



प्रो. रजनीश जैन
सचिव

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Secretary



विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग
University Grants Commission

(मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
(Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India)

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Quality Mandate of the UGC emphasizes importance of promoting quality research by the faculty and creating new knowledge. Number of research articles published in reputed journals is one of the globally accepted indicators considered for various academic purposes including institutional ranking, appointment and promotions faculty and award of research degrees. Credibility of research publications is extremely important because of it presents individual, institutional and national image. High-quality publications in reputed journals help in achieving higher global ranks and overall improvement of quality of education. Publications in dubious sub-standard journals reflects adversely leading to long term academic damage and tarnishing of image. A problem of dubious /sub-standard journals has become a serious concern all over the world. The percentage of research articles published in poor quality journals is reported to be high in India, which has adversely affected its image. UGC-approved list of journals was created with an intention to help academic fraternity to bring measurable parameters, for the purpose of various academic evaluation of individuals and institutions.

Over this background, with a view to refine and strengthen UGC approved list of journals, the whole issue was reconsidered by the Commission in its meeting held on 14th November, 2018.

The Commission has approved following approach:

- (i) Research Journals in disciplines under Science, Engineering, Technology, Agriculture and Bio Medical Sciences are well covered in globally accepted scientific database like SCOPUS and Web of Science (WOS). Therefore, journals indexed in SCOPUS and WOS may be considered for all academic purposes in these disciplines.
- (ii) For other disciplines such as the Social Sciences, Humanities, Languages, Arts, Culture, Indian knowledge systems etc., a list of credible quality journals needs to be prepared and maintained. For this purpose, a Consortium for Academic and Research Ethics (CARE) may be established.

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- (iii) The CARE may involve all the Statutory Councils/ Government bodies in Social Sciences, Humanities, Arts and Fine Arts, Science, Medical, Agriculture and Engineering and the Association of Indian Universities (see the list in Annexure). INFLIBNET will also be a member of the consortium as a supporting agency. CARE will be chaired by UGC Vice Chairman.
- (iv) The responsibility of analysing Journals from all disciplines and to submit recommendations to CARE should be entrusted to suitable institutions that has proven track record in the journal analysis and publication ethics. The institution that has been entrusted responsibility of analysing journals shall create special cell which shall function under the guidance of empowered committee appointed by the UGC.
- (v) Members of the CARE would prepare lists of quality journals in their respective disciplines within a defined time-frame. These lists will be critically analysed and curated for the quality of the journals by a special cell at the entrusted institution using defined criteria.
- (vi) Based on reports received from the special cell at entrusted institution a dynamic 'Reference List of Quality Journals', will be maintained by CARE (hence forth referred as "CARE Reference List of Quality Journals"). The "CARE Reference List of Quality Journals" will be used for all academic purposes.
- (vii) Journals published by government / councils/ national academies/ scholarly societies of long standing in India and abroad may be also considered for inclusion in the "CARE Reference List of Quality Journals" provided they meet the required quality criteria.
- (viii) The CARE should also create a process for submission of proposals by the academic institutions for inclusion of new journals in the "CARE Reference List of Quality Journals" in different disciplines. All such proposals will be critically analyzed using validated protocol by a special cell at the entrusted institution and if found appropriate, would be recommended to CARE for possible inclusion in the "CARE Reference List of Quality Journals".
- (ix) The existing 'UGC approved list of journals' will remain valid till "CARE Reference List of Quality Journals" is released.
- (x) The "CARE Reference List of Quality Journals" will be regularly updated and published by the UGC and the members of the Consortium at their respective websites.

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- (xi) A suitable Advisory will be issued to create awareness amongst the students, academia and other stakeholders about the issue of predatory/sub-standard journals and the academic fraternity should especially be advised not to be associated with predatory/sub-standard journals/ publishers in any manner.
- (xii) A suitable Advisory will also be issued to the universities/colleges and other academic institutions emphasizing the roles of valid and quality-driven criteria and of the Selection/Expert Committees in the process of academic evaluations for various purposes. Evaluation of the Research Output of candidates/institutions has to be based on quality of published work rather than merely on number of publications/impact factor/citations.



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Secretary

Annexure

Members of the Consortium for Academic and Research Ethics (CARE)

- Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)
- Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR)
- Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR)
- Indian Institute of Advanced Study (IIAS)
- Central Institute for Indian Languages (CIIL)
- Indira Gandhi National Center for Arts (IGNCA)
- Sahitya Academy
- Lalit Kala Academy
- National Council for Educational Training and Research (NCERT)
- All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)
- Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
- Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR)
- Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
- Central Council for Indian Medicine (CCIM)
- National Academy of Engineering (NAE)
- National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI)
- Indian National Science Academy (INSA)
- Indian Academy of Sciences (IASc)
- National Academy of Medical Sciences (NAMS)
- Association of Indian Universities (AIU)
- Other relevant councils/ bodies established by the Central / State Government may also be invited
- Special Cell at entrusted Institution and INFLIBNET Center shall work as supporting agencies to analyze journals and recommend for consideration of CARE.