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Library & Information Science Education in the Universities of India: Growth and development of research

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Abstract: The scenario of LIS education and research in India and its overall development is very much progressive today. The number of library and information science departments has been increasing from 1960s and over time this subject has gradually emerged as a stream. In this study we will review the state and institutional distribution of the subject over time. As on 2017 the review has been done on total 1225 number of theses. Research in this subject has been steadily increasing since the 1980s and has so far been largely in the states of West. Bengal, Karnataka & Maharashtra. Karnataka University has highest number of theses among all the universities in India. This paper also highlighted on the total number and distribution of theses on the basis of subject content on LIS education since independence constituting all the Universities and institutions of India and also depicts the scope of interdisciplinary work of this subject field of study. The research growth and subject category wise distribution of the PhD theses of The Universities of Burdwan also taken into account. Community Information Service, Information System, Sources and Services and Bibliometrics study receives sheer percentage of work. The findings show that in The University of Burdwan the major work also have been done on the same field of study.

Keywords: LIS education, LIS research, LIS theses in Universities of India, LIS theses in The University of Burdwan, LIS Theses in states of India, PhD theses of LIS education.

Introduction: Library and Information Science Education nowadays has become an interdisciplinary field of study. The research work in this field of study was first started in the year of 1950. D.B Krishna Rao was the first who registered as a PhD scholar in the year of 1952-53 under the supervision of Prof. S.R. Ranganathan and was awarded the PhD degree in the topic “Facet analysis and depth classification of agriculture” in the year of 1957 from the Delhi University. The 2nd PhD degree was awarded to Suraj Kant Pandey Sharma in the year of 1977 from the Panjab University. He was under the guidance of Prof. Jagadish S Sharma and working on “Expansion and modification of Dewey Decimal Classification (Ed. 18) for classifying Indological books with special reference to Indian philosophy and Indian religion”. Since then the number of works has been increasing over time. From the year of 1960s the subject discipline has been expanding its research scope and merging with different subject ideas making it as a major discipline of study. The work on basic field of study combining with other subject such as Economics, Commerce, Statistics etc. and recently the Information and Communication Technology put a thrust on the field of research work and help the library by broadening its goal to entering into the new world of information age with the rapid change of technology.

History of development of LIS Education: William. C. Borden first started the library school in the year of 1911. Asa Don Dickinson started a training program at Panjab University in the year of 1915. The certificate course was first introduced by Madras Library Association in the year of 1929. This certificate course was converted into one year post graduate diploma course by Madras University in the year of 1937. The post graduate diploma course was also started by the universities such as Banaras Hindu University, Bombay University, University of Calcutta, and University of Delhi etc. The 2year Master’s Degree course in Library & Information Science was introduced by the University of Delhi in the year of 1949. The M.Phil. programme first started in the year of 1978 by the University of Delhi. University of Delhi was also the first to start PhD programme in the year of 1948. Trend of research in LIS education shows that initially the growth rate was slow as the PhD programme first started in the 1950s and there was 20 years gap to award the theses which was regarded as the 2nd theses awarded in the year of 1977 by the LIS department of Panjab University. There were theses made in between 60s and 70s in India but the departments those are awarded the theses was the other than the Library & Information Science department. UGC appointed the committees act as

nodal agencies in revision, updation and modifying curriculum in several times. Review Committee appointed by the UGC under the chairmanship of S.R Ranganathan in the year of 1965 recommended the standardization and up gradation of the course content; so that it can serve the purpose of changing needs of advancements of science and technology. Two national level seminars were organized by the Delhi University in the year of 1973 & 1977 also points out the needs for redesign syllabus to include the course of information science, computer application as the component part of the curriculum. These seminars also put emphasize on the need of research in LIS field of study and infrastructural development in this regard. Kaula Committee (1992) Curriculum Development Committee recommended the revision and up gradation of the course content, necessary changes in admission procedure, faculty requirement and enhancement of the infrastructure of LIS department as with the other disciplines. The report of Karissiddappa Committee (2001) advised to make necessary change in curriculum to restructure it by introducing module curriculum and also recommended the nomenclature of syllabus of integrated 2year MLIS course by suggesting the marking pattern, credit requirement, teaching hours etc. Thus, the committees of UGC, MHRD, taking a major role in the formation of the subject, uplift the course as an independent subject stream and also put emphasize on the research & development of the subject.

Literature Review: Baradol, A.K & Kumbar, S.S (1998) in their study analyze the data of review publication, *Advances in librarianship* by taking the volume 13th to 17th constitutes total 41 articles in order to reveal the interdisciplinary nature of the field of LIS. Result shows that 29 subject ideas are interrelated among which Telecommunication Technology ranked first. Computer Technology, Information Storage Technology, Management Science occupies 2nd, 3rd, 4th position accordingly. Gupta, K Dinesh & Bharadwaj Kavita (2010) in their article analyzed the chronological trend of research on Library Management field of study by taking the 167 doctoral dissertations from the Vidyanidhi and Inlibnet databases. This analysis is based on thematic distribution of the field of study and also categorizes the theses institution wise to reveal the growth of research in this field of study. Deka, Dipen & Mazumder, Nirmal Ranjan (2016) in their study emphasize on the interdisciplinary and interinstitutional approach for the skill and competency development of the LIS professional. This study highlighted on the merging of various subject ideas with the LIS field of study such as the Economics, Law, Commerce, Business Administration, Mass Communication and Journalism, Psychology, Statistics etc. This study also highlighted on the skill development programme i.e. the field-based study of different libraries enhances the knowledge of the professional about the practical

skill and technological progress of the institutions. Satija, M.P(1999) in his study depicts an overview and background of research in the field of LIS education from its very beginning. The study not only keep account the growth of research but also criticizes the quality and topicality of research done on this subject field of study. He also enlightens the lack of uniformity, standardization, inadequacy of number of teachers and infrastructural bottlenecks in order to conduct the courses of library and information science. In another study of Singh, S P and Babbar, P (2014) analysis was done on the overall scenario of the LIS education on its very completeness of the 100 years of education in India. Their study based on the data of 81 departments located in 22 states of India measuring year wise, university wise and state wise distributions of research productivity. The study also aims to point out the major areas of research and its emerging trends. Pandita, R and Singh S (2017) has been conducted their study on doctoral dissertations awarded to the LIS education in India during the period of 2010-14, especially highlighting the university wise and state wise distribution of theses between the period. Result found that maximum (16.38 %) theses have been awarded by the institutions of the state of Gujarat and the highest (9.6%) theses made by the Baba Bhim Rao Ambedkar University Marathwada during the period. The study also highlighted the major research areas and scope of research although the percentage of research in LIS field (3.05 %) in total stream of social science is found to be low.

Objective of the study is

1. To find out the total research output and chronological trend of research in LIS Education across the Universities in India.
2. To find out subject category wise distribution of theses in LIS Education in the Universities in India and the extension of interdisciplinary study.
3. To analyze the overall development of theses and subject category wise distribution of theses of the University of Burdwan.

Collection of data: The study has been done on total 1225 theses on LIS education of the Indian Universities starting from the year of 1950 to recent year 2017. The theses are divided into 134 subject categories in order to enlighten the space of research work covered by the researchers. Total 34 theses of The University of Burdwan within the same period are also taken into account. (K, Kanchan, 2018)

The growth and development of research work in LIS Education in India:

Present study shows that the number of PhD theses in LIS Education has been increased over time in India. The study has been done on 1225 no of theses covering the time period 1950-2017. Research work has a significant impact on the expansion of the field of study. Research output added various ideas and knowledges and thus playing a major role in the formation of the subject.

Chronological trend and University wise distribution of theses of LIS Education in India:

The research work in LIS Education has been increasing over time in India. The study clearly points out that a noticeable change occurred during the period of 1980-89 and thereafter the growth of research output has been increased. A Largest number of theses have been found during the period of 2000-09. Still now a steady progress has been found in this field of study in India.

Table1: Total No of theses in LIS Education over the period in India:

Year	No of Theses	Cumulative No of Theses	Percentage in total
1950-59	2	2	0.163
1960-69	2	4	0.163
1970-79	12	16	0.979
1980-89	103	119	8.408
1990-99	273	392	22.285
2000-09	477	869	38.938
2010-17	356	1225	29.061

The year 1950 recognize the first research work done by the Manindranath Basu under Dr. V. Venkata Rao from the University of Calcutta. He was not from the Library Science department so D.B Krishna Rao was regarded as the first scholar who was awarded PhD degree in LIS. (Singh, S. P & Babbar, P, 2014). It has also been seen that 2 theses have been

Table 2: Year & University wise distribution of theses covering the period 1950-79

Year	Name of University	No of Theses
1950	Calcutta University	1
1956	Delhi University	1
1963	Calcutta university	1
1966	Allahabad University	1
1971	Gauhati University	1
1972	Makhanlal Sukhadia University	1
1973	Ranchi University	1
1976	Panjab University	
1977	Tilak Manjhi Bhagalpur University	1
	Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University	2
1978	Guru Nanak Dev University	1
	Gujarat University	1
	Sabitribhai Phule Pune University	1
	Panjab University	1
1979	Sabitribhai Phule Pune University	1

done in the field of LIS study from the year of 1963 and 1966 from the Calcutta University and the Allahabad University respectively. Among total 12 theses, 3 theses were done on the year of 1971,1972 and 1973 from the Gauhati University, Makhanlal Sukhadia University and Ranchi University respectively.

Table 3 : Total number and annual growth of each 5 year of theses

Year	No of theses
1980-84	47 (9.4 per year)
1985-89	56 (11.2 per year)
1990-94	151 (30.2 per year)
1995-99	122 (24.4 per year)
2000-04	185 (37 per year)
2005-09	292 (58.4 per year)
2010-14	256 (51.2 per year)
2015-17	100 (20 per year)

The first five-year of 80s, (1980-84) consists of total 47 theses and the last 5-year (1985-89) of the same decade have 56 theses in total. The year (1995-99) reveal low growth rate than the previous years of (1990-94). The highest growth rate i.e. 58 theses per year have been found during the period of (2005-09). (2010-14) also has been noticed a higher growth rate of 51 theses per year.

Table 4 : University wise distribution of theses of top 25 University in LIS Education in India (1950-2017)

Sl No	Name of University	No of theses
1.	Karnataka University	80
2.	University of Delhi	51
3.	Jadavpur University	47
4.	Jiwaji University	47
5.	Andhra University	46
6.	Calcutta University	45
7.	Gauhati University	44
8.	Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathawada University	43
9.	Panjab University	43

10.	University of Rajasthan	43
11.	Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University	34
12.	The University of Burdwan	34
13.	Osmania University	30
14.	Gulbarga University	26
15.	Vikram University	26
16.	Annamalai University	23
17.	Gujarat University	23
18.	University of Madras	23
19.	Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University	21
20.	Manipur University	20
21.	Banaras Hindu University	19
22.	University of Calicut	19
23.	North Eastern Hill University	19
24.	Sambalpur University	19
25.	Alagappa University	17
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106.	Utkal University of Culture	1
106.	Total	1225

Total 106 universities, deemed universities, institutions under UGC & other apex body including the open universities conducting research in LIS Education in India are taken into account. A good percentage of theses; total 80 number of theses has been done by the Karnataka University on LIS education. After that come the name of Delhi University, Jiwaji University and Andhra University contains 51, 47 and 46 no of theses respectively. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Panjab University and University of Rajasthan produced 43 number of theses accordingly. 47, 45 and 34 theses have been done by Jadavpur University, Calcutta University and University of Burdwan in the states of West Bengal.

Table 5 : State wise distribution of theses in India:

Sl No	States of India	No of University	No of Theses
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	64 (5.224)
2.	Assam	2	46 (3.775)
3.	Bihar	4	6 (0.489)
4.	Chhattisgarh	2	22 (1.795)
5.	Delhi	5	56 (4.571)
6.	Gujarat	9	63 (5.142)
7.	Haryana	1	10 (0.816)
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	15 (1.224)
9.	Jharkhand	1	1 (0.081)
10.	Karnataka	8	145 (11.836)
11.	Kerala	4	31 (2.530)
12.	Madhya Pradesh	10	109 (8.897)
13.	Maharashtra	11	118 (9.632)
14.	Manipur	1	20 (1.632)

15.	Meghalaya	1	19 (1.551)
16.	Mizoram	1	16 (1.306)
17.	Odisha	4	42 (3.428)
18.	Panjab	5	65 (5.306)
19.	Rajasthan	4	67 (5.469)
20.	Tamil Nadu	9	73 (5.959)
21.	Telangana	2	32 (2.612)
22.	Uttarakhand	1	1 (0.082)
23.	Uttar Pradesh	9	52 (4.244)
24.	West Bengal	6	152 (12.408)
Total		106	1225

West Bengal have highest 152 number of theses among all the states in India during the entire concerned period 1950-2017. Karnataka is the 2nd highest states regarding the total number of theses holding total 145 number of theses. Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh are also not far behind having 118 and 109 number of theses accordingly.

Subject Catagoriwise distribution of Theses in LIS Education in India:

The LIS Education comprised of various subject field of study. Present study is based on the 134subject category/subject content wise division of the theses according to the data source (each subject category /subject content is considered as micro subject in the data source).

Table 6: Total Number and Percentage distribution of higher ordered theses according to the subject category of the universities in India

SI No	Subject Category	Total theses	Percentage Share
1.	Community Information Service/User Study/Use Study/User Satisfaction	149	12.163
2.	Information System, Sources and Services	106	8.653
3.	Bibliometric Studies	103	8.408
4.	Academic library	91	7.428
5.	Information and communication Technology	71	5.795
6.	Change Management/Library & Information Management/Total Quality Management/Knowledge Management	65	5.306
7.	Library Consortium/Library Networking/Resource Sharing	52	4.244
8.	Public Library	46	3.755
9.	Library Profession and Professionals	36	2.938
10.	Special Library	36	2.938
11.	E-Resource/E-Resource Use & Management	33	2.693
12.	Collection Development, Management & Evaluation	27	2.204
13.	Webometric Analysis/Scientometric Analysis/Informetric Analysis	26	2.122
14.	Library and Information Science Education	25	2.040
15.	Library Classification/Knowledge Organization	24	1.959

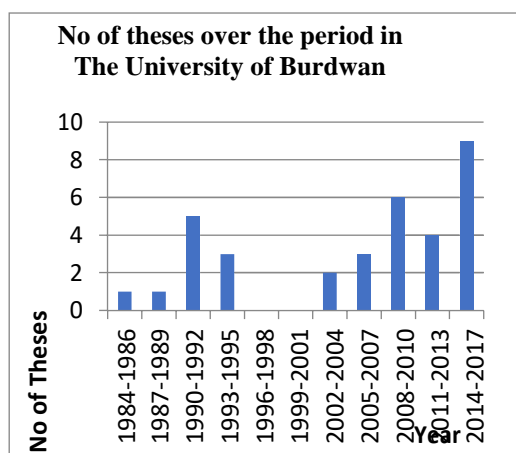
16.	Cataloguing/Online Cataloguing	16	1.306
17.	Indexing/Web Indexing	16	1.306
18.	Library Automation	16	1.306
19.	Digital Library/Institutional Repository	15	1.224
20.	Bibliography	14	1.142
21.	Information Retrieval System	13	1.061
22.	Human Resource Management	11	0.897
23.	Library Legislation	11	0.897
24.	Library Preservation/Conservation/Digitization	11	0.897
25.	Role of Library/Librarians	11	0.897
26.	Information Literacy	10	0.816
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.	.	.	.
134.	Web based Library Service	1	0.081
134.	Total		100.000

This analysis shows that out of 1225 theses up to the year of 2017, highest percent of work i.e. 12.163% is related to Community information services / User Study/ Use Study. Information System, Sources and Services, Bibliometrics Studies, Academic Library, Information Communication Technology constitutes 8.653 %, 8.408 %, 7.428 % and 5.795 % of total work respectively. Total 65 theses have been done on Change Management /Library & Information Management/Total Quality Management/Knowledge Management that take 5.306 % of total theses. Library Consortium/Library Networking/Resource Sharing; Public Library; Library

Profession and Professionals share the 4.244 %, 3.755 %, & 2.938% of total work respectively and the study reveal that recently a number of works has been done on these field of study.

This picture clearly depict that the LIS field of study is correlated with several subject discipline and it's expanding its scope of research over time. If we analyze the study subject category wise then we have found that the Community Information Services field of study, which receives highest percentage of total work that may help to study the different socio economic groups/community groups in various way and can also help in keeping account of several development of this field and thus help the researchers and others for their study and other works. A number of theses have been covered by the Management, Commerce, Economics subject stream. Total 71 theses have been done on Information and Communication Technology and it is one of the recent priority fields of research in LIS education. Total 26 works has been done on Webometrics Analysis/ Scientometrics Analysis / Informetrics Analysis. Presently research work has also been conducting on web related studies i.e. Web Content Analysis, Web 2.0/Web 3.0/Web 4.0/, Web Technology, Website Development and Evaluation, Web Indexing etc.

Research trend and subject category wise distribution of theses in LIS Education in The



University of Burdwan

The first theses were awarded in the year of 1984 in The University of Burdwan. The first theses were awarded to Manoranjan Mahapatra under the supervision of Bijoy Nath Mukherjee and his work was on the topic of “Growth of literature and citation pattern among the Indian journals in the field of Botany, 1950-1980”. Total 34 theses have been submitted during the period 1984-

2017. Total nine theses have been awarded during the 2014-2017 and it constitutes 26.47 % of total work. Bibliometrics studies receive 18% of total work. Community Information Sources & Services, Information Communication Technology, Library Consortium constitutes 12 %, 9% and 9% of total work respectively. The other areas of studies are, Information System, Sources and Services, Change Management, Public Library, Role of Library and Librarian etc.

Table 7: Total Number and Percentage distribution of theses according to the subject category in The University of Burdwan

Subject	Total No of Theses	% of Theses
Academic Library	1	3.00
Bibliography	1	3.00
Bibliometrics Studies	6	18.00
Change Management	2	6.00
Community Information Services	4	12.00
Digital Library	1	3.00
Information & Communication Technology	3	9.00
Information System, Sources and Services	2	6.00
Library Consortium	3	9.00
Library Legislation	1	3.00
Library Outsourcing	1	3.00
LIS Education	1	3.00
Marketing of Library & Information Science Product	1	3.00
Performance Audit	1	3.00
Public Library	2	6.00
Role of Library & Librarian	1	3.00
Special Library	2	6.00
Webometrics	1	3.00
Total	34	100.00

Findings:

1. The number of works in LIS education can be categorized into different subject content that reflects its outreach of several aspects of knowledge and expanding it as a multidisciplinary subject.
2. Community information services/User Study/Use Study, Bibliometrics Study, Academic Library, Information Sources & Services and Information Communication Technology receives the sheer percentage of total PhD theses across the Universities of India. These subject categories also receive the highest percentage of work in The Universities of Burdwan.
3. Although total 34 numbers of theses have been awarded in The University of Burdwan up to the year of 2017 but it shows a rising trend from the year of 2008.
4. The total number of PhD theses in Academic Library, Public Library, Special Library and Digital Library is 91, 46, 36 & 15 respectively. The work on Library Professions, Role of Library and Librarian are also taken place.
5. The management study along with Change Management/ Library & Information Management /Total Quality Management/ Knowledge Management ;Collection Development ,Management & Evaluation ;E-Resources Use and Management ;Human Resource Management ,Staff Management, Content Management ,Database Management ,Digital Resource Management & Financial Management are taken place.33, 27 and 11 no of work has been done on E-Resource Use and Management, Collection Development Management & Evaluation and Human Resource and Management.
6. Theses on Use study/User Study, User Education, Reading Habits, Information Literacy also has been found in total work.
7. Total 35 works has been found on Indexing, Web Indexing and Information Retrieval system.
8. The studies on Web Content Analysis, Web 2.0/Web 3.0/Web 4.0/Web Technology, Website Development and Evaluation, Web Indexing has been conducting recently as the emerging field of study.

Conclusion:

A large number of institutions in India running with number of courses in LIS education since independence. The growth of research output in the field of study and with the progress of technology this field of study entering into the new era of information age. The contribution of the nodal body, professional associations ILA, IASLIC, IATLIS, organizations and scientific institutions DRTC, INSDOC, DESIDOC, NISSAT/DSIR have a significant impact in manpower development, training program and research & development of the subject. At present total research work and number of theses shows the progressive nature of the subject and it is expected that it will be encompassed with many other subject ideas that will enrich its scope to expand as an independent subject field of study.

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