



अमृतं तु विद्या
BHARATIYA VIDYA BHAVAN'S
Sardar Patel College of Engineering
(Government Aided Autonomous Institute)
Munshi Nagar, Andheri-West, Mumbai-400058

Code of Conduct: Plagiarism

Preamble:

College is using Turnitin Plagiarism software for checking the Intellectual creation of the faculty and students

Ethics and honesty are the two most important components of the academic activities (be it teaching or research). Teaching & research is a novel profession based on extremely high moral values. There cannot be any room for claiming the credit for the work he/she has not undertaken. Many times it is observed that some of the “academicians” knowingly or unknowingly publish or present other’s work as their own. Such acts will affect healthy academic atmosphere in the institute which will also harm the reputation of the institute as well as the individual. It is therefore important for an academic institute like Sardar Patel College of Engineering to have in place a policy on plagiarism to avoid such type of acts.

1. Definition of Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is defined as presenting another person’s work as one’s own work. Presentation includes copying or reproducing it without the acknowledgement of the source. Plagiarism involves copying of phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or longer extracts from published or unpublished work (including from the Internet) that exceeds the boundaries of the legitimate cooperation without acknowledgement of the source. Plagiarism could be intentional (dishonest plagiarism) or non-intentional (negligent plagiarism).

2. Objective

- A. To create academic awareness about responsible conduct of research, study, project, assignment, thesis, dissertation, promotion of academic integrity- and prevention of misconduct including plagiarism in academic writing among students, researchers, faculty and other members of academic staff as well as any employee of the institute.
- B. To establish institutional mechanism through education and training to facilitate responsible conduct of research, study, project work, assignment, thesis, dissertation, promotion of academic integrity and deterrence from plagiarism.
- C. To develop systems to detect plagiarism and to set up mechanisms to prevent plagiarism and punish a student, faculty or staff committing the act of plagiarism.

3. Detection of Plagiarism

It is the prime responsibility of an institute or individual to distinguish original content from plagiarized work. The detection of plagiarism is a judgment to be made by a person who understands the subject and who is also aware of the definition of plagiarism. Such person should also be aware of the tools available to detect the plagiarism. Our Institute will use the best tools / software to detect plagiarism. It is of an at-most important for an academic institute to educate its student and teaching community about what constitutes plagiarism, how it is detected and of course the action that is going to follow if plagiarism is proved.

4. Procedure for handling alleged Plagiarism

a. Procedural Fairness:

The Institution is committed to deal with alleged plagiarism in accordance with the principles of procedural fairness, including the right to:

- Be informed of the allegations against them in sufficient detail to enable them to understand the precise nature of the allegations and to properly consider and respond.
- Have a reasonable period of time within which to respond to the allegations against them.
- Have the matter resolved in a timely manner
- Impartiality in any investigation process.
- An absence of bias in any decision making.

b. Identification and Assessment of Alleged Plagiarism:

Where an examiner detects or is made aware of alleged plagiarism by any person, the examiner must report the alleged plagiarism to an empowered body which confirms first if there is a plagiarism or not; if it is, then whether it is negligent or dishonest type and what is the degree of plagiarism. This empowered body will then submit its report along with its recommendation to statutory bodies which are empowered to take disciplinary actions. The severity of plagiarism can be of categorised as Plagiarism would be quantified into following levels in ascending order of severity for the purpose of its definition:

Similarities up to 10% - excluded

Level 1: Similarities above 10 to 40% Level

2: Similarities above 40 to 60 % Level

3: Similarities above 60%

c. Counselling: As the detection of plagiarism and steps to prevent it are important, equally important is to educate students about the dangers of plagiarism. Institution needs to take steps to strengthen the moral of students so that they do not take support of the unfair-means.