

## Shodhganga-Windfall for Researchers: Role of Indian Universities in its Development

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### Abstract

The progress of any country depends on the research activities of the country. The main cause of the development of the developed countries is the research initiatives taken by the Government of that country. Research brings the new things for the concerned country. In India also Government is taking initiative to promote research activities. To provide financial assistance to the state and central Universities, University Grant Commission was set up by the Government in the year 1956. The UGC further set up INFLIBNET to promote research activities in the universities and institute of higher education. INFLIBNET provide financial support and technical assistance to develop infrastructure in the universities and institutes to promote research activities. Shodhganga, ShodhGangotri, N.LIST are such initiatives of INFLIBNET which has changed the scenario of research in the country. The paper discusses the Shodhganga project of INFLIBNET for the promotion of research in the country.

**Keywords:** Research; UGC; INFLIBNET.

### Introduction

Research is a process to develop something new. It is action from identified to unidentified. Universities are established with the objective to develop research activities in the country.

Research can be stated as the input to the prevailing facts for its development. It can be stated as the search of reality through experiment, study and observation. In brief research is search of knowledge through the organized way of finding solution to the problem.[1]

This is the process to attain knowledge about any phenomena. In one hand it adds the knowledge of the society and on the other hand it sorts out the problems. It can be further classified into pure and applied research.[2]

It can be divided in to three parts.

1. Fact finding
2. Critical interpretation
3. Complete Research

In India after the independence in 1948 the education commission came in to existence under the chairmanship of Dr. S. Radha Krishnan. The main objective of the commission was to review the education system and to submit a report with respect to university education system and give suggestions for the improvement keeping in view the future growths. It suggested that a committing should be constituted on the patron of university grant commission of United Kingdom. Reputed academicians be appointed as the head and member of the commission. The Indian government took the decision that the cases related to the allocation of grants to centre and state universities be transferred to university grant commission. With this attitude of the Government, University Grant Commission came into existence in 1956. It was inaugurated by the Mulana Abul Kalam Azad. To spread educational activities in the country University grant commission set up six regional centres

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at Kolkata, Pune, Hadrayabad, Bangalore, Bhopal and Guwahati. The main office of UGC is situated at New Delhi.[3]

To modernize Indian university and college libraries in the country UGC set up Information library network. It is an autonomous body of UGC. It's headquarter is situated in Gujarat. It started working independently in the year 1996. It took the initiatives to connect all the university libraries with speedy network. To develop the research activities in the country through information communication technology INFLIBNET came forward with the following programmes:

1. Shodhganga
2. N-List
3. ShodhGangotri [4]

### *Shodhganga*

This is repository of thesis submitted by the research scholars in the universities. The Shodhganga make this thesis available to the entire scholastic community including research scholars and faculty members. The entire theses are available on public domain. The list of contributing universities is shown in table1.

### *How to Use Shodhganga*

To use the Shodhganga a user must have computer system along with internet connection. To see the repository of shodhganga the user is required to visit the website. The web site is user friendly. No training is required for the use of this site. The user with the little knowledge of computer related activities can easily access the site and satisfy the requirement. The user needs to click on the link <http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/>. [5] The following screen will appear as shown in fig 1.

The user can see the full contents of any theses contributed by universities. For example if any user want to see the theses submitted in Gujarat university. He or she just need to click

on Gujarat university. The screen will appear as shown in fig 2.

The users can view the list of thesis deprtment vise. They can also view the thesis by adopting the searching technique according to their requirement as presented in figure 2 i.e Key word, title research/guide etc. Suppose the user want to see the thesis submitted by the research scholar in the department of botany in Gujarat university. On a single click on the department of botany the user will find out the thesis contributed by Gujarat university in shodhganga. To view the titles of the thesis user need to click on the search tool "Title". All the titles of the thesis of the department of the botany shall be displayed on the screen. When user clicks on the title, all the contents of the thesis appear on the screen. User can watch the contents as per the requirement. Facility of download and print has also been provided by the INFLIBNET center.

Till 27-01-2014 only 155 universities have signed MOU with INFLIBNET. Many universities are in process. There are 307 state universities and 44 central universities in India. The list of state universities is given in table 2.

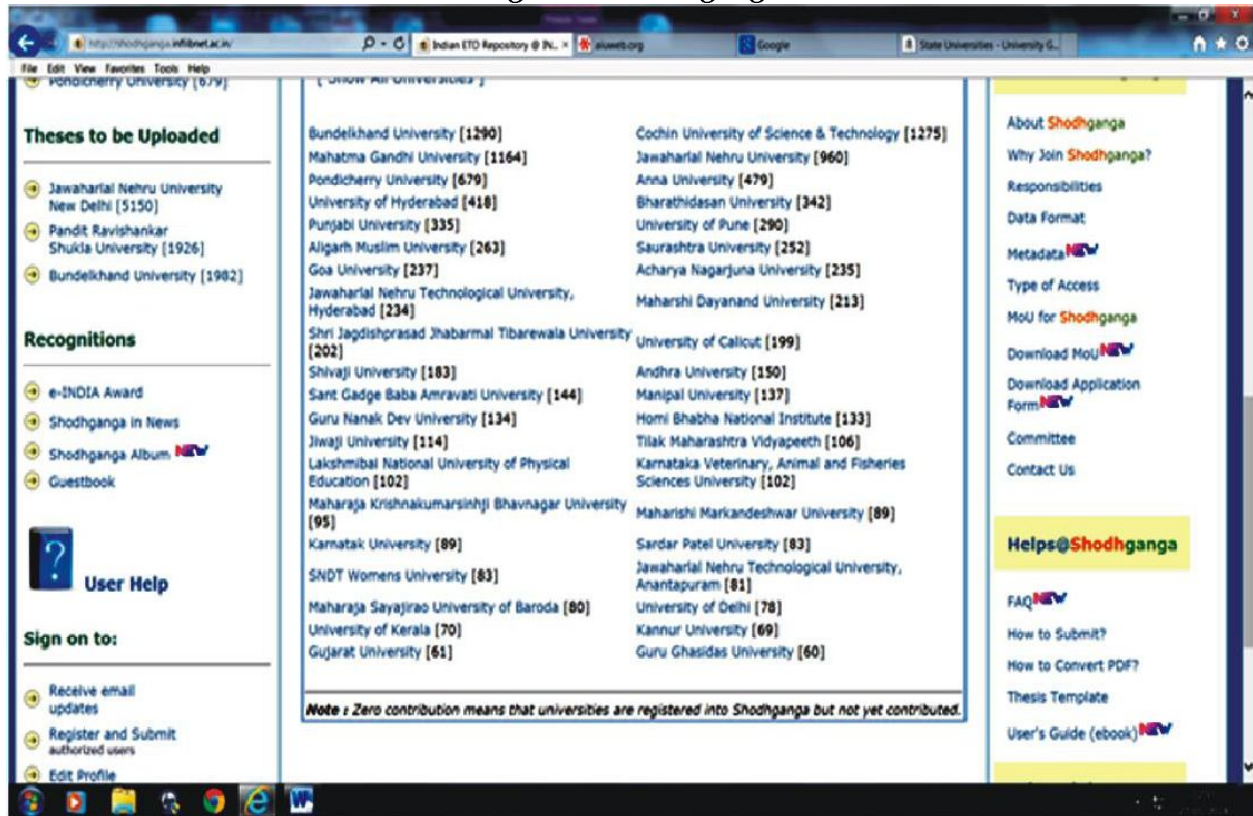
The table 2 clearly shows that highest no. of universities are in the state of Andhra Pradesh and lowest in Goa.

The list of central universities in India is given in table 3.

It is very strange that only 40 universities have contributed their thesis so far. Maximum 6 universities out of 20 universities are contribution of Maharashtra. Only single university is contributing from Chhattisgarh, Goa, Haryana, Pondicherry and Himachal Pradesh. The table 4 clearly demonstrates the number of contributing universities out of total universities in each state/U.T.

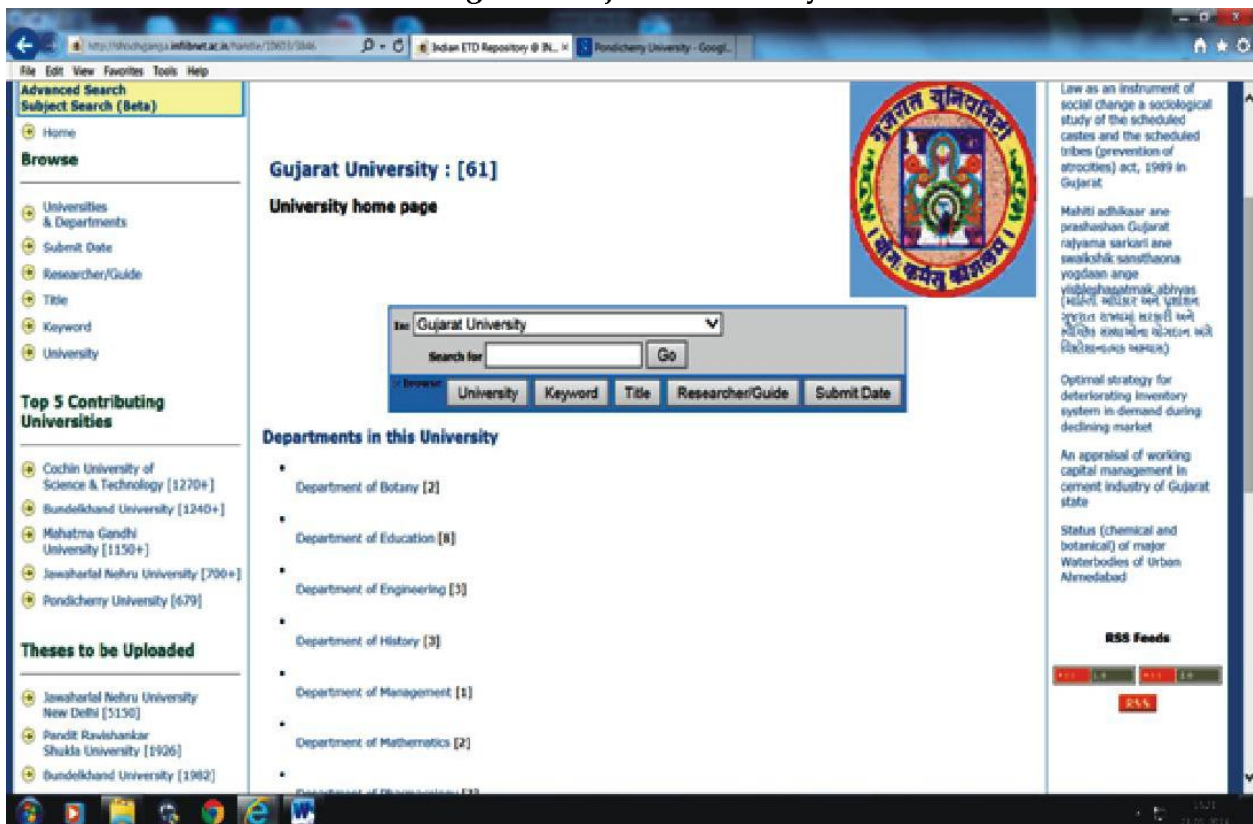
Still there are number of universities which are contributing up to maximum extent. Bundelkhand University, U.P. and Cochin University of Science & Technology, Cochin have contributed maximum thesis i.e. 1290 and 1275 respectively.

Figure 1: Shodhganga



http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/

Figure 2:Gujarat University



http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/

**Table 1: The List of Thesis Contributing Universities**

Sr. No.	University	State/UT
1.	University of Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
3.	AcharyaNagarjuna University	Andhra Pradesh
4.	Andhra University	Andhra Pradesh
5.	Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Anantapuram	Andhra Pradesh
6.	Guru Ghasidas University	Chhattisgarh
7.	Jawaharlal Nehru University	Delhi
8.	University of Delhi	Delhi
9.	Goa University	Goa
10.	Gujarat University	Gujarat
11.	Maharaja Krishnakurmaresinhji Bhavnagar University	Gujarat
12.	Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda	Gujarat
13.	Saurashtra University	Gujarat
14.	Sardar Patel University	Gujarat
15.	MaharshiDayanand University	Haryana
16.	Maharishi Markandeshwar University	Himachal Pradesh
17.	Karnatak University	Karnataka
18.	Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Science University	Karnataka
19.	Mahatma Gandhi University	Kerala
20.	Cochin university of Science & Technology	Kerala
21.	University of Kerala	Kerala
22.	University of Calicut	Kerala
23.	Kannur University	Kerala
24.	Lakshmbai National University of Physical Education	Madhya Pradesh
25.	Jiwaji University	Madhya Pradesh
26.	Shivaji University	Maharashtra
27.	SantGadge Amravati University	Maharashtra
28.	University of Pune	Maharashtra
29.	HomiBhabha National Institute	Maharashtra
30.	SNDT Women's University	Maharashtra
31.	Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth	Maharashtra
32.	Pondicherry University	Pondicherry/Puducherry
33.	Punjabi University	Punjab
34.	Guru Nanak Dev University	Punjab
35.	Manipal University	Rajasthan
36.	ShriJagishprasadJhabarmalTibrewala University	Rajasthan
37.	Bharathidasan University	Tamil Nadu
38.	Anna University	Tamil Nadu
39.	Aligarh Muslim University	Uttar Pradesh
40.	Bundelkhand University	Uttar Pradesh

**Table 2: The List of State Universities in India**

Sr.No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Universities	Sr.No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Universities
1	Andhra Pradesh	33	12	Kerala	12
2	Assam	10	13	Madhya Pradesh	18
3	Bihar	15	14	Maharashtra	20
4	Chhattisgarh	12	15	Orissa	13
5	Delhi	5	16	Punjab	9
6	Gujarat	22	17	Rajasthan	17
7	Haryana	10	18	Tamil Nadu	20
8	Himachal Pradesh	4	19	Uttar Pradesh	23
9	Jammu and Kashmir	6	20	Uttarakhand	7
10	Jharkhand	7	21	West Bengal	20
11	Karnataka	23	22	Goa	1

<http://www.ugc.ac.in/stateuniversity.aspx>

**Table 3: The List of Central Universities in India**

Sr. No.	Name of State/U.T.	No. of central Universities	Sr.No.	Name of State/U.T.	No. of central Universities
1	Andhra Pradesh	4	14	Orissa	1
2	Assam	2	15	Punjab	1
3	Bihar	2	16	Rajasthan	1
4	Chhattisgarh	1	17	Tamil Nadu	2
5	Delhi	5	18	Manipur	2
6	Gujarat	1	19	Meghalaya	1
7	Haryana	1	20	Mizoram	1
8	Himachal Pradesh	1	21	Nagaland	1
9	Jharkhand	1	22	Sikkim	1
10	Karnataka	1	23	Puducherry	1
11	Kerala	1	24	Uttar Pradesh	4
12	Madhya Pradesh	2	25	Uttarakhand	1
13	Maharashtra	1	26	West Bengal	1

<http://www.ugc.ac.in/centraluniversity.aspx>

The list of contributing universities along with their contribution is detailed in table 5.

The table 5 shows that out of 307 state universities and 44 central universities only 40 universities of 16 states /U.T. are contributing to the shodhganga project of University Grant

Commission. This is not an encouraging situation. University Grant Commission should take necessary steps against such universities to force them to contribute their thesis in this project.

**Table 4: Thesis Contributing Universities of each State**

Sr. No.	State	No. of universities	No. of contributing state universities/UT	No. of contributing central universities
1.	Andhra Pradesh	33	5	4
2.	Chhattisgarh	12	1	1
3.	Delhi	5	2	5
4.	Goa	1	1	---
5.	Gujarat	22	5	1
6.	Haryana	10	1	1
7.	Rajasthan	17	2	1
8.	Karnataka	23	2	1
9.	Kerala	12	5	1
10.	Madhya Pradesh	18	2	2
11.	Maharashtra	20	6	1
12.	Punjab	8	2	1
13.	Pondicherry	1	1	1
14.	Himachal Pradesh	4	1	1
15.	Tamil Nadu	20	2	2
16.	Uttar Pradesh	23	2	4

<http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/>

**Table 5: List of Thesis Contributing Universities along with Their Contribution**

Sr. No.	Name of University	Number of Thesis	Sr. No.	Name of University	Number of Thesis
1.	AcharyaNagarjuna University	235	21	Maharaja Krishnakurmarsinhji Bhavnagar University	95
2.	Aligarh Muslim University	263	22	Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda	80
3.	Andhra University	150	23	Maharshi Markandeshwar University	89
4.	Anna University	479	24	MaharshiDayanand University	213
5.	Bharathidasan University	342	25	Mahatma Gandhi University	1164
6.	Bundelkhand University	1290	26	Manipal University	137
7.	Cochin University of Science & Technology	1275	27	Pondicherry University	679
8.	Goa University	237	28	Punjabi University	335
9.	Gujarat University	61	29	SantGadge Baba Amravati University	144
10.	Guru Ghasidas University	60	30	Sardar Patel University	83
11.	Guru Nanak Dev University	134	31	Saurashtra University	252
12.	HomiBhabha National Institute	133	32	Shivaji University	183
13.	Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Anantapuram	81	33	ShriJagdishprasadJhabarmalTibrewala University	202
14.	Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad	234	34	SNDT Women's University	83
15.	Jawaharlal Nehru University	960	35	Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth	106
16.	Jiwaji University	114	36	University of Calicut	199
17.	Kannur University	69	37	University of Delhi	78
18.	Karnatak University	89	38	University of Hyderabad	418
19.	Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Science University	102	39	University of Kerala	70
20.	Lakshmi Bai National University of Physical Education	102	40	University of Pune	290

<http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/>

## Conclusion

Shodhganga is really a boon for the researchers. Few years back researchers just visit other states to collect data. With the initiative of the UGC, Information Library Network came into existence. It helped the universities and colleges to modernize their libraries. With this effort of INFLIBNET lot of development took place. Access to e-resources is given to students and faculty of colleges under N-LIST programme and under ShodhGangotri programme research community is requested to submit soft copy of approved synopsis submitted by the researcher to the University for Ph.D. registration. Under Shodhganga programme the users can access the thesis contributed by the university while sitting anywhere in the world. There are 307 state universities and 44 central universities in India. But it is very strange that only 40 universities are contributing their thesis in Shodhganga. In the university system it is mandatory now days that at the time of submission of thesis, researcher is asked to submit the soft copy along with hard copy. The softcopy is sent to INFLIBNET to upload the same on the site of shodhganga. Universities

are making efforts to scan the already submitted thesis which are not available in digital format. The INFLIBNET is also providing financial assistance for the same. UGC also impresses all the universities to be the part of the shodhganga. Failing which strict action may be initiated against the non-contributing universities. This is also a moral duty of the universities to contribute their thesis to shodhganga. University authorities and librarians should come forward to be the part of this intellectual work. The government of India is making its best efforts through UGC to provide an environment for development of research in the country.

## References

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