



RESEARCH TREND IN LIS WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE STATE OF GUJARAT AND MAHARASTRA

Dr. Meghna Vyas

Head, Central Library, Navrachana University

ABSTRACT

Research programmes at the doctoral level in Library and Information Science carried out in the universities of Gujarat and Maharashtra during the ten years (2005–2015) have been analysed to find out the current trends and areas of research, growth pattern and output of universities alongside with comprehensive and constricted topic areas in the LIS discipline. The present study helps the LIS research community to make them aware of the current situation and track of research in this age of information and communication technology. To distinguish the current trends in research in library and information science discipline, the special feature i.e. Shodhganaga in which theses submitted and accepted by the Indian Universities is listed. Quite a good results and findings are come out at end of the study. This study endeavours to deliver a comprehensive evaluation of research mechanism in the library and information science (LIS) discipline in States of Gujarat and Maharashtra during 2010–2015 in order to identify trends and patterns in doctoral research, both at the national level and within the Department of Library and Information Science of universities of the states of Gujarat and Maharashtra.

Key Words: Research; Research in LIS; Research trends in Gujarat and Maharashtra.

1. Introduction

Library & Information Science has accomplished its 100+ years of teaching in India. Research has continuously been observed as the maximum significant knowledgeable movement in the higher learning structure, consequently this research article purposes to provide a wide-ranging representation of doctoral research accepted by LIS departments of various universities of the states of Gujarat and Maharashtra. Universities offering regular PhD programme were identified using Shodhganga: a reservoir of Indian Theses INFLIBNET. (<http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/>). Based on data collected from Shodhganga: the growth and development of LIS research in India since the award from 2005-2015 is traced.

During the recent past, quite a number of research activities have been carried out in the universities and research institutions in various parts of the world. In India, due to the establishment of University Grants Commission, AICTE and other similar bodies and their active support, many students are caring out M. Phil. and Ph.D. degrees. During pre-independence, there were only few doctorate degree holders, but after independence the research output increased drastically in every field. In India about 125 universities and research institutions are offering Ph. D. programmes in Library and Information Science. Considering the available data, attempt is made to analyse research productivity of the various universities in India. At present total 300 universities signed MoU with shodhganga in which 280 universities contributing their share.

Library and Information Science (LIS) research in India has completed its 68 years in this year. Therefore, the time is suitable enough to introspect in what way LIS education has developed over the period of time and achieved its present status. Therefore, the study aims to trace the growth and development of research activities in Gujarat and Maharashtra states. It is carried out by various regular LIS departments/schools of in Gujarat and Maharashtra states.

2 What is shodhganga?⁴

“Shodhganga” is the name coined to denote digital repository of Indian Electronics Theses and Dissertations submitted by the all university under the UGC and it is set-up by the INFLIBNET Centre.

3 OBJECTIVES

The basic objective of this study is to trace the overall growth of LIS research in the states of Maharashtra and Gujarat India during the year 2005-2015. The other objectives of the study are to:

- To know sequential submission of PhDs in LIS during the 10 years;
- To identify the contributions made by universities from two states Gujarat and Maharashtra towards LIS research;
- To identify the thrust areas of LIS research; and
- To identify the emerging areas of research in LIS.
- To identify the most predominant subject areas in the field of LIS research.

4. Methodology

This study covers the total span period of 10 years, starting from 2005. The universities conducting PhD programme through distance mode have not been included in this study. The researcher collected the data in western part of India mainly two states are covered i.e. Maharashtra and Gujarat. The LIS Department of the various universities and research output carried out in states of Gujarat and Maharashtra of India 2005-2015.

The data for the present study have been collected from Shodhganga: a reservoir of Indian Theses INFLIBNET. (<http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/>) doctoral degrees awarded in the field of Library and Information science research in the Indian universities of the states of Gujarat and Maharashtra during 2005-2015.

5. Data Analysis

Total No.of Thesis submitted during 2005-2015 State wise

Table No.5.1

Gujarat	Maharashtra	Total
No.of Theses	No.of Theses	33
13	20	

As per above table its identified that from year 2005-2015, total 13 theses submitted to shodhganga by various universities form Gujarat state and 20 theses submitted to shodhganga

by various universities from Maharashtra state.so, total 33 theses submitted by LIS departments of various universities of both states.

Figure No.5.1

Total No .of Thesis submitted during 2005-2015 State wise

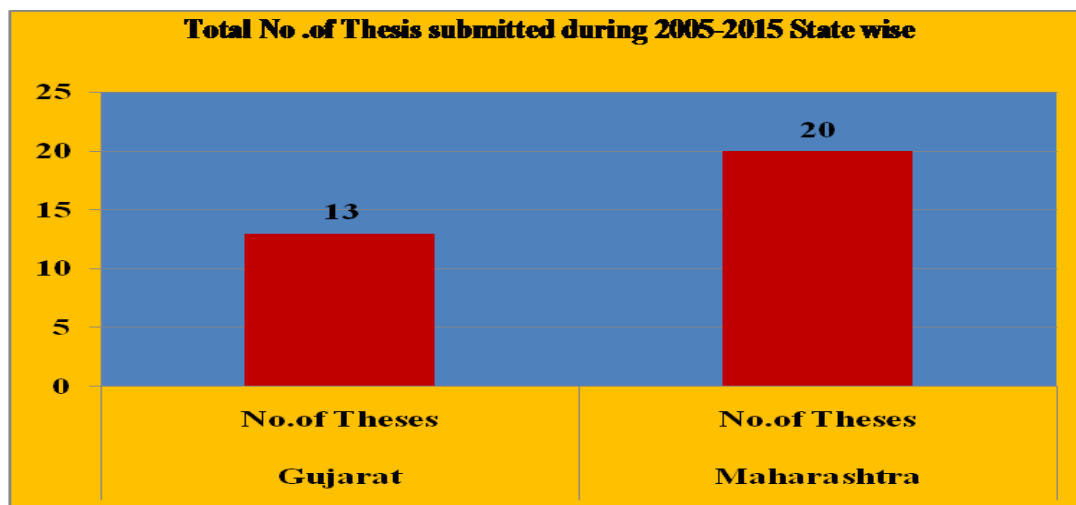


Table No.5.2

Year wise thesis submitted by the universities of the state of Gujarat and Maharashtra

Gujarat		Maharashtra	
Year	Number of Thesis	Year	Number of Thesis
2005	01	2005	03
2006	00	2006	01
2007	01	2007	00
2008	00	2008	03
2009	00	2009	00
2010	01	2010	03
2011	03	2011	00
2012	02	2012	04
2013	04	2013	02
2014	01	2014	02
2015	00	2015	02
Total	13	Total	20
Grant Total		33	

The above table shows that total 33 theses submitted during the period of 2005-2015 from both states, in which maximum 4 theses submitted in the year of 2013 and no theses submitted during the year in 2006,2008,2009,2015 from the State of Gujarat. Maximum 4 thesis from the state of Maharashtra were submitted in the year 2012 and no theses submitted during the year 2007,2009, 2011.

Figure No.5.2

Year wise thesis submitted by the universities of the state of Gujarat and Maharashtra

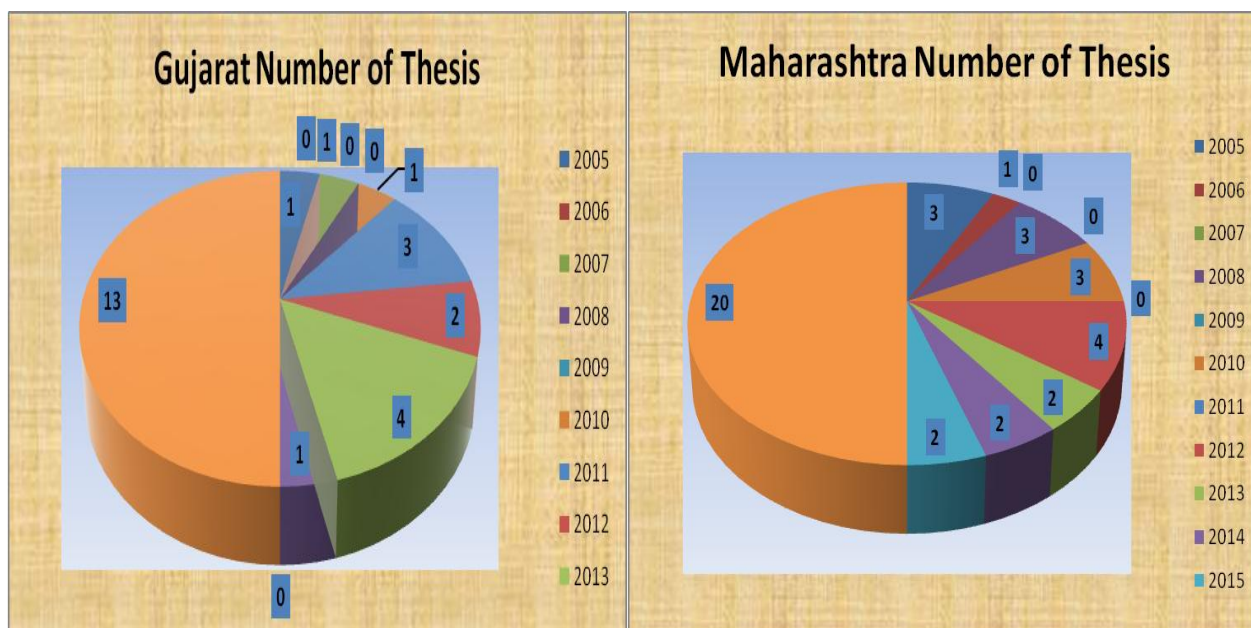


Table No.5.3

Major subject area of thesis submitted by the universities of the state of Gujarat

Year	Subject Area	No. of Theses
2005	Collection Development	01
2007	Business Libraries	01
2010	Performance Measurement of Special Libraries	01
2011	Information Seeking behaviour	01
	Information Index	01
	Library Networking	01
2012	Human Resource Management in Library	01
	Resource Sharing	01
2013	Content Analysis	01
	Academic Library Management	01
	Library Networking	01
	Job Satisfaction of Library staff	01
2014	Digital Library	01
	Total	13

It can be understood from the above table that there are total 13 subject areas identified from the theses submitted by the universities of the state of Gujarat. Subject identified from the submitted theses during the 2005-2015 are Collection Development, Business Libraries, Performance Measurement of Special Libraries, Information Seeking behaviour, and minimum focus on traditional subject area of the library and information science. Information Index, Library Networking, Job Satisfaction of Library staff, etc. This can be interpreted that current trends of research from the period of ten years, most recent subject area in LIS Research is related to digital library and from earlier since 2005 period the major subject area found related to collection development policy.

Figure No.5.3

Major subject area of thesis submitted by the universities of the state of Gujarat

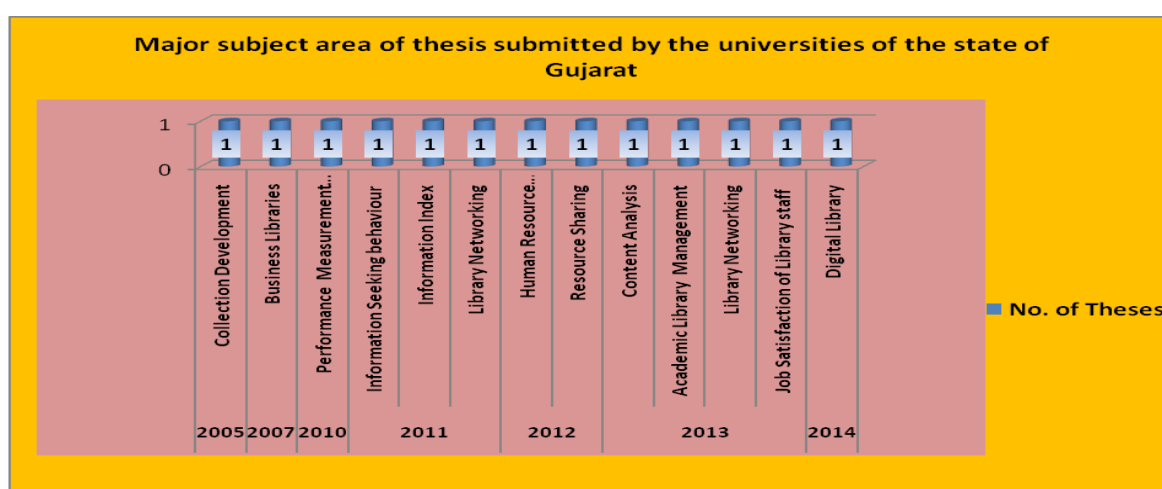


Table No.5.4

Major subject area of thesis submitted by the universities of the state of Maharashtra

Year	Subject Area	No.of Theses
2005	ICT and Library	01
	Digital Library	01
	Web Based Library Services	01
2006	Library Finance	01
2008	Bibliometric Analysis	01
	Public Library Services	01
	Information Service	01
2010	Library Services	01
	Patent Literature Analysis	01
	Library Networking and Services	01
2012	Reference Services and Sources	01
	Public Library	01
	Library Automation and Networking	01
	ICT and Library	01
2013	Open Source Software	01

	Information Seeking Behaviour	01
2014	Citation Analysis	01
	Reference Sources	01
2015	Contribution in Library Development	01
	Library Networking	01
	Total	20

The above table shows that there are total 20 subject areas identified from the theses submitted by the universities of the state of Maharashtra subject identified from the submitted theses during the 2005-2015 are ICT and Library, Digital Library, Web Based Library Services, Library Finance, Bibliometric Analysis, Public Library Services, Information Service, Patent Literature Analysis, Library Networking and Services, Reference Services and Sources, Public Library, Library Automation and Networking, ICT and Library, Open Source Software, Information Seeking Behaviour, Citation Analysis, Reference Sources, Contribution in Library Development etc.in which most of the research during the 2005-2015 from Maharashtra are on Modern library services and library networking or ICT based services are included,

Figure No.5.4
Major subject area of thesis submitted by the universities of the state of Maharashtra

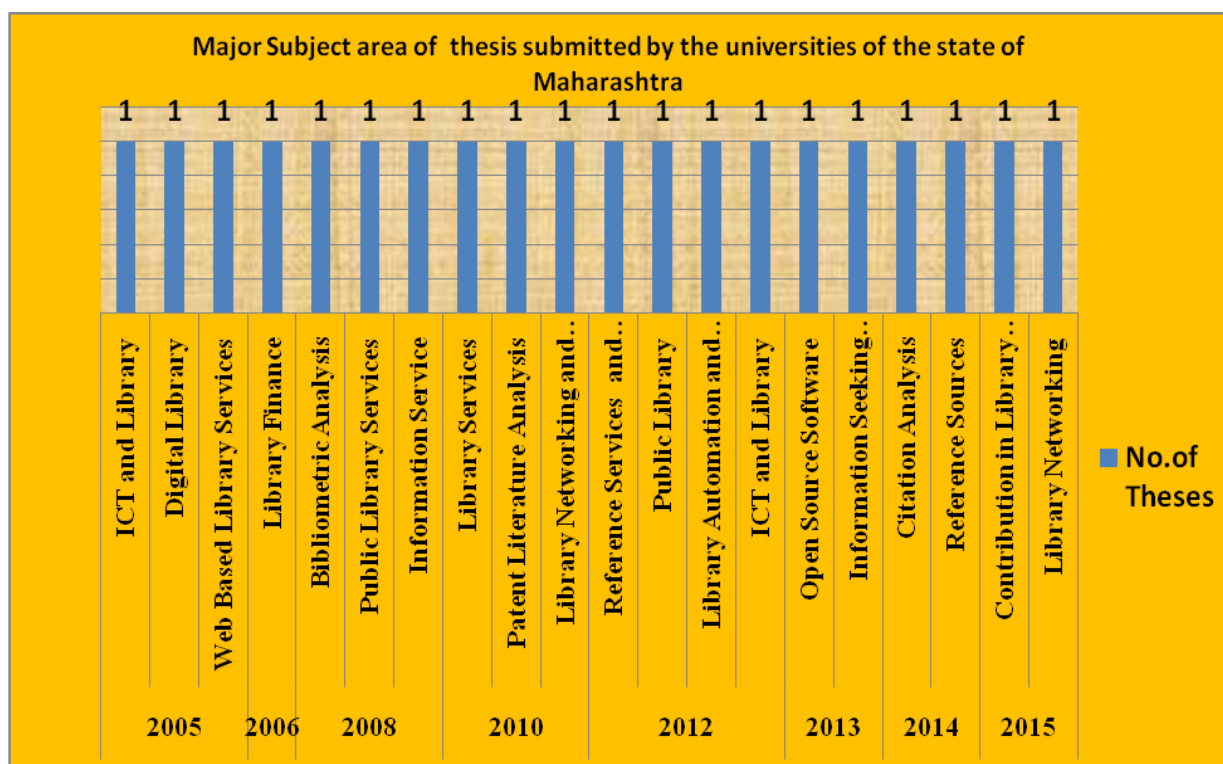


Table No. 5.5**Theses submitted by Universities from Gujarat and Maharashtra**

Gujarat			Maharashtra		
Status of University	Name of Contributing Universities	No. of Theses	Status of University	Name of Contributing Universities	No. of Theses
State	Gujarat University	01	State	North Maharashtra University	01
State	Krishnakumarsinhji Bhavnagar University	02	State	Savitribai Phule Pune University	06
State	Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda	02	State	Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University	04
State	Saurashtra University	01	Deemed	Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth	09
State	Veer Narmad South Gujarat University	01	--	--	
State	Sardar Patel University	03	--	--	
Deemed	Gujarat Vidyapeeth	03			
Total	07	13	Total	04	20

The above table shows that out of many universities from both states very few university contributed their research theses during the 10 years period of 2005-2015 to shodhganga as mentioned in the table 03 state universities and 01 Deemed University of Maharashtra as well as from Gujarat it is total 06 State universities and 01 Deemed university have contributed their research thesis to Shodhganga repository.

Discussion and conclusion

Research trends in Library and Information Science (LIS) are an ever current and interesting topic for the LIS research community and practitioners. This paper has identified that the latest LIS research of Gujarat and Maharashtra concentrate on digital library and networking. Content analysis / development, library information services, citation and bibliometric analysis, ICT, automation, web based service are also popular topic among LIS research. This study highlights that there are number of university in Gujarat and Maharashtra which offered Ph.D in LIS but very few universities have submitted thesis to shodhganga. If all universities submit their Ph.D. thesis at most on urgent basis, research trend can be more understood at very clearance level and it's reduce the similar type of research. Shodhganga also requested to appoint university coordinator for liaisoning activities and contribution to Ph.D. thesis and related work so each and every university actively participate in contribution

of thesis. Ultimately contribution of Ph.D thesis in shodhganga will be helping the new researchers of the LIS to understand research style and research trend and think about advance innovative research.

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