regularly published at least for consecutive five years, do not guarantee publication in short time at cost consideration, publish true and correct information on websites, have reputed academicians on editorial boards and are members of reputed bodies like COPE can be considered as good journals and research publications in such journals can be considered for academic purposes. Papers published in private in-house journals, proceedings of workshops, seminars, refresher/orientation courses should not be considered as research publications.
- i. In accordance with the UGC Regulations 2010 and 2018, our University should develop a comprehensive faculty-wise list of quality Journals and reputed publisher in each subject. This should be used as a reference when dealing with research guides recognition, Ph. D / M. Phil submissions, selection, confirmation, increments, career advancement, as well as for considering scores under categories III A and B of the API.
- ii. To qualify individual publications in peer-reviewed / reputed / refereed journals mere ISSN number is not sufficient. The publisher / journal should be indexed in globally accepted databases, should preferably be members of reputed bodies like COPE and must follow publication ethics in a transparent manner where all true, correct and vital information is available on the journal website.
- iv. A good journal that complies with ethics in publishing, which is indexed in reputed agencies like Scopus, Web of Science, Science Direct, Pub-med, SSRN etc. should be considered as reputed journals. Various types of tools and metrics developed by reputed

agencies like Thomson Reuters (Science Citation Index, Impact Factor), Scopus, Scimago (*h* index, SJR) are few of the reliable indicators. Record of citations to a particular publication in other reputed journals is also a very useful parameter to judge the quality of a research paper. In open access, Google Scholar offers citation records and *h5*-index, which can also be considered in the primary evaluation. However, it should be kept in mind that many predatory/bogus journals have managed to enter Google Scholar. Therefore, it is always better not to rely on any single metrics agency but it is best to ensure that the Journals are indexed in at least three of the reputed indexing/metrics agencies and databases.

- v. To organize lectures/workshops on ethics in research for faculty and students.
- vi. As a good publication practice, manuscripts proposed to be published as research articles, thesis, the dissertation may preferably go through screening by individual and Anti-plagiarism committee. All such research manuscripts should be scanned through reputed anti-plagiarism software like **URKUND**, which the S.P. Pune University has subscribed and given to research guides/supervisor and also available in the college.
- vi. College follows the plagiarism policy of S. P. Pune University.

#### **5. Some important Websites for a guideline for research publication:**

1. [www.publicationethics.org](http://www.publicationethics.org)
2. [http://unipune.ac.in/administration\\_files/pdf/Plagiarism\\_Policy\\_University\\_14-5-12.pdf](http://unipune.ac.in/administration_files/pdf/Plagiarism_Policy_University_14-5-12.pdf)
3. [https://www.ugc.ac.in/ugc\\_notices.aspx?id=2079](https://www.ugc.ac.in/ugc_notices.aspx?id=2079)
4. [www.ugc.ac.in › pdfnews › 9836633\\_Research-and-Publication-Ethics](http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/9836633_Research-and-Publication-Ethics)