

E-Resources and Social Science Research Process

AJAY

Haryana Institute of Technology
Vill-Asoudha, Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar
India

Abstract:

Social Science is a broad subject concerned with society and deals with human behaviour in its social and cultural aspects. It includes cultural or social Anthropology, Archaeology, Economics, Political Science, Psychology, Education and Education Technology, Environmental Social Science, Geography, History, Law, Communication. History is regarded by many as a social science, and certain areas of historical study are almost indistinguishable from work done in the social sciences. This paper discusses the research process in and steps undertaken in it. As changing the world with use of ICT, Paper also discusses various important e-resources and E-theses Repositories in India which are found very use full to research in various subjects including Social Science.

Key words: Academic Research, Research in Social Science, ICT (Information and communications technology), Social Science e-Resources, e-book.

Introduction:

Knowledge is the primary and powerful resource that can provide scope for material prosperity of a society. New knowledge can be acquired only with the pursuit of research to extend the frontiers of knowledge. To accentuate the value of research, particularly with reference to scientific, technological

and societal knowledge in the Indian context, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru eloquently articulated the Scientific Policy Resolution (SPR) of the Government of India in 1958.

The ICT revolution has brought great change in the way researches are conducted. Today, researchers are increasingly dependent on e-resources due to the ability to link to additional information, convenience, timeliness and ability to search full text. E-resources have become an integral part of research.

Social Sciences Research

Science is a systematic and organised body of knowledge in any area of inquiry. Science can be grouped into two broad categories: Natural Science and Social Science. Social science can be classified into Psychology (study of human behaviour), sociology (group of people) and economics (Economics is the study of how people choose to use resources) which are directly related to human life. Human nature and human environment are difficult to comprehend and predict because no one person is consistent from one moment to another. The behaviour of the human may differ at different stages and places. So you can say every person has a different face at different places.

In Social science, research has to find the facts of behaviour like feelings or emotions of men of society. Actually social science research is “seeks to find explanations to unexplained social phenomena, to clarify the doubtful, and correct the misconceived facts of social life.” Social science research is a systematic method of exploring, analyzing and conceptualizing human life in order to extend, correct or verify knowledge of human behaviour and social life.

In the Encyclopaedia of Social Sciences, Research is defined as “the manipulation of things, concepts or symbols for the purpose of generalization to extend, correct or verify knowledge whether that knowledge aids in the construction of a theory or in practice of an art.”

Objectives of Social Science Research

As research in any subject, the aim of social science research is to discover new facts or verify and test old facts. The purpose of social science research is to find new theories, tools, scientific concepts which would be helpful in study of human behaviour, feelings and emotions in relation to social life. The goal of social science research is to produce new knowledge in social science which takes three forms:

Exploratory: a research which structures and identifies new problems in social science.

Construction: develop solution to a problem that was in social science.

Empirical: Tests the feasibility of solution using empirical evidence in social science.

Procedure of conducting research

The procedure of conducting social science research is the same as for other type of researches.

The procedure of involve the following steps:

- Identification of research topic and formulation of the research problem.
- Collection of background information or contextual information about the research topic.
- Formulation of the questions to be answered or formulation of hypothesis to explain casual relationships.
- Systematic collection of evidence or data or literature review.
- Interpretations and analysis of data.
- Reporting and evaluating research.

In social science research it is necessary to plan the steps of conducting research as it defines his pathway through the procedure.

Identification of research topic and formulation of the research problem:

The researcher must first of all identify a societal problem of significant that needs to be solved or he can identify an area of knowledge that need to be developed. In order to identify a historical problem, the researcher must have thorough knowledge about the concerned library and also he needs to be interested in this area. In selecting a topic, he must see to it that there should be a reasonable amount of evidence that is readily available. He should also know how and where to access it. Availability of adequate sources of information is a must for producing a good narrative.

Collection of background information or contextual information about the research topic:

After identification of research topic and formulation of the problem, carry out survey of the available literature. In this step researchers have to identifying, locating and gathering information regarding the research topic, kind of data to be gathered, the procedure to be followed and where it is to be gathered. To gather enough background information or contextual information generally start with secondary sources. Other sources including bibliographic tools as given below:

Monographs, journal articles

Bibliographical tools: library catalogues, bibliographies, indexing and abstracting services etc.

Reference sources: Encyclopaedia, dictionaries, year books and annuals, etc.

Formulation of hypothesis (es)

In the study of a societal event, there may be many questions that may arise about it, to which researcher would like to find answers.

The two types of hypotheses are scientific and working.

- A scientific hypothesis is based on experiments and observations from the past that cannot be explained with current theories.
- A working hypothesis is one that is widely accepted and becomes the basis of further experimentation.

Goal of a Hypothesis

Regardless of the type of hypothesis, the goal of a hypothesis is to help explain the focus and direction of the experiment or research. As such, a hypothesis will:

- State the purpose of the research
- Identify what variables are used

Systematic collection of evidence or data or literature review

In order to produce a work of social science, a social scientist undertakes steps consisting of selection, evaluation, interpretation and synthesis of data into a narrative exposition. Here we are concerned with collection of evidence or data. The gathering of primary-source (first hand) evidence is the most difficult task.

Selection of sources is an essential step especially for recent social science change. Selection is done taking into consideration, “the nature of the researcher’s particular problem and the criteria of relevance and significance that drive from his hypotheses. Selection is facilitated by the use of bibliographic aids and existing secondary works but the social scientist of a recent topic must nevertheless be prepared to sift and digest masses of material, most of which will not directly appear in the final work” (Daniels, 1996, p. 228).

Interpretations and analysis of data

It is the process of transforming the data collected into credible evidence by determining the implication of the findings. The steps involved in data analysis are analyzing antecedents and consequence, displaying findings, contextualize findings in the research and provide returning to the purpose of the assessment and the assessment questions will provide a structure for the organisation of the data and a focus for the analysis. The data may be qualitative or quantitative. It is analyzed accordingly graphical analysis is very effective in displaying the data in visual formats. Now number of software such as SPSS, MS Excel, MS Access, Lotus etc. is available for data analysis. The data can be analyzed using such softwares.

Reporting and Evaluating

Unfortunately, the matter of evaluating how well the research was done is more difficult to describe in detail than is the matter of evaluating how well the research was reported. Research can deal with so many topics and employ so many approaches that discussions of it must be either rather general or quite specific and lengthy.

E-resources for Social Science and Research

Information and communications technology (ICT) is rapidly changing the nature of, and access to, research resources. This is clearly evident in Science, Technology and Medicine, with indirect consequences for the Social Sciences. But Social Science is also directly affected in many different ways.

Electronic e- resources are replacing, or enhancing, non- e resources, and are appearing as new types of discovery tool, primary data, or analysis package. Going electronic may mean no more than converting a library card catalogue to e-form; but this can instantly make the catalogue far more widely available than before. Digitising historic texts or image archives can open up these materials to many more users and hence research

purposes than before. Digitised or born-digital documents, or graphical or numerical data, can be analysed on a scale and in ways that could not be attempted before, for example to study social trends or patterns of language use.

List of Social Science Journals/e-Journals

Anthropology

American Anthropologist

<http://www.aaanet.org/publications/ameranthro.cfm>

Chungara (journal)

<http://www.chungara.cl/index.php/en/our-journal>

Cultural Survival

<https://www.culturalsurvival.org/>

Current Anthropology

<http://www.press.uchicago.edu/ucp/journals/journal/ca.html>

Journal of Human Evolution

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00472484> or

<http://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-human-evolution/>

Migration Letters

<http://www.migrationletters.com/>

Social Evolution & History

http://www.socionauki.ru/journal/seh_en/

or

http://www.socionauki.ru/journal/seh_en/archive/

Structure and Dynamics: e-Journal of the Anthropological and Related Sciences

http://escholarship.org/uc/imbs_socdyn_sdeas

Terrain

<http://terrain.revues.org/>

Archaeology

American Antiquity

<http://www.saa.org/AbouttheSociety/Publications/AmericanAntiquity/tabid/124/Default.aspx>

Or <http://www.jstor.org/journals/00027316.html>

American Journal of Archaeology

<http://www.ajaonline.org/>

Antiquity

<http://journal.antiquity.ac.uk/>

Arabian Archaeology and Epigraphy

[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1600-0471](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1600-0471)

Journal of Anthropological Archaeology

<http://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-anthropological-archaeology/>

Latin American Antiquity: is a professional journal published by the Society for American Archaeology,

<http://www.saa.org/>

Communication

Communication Monographs

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rcmm20/current#.U8d-vZSSwuc>

Communication Research

<http://www.uk.sagepub.com/journals/Journal200941?siteId=sage-uk&prodTypes=any&q=Communication+Research&fs=1#tabview=title>

Communication Theory

<http://as.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-COMT.html>

Human Communication Research

<http://as.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-HCRE.html>

Journal of Communication

[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1460-2466](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1460-2466)

Economics

American Economic Review

<http://www.aeaweb.org/aer/index.php>

Economic Journal

<http://www.res.org.uk/view/economichome.html>

Quarterly Journal of Economics

<http://www.jstor.org/journals/00335533.html>

or

<http://qje.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

International Journal of Social Sciences and Management

<http://ijssm.org/>

Journal of Economic Literature

<http://www.jstor.org/journals/00220515.html>

or

<http://www.aeaweb.org/jel/issues.php>

Journal of Financial Economics

<http://jfe.rochester.edu/>

or

<http://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-financial-economics/>

Journal of Political Economy

<http://www.press.uchicago.edu/ucp/journals/journal/jpe.html>

Journal of Sports Economics

<http://jse.sagepub.com/>

Education and Educational Technology

ALT-J - Research in Learning Technology

<http://www.researchinlearningtechnology.net/index.php/rlt>

Asian Journal of Distance Education

<http://www.asianjde.org/>

Australasian Journal of Educational Technology

<http://www.ascilite.org.au/ajet/submission/index.php/AJET/index>

Educational Technology & Society

<http://www.ifets.info/index.php?http://www.ifets.info/main.php>

Journal of Advanced Academics

<http://www.uk.sagepub.com/journals/Journal202069?siteId=sage-uk&prodTypes=any&q=Journal+of+Advanced+Academics&fs=1>

International Social Science Journal

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1540-4560.1956.tb00372.x/abstract>

The Councilor: A Journal of the Social Studies

<https://ojcs.siue.edu/ojs/index.php/jicss>

Environmental Social Science

Asian Journal of Water Environment

<http://www.geneares.org/>

Ecology and Society

<http://www.ecologyandsociety.org/>

Environmental Research Letters

<http://iopscience.iop.org/1748-9326>

Environmental Values

<http://www.ericademon.co.uk/EV.html>

Journal of Political Ecology

<http://jpe.library.arizona.edu/>

Nature and Culture

<http://journals.berghahnbooks.com/nc/>

Organization & Environment

<http://oae.sagepub.com/>

or

<http://oae.sagepub.com/content/by/year>

Pakistan journal of Substance Abuse

<http://pjsa.drugfreenation.org/about.php>

Population and Environment

<http://www.springer.com/social+sciences/population+studies/journal/11111>

Geography

Antipode

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/%28ISSN%291467-8330>

Area

[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1475-4762](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1475-4762)

Eurasian Geography and Economics

<http://www.bellpub.com/psge/>

Journal of Biogeography

[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1365-2699](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1365-2699)

Geographical Review

<http://www.jstor.org/journals/00167428.html>

Journal of Quaternary Science

[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/\(ISSN\)1099-1417](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)1099-1417)

Migration Letters

<http://www.migrationletters.com/>

National Geographic

<http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/>

Polar Research

[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1751-8369](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1751-8369)

The Geographical Journal

[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1475-4959](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1475-4959)

The Professional Geographer

<http://www.tandfonline.com/action/journalInformation?show=aimsScope&journalCode=rtpg20#.U8eaHZSSwuc>

Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers

[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1475-5661](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1475-5661)

Research Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences (RJHSS)

<http://i-scholar.in/index.php/Rjhss>

History

American Historical Review

<http://www.indiana.edu/~ahrweb/index.html>

Journal of American History

<http://www.journalofamericanhistory.org/>

Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt

<http://www.arce.org/publications/journal.htm>

Law

California Law Review

<http://www.californialawreview.org/>

Harvard Law Review

<http://harvardlawreview.org/>

Law & Critique

<http://www.springer.com/philosophy/value+theory/journal/10978>

Michigan Law Review

<http://www.michiganlawreview.org/>

Yale Law Journal

<http://yalelawjournal.org/>

Stanford Law Review

<http://www.stanfordlawreview.org/>

The Lex-Warrior: Online Law Journal

<http://lex-warrior.in/>

Planning

Environment and Planning

<http://www.envplan.com/>

Journal of Planning Education and Research

<http://www.sagepub.com/journalsProdDesc.nav?prodId=Journal201289>

Journal of Planning History

<http://www.uk.sagepub.com/journals/Journal201631?siteId=sage-uk&prodTypes=any&q=Journal+of+Planning+History&fs=1>

Journal of Planning Literature

<http://www.sagepub.com/journalsProdDesc.nav?prodId=Journal200843>

Planning Theory

<http://www.sagepub.com/journalsProdDesc.nav?prodId=Journal201559>

Urban Geography

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rurb20/current#.U8ehGpSSwuc>

Political Science

American Journal of Political Science

<http://ajps.org/>

American Political Science Review

<http://www.apsanet.org/utills/journal.cfm?Journal=APSR&CFID=37752490&CFTOKEN=25891780>

Annual Review of Political Science

<http://www.annualreviews.org/>

Comparative Politics

http://www.apsanet.org/content_5376.cfm

International Journal of Social Sciences and Management

<http://ijssm.org/>

Journal of Conflict Resolution

<http://www.sagepub.com/journals/Journal200764/title>

Journal of Democracy

<http://www.journalofdemocracy.org/>

Journal of Politics & Society

<http://www.helvidius.org/>

Michigan Journal of Political Science

<http://sitemaker.umich.edu/mjps/home>

Psychology

Adaptive Behavior

<http://www.sagepub.com/journalsProdDesc.nav?prodId=Journal201570>

American Behavioral Scientist

<http://www.sagepub.com/journalsProdDesc.nav?prodId=Journal200921>

American Journal of Psychology

<http://www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/ajp.html>

American Psychologist

<http://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/amp/index.aspx>

Annual Review of Psychology

<http://www.annualreviews.org/>

Archives of Sexual Behavior

<http://www.springer.com/psychology/personality+%26+social+psychology/journal/10508>

Archives of Suicide Research

<http://www.springer.com/medicine/psychiatry/journal/10510>

Asian Journal of Social Psychology'

[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1467-839X](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1467-839X)

Athletic Insight: The Online Journal of Sport Psychology

<http://www.athleticinsight.com/>

Australian Journal of Psychology

[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1742-9536](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1742-9536)

Semiotics

Semiotica

<http://www.degruyter.com/view/j/semi.2014.2014.issue-200/issue-files/semi.2014.2014.issue-200.xml>

Sign Systems Studies

<http://www.ut.ee/SOSE/sss/index.htm>

The American Journal of Semiotics

<http://www.pdcnet.org/ajs>

Sociology

American Journal of Sociology

<http://www.jstor.org/page/journal/amerjsoci/about.html>

Journal of Alternative Perspectives in the Social Sciences

<http://www.japss.org/>

American Sociological Review

www2.asanet.org/journals/asr/

Annual Review of Sociology

<http://www.annualreviews.org/journal/soc>

British Journal of Sociology

[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1468-4446](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1468-4446)

Migration Letters

<http://www.migrationletters.com/>

Social Forces

<http://sf.oxfordjournals.org/>

Tourism

International Journal of Tourism Sciences

<http://www.dbpia.co.kr/Journal/IssueList/1043>

Also can find the open access journals in subject social science

Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation
<http://jasss.soc.surrey.ac.uk/JASSS.html>

Journal of Political Ecology
<http://jpe.library.arizona.edu/>

Journal of Pan African Studies
<http://www.africanajournal.org/>

Journal of World-Systems Research
<http://www.jwsr.org/>

List of documents and sources of information help full in social science research

- AIAWWW AHRC ICT in Arts and Humanities Research Programme
<http://www.ahrict.rdg.ac.uk/>
- ARXWWW arXiv.org e-Print archive
<http://arxiv.org/>
- BAPWWW The British Academy. PORTAL.
<http://www.britac.ac.uk/portal/>
- BCCP02 Weiss, Peter. Borders in Cyberspace: Conflicting Public Sector Information Policies and their Economic Impacts. Summary Report. US Department of Commerce. National Weather Service. 2002
http://www.weather.gov/sp/Borders_report.pdf
- CCHWWW Commission on Cyberinfrastructure for the Humanities & Social Sciences
<http://www.acls.org/cyberinfrastructure/cyber.htm>
- CEDWWW CEDARS: CURL Exemplars for Digital Archives project
<http://curl.bham.ac.uk/projects/cedars.htm>
- CIEWWW Common Information Environment initiative
<http://www.common-info.org.uk/>

CRRWWW	Computing Research Repository (CoRR) http://xxx.lanl.gov/archive/cs/intro.html
DCCWWW	Digital Curation Centre http://www.dcc.ac.uk/
DCMWWW	Dublin Core Metadata Initiative http://dublincore.org/
DIGWWW	DigiCULT: Technology Challenges for Digital Culture http://www.digicult.info/pages/index.php
DMAM04	Delivery, Management and Access Model for E-prints and Open Access Journals within Further and Higher Education. A joint report by The Electronic Publishing Innovation Centre (EPIC), in partnership with Key Perspectives Limited, 2004. http://www.jisc.ac.uk/uploaded_documents/Eprints_delivery_model.pdf
ENRWWW	EnrichUK: the gateway to a lottery-funded collection of 150 sites supported by the New Opportunities Fund. http://www.enrichuk.net/
ECAWWW	Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative http://www.ecai.org/
ESCWWW	e-Science: the UK e-Science Programme http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/escience/
EEUWWW	eEurope 2005 Action Plan http://europa.eu.int/information_society/eeurope/2005/index_en.htm
FAIWWW	JISC Focus on Access to Institutional Resources (FAIR) Programme http://www.jisc.ac.uk/index.cfm?name=programme_fair FGGI01 Borgman, C.L. From Gutenberg to the global Information infrastructure. MIT Press, 2001
GALWWW	Gallica: bibliothèque numérique de la Bibliothèque nationale de France http://gallica.bnf.fr/

GCOWWW	Google Checks Out Library Books http://www.google.com/intl/en/press/pressrel/print_library.html
HCGR04	House of Commons Select Committee on Science and Technology 14th report: Scientific Publications: Free for all? the Government Response 2004 http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200304/cmselect/cmsctech/1200/120002.htm
HCSC04	House of Commons Select Committee on Science and Technology 10th report: Scientific publications: Free for all? 2004. http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200304/cmselect/cmsctech/399/39902.htm
HHHWWW	Humbul Humanities Hub http://www.humbul.ac.uk/
IDPWWW	IDP: International Dunhuang Project http://idp.bl.uk/
INTWWW	The Internet Archive. http://www.archive.org/
IPDM03	Lavoie, B.F. The incentives to preserve digital materials: roles, scenarios and economic decision-making. Office of Research, OCLC Online Computer Library Center, 2003 http://www.oclc.org/research/projects/digipres/incentives-dp.pdf
IRCA04 ICSU	Report of the CSPR Assessment Panel on Scientific Data and Information. International Council for Science. 2004. http://www.icsu.org/Gestion/img/ICSU_DOC_DOWNLOAD/551_DD_FILE_PAA_Data_and_Information.pdf
ISIWWW ISI	Web of Science/Web of Knowledge http://www.isinet.com/
ITHS93	Information technology in Humanities scholarship; British achievements, Prospects and barriers. British Library R&D report 6097, 1993.

JSCWWW	JISC Committee for the Information Environment (JCIE). Scholarly Communications Group http://www.jisc.ac.uk/index.cfm?name=jcie_scg
KSOE03	Keeping science open: the effects of intellectual property policy on the conduct of science. The Royal Society, 2003. http://www.royalsoc.ac.uk/document.asp?id=1374
LOCWWW	LOCKSS (Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe) Program http://lockss.stanford.edu/
LUNWW	Lund Principles http://www.cordis.lu/ist/directorate_e/digicult/lund_principles.htm
MOAWWW	Making of America http://www.hti.umich.edu/m/moagr/index.html
PERWWW	Perseus Digital Library http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/
RSEC03	Revolutionizing Science and Engineering Through Cyberinfrastructure: Report of the National Science Foundation Blue-Ribbon Advisory Panel on Cyberinfrastructure. 2003 http://www.cise.nsf.gov/sci/reports/atkins.pdf
RSLG02	Research Support Libraries Group: Report, 2002. http://www.rslg.ac.uk
RULI02	Researchers' Use of Libraries and other Information Sources: current patterns and future trends. Final Report. (Study commissioned for Research Support Libraries Group 2002). http://www.rslg.ac.uk/research/libuse/
SCRWWW	Scran http://www.scran.ac.uk
SJPS04	Scholarly Journal Prices: Selected Trends and Comparisons. Sonya White & Claire Creaser. LISU. October 2004 http://www.lboro.ac.uk/departments/dis/lisu/pages/publications/oup.html

SOMR04	Survey of Outstanding Material for Retrospective Conversion and Retrospective Cataloguing in CURL Libraries, CURL, 2004. http://curl.bham.ac.uk/projects/retrocon.htm
SOSWWW	SOSIG: Social Science Information Gateway http://www.sosig.ac.uk/
SSCWWW	Joint CURL/SCONUL Scholarly Communications Group http://www.sconul.ac.uk/activities/sch_comm/
TELWWW	The European Library http://www.europeanlibrary.org/
UNCWWW	United Nations Common Database http://unstats.un.org/unsd/cdb/cdb_help/cdb_quick_start.asp
VLMWWW	Virtual Library museum pages http://vlmp.museophile.com
WORWWW	OCLC WorldCat http://www.oclc.org/worldcat/
WTPS04	Wellcome Trust position statement in support of open access publishing http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/doc_WTD002766.html

Internet provides a bundle of resource which helps the researchers from initiation of research to completion. If researchers use these resources seriously, they can complete the research without any hurdle. There are some following useful sites to the researcher which he must explicit to the maximum extent to get all the benefits:

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Google Books

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Scribd

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E-Theses Repositories

Institutional Repository?

According to the Online Dictionary for Library & Information Science (ODLIS) Institutional Repository is "A set of services offered by a university or group of universities to members of its community for the management and dissemination of scholarly materials in digital format created by the institution and its community members, such as e-prints, technical reports, theses and dissertations, data sets, and teaching materials. Stewardship of such materials entails their organization in a cumulative, openly accessible database and a commitment to long-term preservation when appropriate. Some IRs are also used as electronic presses to publish e-journals and e-books. An institutional repository is distinguished from a subject-based repository by its institutionally defined scope. IRs are part of a growing effort to reform scholarly communication and break the monopoly of journal publishers by reasserting institutional control over the results of scholarship. An IR may also serve as an indicator of the scope and extent of the university's research activities."

Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETDs)

The first planning for ETDs started at a meeting in 1987 between UMI, Virginia Tech, Arbor Text, SoftQuad and University of Michigan. Participants discussed the latest approaches to electronic publishing and whether or not they could be applied to the preparation of dissertations.

In 1996, the United States funded a three year effort to spread the concept of ETDs around the US. A pilot project at Virginia Tech led to a mandatory requirement for post 1997 theses and dissertations to be submitted only electronically. The Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) was formed and first ETD Conference was held in 1998. By 2000, the ETD movement had spread internationally to include thousands of university members. The Online Dictionary for Library & Information Science (ODLIS) defines Electronic Theses and Dissertation (ETD) as "The Master's theses and Ph.D. dissertations submitted in

digital form rather than in print on paper, as opposed to those submitted in hard copy and subsequently converted to machine-readable format, usually by benefits of electronic submission and archiving of theses and dissertations.

Subject-wise Analysis of E-theses Repositories in India

Sr.No.	Repository	Host	Subjects Covered
1	EPrints@NCCR http://www.nccr.iitm.ac.in/	National Centre for Catalysis Research (NCCR)	Chemistry and Chemical Technology
2	Eprints@CMFRI http://eprints.cmfri.org.in/	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI)	Agriculture, Food and Veterinary; Biology and Biochemistry; Ecology and Environment; Health and Medicine
3	Dyuthi (Digital repository of Cochin University of Science & Technology) http://dyuthi.cusat.ac.in	Cochin University of Science & Technology (CUSAT)	Multidisciplinary
4	DSpace @ GGSIPU 14.139.60.216:8080/xmlui/	Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, India	Multidisciplinary
5	DSpace@IIMK http://dspace.iimk.ac.in/	Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIMK), India	Business and Economics
6	dspace @ sdmcet http://210.212.198.149:8080/jspui/	SDM College Of Engineering and Technology Dharwad, India	Chemistry and Chemical Technology; Technology General; Civil Engineering; Computers and IT; Electrical and Electronic Engineering; Mechanical Engineering and

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			Materials; Library and Information Science
7	Digital Library@CUSAT http://dspace.cusat.ac.in/jspui/	Cochin University of Science & Technology (CUSAT)	Multidisciplinary
8	DSPACE@Vidyanidhi http://dspace.vidyanidhi.org.in:8080/dspace/	University of Mysore	Multidisciplinary
9	DSPACE@TU http://dspace.thapar.edu:8080/dspace/	Thapar University	Multidisciplinary
10	EPrints@IIT Delhi http://eprint.iitd.ac.in/dspace	Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi	Multidisciplinary
11	Eprints@IARI http://eprints.iari.res.in/	Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), India	Agriculture, Food and Veterinary
12	Eprint@NML http://eprints.nmlindia.org/	National Metallurgical Laboratory, India	Chemistry and Chemical Technology; Technology General
13	ETD@IISc http://etd.ncsi.iisc.ernet.in/	Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore	Multidisciplinary
14	DSPACE@IIA http://prints.iiap.res.in/	Indian Institute of Astrophysics	Physics and Astronomy
15	Kautilya@igidr http://oii.igidr.ac.in:8080/dspace/index.jsp	IGIDR Library, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), India	Multidisciplinary
16	KNoor (Knowledge Repository Open Network) http://dspaces.uok.edu.in:8080/dspace/	Department of Library & Information Science, University of Kashmir	Science General; Agriculture, Food and Veterinary; Health and Medicine; Technology General
17	Librarians' Digital Library https://drct.isibang.ac.in/	Documentation Research and Training Centre (DRTC), Indian Statistical Institute, Bangalore Centre (ISI)	Library and Information Science
18	Mahatma Gandhi University Theses Online http://www.mgutheses.org/	Mahatma Gandhi University	Multidisciplinary
19	NAL Repository http://nal-ir.nal.res.in/	Information Centre for Aerospace Science and Technology (ICAST),	Mathematics and Statistics; Technology

		India	General; Mechanical Engineering and Materials
20	National Chemical Laboratory http://dspace.ncl.res.in/	National Chemical Laboratory	Chemistry and Chemical Technology
21	Open Access Repository of Indian Theses http://eprints.csirexplorations.com/	CSIR Unit for Research and Development of Information Products	Biological Sciences, Earth Sciences, Physical Sciences, Communications, Education, Philosophy, Arts, Social Sciences
22	ShodhGanga: A reservoir of Indian Theses http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/	Information and Library Network Center (INFLIBNET)	Multidisciplinary
23	Dspace@NITR http://dspace.nitrkl.ac.in/dspace/	National Institute of Technology Rourkela, India	Chemistry and Chemical Technology; Physics and Astronomy; Mechanical Engineering and Materials
24	DU Eprint Archive http://www.du.ac.in/index.php?id=4	University of Delhi	Multidisciplinary
25	DRS@nio http://drs.nio.org/drs/index.jsp	NICMAS (NIO library), National Institute Of Oceanography(NIO)	Science General; Technology General; Arts and Humanities General

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ODLIS: Online dictionary for library & information science.
Available: www.abc-clio.com/ODLIS/odlis_A.aspx

Electronic theses and dissertations. Available:
<http://etd.byu.edu>

<http://www.getfreebooks.com>

<http://www.gutenberg.org/>

<http://www.pdfdrive.org/>

<http://www.scribd.com/>

<http://www.e-booksdirectory.com/>

<http://books.google.com/books?uid=1090704776178493k1p71372>