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- **Webometric Analysis for Tracking Academic Web Footprints**
- **Open Initiatives of INFLIBNET**
- **Indian Research Productivity and UGC-CARE Initiative**
- **Green Library Initiatives**
- **Assessment and Accreditation of Legal Educational Institutions**
- **Ethical Standards and Guidelines for Scholars**
- **Exigency of Information for Patua Community**
- **Artificial Intelligence on Assistive Technologies**



Indian Association of Special Libraries & Information Centres

Kolkata - 700054

IASLIC Bulletin

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of Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres

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Tracking Academic Web Footprints: A Webometric Analysis of IIT Libraries in North India

Aman Verma and Babita Jaiswal

Abstract

Purpose: This study aims to evaluate the online visibility and digital strength of library websites belonging to eight Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) in North India. It explores how the web presence of these libraries supports institutional reputation, accessibility of research, and user interaction in a digital learning ecosystem.

Design: A longitudinal webometric study was conducted over 30 days, employing quantitative indicators such as total web pages, inlinks, external links, and self-links. These parameters were analyzed to understand the structural depth, connectivity, and dynamic nature of each library's digital footprint.

Findings: The analysis revealed wide disparities in web performance among the selected IIT libraries. IIT Delhi, IIT Ropar, and IIT Mandi exhibited superior digital visibility across most indicators. The results underline that frequent updates, sound internal linking, and active online engagement play a vital role in strengthening overall web performance and academic reach.

Originality/Value: This research provides fresh insights into the webometric evaluation of premier technical institutions in India. It highlights the importance of digital optimization and content regularity for libraries aiming to expand their virtual impact, thereby offering strategic directions for enhancing institutional visibility in the modern knowledge network.

Keywords: Webometric; Indian Institute of Technology; National Institute of Technology; Inlink; External link, Self-link.

Article Type: Survey based

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Open Access Initiatives of INFLIBNET : Awareness and Usage among Research Scholars in a University Environment

Pragati Nandur and P G Tadasad

Abstract

Purpose: The present study has the purpose of examining the awareness and use of open access initiatives INFLIBNET among research scholars of Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women University (KSAWU), Vijayapura.

Design: The study adopted a survey methodology, gathering data from 67 research scholars across 15 departments of arts, social science, science and technology, commerce, management and education streams of KSAWU, using a structured questionnaires.

Findings: The study findings moderate level of awareness of INFLIBNET open access initiatives such as Shodhganga, Shodhgangotri, IR@INFLIBNET and INFOPT. The use of Shodhganga and Shodhgangotri are more as compared to IR@INFLIBNET and INFOPT. However, key barriers to use INFLIBNET's open access platforms include lack of awareness, training and slow loading of webpages.

Value: The value of findings of the present institution-specific study lies in the support of University librarians and policy makers to design effective awareness and training programs to enhance the awareness and usage of open access initiatives of INFLIBNET by research scholars.

Keywords: Shodhganga; Shodhgangotri; IR@INFLIBNET; INFOPT; INFLIBNET; Open access; University; Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women University.

Article Type: Survey based

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The UGC-CARE Initiative Vis-à-Vis Indian Research Productivity Kodandarama and M Chandrashekara

Abstract

Purpose: This study aims to investigate the impact of the UGC-CARE (University Grants Commission Consortium for Academic and Research Ethics) initiative on Indian research productivity, with a focus on publications indexed in the Web of Science (WoS). The objective is to analyse how UGC-CARE influenced publication trends, institutional contributions, subject focus, journal preferences, and open access adoption during its implementation period.

Approach: The study adopts a bibliometric approach, analysing Indian-authored journal articles in the WoS database across two periods: pre-UGC-CARE (2000-2018) and post-UGC-CARE (2019-2024). Using WoS filters, data were collected and categorised by publication volume, institutional affiliation, subject area, journal and publisher types, international collaboration, and open access status. Statistical comparisons and trend analyses were performed to evaluate changes in research output and publishing patterns.

Findings: There was a threefold increase in annual WoS publications post-UGC-CARE, from 42,406 to 139,355. Engineering emerged as the leading subject area, overtaking Chemistry, while newer fields like Computer Science and Environmental Sciences gained prominence. IITs and NITs expanded their contributions, whereas CSIR's share declined. A shift toward high-impact and open access journals was evident, with Gold open access rising from 11.82% to 24%. Publisher trends showed continued dominance of Elsevier and Springer Nature, though domestic publishing experienced modest growth. International collaborations increased, notably with countries like Saudi Arabia and China. Despite these positive trends, the termination of UGC-CARE in 2025 raises concerns over maintaining quality publishing standards in its absence.

Value: This paper offers a comprehensive, data-driven assessment of UGC-CARE's influence on scholarly communication in India. It is among the first to quantify and compare Indian research trends before and after the implementation of UGC-CARE using WoS data. The findings are significant for academic policymakers, researchers, and librarians aiming to sustain quality publishing practices. It also underscores the need for robust domestic journals to reduce dependence on foreign publishers and preserve the gains made during the UGC-CARE era.

Keywords: UGC CARE; Quality journal; Research productivity; Academic quality

Article Type: Survey based

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Sustainable Knowledge Spaces@India : A Review of Green Library Initiatives

Rajul Sharma and Sharad Kumar Sonkar

Abstract

Purpose: This paper aims to explore on as to how libraries around the world are incorporating sustainable practices in their design, operations, and services. It aims to highlight the role of libraries as environmentally responsible institutions and to provide an overview of current trends, challenges, and best practices.

Methodology: This paper adopts a systematic literature review approach to examine the development, practices in Green Libraries. The review primarily focuses on scholarly articles, conference proceedings, case studies published between 2013 and 2023. Inclusion criteria consisted of English-language publications that directly address the implementation, and outcomes of sustainability in library contexts. The selected literature was analysed thematically to identify key trends, challenges, and advantages.

Findings: The review of literature revealed on the growing awareness about sustainability and global initiatives for integrating green certifications such as LEED into their infrastructure; a major focus of Green Libraries is on sustainable building design-utilising natural lighting, renewable energy sources, efficient HVAC systems, and environmentally friendly construction materials; Libraries are increasingly being built or renovated to reduce their carbon footprint; Libraries are adopting green practices such as digital resource sharing, recycling programs, energy-efficient lighting, and reduction in paper usage; despite progress, several challenges persist, especially in developing regions. These include lack of funding, limited awareness, absence of policy frameworks, and resistance to change. There is also a gap in research from under represented regions, indicating a need for more inclusive and localized studies.

Value: This paper will instil in users, the sense of responsibility for the environment and motivate users to reduce their environmental footprint and contribute directly to conservation of natural energy resources.

Keywords: Green library; Sustainable library practice; Eco-friendly library building; Environmental sustainability; Library planning; Resource conservation

Article Type: Review article

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Assessment and Accreditation of Legal Educational Institutions : Librarians' Awareness and Responsibilities

Sarika Tushar Jaytakar and Asharam Pal

Abstract

Purpose: The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) is responsible for assessing and accrediting Indian higher education organisations. The Bar Council of India (BCI) made accreditation compulsory for all legal educational institutions. This study aims to analyse the exclusive roles of libraries of legal educational institutes in the NAAC accreditation process, including responsibilities, challenges, and strategies for success significance.

Approach: The research adopts an empirical study. This research investigates the role of academic law libraries in the accreditation of undergraduate law programs at the University of Mumbai. The study examines how these libraries contribute to meeting accreditation standards and identifies areas where improvements are needed. By examining the specific context of law programs and the University of Mumbai, this research contributes to the existing body of knowledge on the relationship between academic libraries and accreditation in legal education.

Findings: This study shows the library's essential resources and services for accreditation. It shows how librarians' skills are helpful for technological development in library services. University administration library policies help students acquire good scores in NAAC. Legal education institutions must conduct training programs, workshops, seminars and evaluation mechanisms to increase awareness of NAAC.

Value: The focus is on law colleges affiliated with the University of Mumbai as a case study. This study helps to create awareness among law colleges librarians about the role of the NAAC process. This study helps to understand law college library staff for preparation of NAAC grading. The population of this study covers all law college library staff affiliated with the University of Mumbai.

Keywords: Criteria 4; NAAC; Legal college; Law Library; Awareness of NAAC; Role of librarian.

Article Type: Survey based

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Perception of Ethical Standards and Guidelines followed by Scholars affiliated to Universities in Mumbai Region

Sarika Sawant and Diksha Waghmare

Abstract

Purpose: This study aims to examine how the scholars' follow ethical standards and guidelines while doing research.

Methodology: The sample of the current study was PhD research scholars from the field of Library and Information Science doing research in different universities like SNDT Women's University, Tata Institutes of Social Sciences (TISS) and Mumbai University participants limited to Mumbai region. A total 40 participants doing research in these three universities were considered for the data collection making it inclusive sampling. Questionnaire was the tool used to collect the data from a large group. Questionnaire in Google form was created to collect the data for research. Out of 23 questions, 8 questions contained Checklist type Multiple Choice Questions. Whereas 6 questions contained yes/no type questions. 40 PhD participants were selected for this research out of which 33 participants responded for the questionnaire making the response rate 83%.

Originality: This work is based on the survey and carries originality in all sense.

Keywords: Information, Ethics; PhD research, Plagiarism; Reference, Copyright; Intellectual property; Citation

Article Type: Survey based

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Exigency of Information for Development of Patachitra among Patua Community at Naya Village in Pingla Block of Paschim Medinipur District, West Bengal

Debalina Mukherjee, Arabinda Maity and Biplab Chakrabarti

Abstract

Purpose: The pivotal of this study was to search the information necessities of patua community. The expansion of patachitra production concentrated on knowledge regarding product making and selling it to the market.

Methodology: After reviewing all the existing literature scope and coverage were selected for the study. Naya village in the Pingla block of Paschim Medinipur district was opted for the research. Before starting the data collection, a diagram was formulated to highlight the factors responsible for product development process. Then an unstructured questionnaire with a schedule method and non-participant observation was used for data collection. 122 artists participated in the survey out of 173 people. The data was tabulated then and analysed for the findings of the study.

Findings: This study depicted all-inclusive scenarios of the information requisitions of the factors responsible for product development like financial assistance, raw materials, training, which will contribute to financial growth and create a base for entrepreneurship.

Originality: This study was undertaken based on primary data which was collected through the field work. Thus, this study is a unique and it will be helpful for further research on community-based information services.

Keywords: Community information; Economic development; Exigency of information; Information need; Patachitra, Patua community; Product development

Article type: Survey based

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Short Communication

Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Assistive Technologies in Law Libraries

K S Madhu and Neetu Singh

Abstract

Purpose: This paper is to explore the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in assistive technologies for specially abled students in law libraries.

Methodology: The google scholar database was used to find the assistive technologies and artificial intelligence related publications for this study. To retrieve the publications, suitable search keywords are used and then restricted our search field to Law Libraries only for a time period between 2016 and 2024.

Finding: AI empowers law libraries to become more efficient, accessible, and user-centric hubs for legal research and knowledge dissemination.

Value: This article examines how artificial intelligent (AI) can convert and strengthen assistive technologies in law libraries. The way that Specially Abled People/Users approach (SAP), exercise and use of legal information is being transformed by AI driven tools and applications. Law libraries can provide more personalised and productive services, such automated document digest, voice-controlled help and increase search capabilities by integrating AI. These facilities simplify legal research procedures for all the users while also increase accessibility for people with hearing, visual or other types of disabilities. The paper looks at the advantages, difficulties and possible applications of AI in assistive technologies, focus attention on how it might be used to build more fruitful and comprehensive legal research setting.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence; AI; Assistive technology; Law library; Specially abled people.

Article Type: Research article.

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Correspondences relating to the Paper submission and related issue should be addressed to :

The Editor, IASLIC Bulletin, P 291, CIT Scheme No. 6M, Kankurgachi, Kolkata - 700 054, West Bengal, India

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