

Statistics on RGC's Handling of Alleged Misconduct Cases

(2019/20 to 2023/24)

Table 1: Alleged Misconduct Cases
(*by type of suspected misconduct*)

Misconduct	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Total
Non-disclosure of similar / related work in the application form ¹	1 (1)	0 (0)	1 (1)	3 (3)	1 (1)	6 (6)
Plagiarism ²	0 (0)	1 (1) [#]	0 (0)	1 (1)	0 (0)	2 (2) [#]
Self-plagiarism ³	0 (0)	1 (1) [#]	1 (0)	0 (0)	1 (1)	3 (2) [#]
Total	1 (1)	1 (1)[#]	2 (1)	4 (4)	2 (2)	10 (9)[#]

Remark: figure in brackets denotes the number of substantiated cases

One case involved both the misconduct of plagiarism and self-plagiarism.

¹ “Non-disclosure of similar / related work in the application” refers to cases where researchers failing to report to the RGC any research work that is being / has been conducted in relation to the proposal, including but not limited to data collection, preliminary research, working papers, publications (such as journal papers, conference papers and books, etc.), presentations, media interviews and other submitted proposals, etc. in the application form.

² “Plagiarism” refers to the intentional or unintentional appropriation of another person’s ideas, processes, or results or words (including diagrams, figures, tables, photos, etc.) without providing appropriate credit or acknowledgement.

³ “Self-plagiarism” refers to cases where the researchers reuse their own data or previously published work (including working papers), or parts of it, in the proposal or a subsequent publication, research paper or other output of the funded project, without appropriate acknowledgement that the material had previously been published.

Table 2: Penalties Imposed on Substantiated Cases
(by type of misconduct)

Misconduct	No. of cases	No. of researchers involved	Penalty (No. of researchers)
Non-disclosure of similar / related work in the application form	6	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warning letter and disqualified in the related funding exercise (4) • Disqualified and debarred from all RGC research funding schemes for two funding exercises / rounds (2)
Plagiarism and self-plagiarism	1	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disqualified and debarred from all RGC research funding schemes for three funding exercises / rounds (1)
Plagiarism	1	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disqualified and debarred from all RGC research funding schemes for three funding exercises / rounds (1)
Self-plagiarism	1	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disqualified and debarred from all RGC research funding schemes for two funding exercises / rounds (1)
Total	9	9	

Table 3: Penalties Imposed on Researchers of Substantiated Cases
(*by type of penalty*)

Penalty	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Total
Warning letter and disqualified in the related funding exercise	1	0	1	2	0	4
Disqualified and debarred from all RGC research funding schemes for two funding exercises / rounds	0	0	0	1	2	3
Disqualified and debarred from all RGC research funding schemes for three funding exercises / rounds	0	1	0	1	0	2
Total	1	1	1	4	2	9