Original Article   *Available online at www.bpasjournals.com*

Publishing of Research Articles with Reputed Journals: Mooring Scholarly Communication for Future Generation

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How to cite this article: Singh A. (2023). Publishing of Research Articles with Reputed Journals: Mooring Scholarly Communication for Future Generation. *Library Progress International*, 43(2), 270-277.

ABSTRACT
Research papers or sometime we address them as research articles, are mirrors or sledges which bridge gaps between previous established researches based on certain principles. A research while submitting his or her manuscript must be well aware about the quality and standard of the concerned journal. The paper emphasizes over standard indexing databases including Web of Science, Scopus and UGC-CARE. The paper explains a procedure and practice to follow by the researchers for submitting manuscripts in a standard and quality journal. The paper foregrounds over the process and procedure for enlisting of journals in the standard indexing databases for publishing institutions.

KEYWORDS: *Scholarships; Research Publication; SCOPUS, Web of Science; UGC-CARE*

INTRODUCTION

Quality is considered as a result of high intension for performing a task with sincere efforts in intellectual directions and skillful performance while performing a work achieving a goal. Publication of sweat and brow of a researcher or scientist plays a vital role in visibility and research progress. Generally, it is assumed that the quality of a journal where a piece of research is published plays a major role in visibility of research progression. A journal if fulfills several standard criteria like indexed in Scimago Journal and Country Ranking (SJR), its quartile and most important to have good number of impact factor. In current sceinario, it may be assumed that an article is considered a quality publication, if it is published in a journal recognized by SJR.

Although, a good research must contain values like ethics, rigor, relevance, relevance, transparency, respect, impartiality, independence and accountability. Publishing in a good reputed journal is also considered an art. Researchers must vigilantly evaluate various parameters for selecting journals for publication of their research work. The practice for selecting best journals of the subject concern has been supported by various indexing databases available worldwide. In India, the Consortium of Academic Research Ethics framed by University Grants Commissions has taken the responsibility to upkeep standards in publication and research at academic level.

STANDARD INDEXING DATABASES

In general sense, an index is considered as a list of manuscripts/ articles or research papers prepared in a sequence or pre-defined ordering for a particular purpose. The list of journals arranged on the basis of their discipline or subject or type of publication is known as bibliographic indexes. Selecting journals for indexing is a tedious task. Journals are indexed on the basis of various parameters like publication agency, editorial board, peer review process and periodicity. Journals indexed in a reputed indexing schema are considered as quality journals.

A number of efforts have been made worldwide by publishing players to standard indexing by establishing indexing databases worldwide. Indexing databases actually, contains indexing or sometime full text access of scholarships based on specific subjects or multiple subjects. There are number of databases worldwide which are identified as most suited for identifying quality and standards of journals for publishing research work like Web of Science, Scopus, Medline, PubMed Central, Directory of Open access Journals, EiCompodex, PubMed, Portico, Wanfag Data, dblp Computer Science Bibliography, Ulrichweb, and Google Scholar. University Grants Commission has introduced and updates a list of journal time to time known as UGC CARE List of Journals. The UGC Care List includes two types of Groups. In group I the journals indexed in Scopus and Web of Sciences are included, however, in Group II, UGC Consortium finalizes the Journals on the basis of standards followed and recommendation of academic community. Few important indexing databases are explained here under.

Web of Science

Web of Science is a digital database maintained by Clarivate Analytics. Web of Science is a comprehensive electronic database providing citation based indexing services containing interlinking of several databases to access research and citation data published in journals and conference proceedings around the world. Web of Science serves to academia, corporate, government, legal services, life science and healthcare. Web of Science maintains and provides products and services based on scientific and academic research, bio-pharma intelligence, medtech intelligence, IP intelligence, IP lifecycle management, IP services and consulting data.

Web of Science claims that it contains citation based data from more than 60 million databases from international sphere along with regional and national databases. Web of Science provides access of more than 160million records and over 1.7 billion cited references through following databases.

Table 1: List of Databases and its coverage under Web of Science

S.N.	WoS Databases	Contents	Disciplines	Records (Million)	Cited References
1.	Science Citation Index Expended (SCIE	9200 Journals	178	53 m	1.18 b
2.	Social Science Citation Index (SSCI)	3400 Journals	58	9 m	122 m
3.	Art and Humanities Citation Index (AHCI)	1800 Journals	28	4.9 m	33 m
4.	Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI	7800 Journals	254	3 m	74 m
5.	Book Citation Index (BKCI)	104,500 Books	-	-	53 m
6.	Conference Proceedings Citation Index (CPCI	205,000 Conference Proceedings	-	-	70 m

Scopus

SCOPUS or Scopus is a abstracting and citation database maintained by world's leading giant publishing company Elsevier. The mail objective of the database is to contain abstracts and citations of research publications published in peer reviewed journals, books and conference proceedings. Scopus contains content coverage from also all subject disciplines including arts and humanities, medical sciences, general science and social sciences in general. As on date, the database provides access over 75 million records from peer reviewed scientific journals, quality books and conference volumes with more than 1.4 billion cited references. Scopus is well known to several smart tools associated to general research metrics, research tracking for better analysis and visualization of individual as well as institutional research output. As on date, Scopus contains access of following contents.

Table 2: Content Coverage under Scopus

S.N.	Contents	Numbers
1.	Journals	40562
2.	Book Series	1816
3.	Conference Proceedings	506
4.	Trade Publications	799

Scopus claims its efficiency on the basis of regular assessment of content coverage of journals, books and conference proceedings available by notification of active and inactive contents quarterly. Table 3 presents contents on the basis of geographical distribution available in Scopus. Scopus has most of the content from North America (6600). The database claims having contents from Western Europe (12170), East Europe including Russia (1750), Middle East Africa (860), Latin America (790), Asia Pacific (2230) and Australia/ New Zealand (260).

Table 3: Global Representation of Scopus Database

S.N.	Global Representation	Number of Titles
1.	North America	6600+
2.	Middle East+Africa	860+
3.	Western Europe	12170+
4.	East Europe including Russia	1750+
5.	Latin America	790+
6.	Asia Pacific	2230+
7.	Australia + New Zealand	260+

UGC Listed Journals

University Grants Commission (UGC) framed a consortium known as "Consortium for Academic and Research Ethics" (CARE) for controlling publication activities of scholarly literature in view of empowering academia in India on 28th November 2018. The Consortium was created for achieving specialized objectives pertaining to implement standards for ethical practice in research and academia in the Universities. It promotes selection criteria for selecting quality academic or research journals to publish research articles by the academic and research community for greater visibility. On the basis of guided principles, UGC Consortium has come up with a list of standard academic

and research journals for easement of academicians wish to publish research outcome. UGC has come up with the notification of standard as well as predatory journals for wisely selection of journals time to time. Currently UGC consider two groups of journal lists containing standard and quality scientific research journals. Under group I, the journals considered and selected to qualify those journals, which fulfill UGC Care protocols set by the committee appointed for the work. In group II, the journals published in renowned indexing databases like Web of Science and Scopus are enlisted under qualified categories except certain delisted journals mentioned on the website of the UGC CARE consortium. As on date, the UGC Consortium contains contents from the following disciplines under group I.

Table 4: Content coverage under Group I List

S.N.	Subject	Number of Journals
1.	Science	272
2.	Social Science	318
3.	Arts and Humanities	390
4.	Multidisciplinary	41
5.	Indian Language	318

Group II of UGC CARE List contains all journals covers under Web of Science and Scopus Indexing databases as mentioned in previous sections of the article.

PREDATORY JOURNALS

Elmore and Weston (2020) elaborate predatory journals as the publication fraud based on fraudulent publication practice only with a motive to publish research articles in consideration of money. They mention that publishers of predatory journals pretend to follow utmost care in peer review process, but more focus on accepting even sub-standard manuscripts only in financial consideration. As per their research paper, the term Predatory Publishers was coined by Beall, the Librarian of University of Colorado. Beall (2016 & 2017) elaborated Predatory Publishers as organizations who are involved in publications of research publications benefiting gold open access models with a pure intention to publish manuscripts in lieu of financial gains without pursing any standard peer reviewed processes. Leena and Jeevan (2022) mentioned about the list of predatory journals and their reasons, why researchers indulge themselves to publish in predatory journals. They also highlight the major to counter with predatory journal problem by various governmental agencies of Bharat.

PUBLISHING SCHOLARSHIPS IN JOURNALS WITH STANDARD INDEXING DATABASES

Publishing with good journals indexed in Standard Indexing Database are considered as a complex task. Although publishing with these journals is an art. While starting or planning to write a research paper, author has to first browse the list of three standard indexing databases i.e. Scopus, Web of Science and UGC-CARE List. This must be understood that the accessing of list of journal in these database websites are free and need only to register login credentials by individuals. Scopus List can be access through www.scopus.com. Web of Science List can be accessed through https://mjl.clarivate.com/collection-list-downloads under Social Science Citation Index of Web of Science Core Collection. Apart from Scopus and Web of Science listed Journals, UGC-Care List also needs to access files and is available through https://ugccare.unipune.ac.in/Apps1/Home/Index

Selection Criteria of Journal
Academicians must first know the aims and scope of the journal match with the subject domain of their research work. It is key to evaluate in advance, whether the journal published articles of similar nature. It is good to

know about the intended audience of the journal by visiting websites of the journal. After matching preliminary requirement, academicians should emphasis over the submission requirement of the journal selected. Impact factor envisions standards of the Journal and the academicians must know the impact factor of the journal for n number of reasons. Academicians must overview upon the peer reviewed process of the journals for mapping timelines and maintaining standards in publication.

Time Management
The Journals have tendency to publish with different periodicity. Journals are published monthly, quarterly, biannually or annually. Author should keep more vigilance on the periodicity of the Journals, so that he or she may get more chances to submit manuscript more frequently. We may understand it with an example. Acadmician has found two journals in the relevant subject area indexed in either of the indexing databases. Let's assume ABC journal is published yearly with ten research articles. On the other hand XYZ Journal is published monthly with five research articles. Here the acceptance rate of the manuscript is high in XYZ Journals. Henceforth, periodicity and time management is most relevant factor while opting journal.

- **Submission Guidelines**
  Publishing guidelines are framed by the Editorial team and contain structure of the research manuscript formats for submission. Advanced awareness of the submission guidelines supports writing research paper in a well define path and enhance the possibility of acceptance of papers.
- **Reviewing Process of the Journal**
  Academician must go through peer review process of the Journal. Familiarization with peer review process in advance, helps to write manuscripts according to the prescribed standards and regulations for acceptance of the Manuscript.
- **Regular Monitoring of Communication**
  Standard Journals take time in review process. They have a lined up manuscripts for most probably for two or three next issue. Few Journals with Scopus databases

have already pre-published advanced manuscripts/ articles for the volumes of 2022. Patience is another mantra for getting chances to publish in such journals. Academicians have to regularly monitor the status of reviewing process after submission of manuscripts.

- **Revision of Manuscript**
  Standard journals involve experts in the subject fields. Most of the time, the experts revert with the comments on manuscripts for revision. Academicians must be ready to re-submit the manuscript after revision as and when receive review report.

BENEFITS TO PUBLISH IN JOURNALS WITH STANDARD INDEXING DATABASES

Indian academic community abides with rules and regulations framed by the University Grants Commission. University Grants Commission has issued a notification for establishing a Consortium to decide about the quality in publication of various purposes for publication of research articles by academic community for awarding Ph.D. and Career Promotion aspects. UGC-Consortium for Academic and Research Ethics shortly known as UGC-CARE

Benefits to Individual
University Grants Commission in its regulation (Regulations) under Methodology for University and College Teachers for calculating Academic/Research Score have included criteria for calculating scores based on type of journals. The guidelines under Minimum API for the promotion of Teachers updated by University Grants Commissions time to time ask to contribute Research and academic contribution under various sections and subsections. Publishing in quality research journals enhance the points system useful for career assessment schemes for further promotions. Publication with the reputed Journals with higher impact rate will enhance the score for the academic community.

Apart from UGC Scoring system, publications with good journal disseminate the research papers worldwide with the community working with same field. It will help in status and

visibility of the academicians with more number of citations of the work.

Benefits to Institution
Academicians work in, for and from the institution. Their research works involve exploitation of institutional resources. When academicians excel in writing good research papers in reputed journals, it automatically reflects in the profile of their parental institutions. On the basis of research outcome and rankings, Institutions are ranked not only at international level but also in the national rankings framework. In India, NIRF and NAAC rankings play a big role for calculating rankings of the University. Obviously, on the basis of such rank, the Institutions get funds and other supports from the Governmental Bodies. Publications of research articles by academicians in good reputed journals play a vital role for upraise standards and rankings of their parental institutions.

Benefits to Society
While counting the benefits of good research outcomes, society as a whole gets most benefited supporting future research and decision making process. On the basis of research papers published in good journals with greater visibility, carries inputs for solving various social and scientific problems.

LAW JOURNALS IN STANDARD INDEXING DATABASES

Law Journals are also covered under the list of Scopus, Web of Science Databases and also in UGC CARE List. Law and legal academicians have also obligations to publish quality research papers for supporting social engineering efforts around the world. Scopus Indexing Database includes 801 titles under Law Subject AS ON 31ST August 2021 available to search with www.scopus.com. Web of Science Core Collection facilitates list of 159 Law Journals, which are known for very high impact factors and rating around the world. On the other Side, University Grants Commission under UGC-Care List covers 67 journals for the reference of the academicians.

Criteria to Include Academic Journals in Standard Indexing Databases

Indexing Databases follow strict norms for indexing articles published in journals. A number of indicators and evaluation points are taken into consideration while including a journal for maintaining standards and quality of indexing services provided by the databases.

Scopus
Scopus under its indexing policy, strictly adhere to follow five point passed criteria. Under first criteria, Journal policy has been evaluated by the team of expert. Under journal policy, criteria like convincing editor policy, type of peer review, diversity in geographical distribution of editors, and diversity in geographical distribution of authors, are considered. In second criteria content evaluation pertaining to academic contribution to the field, clarity of abstracts, quality of and conformity to the stated aims and scope of the journal and readability of articles are considered. In other criteria, journal standing like citedness of journal articles, editorial standings, publishing regularity, and online availability of the content of the journals are accessed. A table for understanding the criteria is visualized below.

Table 5: Understanding the Criteria for SCOPUS listing

Category	Criteria
Journal Policy	Convincing editorial policy
	Types of Peer review
	Diversity in geographical distribution of editors
	Diversity in geographical distribution o authors
Content	Academic contribution to the field
	Clarity of abstracts
	Quality of any conformity to the stated aims and scope of the journal

	Readability of articles
Journal Standing	Citedness of Journal articles in Scopus
	Editor standing
Publishing Regularity	No delays or interruptions in the publication schedule
Online Availability	Full journal content available online
	English language journal home page available
	Quality of journal home page

Web of Science

"Web of Science" sticks to three tier process for examining before including, and during regular practice to cover under its indexing databases. At initial stage, the team of expert evaluates basic information about the journals like ISSN, title, publisher, URL, peer review policy, and contact details. After approval at stage one, under editorial triage, quality criteria like scholarly content, article titles and abstracts, bibliographic information clarity of language, timeliness and functionality of websites, editorial affiliations and author affiliation are assessed and evaluated.

Table 6: Understanding the Criteria for Web of Science

Quality Criteria			Impact Criteria
Initial Triage	**Editorial Triage**	**Editorial Evaluation**	
ISSN	Scholarly Content	Editorial Board Composition	Comparative Citation Analysis
Journal Publisher	Article Titles and Article Abstracts in English	Validity of Statement	Author Citation Analysis
URG (Online Journals)	Bibliographic Information in Roman Script	Peer Review	EBM Citation Analysis
Content Access	Clarity of Language	Content Relevance	Content Significance
Presence of Peer Review Policy	Timeliness and/or Publication Volume	Grant Support Details	
Contact Details	Website Functionality/Journals Format	Adherence to Community Standards	
	Presence of Ethics Statements	Author Distribution	
	Editorial Affiliation Details	Appropriate Citations to the Literature	
	Author Affiliation Details		

The above chart shows that the expert team of Web of Science adheres to evaluate impact criteria of the journal on the basis of comparative citation, author citation, EBM Citation analyses and Content significance.

UGC-Care List

University Grants Commission under Consortium and Research Ethics has created an empowered committee. The Committee meets time to time to evaluate quality of the journals on the basis of various criteria. Publishing authorities or institutions submit predetermined criteria based application to the regional or nodal offices designated according to the geographical areas with headquarter at Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune. Journals are evaluated on the basis of three protocols. In first part, basic information including title, discipline, publishing agency, language, publishing area, frequency of publication information about editors, registering details like International Standard Serial Number (ISSN or eISSN) and/or RNI, are considered. In second and third protocols, specialized information like purpose of the publication, due diligence, reviewing process criteria and weightage-based metrics are

evaluated. The most important part of approval process includes recommendations of the teachers through Internal Quality Assurance Cells of the academic institutions. A designated form created and designed by the UGC-CARE needs to be forwarded in support of assessment of quality of the journal through IQAC Cells along with basic information based application. A journal duly recommended on the basis of parameters fulfilled, may be disqualified at any stage, if, considered as defaulter in future or submitted misleading or false information with no further consideration.

Check Lists for Academicians for Publishing Article

Academicians are responsible solely for envisioning visibility of their work and the parental institutions. A number of points should be kept in mind before starting writing papers.

- Selection of bunch of Journals Matching profile of the subject area of the research paper with Journal Profiles.
- Select most appropriate Journal among the preliminary selected journal.
- Sound knowledge about the journal and editorial boards and guidelines selected.
- Pre-evaluation of Paper Submission Guidelines for structuring research paper accordingly.
- Acquaintance with Timelines of Call for Papers, Reviewing time and Acceptance.
- Regular monitoring of submitted manuscripts.
- Speedy revision of the paper on the basis of comments by reviewer, if any and resubmission.

CONCLUSION

A good education system depends over the quality of imparting education. Research is an important activity for upraise standard of education system. Research based education system results pinning quality based future generation. A number of initiatives have been taken to enhance standard of research and quality publication in India and at international level. Clarivate Analytics has introduced Web of Science mechanism for indexing of journals published on subjects like science, social science, art and humanities. Elsevier has come up with an abstracting and citation database known as SCOPUS indexing journals, book series, conference proceedings and trade publications. University Grants Commissions has also introduced Consortium and Research Ethics forum with dedicated committee to evaluate and recognize quality journals. Though, the onus of responsibilities is still in the post of the researchers. The researchers must take care while selected a journal for publishing an article. First of all, the researcher or contributor has to check whether the journal in selection relates to or part of any standard database? Predatory journals are the pseudo-journals identical to the name of existing standard journals, which, if not conscious, may still our intellectual assets.

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