

### SARDAR VALLABHBHAI NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SURAT

Policy on Prevention of Plagiarism in M. Tech and PhD Dissertations being submitted at <u>SVNIT, Surat.</u>

#### 1.1 Preamble

The plagiarism is an unwanted practice of presenting another person's work as one's own work without giving due acknowledgment of the relevant sources. Prevention of plagiarism is utmost important in publishing research articles, submitting M. Tech and PhD theses and Project reports. The plagiarism may cause bad names to both the individuals as well as their institutions, and may invite several legal consequences also. At present in our Institute, there is no policy for prevention of plagiarism in the Theses' being submitted at M.Tech and PhD levels. The Institute Academic Advisory Committee (IAAC) in their 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting, dated April 28,2015, vide resolution No. 48, resolved to form a committee of following members to submit draft policy for prevention of plagiarism in M.Tech and PhD

a)	Dr. P. L. Patel Professor, CED	:	Chairman
b)	Dr. J. Banerjee Associate Professor, MED	:	Member
C)	Dr. V. H. Pradhan Associate Professor, AMHD	•	Member
d)	Dr. S. R. Patel Assistant Professor, CHED	:	Member
e)	Shri Ajay Kumar Sharma	:	Special invitee

e) Shri Ajay Kumar Sharma Asstt. Librarian (Central library, SVNIT)

The committee meetings were convened on August 27, 2015, Sep. 23,2015 and Nov.06, 2015 and the existing/draft policy documents of IIT Roorkee, University of

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Pune and IIT Kanpur were studied before formulating the draft document for prevention of plagiarism in M. Tech and PhD thesis at Institute level. The recommendations of the aforesaid committee were put up in the 23<sup>rd</sup> IAAC meeting of the Institute held on Dec.08, 2015; and the same were recommended to Institute Senate for further approval. In 36<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Institute Senate (Res.6), a committee was constituted to Review the recommendation of the said committee and submit their report for approval of the Institute Senate. The recommendation of the committee by the Institute Senate was discussed in the 40<sup>th</sup> Institute Senate meeting (Res.2C (i)), and, accordingly, 'Approved norms' by the Institute Senate on foregoing theme is appended below:

## 1.2 Definition and Scope of Plagiarism

Plagiarism involves copying of sentences, paragraphs or larger extracts from published or unpublished work (including from internet) without acknowledging the sources.

Following activities can be classified under plagiarism in M. Tech and PhD Theses being submitted at Institute level

- (a) Reproduction of someone's work in part or whole and presenting if as one's own work.
- (b) Buying / stealing experimental data without proper acknowledging the same.
- (c) Reproducing paragraphs of books, research papers, reports and dissertations without quoting and not acknowledging the source.
- (d) Taking someone's idea without proper citation.
- (e) Self plagiarism including reproduction of one's own published work, in part or whole, without giving proper citation of previous published work.

# 1.3 Detection of plagiarism during submission of M. Tech and PhD Theses

The following steps are to be followed for detecting plagiarism while submission of M.Tech and PhD Theses at Institute level:-

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(a) The soft copy of M.Tech / PhD Thesis be submitted along with a declaration certificate (Annexure – I) from the candidate and countersigned by faculty supervisor(s) that Thesis has been scanned through Turnitin Software (or other available equivalent software in the Institute) from the user account of faculty supervisor(s). The plagiarism detection report must be enclosed along with the Thesis.

The following points be kept in view while submitting soft copy of Theses in the department.

- (i) At present, many past submitted thesis are not available in their soft form at Institute level / Internet, hence, the complete responsibility of the plagiarism within the Thesis under submission will lie with the student and concerned faculty supervisor(s).
- (ii) While applying anti-plagiarism software, it is to be ensured that research paper published from the Thesis being submitted, be excluded in developing the plagiarism report. The publications from the relevant Thesis can be reproduced as part of the PhD thesis. The relevant references of the papers can be cited in the PhD Thesis
- (iii) The declaration certificate (Annexure-I) be included in the last page of M. Tech/PhD Thesis.
- (iv) The M. Tech / PhD candidates must submit the soft copy of Thesis to the Central library of the Institute. 'No dues certificate' to the candidate be only given by the Institute after / getting 'No dues' from the Librarian of the central library.

### 1.4 **Procedure for probing into allegation of plagiarism**

(a) A Institute level committee will be constitute by the Institute Director, in consultation with Dean (Academic) of the Institute, for probing into allegation on plagiarism time to time.

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The aggrieved person should lodge the complaint to the Chairman of Institute Senate.

- (b) Notice has to be issued to both the parties to record their versions and statements. The committee may obtain the written clarifications from the persons involved to substantiate the evidences
- (c) Based on the enquiry, the committee may recommend the action to the Director in following two categories:

#### (i) Low level plagiarism :

The plagiarism is as result of negligence and intent to cheat is not clear such that the candidate fails to cite proper references, copying a few lines only from online sources ( like internet), the student may be counselled and allowed to resubmit the work within defined time frame.

#### (ii) High level plagiarism :

High level plagiarism includes deliberate attempt to copy the work done by others, large amount of data taken from some one's work without referring/acknowledging the same in the report, source code copying etc. The intention of cheating is clear and substantiated. The students programme can be terminated, concerned supervisor(s) be warned to be vigilant while countersigning such report.

The effective date of implementation of approved policy on '<u>Prevention</u> of Plagiarism in M. Tech and PhD Dissertations being submitted at <u>SVNIT Surat' will be effective from the date of publication on</u> <u>Institute website.</u>

Note: The quantification of plagiarism is left to the judgement and wisdom of the committee.

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# 1.5 Awareness programme by the Institute against anti-plagiarism

- a) The workshops on anti-plagiarism be organised at the departments levels to make aware the consequences of plagiarism while publishing the research articles; writing/guiding the Theses, and submitting the project reports.
- b) The anti-plagiarism softwares be made available at the Institute level with sufficient login IDs, and their training programmes be arranged at the department levels before implementation of proposed anti-plagiarism policy in the Institute.
- c) It is recommended to keep all PhD Theses available in the Institute on the internet through Institute server/ collaboration from 'INFLIBNET' centre for better transparency and implementation of anti-plagiarism policy in the Institute.
- d) It is also recommended that approved policy on antiplagiarism be displayed on Institute website.

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# Annexure-1

# **DECLARATION CERTIFICATE**

(Certificate to be submitted by M Tech/PhD student through Supervisor(s) at the time of submission of Thesis)

Title of the Thesis :

I declare that the said work is result of my research activity created by me during my M.Tech./Ph.D. program, and proper references have been cited as applicable. The Thesis does not involve any plagiarised contents as enumerated in 'Policy on Prevention of Plagiarism in M. Tech and PhD Dissertations being submitted at SVNIT Surat'. The Thesis has been scanned through antiplagiarism software (Please mention the name of software used ????). I also undertake that, in case any plagiarised content is reported in my Thesis being submitted here with, the action be initiated as per the policy of the Institute on antiplagiarism.

Name of Student	Signature	
Reg. No.:	Mail ID	
	Countersignature (s)	
Supervisors		
(1)	(2) (3)	
Forwarded by		
(The Llead Department)	Cignoture	
(The Head Department) (Name of the Department)	Signature	
	To,	
	The Dean (Academics)	

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