

E-Theses Repository: A Case Study of Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak, Haryana, India

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Abstract - Technology has given great impacts to the librarianship professions more numbers of activities are further facilitated with a help of internet technology, computing and other related areas of ICTs. Institutional repositories are the new element conceived through the technological facilitation. The present paper is all about the digital initiative taken by Vivekananda Library, Maharishi Dayanand University Rohtak, and Haryana, India. Further the paper reveals how Maharishi Dayanand University (MDU) is contributing to the national digital repository of India. More particularly the paper talks about the e-thesis elements of institutional repository of MDU.

Keywords: *e-thesis, Institutional repository, Maharishi Dayanand University, Vivekananda Library*

I. INTRODUCTION

Today's smart digital environment provides the opportunity to the academies institutions for sharing their output without any boundaries limitation at global level. It has been possible because the information has been digitized in the form of various electronic resources such as e-journals, e-books, e-thesis, e-databases, e-reports, e-firms and other such e-resources. The Vivekananda Library, Maharishi Dayanand University Rohtak, has started efforts to building institutional repository by converting PhD thesis into e-thesis and sharing it with shodhganga.

Institutional repository is refers to a digital repository of an institution. (Lynch, 2003) defined IR in very simple way, "a set of services that a university offers to the members of its community for the management and dissemination of digital material created by the institution and its community members". (Crow, 2002) represent as "an historical and tangible embodiment of the intellectual life and output of an institution". It has increased accessibility and potential impact of output through provide free access worldwide. "Institutional repository as valuable tools both to share scholarly work and to raise the profile of individual authors and their institutions has led librarians, academic faculty and administrators to explore using repositories to share works beyond scholarly journal articles. From traditional academic products, such as theses and dissertations or previously unpublished monographic manuscripts, to "nontraditional" works like podcasts, institutional repositories today are being used to host wide variety of faculty and student work" (Gilman, 2013).

II. MAHARISHI DAYANAND UNIVERSITY

The Rohtak University, Rohtak was established in 1976 by an Act no. 25 of 1975 of the Haryana Legislation Assembly. On the name of Maharshi Dayanand, a great visionary and social reformer, it was named as Maharishi Dayanand University in 1977. In its essential stage it was unitary and residential in nature, but in November 1978 it became an affiliating University. In February 1983, it secured the recognition of University Grants Commission, India. The main objective is enhances quality education and research through interdisciplinary understating. It is capable of mastering the global challenges of future technology and management. It provides competitive capability for the overall development of humans and society.

The MDU campus has an area of over 665.44 acres. It presents a spectacle of harmony in architecture and natural beauty. Its 36 department offers educational and research programmes. It's also has a University institute of law and management studies in Gurgaon where runs law and management programmes. The university provides affiliation to 580 Institutions/ colleges in 10 districts of the Haryana State (MDU, 2017).

III. UNIVERSITY LIBRARY SYSTEM

The library is located named as Vivekananda Library, which is situated at the heart of the university. It is greatly influences intellectual life in the campus with its five branch libraries – Law Library, IHTM Library, IMSAR Library, Engineering and Technology Library and Mathematics Library. It provides the following facilities and activities; the seating capacity of 963 students and 24x7 exquisite reading hall with 250 seats, 60 latest PCs Internet lab offering with 1 Gbps bandwidth connectivity, one-to-one video conferencing etc. The Vivekananda Library is providing all the services which can be expected from a modern university library system. All the traditional as well as digital library services are available side by side for the comfort of its patrons. Library has transformed almost all its traditional services into modern style like card system of issue & return into self check-in & check-out. The old catalogue card cabinet system is now available as OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue) for searching books. Now the library users can search their required documents

quickly from anywhere in the world. Equipped with up-to-date ICT infrastructure, the information required, the resources desired, is available at a click away distance. The Vivekananda Library is equally honored to serve its patrons (Library, 2017).

IV. E-CONTENT ACTIVITIES

In the age of digital information, special emphasize has been given to increase the e-Resources. All essential state-of-the-art infrastructures have been developed to maximum utilization of the e-Resources. A fully air conditioned computer lab with power back up and 1Gbps internet speed has been installed to have instant access of e-Resources. All other essential audio-visual equipments are also available. The bounty of e-resources which enriched the digital collection encompasses the American Chemical Society, American Physical Society, Cambridge University Press, OUP Archive, Institute of Physics, Project Muse, Springer Link, JSTOR, Taylor and Francis, Royal Society of Chemistry, Oxford University Press, Annual Reviews, Economic and Political Weekly, Manupatra, Emerald Mgt Plus, Scopus, CMIE – Economic Outlook, States of India, Industry Outlook, Prowess, MLA International Bibliography and many more famous databases. Besides, 5670 Springer e-books have been added in the collection. The MoU with the INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad further reinforces the smooth access to good pool of resources. (Vivekananda Library, 2015).

V. E-THESIS REPOSITORY

“An increasing number of academic institutions in the United States and abroad are developing institutional repositories (IRs) in a bid to retain the intellectual output of their scholars and support open access trends in scholarly communication” (Palmer, Tefreau, & Newton, 2008).

“In India, some elite educational and research institutes (such as Indian Statistical Institute, some CSIR Laboratories, IITs, IIMs etc.) already started their initiatives in building institutional repositories” (Kamila, 2009). Maharishi Dayanand University also has started efforts to building institutional repository. To complete this objective, the university has collaborated with the “Shodhganga”. It is instituted by INFLIBNET Center, which uses open source digital repository software (DSpace) for hosting and maintaining Indian Electronic Theses and Dissertations in digital repository.

A. Classification of Thesis and Dissertation

Institutional Repository has been developed by the University to increase visibility and impact of the universities' research output with provide a single interface access to all doctoral thesis. University Library contains over 18089 theses and dissertations of Doctoral, M.Phil. and Post Graduate. Out of 18089 items, M.Phil. and Post graduate thesis and dissertation are 14,524 (80.3%) and doctoral thesis is 3,565 (19.7%).

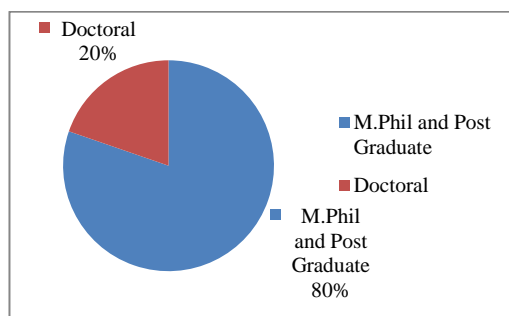


Fig. 1 Classification of Thesis and Dissertation

B. Thesis Format received

A total of 3565 thesis was received, figure 2 clearly show that out of which 2593 (73%) in print format and 972 (27%) in digital format was received.

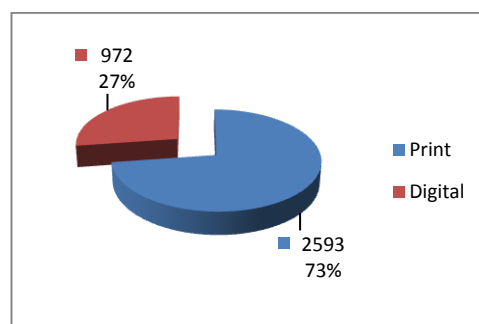


Fig. 2 Thesis format received

C. Year wise thesis uploaded

In total, 2915 (out of 3,565) thesis have been uploaded on Sodhganga ETD project. Figure 3 shows the year wise thesis uploaded on Sodhganga by Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak.

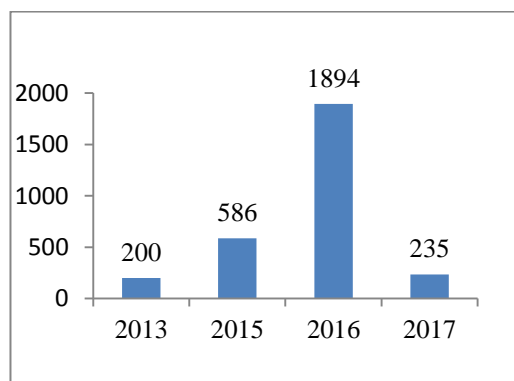


Fig. 3 Year wise Thesis Uploaded

D. Top Ten Department contribution

In Figure 4, those top ten departments are shown by ranks, who have contributed the most to this repository. Majority of thesis with 344 were contributed from Hindi department, followed by Sanskrit, Pali and Prakrit with 259 and Psychology with 252 theses.

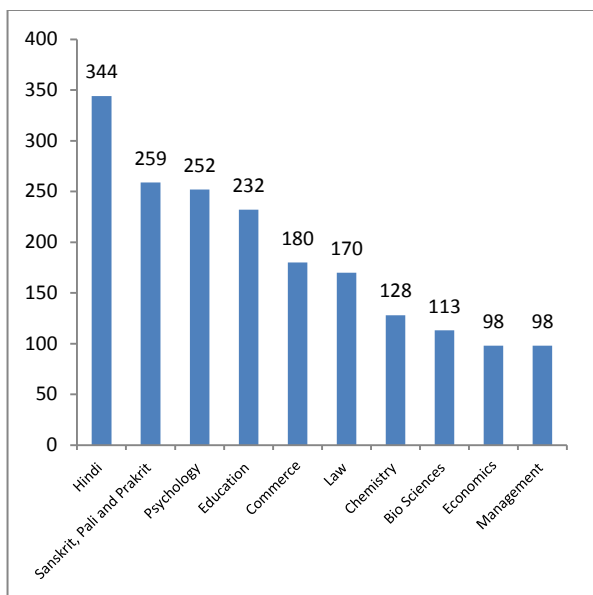


Fig. 4 Top ten Department contribution

E. Language of Thesis

Figures 5 below show that 91% of the thesis was English language and only 1% was Hindi language.

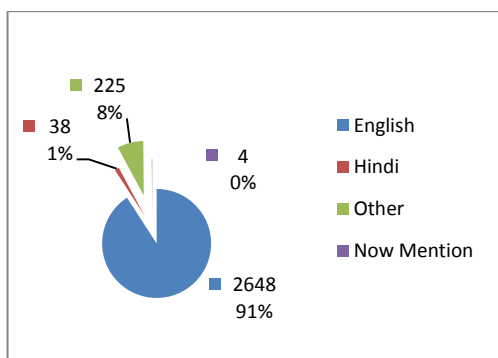


Fig. 5 Language of Thesis

VI. CONCLUSION

Institutional repository though a new concept is an Indian environment, yet it's important can't be ruled out government of India. With its digital initiative promote multiple activities in India including institutional repositories in academics. Government agencies are coming up to work together. INFLIBNET on origin of UGC create "Sodhganga" a national repository system in which Indian university are participating. In the case of MDU Rohtak, e-thesis repository may be a beginning, soon follows other activities. The technical lesson, managerial activity and the impute system have given the enough knowledge to the library of MDU to go ahead with its mission of institution repositories.

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