

Study on Awareness about Plagiarism among Teaching Staff in the Educational Institution

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Abstract

Human being by using intellectual ability creates some creative work including literary work. The creation of literary work requires lot of intellectual labour, time, money etc. Such intellectual creation is the personal property of the creator or author. It is to be protected under different laws under different heading like it is protected under freedom of expression, right to privacy, copyright etc. It means no one entitle to use such creative work without permission. It means that author enjoy monopoly right over it like right to protect, right to preserve, right to transfer, display, right to destroy etc. In short author entitles to enjoy fruits of his intellectual labour by excluding others which is called as John Lock Labour Theory. Under plagiarism all this right of the author infringed & which will cause mental, economic loss to the author as well as reduce the quality of work. Plagiarism is short cut way to complete the target in minimum labour, time & money as well as there is no special legislation to deals with this issue, lack of awareness, no harsh penalty all are lead to increase the cases of plagiarism. It shows academic dishonesty as well as breach of ethics. Issue of plagiarism is social, moral, ethical and legal wrong. It is called as intellectual theft. There are different kinds of plagiarism but all are causing to reduce quality of research work. It means that such issue not only cause loss to the author but causing loss to the society. In India it broadly comes under Copyright Act, 1976, University Act. But these laws are fail to eliminate plagiarism from educational institution or form the society. The researcher through this study want to brought a light on such burning issue as well as make certain suggestions which will helpfull to reduce instances of plagiarism.

Keywords: Plagiarism, copyright, awareness, educational institutions, citation, references

INTRODUCTION

In General

In a competitive world the instances of plagiarism increased day by day. Plagiarism means to use words, ideas of another without given credit to the real author. It is called as professional misconduct or academic offence. In short it is the infringement of moral duty of the researcher or students, that he does not copy from other sources. [1] Plagiarism affect on the quality of research. Due to development in the information technology all information are available in digital form on the internet. Internet due to its qualities like inter-connectivity, inter-creativity, extra territorial jurisdiction it is very easy to take information from one website to modify it & paste it on another website. Copy-cut-paste, download-upload plays crucial role in the academic plagiarism. Mostly plagiarism cases are found in the students' dissertation, assignment, project reports, thesis, research reports, books, articles & research papers. [2] There are different types & reasons of plagiarism. In India, plagiarism evolves mainly because of unawareness. [3] Means ignorance is the main cause of plagiarism but it is not

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excusable. So in preventing plagiarism prior requirement is to create awareness about it among student, teachers & researchers. In India there is no any special legislation to deals with this issue. But it comes under the Copyright Act, 1957 and University Act, UGC regulation prescribe some conditions for the prevention of plagiarism. But all this are failure to prevent happening of incidents of plagiarism and improve the quality of research. In addition to the rules, laws there is need to create awareness in the society about the consequences & meaning of plagiarism. There are some software are evolved to detect plagiarism but they are unable to prevent this worst practice of plagiarism. They only detect after committing plagiarism. Prevention is better than cure-on basis of this principle it is important to prevent plagiarism by creating awareness about meaning, consequences of plagiarism is best solution to the issue of prevention of plagiarism in educational institutions. The researcher focuses a light on the issue of plagiarism in educational institutions and analyse the reason behind it.

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

India had a rich educational system in the past, which gave the world many influential thinker & writers. [4] But in recently position or quality of education in India is totally changed, no any single Indian university come in the top 20 World University Ranking. The issue of plagiarism is not new for India but the internet makes it more serious than past. Plagiarism is not only the academic problem but also it is moral, ethical and legal problem. [5] Plagiarism in research work is common and it is very difficult to detect it and it effect directly on quality of work, hard work and dedication of real author. So here it is important to create awareness about consequences of plagiarism which will help to reduce cases of plagiarism.

CONCEPTS

Meaning of Plagiarisms

The Oxford Dictionary defined the term plagiarism means taking work of others and presenting it as work created by him.

According to Academic Integrity at MIT: A Handbook for Students [1], “plagiarism means to use work of others or to use ideas, words, data, figures used in that work without proper citation or acknowledgement”.

What Constitute the Plagiarism [6]

In simple word plagiarism means to use work of others in different form and presenting this work as created by him. Some of the examples of Plagiarism can be quoted as follows:

- a. Downloading, Copying, cutting and pasting text from an electronic source from an online source submitting as own work
- b. Buy or steal others assignment, result of experiments.
- c. Copy some portion from particular paragraph of particular book or article.
- d. Use source as it is in quotation but without given reference.
- e. Using the work of someone else.
- f. Using significant ideas from someone else.
- g. Use others ideas or paraphrase but without given proper acknowledgement.
- h. Copying the written expressions present in different from without citation, reference or acknowledgement.
- i. Use quotation of others as it is or with some changes without permission or reference.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The following are outlined as the key objectives of the current study:

1. To prevent worst practice of plagiarism in educational institutions.
2. To increase quality of research work.
3. To create awareness about meaning, consequences of plagiarism in the research.
4. To create awareness about the importance of Copyright Act, 1957 in the protection of Original Work.

5. Give some suggestions for preventing plagiarism.
6. To find out causes behind committing illegal practice of plagiarism.

HYPOTHESIS

The researcher has formulated following hypothesis in present study:

1. Lack of awareness among teaching staff regarding meaning, consequences of plagiarism is the cause to increase the incidents of plagiarism.
2. Plagiarism causes infringement of copyright under Copyright Act, 1957.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In the present study researcher is going to use Doctrinal as well as Non Doctrinal Research Method for detailed study on this topic. Doctrinal method includes use & study of different books, newspaper cutting, online and offline journals, All India Reporter, internet & also judicial decision of Indian Supreme Court and various High Courts situated in India & judgment of foreign courts. The researcher use methods to collect data like face to face interviews, questionnaires, and group discussion etc.

SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The present study is limited for study on awareness about plagiarism in teaching staff of educational institution (Arts, Commerce, Science College) situated in Kolhapur city. Scope of the study cover only rules, regulations relating to the preventing plagiarism. Plagiarism directly affect on quality of research & copyright of the author. So it is important to prevent it by creating awareness about the concerning subject. The researcher in present study gives more focus on research work of teaching staff & their knowledge about the plagiarism & Copyright Act, 1957. In short scope of the study is limited to the research, knowledge of plagiarism in educational institution in Kolhapur city. Here it is more important that present study is done in the year 2017-18.

LEGISLATIVE APPROACH TOWARDS PLAGARISM IN INIDA-COPYRIGHT ACT, 1957

No any Indian law deals with this complex academic issue of plagiarism directly. Copyright indirectly deals with this academic issue & it protects the original work like books, music, cinematography films, drama, artistic works etc. The Sec.14 of the Copyright Act, 1957 provide exclusive rights to the author of original work like preventing other from unauthorised reproduction, adaptation-translation in other language, publication of work to public, distribution, display etc. The term plagiarism means using work of author without given credit to him. It means under plagiarism other work is used without author's permission, it violates exclusive right to reproduction, publish, communicate to public etc. Again Sec.57 of the Act gives special right to the copyright owner is called as moral rights which is perpetual & permanent in nature i.e. it exist even after transfer of copyright by assignment. The right to paternity & right to integrity are two moral rights are recognised by Indian copyright legislation under sec.57. Both this rights provide protection to the author against the plagiarism. [7] The right to paternity means right to claim authorship of the creative work. It gives power to the author to decide whether or not his name affixed on work at the time of publication [8]. Under this right people knows that who is real author of work or real originator/source of work which help users to reduce confusion about originator of the information. In other word it protects identity of the author. In other word it protects consumer or users against plagiarised data. In conclusion this right includes:

Right to Claim Authorship

Right to prevent others from using his work without given credit but due credit must be given to the author i.e. credit must be given to the author in proper place and at proper timing. And it includes preventing others from given wrongful credit of such work which is not created by the author.

Right to integrity [9]

It gives important right to the author to prevent any alteration, modification, mutilation, distortion to the original work which is adversely effect on the reputation of the author. This right protect the personality, reputation of the author. In plagiarism original work is used as it is without given credit to real author or some time some modification or alteration made in original work. It means that under plagiarism right to paternity and right to integrity is infringed. In respect of moral right it is important that this rights is survive even after transfer or expiry of the copyright. It means that after transfer of work new owner cannot treat work as he like. Even on transfer, expiry of copyright or death of real author moral rights are survive i.e. are perpetual in nature.

The Sec.63 of the Act provides remedy for copyright infringement. Mostly there is confusion between copyright infringement and plagiarism (Table 1). Both terms are not similar but sometimes are overlapped with each other & both are come under the single Act i.e. Copyright Act.

Difference between copyright infringement and plagiarism is shown below in Table 1:

Table 1. Difference between copyright infringement and plagiarism.

S.N.	Copyright Infringement	Plagiarism
1.	Generally copyright subsist for 60 years from the death of author.	Author's right to attribution, right to paternity is perpetual in nature which is violated by it.
2.	If authors work is reproduced within 60 years from death of author then both plagiarism & copyright infringement occur.	If authors work is used by other after 60 years from death of author then it amount to only plagiarism & not copyright infringement.
3.	Sometime copyright infringement is occurring without plagiarism. Means if somebody else without permission reproduces work of other by given credit to the author, then it amounts to only copyright infringement but not plagiarism. If credit given to author means not immune from liability under Copyright Act, 1957.	If credit given to author not amount to plagiarism.
4.	It is legal issue.	It is social, ethical, moral as well as legal issue.
5.	Copyright protect only expression of ideas.	Plagiarism includes use of other words, ideas, phrases, expression of ideas.
6.	Copyright Act, 1957 provides civil & criminal remedy for copyright infringement.	Remedy under Copyright Act applicable & provisions under University Act, UGC Rules are applied for plagiarism.
7.	Copyright Act deals with this issue.	No any special statute deals with this issue except Sec.57 of the Copyright Act, 1957.

University Grant Commission

UGC is the statutory body of govt. established under UGC Act for coordination & maintenance of standard of university education in India. The head office of UGC located at Delhi. UGC make many more efforts for to improve quality of research work by preventing research malpractices like plagiarism. Best example of it UGC Regulation 2009 it is called as 'Minimum standard & procedure for award of M.Phil & ph.D degree.' Under this rule it is mandatory for submission of electronic copy of thesis & dissertation by the researcher of Indian University & to upload it to the national digital repository for the purpose of open access like-Shodhganga & Shodhagangotri is digital platform provided for open access.

Consequences of Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious issue in the academic community. It causes breach of trust, honesty is ethically important in the academic work. It is not only ethical issue but also it is legal, social, economic issues. Researcher mentioned list of some consequences of plagiarism as follows:

1. It adversely effect on professional reputation of the plagiarist & it will cause loss of job.
2. It affect permanently or temporarily on carrier of the plagiarist in the academic community.

3. Plagiarist get job or continued the job but without enhancing the knowledge.
4. It causes monetary loss to the real author of work.
5. It causes suspension or expulsion of students or researcher from college or institutes.
6. Less marks or grade in work, if detect plagiarism in the work.
7. Students may be fail, if indulged in the plagiarism act.
8. Resubmit work within specified short time will increase mental pressure on the plagiarist.
9. Any other academic action will be taken is depending upon degree of plagiarism.
10. It effect on moral right of Authorship or credited for his work to author of original work which is guaranteed by Sec.57 of the Indian Copyright Act, 1957. This right is permanent in nature & exist event after assignment of copyright to another person.
11. It effect on exclusive right of author like right to reproduce, adapt, translate or publish work or allow others to do so is guaranteed by Sec.51 of the Copyright Act, 1957. All this right collectively called as copyright.

DATA ANALYSIS–INTELLECTUAL THEFT IN KOLHAPUR

Researcher in the present study selects college of Arts, Commerce & Science College situated in Kolhapur city for research. For a deep study researcher choose ten samples by using Convenient Sampling Method.

Research Paper Published by the Respondents

The issue of plagiarism is raised mostly in case of academic writing means research papers, books, research projects etc. So when we study issue of plagiarism it is important to know whether respondent published research work or not, and in which quantity it is published. To find out exact quantity of research work researcher makes classification of respondent according to faculty wise.

Table 2. Classification of respondent according to faculty for research work.

S.N.	Arts	Commerce	Science	Librarian
Respondent1.	5	2	4	14
Respondent2.	22	45	17	-
Respondent3.	20	7	1	-
Total	47	54	22	14

Source: Primary Data

Table 2 indicates total number of research paper published by the respondent of each faculty. From the above table it is clear that commerce faculty is published more paper than other faculty. It is first in rank. In second rank Arts faculty which published total forty seven papers which are more than the science faculty. Last in position is science faculty in which total respondent published only twenty two papers. Last one is the librarian who works commonly for all departments. He published total research paper is fourteen papers.

While respondent publish research paper or any research work it is important that whether he or she has knowledge about plagiarism? Because it is directly affect on the quality of research work. In research sample selected by researcher according to convenient sampling method. All selected respondent of all faculties are Ph.D. holder except in Commerce faculty respondent first are only NET & SET qualified and in science faculty respondent third. All respondent had good teaching experience.

The Table 3 shows the total percentage of knowledge about plagiarism. After the study it is found that 90% respondent knows the term of plagiarism & their meaning and consequences. While only 10% peoples are not aware about that concept. It means that there is need to create awareness about plagiarism in teaching staff which will spread literacy about plagiarism incoming students.

Table 3. Knowledge of plagiarism.

S.N.	Arts	Commerce	Science	Librarian	Total	Total In %
Yes	III	III	II	I	9	90%
No	-	-	I	-	1	10%

Generally plagiarism was found in the academic writing like dissertation, research paper, thesis, research project, books etc. There are number of causes behind committing this worst practice. In India plagiarism was evolved due to the unawareness in the researcher. The object of this research is to create awareness in the mind of teaching staff which is best way to prevent plagiarism in future time & to improve the quality of research work.

Table 4. Causes of plagiarism.

Causes of Plagiarism	Arts	Commerce-e	Science	Librarian	Total	Percentage
1. Due to unawareness	I	I	II	-	4	40%
2. Due to laziness & no fear of punishment	-	I	I	-	2	20%
3. Due to work pressure & competition	II	-	-	I	3	30%
4. Lack of interest in concerning subject	-	I	-	-	1	10%

The Table 4 shows percentage of respondent opinion regarding the causes of plagiarism. The table includes four causes for commission of plagiarism. From the research it is found that 40% respondent agreed that plagiarism was committed due to the ignorance. It means that according to their opinion the main cause behind commission of plagiarism is unawareness, no knowledge, and ignorance. Then 30% respondent agreed that due to work pressure & competition plagiarism was committed by the academicians or researcher. While the 20% respondents views that laziness' & no fear of punishment is the cause of plagiarism. Lastly only 10% are agreed that due to lack of interest in the concerning subject researcher committed the plagiarism.

Copyright Act is come into existence in the 1957 which protect original work from unauthorised use by other. Copyright means bunch of rights conferred on the author of work. It includes economic & moral rights. Economic rights includes right to right reproduce, right to translate, right to publish, right to sale, right to assign, right to make film or video or audio recording of the work etc. While moral rights includes right to paternity, right to integrity which are perpetual in nature after transfer of copyright.

Table 5. Knowledge of copyright Act, 1957.

Copyright includes	Arts	Commerce	Science	Librarian	Total	Total in %
1. Right to reproduce	-	-	-	-	0	-
2. Right to translation	-	-	-	-	0	-
3. Right to publish	II	I	-	-	3	30%
4. All of them	I	II	III	I	7	70%

From the Table 5 it clear that 30% people knows something about copyright. While 70% people had exact knowledge about the copyright. Copyright is not a single right but it is bunch of right.

Plagiarism is not only ethical issue in the academic field but it is social, legal & economic issue in social life. Plagiarism directly effect on the quality of the research work. In addition to this it effect on economic & moral right of real author of original work. Copyright protect only original work & in plagiarism the work of other used by theft. It means that plagiarism is not ethical issue but also it violates copyright of the real author. The Sec.63 prescribe civil & criminal remedy for the infringement of the copyright.

The Table 6 indicate the knowledge of respondents regarding plagiarism amount to the violation of copyright of the real author. Out of all respondents 80% are knows that plagiarism is not only moral wrong but it is also offence under Copyright Act, 1957. Because it violate moral & economic right of the copyright holder. The 20% respondents don't know the plagiarism is amount to crime under Copyright Act, 1957.

Table 6. Plagiarism is violation of right to copyright of real author.

Plagiarism is the violation of Copyright of author	Arts	Commerce	Science	Librarian	Total	Total in %
1. Yes	III	II	II	I	8	80%
2. No.	–	I	I	-	2	20%

RESEARCH FINDING

After Study Researcher found that

In my research work it is found me that lack of knowledge or lack of awareness about plagiarism is also main reason in commission of academic wrong i.e. plagiarism. It means that my first hypothesis is proved from data analysis. The another hypothesis is –plagiarism cause infringement of copyright is also proved from the analysis of collected data [10].

1. In comparative study of three faculties it is found that, the commerce faculty publish more research work then other faculty.
2. Out of all 90% respondents know the term of plagiarism & their meaning. And only 10% peoples are not aware about that concept.
3. The 40% respondents are agreed that plagiarism was committed due to the unawareness.
4. Then 30% respondent agreed that due to work pressure & competition plagiarism was committed by the academicians or researcher.
5. The only 10% are agreed that due to lack of interest in the concerning subject researcher committed the plagiarism.
6. While 70% peoples had exact knowledge about Copyright is not a single right but it is bunch of right.
7. Out of all respondent 80% are knows that plagiarism is not only moral wrong but it is also offence under Copyright Act, 1957, because it violate moral & economic right of the copyright holder.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Researcher after study concludes that nearly 10% respondents are not aware about term of plagiarism. Plagiarism is serious moral & legal issue, so it is essential to prevent it otherwise it will spread in the next generation. Existing laws, rules, regulation are not sufficient to prevent the plagiarism. We need to make more efforts against prevention of plagiarism & make focus on preventive action than punitive action. It will help to maintain research quality & academic integrity & honesty. To increase use of anti-plagiarism software like Turnitin, Urkund etc. The researcher in his research gives more focus on awareness & prevention of plagiarism. The researcher gives following some suggestions to prevent plagiarism:

1. Enacting special legislation on plagiarism which prescribes severe punishment for it.
2. Strictly implementation of rules, regulation relating to the plagiarism.
3. University adopt strict measures against plagiarism which will create deterrent effect for others.
4. Create awareness about meaning, consequences of plagiarism through the seminar, conference & workshop.
5. India made policy against plagiarism from school up to the higher education.
6. India develops its own anti-plagiarism software. It will be available in low prize or free of cost & which will be convenient for the use. More use of anti-plagiarism software by all educational institutes not only for Ph.D degree but also for all master degree.

7. To sensitize faculty member, researcher and students regarding plagiarism, performed it either wilfully or ignorantly.
8. Person strictly uses his own intellectual ideas, words for to create original work.
9. If person use the work of other give proper credit for copied, adapted material to the original author by given references.
10. To encourage or promoted for original good writing from every level in every educational institutions.
11. All researchers given training to avoid intellectual theft i.e. plagiarism.
12. Universities, journal editors and academia must educate the young researchers to follow the ethos and values of academic honesty and integrity.

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