

DR. M. VIJAYAKUMAR

MBBS, DNB, FRCS, Mch (Onco), PGDHM

Vice Chancellor



YENEPOYA

(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)

Recognised under Sec. 3(A) of the UGC Act 1956
Accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade

12th January, 2022

The Director
National Assessment and Accreditation Council,
Bangalore

Sir,

Subject: Response on the remarks made by INFLIBNET on UGC-CARE list of Publications and Scopus database

This is to bring to your kind notice that we are in receipt of remarks on our response dated 03rd January 2022 pertaining to articles published in UGC-CARE list of approved journals. It is noted that against the claim of 2269 articles in UGC-CARE list made by the University, INFLIBNET has considered only 73 articles. The metric 3.4.6 states "Average Number of research papers per teacher in the approved list of Journals notified in UGC-CARE list during the last five calendar years". Our response of 2269 articles was to comply with the metric in question in a broad sense. There is no clarity on UGC-CARE list of journals to be taken into consideration while accounting for the number of articles.

As per the information available on UGC-CARE website, the UGC-CARE list consist of UGC-CARE List Group I (Journals found qualified through UGC-CARE protocols) and UGC-CARE List Group II (Journals indexed in globally recognized databases), the latter consists of journals indexed in Web of Science and SCOPUS. We have been following the UGC-CARE list journals carefully and have noticed that the list of journals approved in the UGC-CARE (Group – 1) is dynamic and inconsistent causing confusion among the stakeholders to freeze the number of articles. In view of this ambiguity, the entire list of 2269 articles published by the faculty was submitted for verification. In the our understanding the 3.4.6 metric refers to UGC-CARE list without distinguishing between the UGC-CARE List Group I or II and the number of publications counted should be the cumulative of both.

The 2269 article list submitted by us includes 1016 articles either in Scopus/Web of Science indexed journals (Scopus 786, Web of Science 743). This has been already verified by INFLIBNET. Consideration of only 73 articles among the list submitted thus shall now exclude 1016 articles published by the University in SCOPUS/Web of Science indexed journals.

Cont...2



YENEPOYA

(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)

Recognised under Sec. 3(A) of the UGC Act 1956

Accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade

As you are aware over the years UGC has brought in several modifications since the inception of the concept UGC Approved List of journals in 2016. Later the UGC introduced UGC-CARE list with four groups of journals made in the 2018 to bring in more quality in its approach of short listing journals and further categorizing them into Group I and Group II in 2021.

The metric deals with the average number of research papers per teacher and exclusion of SCOPUS/Web of Science database publications would affect the response significantly and adversely. Hence, we have raised a concern in IMS of NAAC to consider the publications included in Scopus and Web of Science journals (UGC-CARE List Group – II) those were included in the data submitted in support of metric 3.4.6 by us for arriving at respectful response.

Further, we wish to inform that our University as part of SSR Metric No. 3.4.5 has compiled publications from 2016 to 2020 in Scopus, Web of Science and PubMed databases. During this period the faculty members of Yenepoya (Deemed to be University) have published a total of 836 articles in journals listed under Scopus database. However, INFLIBNET has considered only 786 articles and left out 50 articles published in Scopus indexed journals as they were not retrievable currently under Scopus database. The fact of the matter is that the journals which were indexed in Scopus database during the period from 2016-2020 are not retrievable on account of discontinuation of those journals for indexation by Scopus in 2021. Yenepoya (Deemed to be University) subscribes Scopus database and an extensive search has resulted in the retrieval of 50 missing articles. The screenshots of 50 articles indicating the title of the paper, journal, indexation status in Scopus database and year of discontinuation of indexation are verifiable from the screenshots. The faculty or the University has no control over this process followed by indexing agencies as the system is dynamic and in the true spirit for maintaining standards of journals. The faculty members/researchers look into the list of journals in Scopus database to confirm indexation and submit manuscript for publication.

The metrics 3.4.5 and 3.4.6 are reflections of credibility of research publication by an Institution. However, these two metrics are not aligned properly to showcase the research prowess of the Institution. While Yenepoya (Deemed to be University) has already established its credibility on the quality of publication as reflected in the number of publication in Scopus, Web of Science databases and PubMed, the performance of this institution in the next metric 3.4.6 appears to be abysmal. This we feel that these two metrics are contradicting the objectives envisioned.

Cont....3

DR. M. VIJAYAKUMAR

MBBS, DNB, FRCS, Mch (Onco), PGDHM

Vice Chancellor



YENEPOYA

(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)

Recognised under Sec. 3(A) of the UGC Act 1956

Accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade

We request you to kindly have a considerate, rationale and exercise a more practical approach while disowning the 50 Scopus indexed articles published by the faculty during the period of assessment rather than going by software enabled evaluation/verification of number of articles in Scopus database.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

Dr. M Vijayakumar
Vice Chancellor

Vice Chancellor

Yenepoya (Deemed to be University)