

**Statistics on RGC's Handling of Alleged Misconduct Cases**

**(2017/18 to 2021/22)**

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

<b>Misconduct</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>Total</b>
Non-disclosure of similar / related work in the application form <sup>1</sup>	3 ( 2 )	1 ( 1 )	1 ( 1 )	0 ( 0 )	1 ( 1 )	6 ( 5 )
Plagiarism <sup>2</sup>	0 ( 0 )	0 ( 0 )	0 ( 0 )	1 ( 1 ) <sup>#</sup>	0 ( 0 )	1 ( 1 ) <sup>#</sup>
Falsification <sup>3</sup>	0 ( 0 )	1 ( 0 )	0 ( 0 )	0 ( 0 )	0 ( 0 )	1 ( 0 )
Self-plagiarism <sup>4</sup>	0 ( 0 )	0 ( 0 )	0 ( 0 )	1 ( 1 ) <sup>#</sup>	1 ( 0 )	2 ( 1 ) <sup>#</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 ( 2 )</b>	<b>2 ( 1 )</b>	<b>1 ( 1 )</b>	<b>1 ( 1 )<sup>#</sup></b>	<b>2 ( 1 )</b>	<b>9 ( 6 )<sup>#</sup></b>

Remark: figure in brackets denotes the number of substantiated cases

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

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

<b>Misconduct</b>	<b>No. of cases</b>	<b>No. of researchers involved</b>	<b>Penalty (No. of researchers)</b>
Non-disclosure of similar / related work in the application form	5	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disqualified in the related funding exercise (5)</li> </ul>
Plagiarism and self-plagiarism	1 <sup>#</sup>	1 <sup>#</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disqualified and debarred from all RGC research funding schemes for three years (1)</li> </ul>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	

Remark: figure in brackets denotes the number of substantiated cases

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

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

<b>Penalty</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>Total</b>
Disqualified in the related funding exercise	2	1	1	0	1	5
Disqualified and debarred from all RGC research funding schemes for one year	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disqualified and debarred from all RGC research funding schemes for two years	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disqualified and debarred from all RGC research funding schemes for three years	0	0	0	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>

<sup>1</sup> “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.

<sup>2</sup> “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.

<sup>3</sup> “Falsification” refers to the manipulation of research materials, equipment or processes, or the altering or omission of data or results such that the research is not accurately represented. For example, the elimination of data which does not support a pre-conceived conclusion or the combination of results from different experiments in order to support a particular conclusion.

<sup>4</sup> “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.