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Public Notice on Academic Integrity

Increased incidence of compromised publication ethics and deteriorating academic integrity is a growing problem contaminating all domains of research. It has been observed that unethical/deceptive practices in publishing are leading to an increased number of dubious/predatory journals worldwide. It has been reported that in India the percentage of research articles published in predatory journals is high. Unethical practices leading to 'pay and publish trash' culture needs to be thwarted immediately.

Research and innovation involve rigorous scientific effort in search of truth, creation of new knowledge contributing to socioeconomic benefits for global good. It is important to ensure prevention of academic misconduct including plagiarism in academic writing among student, faculty, researcher and staff. Responsible conduct of research and safeguarding ethics and academic integrity in scientific research is extremely crucial. Indian academic community need to ensure that the journals/conferences they choose to publish follow standard ethical policies.

For this purpose, the UGC has set up a Consortium for Academic and Research Ethics (CARE) to identify, continuously monitor and maintain 'UGC-CARE Reference List of Quality Journals' across disciplines (henceforth referred as 'UGC-CARE List'). UGC-CARE List is available at the [UGC-CARE website](#), with useful resources as relevant publications, audio-visual materials, videos, weblinks etc. [UGC-CARE website](#) also provides FAQs, Feedback and grievance redressal mechanism.

Through this public notice, Indian academic community is informed that:

1. They must avoid publication in predatory / dubious journals or participation in predatory conferences. It is further advised that they must not get associated (as Editors /Advisors or in any other capacity) with journals / publishers / conferences involved in fraudulent/ dubious / deceptive practices.
2. Any publications in predatory / dubious journals or presentations in predatory / dubious conferences should not be considered for academic credit for selection, confirmation, promotion, performance appraisal, award of scholarship or academic degrees or credits in any form. With immediate effect, research publications only from journals indexed in [UGC-CARE List](#) should be used for all academic purposes.
3. Vice Chancellors, selection committees, research supervisors / guides and such other experts involved in academic evaluation / assessment are here by advised that they must ensure that their decisions are primarily based on quality of research work and not merely on number of publications.
4. Any attempt of compromised academic integrity should be challenged, questioned and de-recognized at all levels.
5. [UGC \(Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions\) Regulations, 2018](#) and [UGC-CARE website](#) may be referred for more information.
6. [Guidance from Committee on Publication Ethics \(COPE\)](#); [San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment \(DORA\)](#); the [Leiden Manifesto](#); the [European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity 2017](#) by All European Academies; [Scientific Values: Ethical Guidelines and Procedures by Indian Academy of Science 2018](#), [Policy Statement on Dissemination and Evaluation of Research Output in India 2018](#) by the Indian National Science Academy and other resources from [UGC-CARE website](#) may also be referred for this purpose.


(Prof. Rajnish Jain)
Secretary