
“RESEARCH TRENDS IN DOCTORAL RESEARCH IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE IN KERALA STATE”

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***Abstract :** Present research focused on research trends in Ph.D. Doctoral theses in Library and Information Science submitted in “University of Kerala”. Most of information collected from Shodhganga repository and researcher has found 52 theses. A study period “Between” 1950 to 2023. For this research completion, researcher has used Scientometric research methodology and chosen observation research technique. All data divided in five tables and all data represented in percentile form.*

Key Words : Research Trends, Ph.D. theses, Scientometric, Shodhganga Repository.

Introduction :

This research based on research trends in Doctoral research in library and information science in Kerala state. In this research covers all theses available on Shodhganga repository. All theses coverage period “between” 1950 to 2023, a period of 74 years. This study is limited for only “University of Kerala”. Total 52 theses of Ph.D. available on Shodhganga repository. This studies objectives are find the research trends in Library and Information Science, to know the gender of research scholars & research supervisors, contribution of research supervisor to complete Ph.D. theses and year wise submission of Ph.D. theses. Some informative research articles are used for review. Researcher has used Scientometric research methodology and adopted observation research technique for fulfil this research article. Total five tables are included for data analysis. All data represented in percentile form and all collected data systematically analysed and interpret.

Objectives of the Study :

- To know the research trends in library and information science.
- To know the gender wise count of research scholar.
- To know the gender wise count of research supervisor.
- To know the contribution of research supervisor to complete Ph.D. theses.
- To know the year wise submission of theses.

Review of Related Literature :

1. Mahapatra, R. K. & Sahoo, Jyotshna (2004) :

The study was designed to investigate the current research trends of doctoral dissertations in library and information science in India during 1997 to 2003. In this study considered only those titles of doctoral theses appeared in the 'University News' published by Association of Indian Universities (AIU). Data was collected from University News which periodically lists out the doctoral theses accepted by different universities in India. Total 164 theses were found during period of seven years. Data was analyzed and grouped according to subject categories, broad and narrow as well. In the conclusion found that the highest theses i.e. thirty seven (37) produced in the year 2003 and lowest produced in the year 2000. 'User Study' was broad subject area and also highest number of Ph.D. works have been done followed by 'Bibliometric' and 'Citation Analysis'. Narrow research area was found in 'Library Resources and Services'.

2. Sontakke, S. N. (2021) :

This research article reveals that a bibliometric analysis of doctoral dissertations submitted to Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University Nanded. The study duration was 1994 to 2020 and it is 26 years count. In this research bibliographical details of doctoral dissertation, year wise contribution of doctoral dissertations, subject wise productivity, language wise distribution, rank wise list of guides, etc.

3. Kamble, L. Y. & Bankapur, V. M. (2022) :

This article deals with trends in the field of Library and Information Science Doctoral. This study was limited to only Karnataka University Dharwad. Data was collected from Shodhganga Indian repository of (ETD) electronic theses and dissertations. Researcher was collected data like title of theses, year of publication, research scholars and guides name, pages of theses, etc. All collected data was drafted in excel spreadsheet for analysis the data for final results. Total 110 theses were found in Karnataka University Dharwad. Maximum (29.09%) productivity of theses found in 2001 to 2009. Most of research area done on Scientometric, Bibliometric study and ICT.

4. Ahmad, Sajjad; Ahmad, Shehzad; Ullah, S. & Arshad, Muhammad (2023) :

The study focused on a study of research trends in library and information science in the universities of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. In this research those articles were collected from Higher Education Commission Journal Recognition System (HJRS) and one limitation might be the inaccessibility to the research publication of those faculty members who retired before the year 2000. In this article included 392 publications (346 articles and 46 other publications) along with 1696 citations which these publications received was analyzed through bibliometric indicators. In the conclusion found that higher research productivity year was 2021 with 67 (17.82%) publications, higher pattern of publication was collaborative research by two authors 113 (29.35%), subject wise analyzed of articles showed that the highest number of papers 62 (17.92%) were on the

subject “universities libraries”.

Scope and Limitations :

This study covers research trends in library and information science Ph.D. theses submitted in University of Kerala. The period of coverage is from 1950 to 2023, a period of 74 years. All data is collected from Shodhganga repository. Limitation of the study only University of Kerala is conserved for this research and 52 theses Ph.D. theses found on Shodhganga repository.

Methodology :

For the fulfilment of research, research methodology is important. For this research researcher has selected scientometric methodology and used observation tool. Researcher has systematically analyzed with using different parameters. All respective results represent in percentile form.

Data Analysis and Interpretation :

Researcher has analyzed some important data and represent in percentile form. Analyzed tables are given below:

Table No. 1

Distribution of Research Trends :

This table represents research current trends in the subject of Library and Information Science.

| Sr. No. | Research Trends | No. of Thesis | Percentage |
|---------|-----------------------------------|---------------|------------|
| 01 | Information services/ resources | 07 | 13.46% |
| 02 | Bibliometric/ Citation Analysis | 05 | 9.61% |
| 03 | Library Service Evaluation | 05 | 9.61% |
| 04 | Information Management | 04 | 7.69% |
| 05 | Information Technology | 04 | 7.69% |
| 06 | Research Productivity | 04 | 7.69% |
| 07 | Information Retrieval | 03 | 5.76% |
| 08 | National Library | 03 | 5.76% |
| 09 | Academic Libraries | 02 | 3.84% |
| 10 | Scientometrics Analysis | 02 | 3.84% |
| 11 | Manpower Utilization/ Development | 02 | 3.84% |
| 12 | Information Centre | 02 | 3.84% |
| 13 | Electronic Technology | 01 | 1.92% |
| 14 | Information System Design | 01 | 1.92% |
| 15 | Non-Book Materials | 01 | 1.92% |
| 16 | User Studies | 01 | 1.92% |
| 17 | Job Satisfaction | 01 | 1.92% |

| | | | |
|----|----------------|-----------|-------------|
| 18 | Web 2.0 | 01 | 1.92% |
| 19 | Job Motivation | 01 | 1.92% |
| 20 | Reading Habit | 01 | 1.92% |
| 21 | TQM | 01 | 1.92% |
| | Total | 52 | 100% |

Most of research current trends found in 13.46% of information services/ resources; 9.61% of bibliography/ citation analysis, library services evaluation; 7.69% of information management, information technology, research productivity; 5.76% of information retrieval, National library; 3.84% of academic libraries, scientometrics analysis, manpower utilization/ development, information center; 1.92% of electronic technology, information system design, non-book materials, user studies, job satisfaction, web 2.0, job motivation, reading habit, TQM, respectively.

Table No. 2

Gender wise Analysis of Research Scholar :

Present table indicated that gender wise analyses of research scholars of University of Kerala.

| Sr. No. | Gender | No. of Research Scholar | Percentage |
|---------|--------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| 01 | Male | 33 | 63.46% |
| 02 | Female | 19 | 36.53% |
| | Total | 52 | 100% |

Above table shows that 63.46% of Library and Information Science research scholars are male and 36.53% of research scholars are female.

Table No. 3

Gender wise Analysis of Research Supervisor :

This table reveals that gender wise analysis of research supervisors of University of Kerala.

| Sr. No. | Gender | No. of Research Supervisor | Percentage |
|---------|--------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| 01 | Male | 41 | 78.84% |
| 02 | Female | 11 | 21.15% |
| | Total | 52 | 100% |

Table no. 3 shows that 78.84% of Library and Information Science research supervisors are male and remaining 21.15% researcher supervisors are female.

Table No. 4

Research Supervisor Contribution to Complete Ph.D. Theses :

This table present the count of Ph.D. submission under the guidance of researcher supervisor.

| Sr. No. | Name of Research Supervisor | No. of Thesis | Percentage |
|---------|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| 01 | Devarajan, G. | 16 | 30.76% |
| 02 | Devi, Mini B. | 11 | 21.15% |
| 03 | Humayoon, Kabir S. | 07 | 13.46% |
| 04 | Pillai, Rajan C. V. | 04 | 7.69% |
| 05 | Sudhier, K. G. | 04 | 7.69% |
| 06 | Gopikuttan, A. | 04 | 7.69% |
| 07 | Isaac, K. A. | 04 | 7.69% |
| 08 | Johnson, E. | 02 | 3.84% |
| | Total | 52 | 100% |

Above table represent the count of Ph.D. submission under the guidance of research supervisor. Maximum 30.76% of Ph.D. theses submitted under the guidance of Devarajan, G., 21.15% of Ph. D. theses submitted under the guidance of Devi, Mini B., 13.46% of Humayoon, Kabir S., 7.69% of Pillai, Rajan C. V., Sudhier, K. G., Gopikuttan, A. Isaac, K. A. and 3.84% of Johnson, E. respectively.

Table No. 5

Year wise Distribution of Theses Awarded :

Below table shows that year wise submitted number of Ph.D. theses in percentage form.

| Sr. No. | Year | No. of Theses Awarded | Percentage |
|---------|------|-----------------------|------------|
| 01 | 1985 | 02 | 3.84% |
| 02 | 1986 | 01 | 1.92% |
| 03 | 1990 | 01 | 1.92% |
| 04 | 1997 | 01 | 1.92% |
| 05 | 1998 | 01 | 1.92% |
| 06 | 2001 | 01 | 1.92% |
| 07 | 2002 | 01 | 1.92% |
| 08 | 2003 | 01 | 1.92% |
| 09 | 2004 | 03 | 5.76% |
| 10 | 2005 | 02 | 3.84% |
| 11 | 2006 | 02 | 3.84% |
| 12 | 2007 | 03 | 5.76% |
| 13 | 2008 | 02 | 3.84% |
| 14 | 2009 | 02 | 3.84% |
| 15 | 2010 | 01 | 1.92% |
| 16 | 2013 | 01 | 1.92% |
| 17 | 2014 | 04 | 7.69% |

| | | | |
|----|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| 18 | 2015 | 03 | 5.76% |
| 19 | 2016 | 03 | 5.76% |
| 20 | 2017 | 05 | 9.61% |
| 21 | 2018 | 02 | 3.84% |
| 22 | 2019 | 04 | 7.69% |
| 23 | 2020 | 01 | 1.92% |
| 24 | 2021 | 02 | 3.84% |
| 25 | 2022 | 03 | 5.76% |
| | Total | 52 | 100% |

Present study is limited to only University of Kerala. Only Library and Information Science subjects submitted Ph.D. thesis is concerned. In 1985 submitted first two theses of Library and Information Science. Total 52 theses are available as on 2023. Maximum 9.61% of theses submitted in the year of 2017.

Conclusion :

Researcher has find the research trends in doctoral research in Library and Information Science in Kerala state. Total 52 theses are found in University of Kerala. In table no. 1 found that 21 research trends. Maximum research trends found on Information Services/ Resources. Most of males are found as research scholar and research supervisor. Devaraj, G. is guided maximum research scholars for submit their thesis.

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