

## **Prevention of Plagiarism at B.S.Abdur Rahman Crescent Institute of Science & Technology: A Case Study**

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### **Abstract**

This article discusses about the measurement taken by B.S.Abdur Rahman Crescent Institute of Science & Technology to prevent plagiarism in the campus. All the staff members are encouraged to do the research activities in addition to the teaching. The institute has the subscription to commercial software for plagiarism checking to ensure fair scholarly communication in the campus, which facilitates the students, research scholars and staff to inculcate ethical behavior in their writings. Therefore, the office of Academic Research of the institute is spending huge amount every year for the subscription of technical software. Central Library, Schools and Departments, Research supervisors, HoDs, Librarian, Deans, Directors and other academic heads have been given login credentials of the software and it is mandatory to check for plagiarism of every writings.

Key word: Plagiarism, Scholarly Communication, Research, Article Publication, Crescent

### **Introduction**

Plagiarism is one of the recent talk in academic and research community though the practice may have been existed for long. Plagiarism is nothing but claiming others work, thoughts, idea, design, plan etc as their own, which is considered as crime. It is an intellectual theft, which must be avoided in any circumstances. Therefore, the Ministry of Human Resource and Development insists every higher educational institution to have a plagiarism free environment at their campus. For the above purpose, renowned software is being issued to all the institutions through INFLIBNET. And the institutions have been asked to do awareness program about plagiarism on regular basis. Now the culture is being spread to school education as well, many private owned educational intuitions are doing plagiarism checking for their ward's write up. Shodhganga, repository for PhD theses of Indian Universities is also a kind of plagiarism checking, by uploading PhD thesis, everyone came to know who has submitted the thesis, what is the area of study and so on, by knowing these details, the duplication might be reduced, because of anyone found guilty, their research work will not be approved. At the same time, the quotes, diagrams, maps, designs, etc. cannot be developed by everyone, these have to be utilized in the writings, and hence

there are some guidelines for the above purpose on how to use these phrases. Therefore, everyone should know how to cite the article to avoid plagiarism.

### **B.S.Abdur Rahman Crescent Institute of Science & Technology**

B.S Abdur Rahman Institute of Science & Technology is acclaimed for quality teaching and research. Being one of the largest engineering institutions in India, it lays emphasis on innovative research, investment in high-quality facilities and first-rate infrastructure. By making use of the latest technologies and quality teaching, the college is able to offer a wide choice of interdisciplinary degrees in engineering, science & technology and humanities which has enabled students to gain accolades in the global level. It is one of the few institutions with all the UG and PG programmes approved by AICTE and accredited by the National Board of Accreditation. The institute has been upgraded to university status with a view to keep academic in pace with development in industry. Well equipped library with latest facilities is functioning inside the campus. Modern hostel facilities are available for men and women students separately within the University campus

### **Need for this study**

The higher educational institutions are now focusing on research activities, which include publishing articles. Because the research works are important segment in institutional rankings, applying for funded projects, fellowship, etc. Also, publishing quality articles is much needed for the individual faculty for yearly increment, promotion and other career advancement schemes. Hence every faculty of the institutions is working towards publishing articles in addition to their routing activities. Therefore, the institution should have some measurement to prevent plagiarism, which is also giving them clean image.

### **Objectives**

- To know the preventive methods exists in the institution
- To understand the usage statistics of turnitin software
- To expose total submission for plagiarism checking
- To know the sources for matched contents
- To reveal about high similarity for the particular period

The following things may be helpful to avoid plagiarism;

- We should clearly understand what is plagiarism and academic dishonesty.
- We should be apparent on our thoughts, ideas, etc. before starting for writings, which will help to write on our own.

- We should know to properly cite the resources which we are using in the article; there are different styles of citation methods, APA, MLA, etc.
- If any diagram, map, design, etc are used in the writings, the source must be provided in appropriate place
- We should always consult with the expertise whenever needed and with clear mind we should resume writings, which will help to avoid copying someone.
- We should keep attending seminar/workshop, etc which are discussing about plagiarism and similar domain
- We should always keep monitor on our writings

### Analysis & Findings

**Table - 1**  
**Active Classes**

Year	Active Classes
2013	7
2014	38
2015	46
2016	67
2017	119

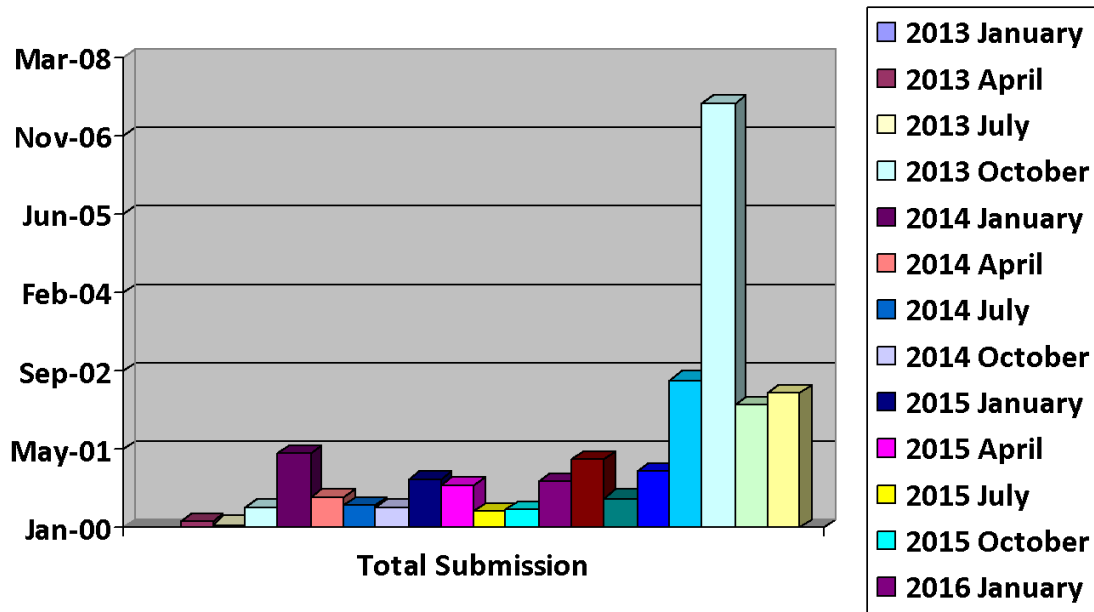
According to turnitin software, based on the purchase/subscription model, they will provide number of access by which we can create classes for assignment, which is called as classes. Some of the classes may not be used depends on the individual user, the classes which are being used are called active classes. The above table indicates that during the year 2013 there were only 7 active classes for plagiarism checking at this institution. We could understand from the above table that there are gradual increases in using the software for plagiarism checking, it was started with 7 active classes in the year 2013 and now the active classes are 119 during the year 2017, every year it is being increased, which means the staff, research scholars and students of this institution are constantly engaging in scholarly communication.

**Table - 2**  
**Total Submission for the Last Five Years**

Period	Total Submission
2013 January	0
2013 April	39
2013 July	25

2013 October	134
2014 January	476
2014 April	192
2014 July	146
2014 October	128
2015 January	310
2015 April	276
2015 July	105
2015 October	124
2016 January	299
2016 April	435
2016 July	191
2016 October	364
2017 January	944
2017 April	2705
2017 July	788
2017 October	861
Total	8542

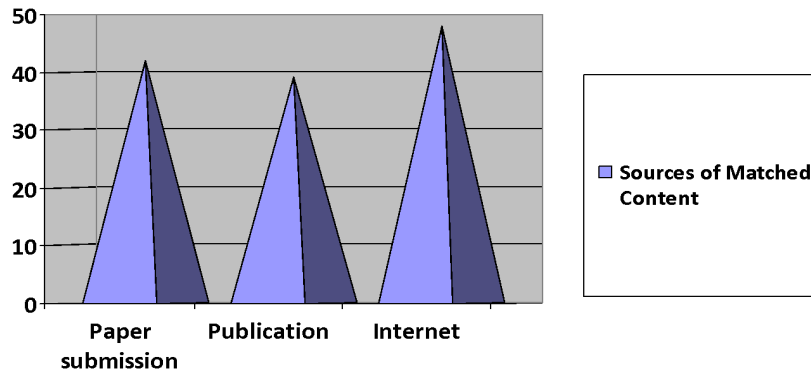
The above table clearly indicates that there were 8542 submission have been done during the last five years at this institute for plagiarism checking, as an average of 1708 submission per year. It is evident from the above table that gradual increase in submission of article, we could identify a big difference in the month of April, except in the year 2014, there were huge amount of submission in all other years, it is because during April project submission will be done for the final year students. Similarly, in the month of January there were huge submissions of articles for plagiarism checking. During July period, there were less number of submissions in all the five years, it is because of vacation period. The year 2017 witnessed more number of submissions, during this year, there were 5298 submissions took place for plagiarism checking, the previous year, 2016 had 1289 submission only. Turnitin software was started subscribing from the year 2013, during this year there were 198 articles submitted for plagiarism check and the fifth year (2017), 5298 articles have been submitted for the said purpose, which is a huge difference.



**Table - 3**  
**Sources of Matched Content**

Source	Percentage
Paper Database	42 %
Publications	39 %
Internet	48 %

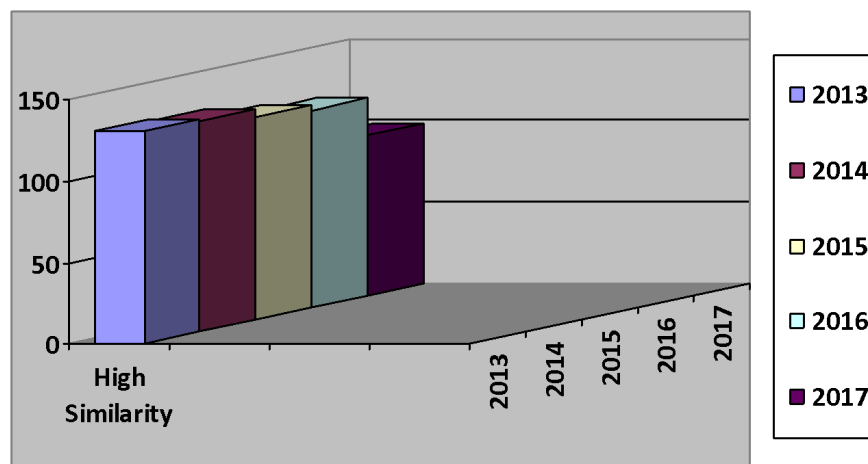
The advantage of having quality software is to know more and exact details of particular issue. As discussed, turnitin is one of the renowned software to be used for plagiarism checking worldwide. Therefore, the software can able to pull it out the required details to know the reasons. From the above table, it reveals the sources for matched contents and internet resources are predominantly used for scholarly communication of the institution with 48 %. The second major sources were derived from paper databases, there are 42% of matched sources are from paper database. The table further reveals that 39% of matched sources are from publications.



**Table - 4**  
**High Similarity Report**

Period	High Similarity
2013 January	0
2013 April	38
2013 July	48
2013 October	44
2014 January	36
2014 April	28
2014 July	44
2014 October	21
2015 January	30
2015 April	45
2015 July	25
2015 October	24
2016 January	45
2016 April	30
2016 July	19
2016 October	27
2017 January	27
2017 April	24
2017 July	21
2017 October	26

Discussing about similarity ratio is important in plagiarism checking, this is where we can able to know about our writings. It is a kind of review about our writings and it should be clearly checked to avoid plagiarism. The similarity index will tell us about the sources of information, here the author should know that the contents should not be copied as it is, it may be an inspirational writings but it should not be the same as appeared in original. The above table cleared indicates that the ratio of similarity index is gradually reducing, it was started 38 plus during the year 2013 progressively it is been reduced to 27 and below from July 2016. It is a positive note that the authors of this institution are practiced to write on their own.



## Conclusion

Plagiarism should be abolished in all walks of life, awareness on how to avoid plagiarism should be created from school education. Everyone must be encouraged to think on their own, school project works should be evaluated based on the own works. Because most of the students are depending internet or the shops for their project works, which have no scope for their innovating and creating thinking. It is a collective responsible of all the educational institutions where the young minds are getting shape. Internet usage should be diminished particularly at school education. Thinking always lead for innovation, therefore, imagination soaring high than the knowledge. B.S.Abdur Rahman Crescent Institute of Science & Technology has done incredible efforts to prevent plagiarism in the campus. Prominent software is being subscribed for the above purpose and awareness programs are being conducted frequently. The result of the mentioned efforts leads to low in similarity ratio for their scholarly communication.

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