



ہائر ایجوکیشن کمیشن

# HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

H-9, ISLAMABAD, Pakistan-44790 Website: <http://www.hec.gov.pk>

**Dr. Muhammad Tahir Ali Shah**

Director (Academics)

No.2(22/Acad(SS&H)/HEC/2017/236

Dated: December 5, 2017

## NOTIFICATION

In compliance of the decision taken in the 31<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Committee for Development of Social Sciences & Humanities in Pakistan (CDSSHP) held on September 14, 2017 at HEC Islamabad; the following policy criteria is hereby revised as below w.e.f. **1<sup>st</sup> July, 2018:**

### 1. Criteria for Evaluation, Recognition and Upgradation of Social Science National Research Journals

In addition to fulfillment of the minimum criteria for recognition of Social Sciences research journal; the following benchmarks shall be adopted for evaluation, recognition and upgradation of the Social Sciences national research journals:

- For **Z Category Journal**: **Two National reviewers** for each paper and abstracting / Indexing with minimum **one or more** HEC recognized Agencies (except *Pakistani Languages i.e. Punjabi, Pabsto, Sindhi, Balochi, Brahavi, Saraiki and Persian etc. where indexing / abstracting agencies are not available*)
- For **Y Category Journal**: **One National and One International reviewer** for each paper as well as abstracting / Indexing with minimum **two or more** HEC recognized Agencies.
- For **X Category Journal**: **One National and Two International reviewers** for each paper as well as abstracting / Indexing with minimum **three or more** HEC recognized Agencies.

### 2. SOPs for Funding to Social Science National Research Journals

In addition to already prescribed policy, to accelerate the bunged system and facilitate the research scholars for in time publication of research; no grant will be issued if:

- a journal is not published within maximum period of **40 days** (if quarterly), **80 days** (if bi-annual) or **120 days** (if annual) of its due time. This grace period shall also include provision of hard copies, peer review reports, and plagiarism reports etc. at HEC office,
- a journal fails to maintain updated and comprehensive website,
- a journal is stagnant in the same category beyond **5** years until it is upgraded.
- a journal violates HEC SOPs or ethical guidelines.

### 3. Extension, Utilization and Validity of categories of Social Sciences national research journals

The validity timeline for utilization of HEC recognized Social Sciences research journals is hereby extended till 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 and afterwards the following shall come into force w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2018:

**W, X & Y Categories shall be acceptable for:**

- TTS appointment / promotion: **X & above category**
- BPS appointment / promotion: **Y & above category**
- Publication of PhD research work: **Y & above category** (National) and **JCR of ISI or ISI master list** (International)

**Z Category acceptable only for Pakistani regional languages** (e.g. *Punjabi, Pabsto, Sindhi, Balochi, Brahavi Saraiki and Persian etc.*): BPS appointment / promotion and publication of PhD research work.

  
(Dr. Muhammad Tahir Ali Shah)

All Editors of the Social Sciences National Research Journal.

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