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Guidelines for Preventing Plagiarism in Research

The guidelines for preventing plagiarism in research at the college level have been put down in the following format:

1) **Introduction**
2) **Definitions of Plagiarism**
3) **U. G. C.'s Observations**
4) **Nature or Levels of Plagiarism**
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6) **General Effects of Plagiarism**
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1) <u>Introduction:</u>

The phenomenon of plagiarism has existed all over the world since the 1st century. In the 1st century a word 'plagiarius' existed in Latin which meant "kidnapper". The broad connotation was kidnapping or stealing something from somebody. The word 'Plagiarism" was derived from this Latin word in English and came to be used around 1620. The English word "Plagiarism" means "kidnapping or stealing somebody's work without acknowledgment". Gradually the term came to be used in research and academic publications. There is an extreme form of plagiarism called 'contract cheating'. This implies paying money to somebody for doing your work related to research or project. Another

form of plagiarism is 'Self-plagiarism' in which somebody cites his work somewhere without attributing to his original work.

There is difference between Copy Right violation and plagiarism. Copy Right violation is a legal crime but plagiarism is a moral offence. The practice of plagiarism has been condemned universally. A great English dramatist and poet Oliver Goldsmith condemns a novelist Laurence Sterne commenting on his novel "Tristam Shandy" (1767) saying that "Sterne , whose manner and style are thought to be original, is unhesitatingly a plagiarist, his borrowed materials are wrought up into a new form".

1) <u>Definitions of Plagiarism</u>:

There is no universally acceptable and comprehensive definition of plagiarism. The following are a few definitions commonly agreed upon:

1) Plagiarism is "using someone else's text without acknowledging it".

2) According to **Bela Gipp** plagiarism means "the use of ideas, concepts, words or structures without appropriately acknowledging the source to benefit in a setting where originality is expected".

3) According to T. **Fishman** Plagiarism occurs "when someone uses words, ideas or work products attributable to another identifiable person or source, without attributing the work to the source from which it was obtained".

3) <u>U.G. C's Observations</u>:

The Minister of State for Higher Education Satya Pal Singh informed in the RajyaSabha that three cases of plagiarism in Ph. D. thesis have been noticed. These cases are against Chandra Krishnamurthy, Vice-Chancellor of Pondicherry University, Anil Kumar Upadhyay, Reader of Mahatma Gandhi KashiVidyapeeth, Varanasi and Vinay Kumar Pathak, Vice-Chancellor of Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam Technical

University, Lucknow. The U. G. C. also received a number of complaints in regard to plagiarism in dissertations and theses all over the country. Hence the U. G. C. passed a Regulation called *Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions (PAIPP) in 2018.

4) <u>Nature or Levels of Plagiarism</u>:

The University Grants Commission has specified four levels of plagiarism:

      i) Level 00: similarities up to 10%= minor similarities

      ii) Level 01: similarities above 10-40%

      iii) Level 02: similarities above 40-60%

      iv) Level 03: similarities above 60%

5) <u>Penalties for Plagiarism</u>:

The U. G. C. defines the following penalties for plagiarism:

(A) <u>For Dissertation /Thesis:</u>

    i) Level 00: No penalty

    ii) Level 01: resubmission of revised script in stipulated time not exceeding 06 months

    iii) Level 02: Student shall be debarred from submitting a revised script for one year

    iv) Level 03: the registration of the student for M. Phil. / Ph. D. shall be cancelled.

(B) <u>Penalties for Publications:</u>

    i) Level 00: No penalty

    ii) Level 01: the student shall be asked to withdraw manuscript

    iii) Level 02:

      i) The student shall be asked to withdraw manuscript

      ii) the student shall be denied a right to one annual increment

iii) Student shall not be allowed to be a supervisor for two years

iv) Level 03:

    i) The student shall be asked to withdraw manuscript

    ii) The student shall be denied a right to two successive annual increments

    iii) The student shall be denied a right to publish for three years.

On Repeated Plagiarism:

    If plagiarism is repeated at Level 03, it will be treated as a serious offence and disciplinary action like termination or suspension will be taken. In case of benefits already paid, the benefit or credit shall be put in abeyance for a period recommended by Institutional Academic Integrity Panel (IAIP).

6) General Effects of Plagiarism:

According to David Wangaard

1) Plagiarism leads to more cheating and corrupts one's ethical/moral code

2) Plagiarism harms one's reputation

3) Plagiarism reduces enjoyment earned through genuine study or effort

4) Plagiarism lowers the standards of learning/research

5) Plagiarism destroys professional reputation

7) Submission of Dissertation / Thesis:

    In the Resolution dated **31/07/2018** the **U. G. C**. has made the following undertaking by the research student and the Guide/Supervisor mandatory:

a) At the time of submission of dissertation or thesis the student shall submit a Certificate stating that the thesis is his/her original work and has been checked through plagiarism tools.

b) The Guide/ Supervisor shall submit a Certificate stating the fact that the work done by the researcher is plagiarism-free.

8) <u>Dos and Don'ts</u>:

The college has defined the following general ethics for teaching and non-teaching faculty engaging in research:

<u>Dos</u>:

i)   The researcher in the college shall carry out his /her research himself or herself without involving a person not concerned with research

ii)   The researcher in the college shall acknowledge all the sources like articles, papers, books and internet materials in appropriate style sheet consulted for research

iii)   The researcher in the college shall acknowledge all the theories applied by him /her in the research

iv)   The researcher in the college shall acknowledge unpublished data made available to him /her by governmental office or NGO for research purpose.

v)   The researcher in the college shall acknowledge the funds/grants received from any agency for carrying out the Research Project/research.

vi)   The researcher in the college shall produce the actual findings or results of his /her study

vii)   The researcher shall follow professional ethics and shall promote academic integrity.

viii) The researcher in the college shall carry out research following the guidelines stipulated by the U. G. C. and affiliating University from time to time.

Don'ts:

i) The researcher in the college shall not get the work done by paying money to anybody

ii) The researcher shall not claim somebody else's findings / results as his /her own

iii) The researcher in the college shall not report his /her own findings /results in different forms in different publications

iv) If the researcher is a co-author of any article, he /she shall not publish any other article using major portion of the co-authored article as his /her own and without the consent of the other co-author/s

v) The researcher in the college shall not carry out any research or publication in such a way as to cause defamation of the college

vi) The researcher in the college shall not carry out any research or publication which will tarnish the teaching profession

9) <u>Plagiarism Checker Soft wares</u>:

Various tools and soft wares have been developed to prevent the evil practice of plagiarism in research and in publications. The research Guides/Supervisors in the college can use soft wares for checking the theses or dissertations of their research students. The researchers in the college shall use any of the following soft wares before submitting their dissertations, theses, Minor/Major Research Projects and articles:

1) http:// www.duplichecker.com

2) http:// searchengine reports.net/plagiarism checker

3) http: //www.copyscape.com

4) www. plagramme.com

5) iThenticate and Turnitin (provided by INFLIBNET)

6) Plagiarism Checker Viper Online (ViperSetup.exe) from http: //www.scanmyessay.com

References:

1. Code of Ethics in Academic Research, European University Institute

2. Plagiarism Prevention Policy, University of Pretoria/Doc. No. s 4726/09

3. U. G. C. Regulation, The Gazette of India, Part III dated 31/07/2018. (*The levels of and penalties for plagiarism in these guidelines have been added after the publication of U. G. C. Regulation dated 31/07/2018)

4. Wangaard, David "Strategies to Resist Plagiarism", Connecticut, U. S. A.

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