



# **Dev Sangha Institute of Professional Studies & Educational Research (DIPSER) College of Education (For Women), Deoghar**

## **GUIDING DOCUMENT ON GOOD ACADEMIC RESEARCH PRACTICES**

### **BACKGROUND**

Dev Sangha Institute of Professional Studies and Educational Research (DIPSER) has constantly encouraged its faculty members to enhance their qualification and knowledge through research and publication. Time and again, UGC, NCTE and NEP 2020 have also emphasized the need to continuously enhance knowledge and have stressed the necessity of maintaining high academic standards and follow ethics and moral values as cornerstones while pursuing Higher Education, including the Ph.D. degree.

**In this context, the Regulatory Bodies have indicated certain quality norms/ guidelines also for pursuing Ph.D. degree. This includes pursuing Ph.D. through regular mode; examination of the Ph.D. thesis by at least two external examiners, publication of two research papers from his/her Ph.D. work out of which at least one in a refereed journal and presentation of at least two papers based on his/ her Ph.D. work in conferences/ seminars sponsored/ funded/ supported by the UGC/ ICSSR/ CSIR or any similar agency.**

### **THE DIPSER CONTEXT**

The necessity to do quality doctoral research assumes special significance in the context of DIPSER as well. DIPSER has always underlined the need to uphold the quality of academics including research and publication by its Faculty Members. As other academic institutions have established protocols, codes of conduct, norms, and principles to enhance that quality of research, DIPSER has also framed guidelines to foster quality research by its Faculty Members.

The Guiding Document, prepared as per the Guidance Document on 'Good Academic Research Practices' (Sept, 2020) published by UGC, underlines the necessity of ensuring specific norms across the research lifecycle for conducting quality, impactful, and ethical research. This document also highlights the Values underlying research integrity to help create a culture of responsible and quality research by its Faculty Members. All Faculty Members (Ph.D. aspirants included) are required to read the content carefully and follow the same stringently lest they may fall prey to some provocation from some quarter that eventually affects their academic career as per provision of Law.

### **QUALITY RESEARCH DEFINED**

Any quality research is founded on research integrity, based on a set of shared values that include ethics, rigour, relevance, transparency, respect, impartiality, and accountability. The integrity of the research initiative rests on honesty and trust and includes

- An honest approach based on verifiable methods in proposing, performing, and evaluating research.
- Reporting research results with particular attention to adherence to rules, regulations, and guidelines.
- Following commonly accepted professional codes or norms.

It is thus critical for the researcher as well the institution to which the researcher is associated to establish and maintain a culture of research integrity, based on a set of shared values.

## VALUES-BASED RESEARCH (PH.D./ OTHER ACADEMIC RESEARCH)

Research is, by and large, a self-regulating and self-policing process wherein researchers are supposed to do their research authentic and relevant research and without falsification and fabrication. A good quality research quality must therefore be conducted in a culture that supports honesty and integrity to ensure the highest standards of ethical practice and behaviour.

Thus, in accordance with its fundamental values DIPSER wishes all faculty members to adhere to ethics and academic integrity and ensure the following guidelines while pursuing Ph.D. and other Academic Research.

- Research is conducted in an ethical manner ensuring dignity, rights, safety, and privacy within the research ecosystem.
- Research has high quality design, reliable data, the appropriate use of methods, rigorous and careful analysis, and transparent reporting and interpretation of the results
- Research is focused on enriching the knowledge-base in the domain area.
- Honesty is promoted through transparency in developing, undertaking, reviewing, reporting, and communicating research in a fair, comprehensive, and unbiased fashion.
- Research is pursued taking into consideration the norms of the institution where the faculty is employed and in harmony with colleagues, research participants, and the environment.
- Honesty, objectivity and lack of bias are adopted as the core principles of research.
- Research is insulated from influence of funders or other non-researchers with a stake in the research.
- Research complies with both the letter and spirit of relevant rules, procedures and regulations governing professional standards.
- **Ph.D. Research is being pursued after taking due prior administrative permission from Secretary, DSSP & DIPSER and after submitting the declaration that his/ her research would not hamper official duties as would be given to him/ her from time to time.**
- Ph.D. Researcher has to give an undertaking that he/ she is aware of misconduct in research and would not indulge in it in any form. A few examples of misconduct are mentioned below.
  - Fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results
  - Publishing articles/ research papers in predatory journals
  - Involvement in any extra/ undue financial/ other transaction than what is prescribed by the University
  - Resorting to taking external assistance in writing research work
  - Doing paid research with the help of a third party.
  - Engaging in any kind of academic conduct detrimental to the scholastic fraternity and the Institution
  - Disregarding organizational regulations and guidelines while pursuing research