

**CITATION ANALYSIS OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE  
DOCTORAL THESES AWARDED BY NIRF RANKED UNIVERSITIES  
IN INDIA**

**Abstract**

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in  
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# **Abstract**

## **1.1 Introduction**

A multitude of academic literature is available in various fields of knowledge causing dynamic changes in the information needs of researchers in any discipline. They want an updated piece of information at a particular time. For meeting their information needs plenty of electronic as well as print information resources are available. Information searching is an essential and critical task for any research. The right information at the right time helps to make the right decision regarding any research. This dynamic change in the needs of researchers poses a challenge to library professionals as well as researchers to select the most suitable journals and scholarly databases for a subscription. The limited availability of funds for dispersal to librarians makes the selection of appropriate information sources highly important. To resolve these issues librarians and academicians conduct bibliometric studies to find out the information needs of researchers.

## **1.2 Significance of the problem**

- The present study will be helpful to the library science faculty members as well as the library professionals in understanding the information needs of library and information science researchers.
- Based on the findings of the study, the LIS departments and librarians can prepare a better collection development policy for their LIS collection.

## **1.3 Objectives of the study**

Objectives of this study are as follows.

- To find out the top ten journals preferred by the doctoral researchers in Library and Information Science by NIRF ranked Universities
- To explore the top areas of research among the doctoral LIS researchers in India
- To find out the preferred types of information sources among the Indian doctoral LIS researchers

- To investigate the preference of Indian doctoral researchers with reference to the age of the document.
- To measure the various citation metrics for the Indian doctoral theses uploaded till date on Shodhganga.

#### **1.4 Hypotheses**

This present study attempts to test the following hypotheses.

- **H1:** Indian LIS doctoral researchers prefer to work in the area of Information Communication Technology
- **H2:** Journal articles are more preferred over books and other information sources.

#### **1.5 Research Methodology**

In the present study, citation analysis techniques were used to achieve the objectives of the study. The data was collected from the Shodhganga repository a database of Indian theses available at the <http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in> and collected data were analyzed with the help of JabRef reference management software, Microsoft Excel and Google Sheets for the tabulation and graphical representation.

#### **1.6 Scope and Limitation of the study**

The scope of the study was the references listed in theses submitted in the subject of library and information science at the various departments of Library and Information Science in India uploaded on Shodhganga repository. Since there are more than 1500 theses uploaded on Shodhganga repository by the various departments of library and information science of the Indian Universities, the present study was limited only to theses uploaded by top five universities ranked in the National Institutional ranking Framework (NIRF) for the year 2018. Similarly, theses written in the English Language were only included in the study.

#### **1.7 Major findings of the study**

The findings are based on the analysis of collected data appended in 18638 references from Shodhganga repository.

- The study found that the Journal of American Society information science technology having the highest number of citations (17.88%) and secured the fir<sup>st</sup> rank out of 1929 national and international cited journals.
- The top twenty core journals found are Journal of American Society Information Science Technology, Scientometrics, Journal of documentation, Annals of Library and Information Studies, Library trends, College and Research Libraries, Library Review, The Electronic Library, Aslib Proceedings, Library Hi Tech, ILA Bulletin, DESIDOC Bulletin of Information Technology, Journal of Academic Librarianship, Annual Review of Information Science and Technology, Library Journal, Library Herald, Collection Building, SRELS Journal Information Management, International Information & Library Review, Herald of Library Science
- Another finding was that only six Indian journals named Annals of Library and Information Studies, ILA Bulletin, DESIDOC Bulletin of Information Technology, Library Herald, SRELS Journal Information Management, Herald of Library Science could secure a rank in the top twenty cited journal list.
- The study found that Bibliometric studies and library management based studies are popular among the doctoral level researchers in Library and Information science.
- The study points out that articles or research papers (57.77%) are highly preferred information source among the doctoral level researchers in Library and Information science.
- Study indicates that on an average of 32-year-old documents are cited by the doctoral level researchers in Library and Information science.
- The study found that single-authored papers highly cited (69%) by the doctoral level researchers in Library and Information science.
- The study found that Dr. S R Ranganathan is on the top rank (1) in the top 20 cited authors' list.

### **1.8 Suggestions**

According to the findings, some suggestions are being listed below for improving the quality of research and decision making for librarians.

- Usually, the libraries allocate more budgets to books than journal subscriptions. The libraries should allocate more budgets to the subscription of periodicals.
- Indian academician should pay more attention to peer-reviewed journals for their publication so that their research becomes visible to the readers.
- The study strongly recommends that library and information science researchers should pay sincere attention to the upcoming or new idea of research in the field rather than opting already established concepts
- The librarian should weed out documents having age less than 32 years.

## **1.9 Conclusion**

Growth and development of society entirely depend on continuous research work. Citation analysis is one of the very popular methods of research under the level of the research quality of any branch of a subject like bibliometric study will be beneficial for all LIS members. It was found that only seven Indian journals got a position in the top twenty most cited journal list by NIRF ranked 2018. The present study shows that there is a need to promote collaborative research and improve the quality of articles published in Indian research journals in the LIS field.

## **1.10 Chapterisation**

The report of the study has been organized in the following chapters:

- **Chapter 1: Introduction**

This chapter will set the background of the study and report the objectives

- **Chapter 2: Review of Literature**

This chapter contains a critical appraisal of the previous studies which are closely related to the current study to understand the methodology, analysis tool, correct approaches of investigation and probable results.

- **Chapter 3: Research Methodology**

In this chapter steps followed during the conduct of this study including-  
The JabRef reference management software, Microsoft Excel and Google Sheets.

- **Chapter 4: Data Analysis and Interpretation**

This chapter included different Tables and graphs to represent the objectives of the present study.

- **Chapter 5: Findings, Discussions, Suggestions, and Conclusions**

This chapter summarizes the study and includes the final results of the present study with some suggestions.