



# Visvesvaraya Technological University

(State University of Government of Karnataka Established as per the VTU Act, 1994)

"Jnana Sangama", Examination Section Ph.D, Belagavi 590 018, Karnataka

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Date: -6 JAN 2026

## CIRCULAR

The Principals of all Constituent and Affiliated Colleges, as well as Research Centres of Visvesvaraya Technological University, are hereby informed that Ph.D. and M.Sc. (Engineering by Research) Guides and Research Scholars are required to upload and submit the **soft copy of the thesis for plagiarism verification through the Drillbit platform**, as per the existing procedure.

As per the prevailing VTU regulations, the **permissible plagiarism similarity limit is 10%**.

Further, during the process of plagiarism verification and scrutiny of the submitted thesis, it has been observed that a **significantly high percentage of AI-generated content** has been detected in several cases, in some instances **exceeding 60%**. This is a matter of serious concern with respect to **originality, academic integrity and research ethics**.

In view of the above, and as an **interim academic measure**, the University has decided that the **AI-generated content in a thesis shall not exceed 20%**. All Research Scholars and Research Supervisors are hereby instructed to **strictly adhere to this limit** while preparing and submitting the thesis.

The University is presently in the process of **examining and amending the regulations** to formally incorporate the acceptable limits and evaluation mechanism for AI-generated content. Until such amendments are officially notified, the **20% limit shall be followed as a guiding threshold** for scrutiny and further processing of thesis.

If a submitted thesis is found to **exceed the permissible plagiarism limit (10%) or the prescribed AI-generated content threshold (20%)**, the thesis shall be **returned for necessary corrections**, and further processing may be withheld. **Repeated or serious violations** may attract appropriate action as per University norms, including **rejection of the thesis**.

All Principals, Research Supervisors, and Research Scholars are requested to **take note of the above instructions and ensure strict compliance**.

Sd/-

**REGISTRAR (EVALUATION)**

To,

The Principals of constituent and affiliated colleges and research centres of VTU.

**Copy FWC's to:**

1. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, through the Sec. to VC, VTU Belagavi, for information
2. The Registrar, VTU Belagavi, for information.
3. Incharge Regional Directors of VTU Regional Offices, for information.

*6/01/26*  
**REGISTRAR (EVALUATION)**