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FAKE JOURNALS – IMPORTANT GUIDELINES

Of late it has been noticed that, a section of Research Community is falling prey to fake Journals which are imitations of popular and well established Journals, and so a matter of serious concern. Publishers of fake journals constantly allure authors to publish articles in their journals. They charge huge sums in the name of article processing fees and publish papers without any review process, in no time. Research scholars are automatically attracted to such quick and easy publication offers and are becoming victims of such illegal practices. In the process, researchers are losing their effort, time, content, money, reputation, peace of mind and above all credibility.

The common attributes of any Journal are, Journal Name, Publisher Name, ISSN No. (print / online), Country and language of publication, Website / Homepage / URL, frequency of publication, article processing fee, scope of publication, Editorial board, Review process. It is not feasible for Centre for Research to establish the authenticity of over 40000 Journals listed on its website. **Scholars and researchers may note that, the absence of authentic URL for a Journal in the list (given on the website at the end of Annexure-1/Updated list 2016) does not entitle them to publish papers in their fake counterparts.**

Articles published or accepted for publication in such counterfeit journals and claimed for synopsis / Thesis / Supervisor Recognition will be summarily rejected and stern action will be taken as per regulations. **Centre for Research will not be responsible for any act of scholars / researchers publishing articles in fake journals, either out of ignorance or due to oversight.** It is therefore important that researchers are to be vigilant at all the times while submitting their articles to online Journals. **Centre for Research will thoroughly verify the authenticity of every journal publication by research scholars / academicians, before processing.**

The following are some guidelines issued in the interest of Research community:

- Most of the fake journals are imitations of popular Journals that existed for a while.
- Some of the fake journal websites have conveniently imitated Journals that originate from Non-English speaking countries.
- The websites of fake journals appear exactly similar to that of their authentic counterparts. The Journal Name, ISSN No., Logos, and any other major features of authentic journal, appear exactly the same on the website of bogus journal.
- The fake journals differ from their authentic counterparts in some / all of the following:
URL of the website, geographical location of the servers, country of Journal, Editorial Board, email or contact details, Postal Address, submission-to-publication time, peer-review process, scope of publication.
- Geographical location of the servers can be obtained by checking the URL of the home page of the journal, in third party websites like -
<https://www.site24x7.com/find-website-location.html>,
<https://www.iplocation.net/> etc.
- If you come across two Journals with the same name and ISSN No., but having different URLs, you may suspect one of them to be fake. You may send a request email to the one you feel as trustworthy, for information about authenticity of the other suspecting URL. Journal Databases, Thomson Reuters, Research Gate, or some third party websites may be useful sources of information for establishing the authenticity of a Journal.
- On a general note, the authentic ones do not charge, while the fake ones charge hefty article processing fees. Moreover publication in a fake journal is easy and quick, and there is no peer review process. Anything submitted to such journals simply gets accepted and once the publication fee is paid the article gets published in no time.
- The fake journals ensure that their names and websites appear in the top few while googling, so that authors are attracted.
- It is also recommended that authors may send request emails to any of the trustworthy third-party websites and clarify the authenticity of a Journal.

**Sd/
DIRECTOR**