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2021

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Mehta, Dr.Jaydeep and Vyas, Dr.Meghna, "Impact of Library in NAAC for better visibility in enhancing research: An analysis of central universities in India" (2021). *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. 5325.

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Impact of Library in NAAC for better visibility in enhancing research: An analysis of central universities in India

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Abstract

This paper has made an attempt to explore the role of library in NAAC process and SSR analysis of top graded central universities of India. NAAC has become an important part for higher education system to highlight qualitative part of the institute/university. An institution/university has to prepare the SSR (Self Study Report) in three parts such as- institutional data, evaluative report and SWOC analysis before NAAC visit. The process of NAAC accreditation takes place once in five years. SSR reports of 17 central universities (NAAC accredited “A” or above graded) have been taken to prepare this paper and analysis has been done according to SSR data available on the website of the universities. Outcome of the study is helpful to understand and identify the role of university library in NAAC accreditation.

Keywords: NAAC, Central University, Role of Library, Research, Quality Assurance, University library.

Introduction

National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) an autonomous body of the UGC was established on September 1994 with main office at Bangalore. NAAC is entrusted with the command of quality assessment, sustenance and improvement of higher academic organisations in the country. In completion of its role, the NAAC also counsels the major shareholders of higher education on subjects impacting quality. The assessment and accreditation process has produced in wonderful quality consciousness in institutions and has also created an awareness to deal with the emerging challenges of higher education.

Central Universities in India

As in India various types of universities are recognized by the UGC, which holds its effect from the University Grants Commission Act, In adding, fifteen different professional councils are recognised, controlling different features of accreditation and organisation. Central universities additionally are enclosed by the Central Universities Act, 2009, which controls their purpose, commands dominance etc.

The Indian Government is accountable for spacing, assigning and distributing monetary resources required by the University Grants Commission (UGC) for the founding of central universities in India. Presently there are 54 central universities in India. Refining the quality and admission of higher education and research in India have become all the additional significant care in view the rising requirements for appropriate man power in numerous sectors of the cost-effective. Therefore, it can be required that there would be more central universities in India in the upcoming years. The Government has also been authorised by a Special Act of the Composition to uphold a specific standard favourable to the educational fitness of the country. The Government places special importance on research and development carried out in technical and other organisations.

Objectives of the study

- To find out the various central universities in India for their Accreditation status.
- To identify the grades earned during NAAC Process for the last cycle.
- Go through the different criteria 3 & 4 status of the various universities.
- To identify the strengths and suggest required improvements to the said central universities.
- Identify the contributions of Libraries in the overall NAAC process.
- To suggest additional role of libraries and librarians and other LIS professionals.
- To identify how and where libraries and research can contribute to earned top grades in overall NAAC Process.
- To identify the best central university libraries covered in the study in terms of better systems/services.

Research Methodology of the Study

In order to find out data, accessed NAAC accredited “A” or above graded central Universities list from authentic source like UGC and NAAC websites and downloaded the SSR from respective central university web sites one by one. In the second part, go through the study

related literature and prepared check list for the assessment of the NAAC criteria 3 and criteria 4 for analysis amongst various criteria and its contents. In the third segment, these criteria's was assessed on the basis of all checklist of selected central universities' SSR (Self Study Report) and analysis was done on the basis of the said criteria's.

Research Scope and Limitation of the Study

Out of total central universities 17 central universities which have got A or above NAAC grade have been taken as a research sample for the study as well as research study focused on criteria 3 (Research, Innovations and Extension) and criteria 4 (Infrastructure and Learning Resources) only i.e. related to analysis amongst various criteria. As stated, this study covered only central universities which have A or above NAAC grade. 17 central universities are identified with mentioned grade and SSR of the concerned universities is the key factor of the study in which SSR of 4 universities could not be traced.

Literature Review

Shroff Neha (2016) discussed in her paper entitled "Quality issues of higher education using NAAC data" about accredited universities and colleges of Gujarat state of last ten years by NAAC for the first, second and third cycle of assessment. Author focused on the defined best practices for National Assessment and Accreditation Council's concerning on quality as a tool to generate greater results and also highlighted to maintain the good quality practices for retaining high ranking grades in prospect assessment from NAAC.

Radhabinod Singh Tongbram (2018) published paper on "Role of NAAC in Enhancing Quality on Higher Education in India: Issues and Challenges" NAAC is an autonomous institution established by the UGC with the prime agenda of assessing and accrediting institutions of higher learning with all objective of helping them to work continuously to enhance the quality on higher education. Institutions mostly highlight assessment and accreditation to classify themselves in Quality Status and maintaining the standards related to all the academic activities, learning resources, Organizational management, publications and research output.

The purpose of this paper is to focus upon the role of NAAC in enhancing the quality in defining the factors of HEI for self and external quality assessment, issues, challenges, promotion and sustenance initiatives. This paper makes a systematic study of the measures

taken by NAAC to stimulate the Educational atmosphere for improvement of excellence of teaching-learning and research in H.E. Institutions. And also to understand the level of awareness and improvements in many aspects of such H.E. Institutions post NAAC accreditation. It is very important to encourage self-evaluation, accountability, autonomy and innovations in the Higher Education and assume excellence research work, consultancy and training programs and also collaborate with other stake holders of Higher Education for quality evaluation, promotion and sustenance. In this context NAAC challenges for the quality and excellence in its illusion of every Higher Academic organisation and supporters the best practices, benchmarking method for quality improvement in Higher Education.

S. Amutha and B. S. Ponmudiraj (2019) in their paper entitled “A Symbiotic Analysis of NAAC Accredited Higher Education Institutions in the State of Tamil Nadu, India” presented NAAC criteria analysis of 92 Colleges of Tamil Nadu as per revised Accreditation Framework of NAAC. The paper also discussed about problem and prospect of Tamil nadu colleges for Assessment and Accreditation.

Kumar Nilesh and Verma Shilpi (2018) in their paper on “Content Analysis of Library Websites of NAAC Accredited ‘A’ Grade University in Central Zone of India” presented content analysis study of Library Websites of NAAC accredited “A” grade universities in Central Zone of India. Study review that utmost library websites have presented library information guideline, e-resources and various traditional and web based services in which website of Vikram University Library, Ujjain is the most excellent among NAAC Accredited ‘A’ Grade University in Central zone of India.

Data Analysis of the Study

State	No. of Central Universities	State	No. of Central Universities	State	No. of Central Universities
Andhra Pradesh	03	Jharkhand	01	Pondicherry	01
Assam	02	Karnataka	01	Punjab	01
Arunachal Pradesh	01	Kerala	01	Rajasthan	01
Bihar	04	Madhya Pradesh	02	Sikkim	01
Chhattisgarh	01	Maharashtra	01	Tamil Nadu	02
Delhi	07	Manipur	03	Telangana	03
Gujarat	01	Mizoram	01	Tripura	01
Haryana	01	Meghalaya	01	Uttarakhand	01
Himachal Pradesh	01	Nagaland	01	Uttar Pradesh	06
Jammu & Kashmir	02	Odisha	01	West Bengal	01
Total			54		

Table No.1: Total Number of State wise Central Universities in India

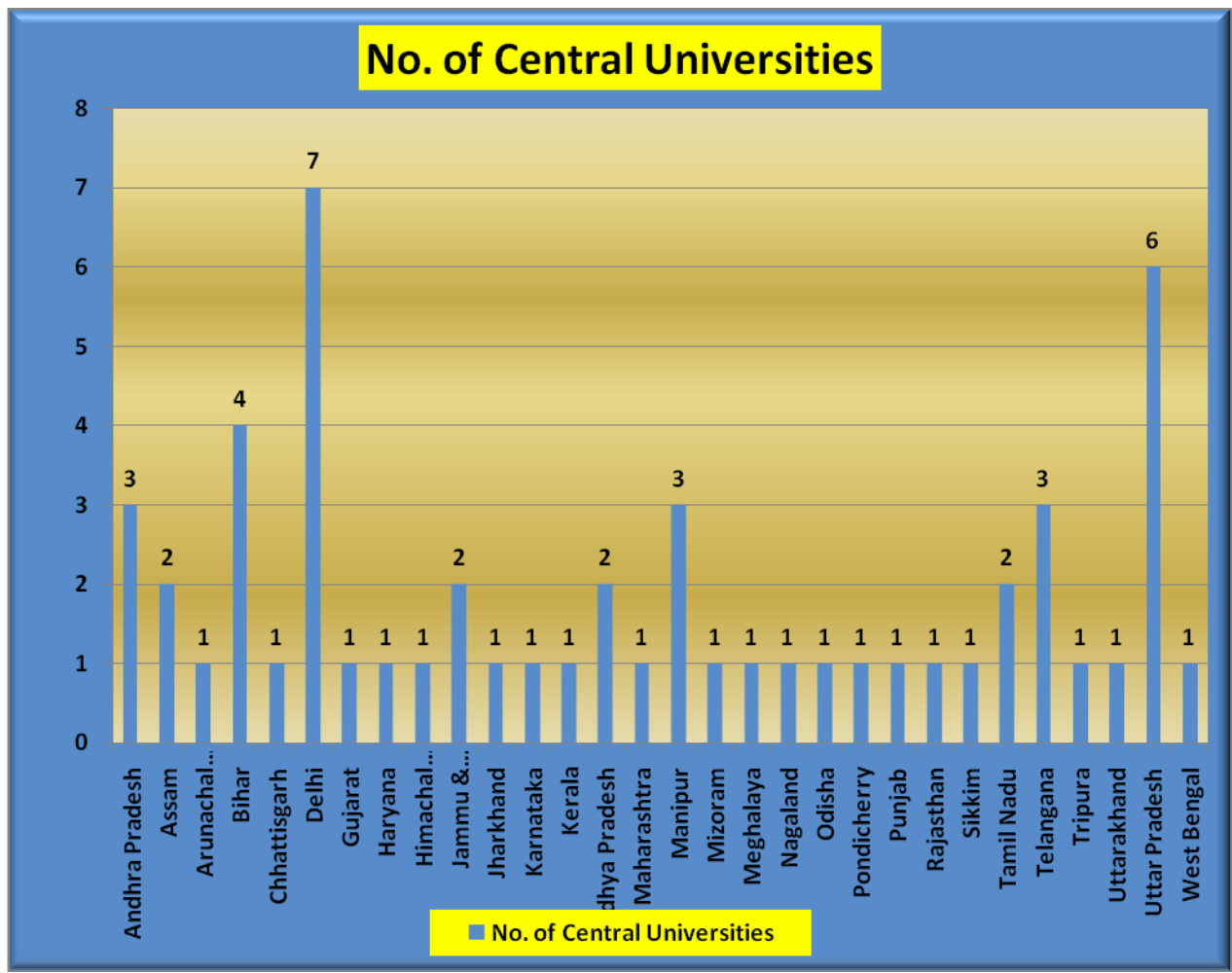


Figure No.1: Total Number of State wise Central Universities in India

The above table and figure show that at present total numbers of central universities are 54 and highest number of 7 central universities are in Delhi, followed by 6 central universities are in Uttar Pradesh, 4 in Bihar, 3 universities are in states of Andhra Pradesh, Manipur, Telangana, 2 are in Assam, Jammu & Kashmir and Tamil Nadu and rest of the states have only 1 central university.

Sr. No	Name of Central Universities	Abbreviation	State	NAAC Grade Point	Grade	Cycles of NAAC Accreditation
1	Tezpur University, Tezpur	TJU	Assam	3.25	A	Third Cycle
2	Central University of South Bihar, Patna	CUSB	Bihar	3.01	A	First Cycle
3	Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi	JNU	Delhi	3.77	A++	Second Cycle
4	University of Delhi	DU	Delhi	3.28	A+	First Cycle
5	Central University of Haryana, Mahendragarh	CUH	Haryana	3.1	A	First Cycle
6	Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar	HGV	Madhya Pradesh	3.04	A	Third Cycle
7	Manipur University, Canchipur, Imphal	MUC	Manipur	3.02	A	Second Cycle
8	North Eastern Hill University, Mawkyroh, Umshing, Shillong	NEHU	Meghalaya	3.2	A	Third Cycle
9	Mizoram University, Tanhril, Aizawl	MUT	Mizoram	3.16	A	Second Cycle
10	Pondicherry University, R. Venkataraman Nagar, Kalapet	PUK	Puducherry	3.1	A	Fourth Cycle
11	Central University of Punjab, Bathinda	CUP	Punjab	3.06	A	First Cycle
12	Central University of Rajasthan, Ajmer	CUR	Rajasthan	3.01	A	First Cycle
13	Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad	MANUU	Telangana	3.09	A	Second Cycle
14	The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad	EFLU	Telangana	3.26	A	Second Cycle
15	University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad	UHH	Telangana	3.72	A	Third Cycle
16	Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow	BBAU	Uttar Pradesh	3.01	A	First Cycle
17	Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Srinagar – Garhwal, Pauri	HNBGU	Uttarakhand	3.11	A	Second Cycle

Table No. 2: 17 Central Universities name and NAAC grade

The above table indicates the name of the 17 central universities with abbreviation, name of State, NAAC grade points, grade and the cycles of NAAC Accreditation of all 17 universities which have been taken for study in this paper. Only 17 central universities of 14 states are having A or above NAAC grade out of 54 central universities. Major numbers of universities (3) with A and above grade are in Telangana, followed by Delhi (2) and rest of the 12 states are having one university with A and above NAAC Grade.

Central Universities	<i>TJU</i> 1	<i>CUSB</i> 2	<i>JNU</i> 3	<i>DU</i> 4	<i>CUH</i> 5	<i>NEHU</i> 6	<i>MUT</i> 7	<i>PUK</i> 8	<i>CUR</i> 9	<i>MANUU</i> 10	<i>EFLU</i> 11	<i>BBAU</i> 12	<i>HNBGU</i> 13
NAAC Criteria 3. Research, Innovations and Extension													
3.1 Research Committee Composition (YES/NO)	<i>\\YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>
3.2 Research Promotion Policy for affiliated colleges	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>YES</i>
3.3 Major /Minor/Others Research Projects	<i>142</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>350</i>	<i>1864</i>	<i>20*</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>204</i>	<i>08</i>	<i>04</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>114</i>
3.4 National and International Conference Organised	<i>N:3II:7</i>	<i>N:1 I:2</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>YES*</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>N:1</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>N:& I:5</i>	<i>YES*</i>	<i>N:9I:15</i>	<i>NA*</i>	<i>NA*</i>
3.5 Information Resource Centre to cater the needs of Researcher	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>
3.6 University publish any research journal(s)	<i>NO</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>
Publications by faculties													
3.7 Peer Reviewed Papers National Journals :-	<i>151</i>	<i>93</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>7204</i>	<i>1044</i>	<i>501</i>	<i>1385</i>	<i>847</i>	<i>08</i>	<i>1044</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>02</i>	<i>04</i>
3.8 International Journals-	<i>1731</i>	<i>183</i>	<i>0</i>				<i>0</i>		<i>0</i>		<i>162</i>		
3.9 Books	<i>38</i>	<i>05</i>	<i>NA</i>			<i>112</i>		<i>183</i>	<i>02</i>	<i>121</i>	<i>240</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>8</i>
3.10 Chapter in Books	<i>176</i>	<i>94</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>1889</i>	<i>224</i>	<i>855</i>	<i>921</i>			<i>110</i>	<i>164</i>	<i>232</i>	<i>215</i>
3/11 Total Number Listed in International Database Like Web of Scopus and Others	<i>1279</i>	<i>156</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>43881</i>	<i>292</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>578</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>
3.12 Participated in Shodhganga, How Many Thesis uploaded	<i>YES</i> <i>280</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>4738</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>1405</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>176</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>242</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>635</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>NA</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>1256</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>06</i>
3.13 Plagiarism Policy and Which software Used	<i>YES</i> <i>Turnitin</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>Turnitin</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>NA</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>Turnitin</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>Urkund</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>Turnitin</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>Turnitin</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>NA</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>Urkund</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>NA</i>	<i>YES</i> <i>Urkund</i>

Table No. 3: NAAC Criteria 3 Research, Innovations and Extension

3.1 Research committee composition:

As per the analysis of study, the above table shows that all 13 central universities are having research committee composition. So, it can be interpreted that all the central universities have vision to promote research activities.

3.2 Research promotion policy for affiliated colleges:

The study identified that majority (08) of central universities either they have no any affiliated colleges or they have no any research promotion policy for their affiliated colleges. Out of total (13) universities, only (05) universities are having research promotion policy for their affiliated colleges.

3.3 Major /Minor/others research projects:

From the above table it can be found that almost (11) universities undergoing different major minor and others research projects, while information of research project of two universities could not be traced in the SSR data. It can be observed from the data that maximum research projects of about 1864+ are undergone by Delhi University followed by 350+ projects by Jawaharlal Nehru University, 204+ projects by Pondicherry University and 1 to 100 projects undergone at different level by rest 08 universities.

3.4 National and International conferences organised:

As per the table, it can be understood that out of (13) central universities, (07) universities have organised national international conferences and (06) universities either not organised any of them or data is not clearly visible in the SSRs of the said universities.

3.5 Information resource centre to cater the needs of researcher:

It is found from the analysis that almost all the central universities are having well equipped information resource centre to cater the needs of researcher.

3.6 Publish any research journal(s):

It is revealed from the table that out of (13) universities only (05) universities published research journals from the university. So it can be understood that 08 universities will plan to publish research journals or data is not clearly noticeable in the SSRs of the said universities.

3.7 to 3.10 Publications By faculties:

Universities	Peer Reviewed Papers National Journals	International Journals	Books	Chapter in Books
TJU	151	1731	38	176
CUSB	93	183	05	94
*JNU	NA	NA	NA	NA
DU	7204			1889
CUH	1044			224
NEHU	501		112	855
MUT	1385	0		921
PUK	847			183
CUR	08	0		02
MANUU	1044		121	110
EFLU	160	162	240	164
BBAU	02		14	232
HNBGU	04		08	215

*indicate that data not found from the SSRs

From the above publication status of the said central universities it can be observed that Maximum publications in the terms of Journals and books identified in the Delhi University, on second position Mizoram university, on the third position Tajpur University and the forth position North Eastern Hill University then Maulana Azad National Urdu University and Central University of Haryana and rest of the universities on an average total publications in between 100-1000 publications in the faculty publications status.

3.11 Total Number Listed in International Database Like Web of Scopus and Others:

From the table and from the SSRs it can be implicit that majority universities have not provided data or related information for the databases. Out of (13) universities only (05) universities provided data related to the said criteria while (08) universities have not provided data as the related data is not visible in the SSRs of the said universities.

3.12 Participated in Shodhganga, and Thesis uploaded

The table shows that majority of universities (09) out of (13) participated in the Shodhganga depository and signed MoU with INFLIBNET for the same. Maximum theses of about nearly 5000 have been uploaded by the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), followed by Delhi University of about 1500+ theses, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University of about 1300+ theses and 100to300 theses uploaded by rest of the universities on an average in the shodhganga.

3.13 Plagiarism policy and software used

Almost all the universities (12) out of (13) are having plagiarism polices and plagiarism policy details of only (01) university is not noticeable in the SSR. As well as, total out of (12) universities, 06 universities are using Turnitin - anti plagiarism software and (03) universities are using Urkund - anti plagiarism software and (03) universities have not mentioned their details about software.

Central Universities	TJU	CUSB	JNU	DU	CUH	NEHU	MUT	PUK	CUR	MANUU	EFLU	BBAU	HNBGU
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
NAAC Criteria 4. Infrastructure and Learning Resources													
Library have Advisory Committee	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NA	NA	YES	YES	YES	NA	NA
Total Area of Library (Sq.Mt.)	4734	366.96	9294	NA	328	5625	4497	2900	680	307	1813**	8000	3233
Total Seating Capacity	309	84	1050	NA	175	300*	300	200	145	400	140	540	200
Collection of Books	61000	21415	389851	1653777	20866	274751	107199	181589	20400	51822	166278	1 lac***	178739
Collection of eBooks	Consortium	NA	122237	ESS	20915	Consortium	ESS	31414	23 Dbse	INFONET	77	NA	NA
Collection of Journals(Print)	167	NA	213	1217	49	265	219	344	100	179	NA	NA	NA
Collection of eJournals	10433	8500	50000	ESS	8500	10000+	7506	23928	8500	INFONET	INFONET, DeLCON	NA	NA
Collection of other eResources through Dif. Memberships	INFONET, DeLCON	INFONET	21 Dbse INFLIBNET	ESS	ESS	INFONET, DeLCON	ESS	IEEE,ACM and Others	23 Dbse	INFONET	INFONET, DeLCON	NA	NA
						*Staff only					**Only Main campus	***Departmental Lib.Data Found	

Table No.4 : NAAC Criteria 4 Infrastructure and Learning Resources

* Staff seating capacity only

**Considered only main campus

*** Data provided only departmental libraries.

4.1 Library Advisory Committee:

The table indicates that out of all (13) universities,(09) universities are having library advisory committee and related data is not visible in the SSR of the rest (04) universities.

4.2 Total Area of Library (Sq. Mt.):

It is found from the analysis that almost all the libraries are having sufficient area, except few libraries are having small space of about 300 Sq.Mt.

4.3 Total Seating Capacity: As per the statistics given in the table, it shows that in all 13 universities, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi has maximum seating capacity i.e 1050 and central university of Bihar has minimum seating capacity i.e 84 and rest all universities have on an average 200 to 300 seating capacity in the library.

4.4 Collection of Books: The table indicates that maximum collection of books found in University of Delhi, about more than 15 Lacs collection of books and rest all university libraries are having necessary collections of books in between 20k to 5 lacs collection of books.

4.5 Collection of eBooks : As per the table, it can be understood that out of (13) central universities maximum e-book collection found in university of Delhi,(5) University libraries are having collection through different consortium and few universities have not mentioned their details about e-book collection in their SSRs.

4.6 Collection of Journals (Print): In the collection and availabilities of print journals, it is identified that out of total (13) universities, (9) universities provided their data and rest (4) universities have not mentioned data related to the same in their SSRs.

4.7 Collection of e-Journals: Table indicates that almost all libraries have good number of e-journal collection, either through consortium or individual subscription based; few universities have not mentioned their e-journal collection in the SSRs

4.8 Collection of other e-Resources through Dif. Memberships:

Almost all the universities (11) out of (13) are having different consortium membership either through INFLIBNET or through other consortium, only (02) universities have not provided data related to the same in the SSRs.

Discussion and conclusion

On the basis of predefined criteria's the present study was carried out of "Impact of Library in NAAC for better visibility in enhancing research: An analysis of central universities in India". LIS Professionals always perform key role in the whole NAAC process as they are strong supporter to academic activities, publication and research output of the University. Major findings revealed that only 17 central universities are accredited with A or above A grade out of total 54. As per the analysis of study, 13 central universities are having research committee to promote research activities which reflected through information of undergoing major/minor research and other research projects of the university. Almost 11 universities undergoing different major minor and others research projects, while information of research project of two universities could not be traced in the SSR data. It can be observed from the data that maximum research projects of about 1864+ are undergone by Delhi University followed by 350+ projects by Jawaharlal Nehru University, 204+projects by Pondicherry University and 1 to 100 projects undergone at different level by rest 08 universities. 07 Universities have also arranged good number of National / International conferences. To promote research almost all the central universities are having well equipped information resource centre to cater the needs of researcher, moreover out of 13 universities five universities published research journals of their own. Faculty publications data revealed that maximum publications in the terms of Journals and books identified in the Delhi University (9093 Publications), followed by Mizoram university (2306 Publications), Tezpur University (2096 Publications), and then North Eastern Hill University, Shillong (1468 Publications) Maulana Azad National Urdu University (1275 Publications), Central University of Haryana (1268 Publications) and rest of the universities have mentioned data on an average total publications in between 100-1000 publications in the faculty publications status. Majority of universities 09 out of 13 participated in the Shodhganga depository and signed MoU with INFLIBNET for the same. Maximum theses of about nearly 5000 have been uploaded by the Jawaharlal Nehru University, followed by Delhi University of about 1500+ theses, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University of about 1300+ theses and 100to300 theses uploaded by rest of the universities on an average in the Shodhganga. Almost all the universities are having plagiarism polices.

Remarkable research and publications are not achievable without support of learning resource center. Excellent Library Services, facilities, collection and resources are very much essential to boost up research activities in academic culture. Data of the study revealed that out of all 13 universities, 09 universities are having library advisory committee, so academicians and

LIS professionals can understand and enhance library activities in the direction to achieve university goal. Basic need of the Library in terms of collection, maximum collection of books found in University of Delhi, about more than 15 Lacs collection of books and rest all university libraries are having necessary collections of books in between 20k to 5 lacs collection of books. Like Print books collection, University of Delhi also provided maximum access to eBooks. Almost all the universities 11 out of 13 are providing access to valued learning resources through different consortium membership either through INFLIBNET or other consortium as convenient access to high-quality research content remains a key foundation for valued research.

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