NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY - WARANGAL

Anti- Plagiarism Policy and Regulations for UG, PG (M.Tech., M.Sc., M.Sc.(Tech), MBA, MCA) and PhD Programs and Research Publications

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NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY WARANGAL

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1.1 What is Plagiarism?

The act of presenting someone else's work as one's own without properly citing all relevant sources is known as plagiarism. It is crucial to avoid plagiarism while publishing research articles, submitting B.Tech, M.Tech., M.Sc, M.Sc.(Tech), MBA, MCA and PhD Project Reports/ Dissertations/theses, and scientific journals or conference papers. Plagiarism can have negative effects on an individual's reputation as well as the reputation of the institution, and it may even have legal repercussions.

1.2 Definition and Scope of Plagiarism

The act of copying phrases, paragraphs, or longer passages from written or unwritten material—including the internet—without giving credit to the original author is known as plagiarism. The following actions fall under the category of plagiarism for submissions of Project Reports/Dissertations/theses by the B.Tech, M.Tech., M.Sc, M.Sc.(Tech), MBA, MCA and PhD. students at the institutional level.

(a) Plagiarizing and passing off someone else's work as one's own.

(a) Acquiring or pilfering experimental data without giving due credit or acknowledgement.

(c) Taking passages verbatim from books, dissertations, research papers, and reports and not citing or recognizing the original author.

(d) Using someone else's concept without giving due credit.

(e) Self-plagiarism, which is the practice of copying an author's published work verbatim or in part without correctly citing earlier works.

1.3 Detection of plagiarism during submission of B.Tech, M. Tech and PhD Project Reports/Dissertations/Theses

To detect plagiarism when submitting B.Tech, M.Tech., M.Sc, M.Sc.(Tech), MBA, MCA and PhD Project Reports/Dissertations/Theses at the Institute level, the following steps to be noted:

The B.Tech, M.Tech., M.Sc, M.Sc.(Tech), MBA, MCA and PhD theses should be submitted in soft copy along with a set of certificates (Annexure I-III) with candidate's signature and countersigned by the faculty supervisor(s) stating that the thesis has been scanned using Turnitin software (or any other comparable program that is recommended by the institute) from the supervisor(s)' user account. The plagiarism detection report shall be included in the theses.

The subsequent specifications should be followed during the submission of soft copies of theses to the respective departments.

(i) Since many previously submitted theses are currently unavailable online or at the institute level, the student and the relevant faculty supervisor(s) will be solely responsible for any plagiarism found in the Project Reports/Dissertations/ Theses they are currently submitting.

(ii) Research papers (Journals/Conference papers/Book Chapters) published from the thesis being submitted should be excluded in the plagiarism report generated by anti-plagiarism software. The articles from the pertinent thesis may be included in the respective thesis. The submitted Thesis must contain citations to the pertinent publications' references.

(iii) The final page of the UG/PG/PhD thesis should contain the declaration certificate (Annexure-I).

(iv) The UG/PG/PhD candidates are required to submit the soft copy of their theses to the Institute's Central Library. Only after receiving the soft copy, a "No dues" certificate from the central library would be issued to the candidate.

1.4 Procedure for probing into allegation of plagiarism

(a) The committee for Anti-Plagiarism Policy constituted by the Director, will investigate plagiarism allegations/conflicts on an ongoing basis. A complaint on the plagiarism should be reported to the Chairman, Senate.

(b) The committee corresponds to record the versions and statements of both the person who complains his/her work is plagiarised and the person on whom complaint is made to substantiate the evidences.

(c) The committee may make recommendations to the Director in two categories based on inquiry:

i. Low level plagiarism: If the student's plagiarism is due to negligence and unclear intent to cheat—that is, if they simply copied a few lines from the internet or other online sources—they may receive counseling and be given another chance to turn in their work within the allotted time.

ii. High level plagiarism: High-level plagiarism includes copying source code, taking a significant amount of information from someone else's work without giving credit or acknowledgment, and purposeful attempts to replicate other people's work. If there is proof that the intention to cheat is evident, the student's program may be discontinued/terminated, and the supervisor(s) in question may be warned to be vigilant when countersigning the report.

Plagiarism levels (In pursuance of UGC's Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism Regulation-2018)

Plagiarism would be quantified into the following levels in ascending order of severity for its definition:

Level 0: Similarities up to 10%

Level 1: Similarities above 10% to 40%

Level 2: Similarities above 40% to 60

Level 3: Similarities above 60%

Note: The committee is responsible for determining the extent of plagiarism. The Level 0 and 1 can be considered as 'Low Level' and Level 2 and 3 can be considered as 'High Level' plagiarism.

1.5 Penalties in case of plagiarism in the submission of Project Reports/Dissertations/ Theses
(In pursuance of UGC's Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism Regulation-2018)

Level 0: works with similarities up to 10% - Minor Similarities, no liability.

Level 1: works with similarities above 10% to 40% - Such student will be asked to re-submit a revised script within a stipulated period not exceeding six months.

Level 2: works with similarities above 40% to 60% - Such student shall be banned from submitting the revised script for a duration of one year.

Level 3: Similarities above 60% -Such student registration for that program shall be canceled.

1.6 Penalties in case of plagiarism in academic and research publications (In pursuance of UGC's Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism Regulation-2018)

Level 0: Similarities up to 10% - Minor similarities, no penalty.

Level 1: Similarities above 10% to 40%- Shall be asked to withdraw the manuscript.

Level 2: Similarities above 40% to 60%

- Shall be asked to withdraw manuscript.
- Shall be denied to one annual increment.
- Shall not be allowed to supervise to any new Master's, Ph.D. Student/scholar for two years.

Level 3: Similarities above 60%:

- Shall be asked to withdraw the manuscript.
- Shall be denied two successive annual increments.
- Shall not be allowed to supervise to any new Master's, Ph.D. Student/scholar for three years.

1.7 Awareness programme by the Institute against anti-plagiarism

a) To raise awareness of the negative effects of plagiarism while publishing research publications, writing or mentoring theses, and submitting project reports, departments should host anti-plagiarism workshops.

b) Before implementing the proposed anti-plagiarism policy, anti-plagiarism software should be made available at the Institute level with adequate login IDs. Training programmes should also be organised at the department level.

c) To promote transparency and implement anti-plagiarism policies, all UG/PG/PhD theses should be made available online through the Institute server/SMILE portal.

d) It is also recommended that the approved antiplagiarism policy be displayed on the Institute's website.