

Chapter 15

ShodhGangotri: The Pulse of Indian Research

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ABSTRACT

ShodhGangotri is an open access repository of Indian research in progress which is a new initiative that complements ShodhGanga – the reservoir of Indian theses. ShodhGangotri hosts electronic version of approved synopses and research proposals submitted to the universities in India by research scholars for registering themselves for the PhD programme and reveals the trends and directions of ongoing research in India and helps to avoid duplication of research. This chapter examines the current status of ShodhGangotri in different aspects namely universities, issue date, discipline, and state. University-wise analysis shows that 48% of the total number of synopses is submitted by Shri Jagdishprasad Jhabarmal Tibrewala University, 8.9% by Swami Ramanand Teerth Marthwada University, 8.7% by Dayalbagh Educational Institute, and 5.7% by Mahatma Gandhi University, and they occupy 1 to 4 positions, respectively. The chapter concludes with a suggestion that all universities and research institutions should make it mandatory to submit approved synopses and research proposals at the time of their PhD registration to make it experience the pulse of ongoing Indian research.

INTRODUCTION

In India, as per UGC as on 18.02.2019 there are 903 Universities which include 399 State Universities, 12 Deemed Universities, 48 Central Universities and 330 Private Universities. In each University there are one or more research divisions or institutions. Research is the creative and systematic work to increase the stock of knowledge of human culture and society to devise new application and to establish or confirm facts or to solve problems. As research is the torch of knowledge it is essential to make the research results accessible to all Universities /Institutions. UGC through its MPhil/PhD Regulation 2009, it is informed that all research scholars of MPhil/PhD should submit a soft copy of their theses to the UGC within 30 days after their successful completion, to host the same in INFLIBNET, accessible to all Universities /Institutions. It leads to the establishment of an open access repository- ShodhGanga-

DOI: 10.4018/978-1-7998-2201-1.ch015

the reservoir of Indian theses. Recently INFLIBNET introduced ShodhGangotri to host the synopses or research proposals of on-going research.

SHODHGANGOTRI: INDIAN RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

ShodhGangotri is an open access repository of Indian research in progress. Shodh is a Sanskrit word which means 'Research and Discovery' and Gangotri is one of the largest glaciers in the Himalayas and the source of origination of Ganga, the holiest and longest river in India. ShodhGangotri is an initiative by INFLIBNET in which research scholars/supervisors are requested to deposit electronic version of their approved synopses or research proposal submitted by the research scholars to the Universities for registering themselves for PhD. Synopsis in ShodhGangotri later on mapped to full text theses in ShodhGanga. When the full text thesis is submitted for a synopsis, a link will be provided from ShodhGangotri to ShodhGanga.

ShodhGangotri reveals the trends and directions research in Indian Universities and helps in avoiding duplication of research. Users can search synopses in ShodhGangotri in terms of their Universities and Departments, issue date, name of researcher or supervisor, title and key words. Advanced search using Boolean logic is also possible.

This study is to reveal the current status of ShodhGangotri. The data are collected from the web pages of ShodhGangotri. The analysis is done to analyze the composition of synopses of on-going research in Indian Universities/ Institutions in terms of 4 key aspects namely Universities and Departments, disciplines, states and issue date. As on 20 March 2019 there are 6450 synopses by 68 Universities and Departments and they were taken as the research population and were studied accordingly.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Waghchoure (2015) in this study on advances in computer applications during the past few decades have brought radical changes in the way information is gathered, store, organized, accessed, retrieved and consumed. The Internet and the Web are constantly influencing the development of new modes of scholarly communication; their potential for delivering goods is quite vast, as they overcome successfully the geographical limitations associated with the print media. The Internet can be used for efficient retrieval and meeting information needs. This is very important for university libraries since most of them call for more and more research work. This important fact is convincing many libraries to move towards electronic resources, which are found to be less expensive and more useful for easy access. The present paper is the Comparative Study of Use of Electronic Resources by Social Scientists in University Libraries of Thailand and India. This study is sponsored by ICSSR-NRCT Bilateral Programme 2014.

Vasishta (2015) this article discusses the results of a survey conducted at the technical universities of North India among the research scholars and faculty to study their knowledge, perceptions and attitudes towards the e-resources. This investigation applied a standard survey method of questionnaire. The study examines preference and importance of e-resources among the research scholars and faculty of technical university libraries of North India and summarizes the findings.

Thanuskodi (2013) the present study evaluates the use of library facilities and information resources in university libraries in Tamil Nadu. A survey of 518 students from 5 universities in Tamil Nadu was

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