A Bibliographic Study of Doctoral Dissertations in English Subject Awarded by the Universities of Western Region of India

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ABSTRACT:
The paper focuses on doctoral dissertation in the English subject awarded by the universities of Western Region of India. It is a kind of bibliographic study of the same. It aims to bring in light the valuable doctoral research work carried out in the subject of English. It studies bibliography of the Doctoral dissertations in the subject of English of different universities and compare them. It tries to find out, which university has more numbers of awarded Doctoral dissertations in the subject of English? It tries to find out, which university has more numbers of Doctoral guides in the subject of English? It tries to find out the number of Doctoral dissertations in the subject of English awarded by the universities It tries to find out which academic year was the most fruitful for the research in the subject of English. It will provide a status of doctoral researches in English subject in the universities of Western Region of India.

Keywords: Bibliographic Study, Doctoral Dissertations in English, Researches in English, Ph.D. Thesis in English, Researches in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Goa.

Introduction
Research is the foundation of the treasure of knowledge. Research as a word has got currency in the modern time but it is very old in terms of practice. The inquisitiveness of man has motivated him to acquire new knowledge, tools, techniques and procedure. Quest of knowledge has played an important role in the advancement of human civilization. The journey from the Stone Age to Space Age bears testimony to untiring and continuous efforts for revealing the unknown mysteries of nature and human life. Broadly the activity undertaken with the object of seeking the truth is known as research. The present research is about researches carried out in English as a partial fulfilment of doctoral degree in the universities of Western Region of India.

Interdisciplinary relevance:
The subject is interdisciplinary in nature. It is a bibliographic study of the doctoral dissertations in English subject awarded by the universities of Western Region of India. It systematically studies doctoral researches in English and it uses methodology of library science. Thus, it is related to two disciplines library & information science and English.

Review of Research and Development in the Subject:
Researcher finds that some attempts to conduct such bibliographic studies were made in other subjects but they are unable to find any such studies of the doctoral dissertations in English subject awarded by the universities of Western Region of India.
– International status

There are number of annotated bibliographies available like:
An Annotated Bibliography of Chickpea Disease by Book.
An Annotated Bibliography of European Anglicisms by David E. Blatner.
An Annotated Bibliography of Inuit Art by Richard C. Crandall.
An Annotated Critical Bibliography Of George Eliot by George Lewis Levine.
Detrimental Effects of Abortion: An Annotated Bibliography with Commentary by Thomas W. Strahan.
IDI Amin and Uganda: An Annotated Bibliography By Martin Jamison.
Resources For Nursing Research : an Annotated Bibliography by Stephen Gough.

Such bibliographies are available but the researcher does not find the same study carried out earlier.

– National Status

There are number of annotated bibliographies available like:
An Annotated Bibliography Of Indian English Fiction by V. Indira Sambamurthy.
An Annotated Bibliography of Pigeonpea by Dahiya, B.S.
An annotated bibliography of research in parallel computing at the Indian Institute of Science by Ghoshal, SK and Rajaraman.
An Annotated Bibliography on Zoroastrian Studies by Asha Gupta.

Association of Indian Universities also published some bibliographies of doctoral dissertations like:
Humanities (Group A) – 1994 & 1995. (Fine Arts, Geography, History, Philosophy & Religion)
Social Sciences (Group A) – 1994 & 1995. (Anthropology, Law, Military Studies, Political Science, Public Administration and Sociology)
Social Sciences (Group B) – 1994 & 1995. (Commerce, Economics & Management)
It also publishes thesis of the month in their University News but they are scattered.

The researcher compiled such a bibliography as a part of her UGC sponsored major research project. Such bibliographies are available but the researcher does not find any same study carried out earlier.

Significance of the study

The bibliographic study will be useful to new entrants as well as experienced researchers in English. It will become runway for new researchers in the subject of English. It provides detailed information about the doctoral researches awarded in the subject of English by the universities of Western Region of India. The study has come up with a present status of doctoral researches in the universities of Western Region of India. The study will be useful to UGC, Universities, college and university teachers, research supervisors and research scholars etc.
Its potential contribution to knowledge in the field of social relevance or national importance.

Quality in research is one of the crucial issues. The study contributes to the knowledge in the way that it has come out with systematic and up to dated bibliography of the doctoral dissertations in English awarded by the universities of Western Region of India. It will be useful to scholars not only in India but worldwide. People across the globe will come to know about researches carried out in India.

Objectives
The objectives of the present study are as follows:

➢ To collect the information about the Doctoral dissertations in the subject of English awarded by the universities of Western Region of India and conduct a bibliographic study.
➢ To bring in light the valuable doctoral research work carried out in the subject of English in the universities of Western Region of India.
➢ To collect the information about the Doctoral guides in the subject of English recognized by the universities of Western Region of India.
➢ To Study bibliography of the Doctoral dissertations in the subject of English of different universities and compare them.
➢ To find out, which university has more numbers of awarded Doctoral dissertations in the subject of English?
➢ To find out, which university has more numbers of Doctoral guides in the subject of English?
➢ To find out the number of Doctoral dissertations in the subject of English awarded by the universities.
➢ To find out which academic year was the most fruitful for the research (Doctoral dissertations) in the subject of English.
➢ To collect information about the contribution of the researchers in the subject of English to the universities.

Research Methodology
The selection of research methodology is mainly based on the nature of the study. It is necessary to adopt and follow some particular research methodology to fulfil the objectives of research and collect proper information. Looking at the need of the present study, researchers followed a survey method. The researchers prepared an annotated bibliography of the Doctoral dissertations in the subject of English awarded by the universities of Western Region of India. They visited all the universities of the states, so the population of the research is hundred percent. There is no need to delimit the population of the study or take samples. They prepared a survey form and thus prepared a tool of the research. They collected the data from University P.G. Departments, BUTR, Administrative Office of the universities, and University libraries. Where ever it was needed, they met the recognized Ph.D. supervisors of the respected universities or research scholars and collected necessary data. The researchers spend about 30 months in conducting the research. The data is analysed and tabulated using Microsoft Excel. Data analyses is followed by finding and suggestions.

Data Analysis:
The research reveals the variety of the subjects touched by the Ph. D. scholars. There are about 1325 Ph.D. degrees in the subject of English awarded by the universities situated in Western Region of India till 2012. The data is analyzed and tabulated to learn interesting facts.
The following table and chart indicate the number of universities awarding Ph. D. in the subject of English and corresponding state in the western region of India:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Number of Universities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goa</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1

![Chart 1](image1)

The Chart 1 clearly reveals the following facts:
- Maharashtra has the maximum number of universities.
- Goa has the minimum number of universities.
- The difference between the number of universities of Gujarat and Maharashtra is not remarkable, it is just two.

The following table and chart indicate the number of Ph. D.s in the subject of English awarded by the states situated in western region of India:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Number of Ph. D. Theses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goa</td>
<td>020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>909</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2

![Chart 2](image2)

The Chart 2 clearly reveals the following facts:
- Maharashtra has the maximum number of Ph. D.s awarded in the subject of English.
- Goa has the minimum number of Ph. D.s awarded in the subject of English.
Gujarat and Maharashtra are leading with about four hundred Ph. D.s.
Goa is falling back with less than hundred Ph. D.s.

The following table indicates the number experts/teachers served as Ph.D. Supervisors/guides in the universities situated in western region of India:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Number of Ph. D. Guides</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goa</td>
<td>007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharastra</td>
<td>224</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table: 3

The Chart 3 clearly reveals the following facts:

- Maharashtra has the maximum number of Ph. D. Supervisors/guides in the subject of English.
- Goa has the minimum number of Ph. D. Supervisors/guides in the subject of English.

The following table indicates the number of Guides in each university and numbers of Ph. D.’s awarded by respective university:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Number of Guides</th>
<th>Number of Ph. D. researchers guided</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goa University</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharaja Krishnakumarsinhji Bhavnagar University</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gujarat University</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krantiguru Shyamji Krishna Verma Kachchh University</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kadi Sarva Vishwavidyalaya</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sardar Patel University</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saurashtra University</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The table clearly shows:

- Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University has the maximum number of guides and Ph. D.s awarded.
- Kadi Sarva Vishwavidyalaya has the minimum number of guides and Ph. D.s awarded.

The following table indicates the number of Ph. D.s awarded during different periods of time:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of Theses Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1905-1910</td>
<td>007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911-1920</td>
<td>000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1921-1930</td>
<td>000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931-1940</td>
<td>001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941-1950</td>
<td>008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951-1960</td>
<td>025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961-1970</td>
<td>024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971-1980</td>
<td>078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981-1990</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991-2000</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001-2012</td>
<td>630</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table: 5
The Chart 4 clearly shows:

➢ The first Ph.D. degree was awarded in 1905.
➢ Only one Ph. D. was awarded in the subject of English till year 1905.
➢ Only sixteen researchers were awarded the degree of Ph. D. till year 1950.
➢ The period from 2001 to 2012 was the most fruitful period in terms of awarding of Ph.D.s, there were six hundred thirty Ph. D.s during this period.
➢ The period from 1911 to 1940 was the driest period in terms of awarding of Ph.D., there was only one Ph. D.

FINDINGS:

➢ There are more than 82 universities in western region of India, but only 23 universities give an opportunity to work for doctoral research in English and were able to award degree of Ph.D. in the Subject of English.
➢ Total number of Ph.D. degrees awarded by the universities of western region of India till 2012 is 1325 (Thirteen hundred twenty five).
➢ According to UGC, there are about 33023 colleges and 634 universities in India (UGC). Among them about 4631 colleges and 44 universities are there in Maharashtra, 1836 colleges and 36 universities are there in Gujarat and 54 Colleges and 2 universities in Goa. There are about 816966 college or university teachers in India. Among them, there are about seven thousand teachers of English teaching in various colleges or universities of western region of India. The number of researches, scholars and students in the subject of English may be too big but we have only 1325 Ph. D degree holders in the same area. The number is not satisfactory.
➢ Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University has the maximum number of guides and Ph. D.s awarded.
➢ Childlike university, Kadi Sarva Vishwavidyalaya has the minimum number of guides and Ph. D.s awarded.
➢ The first Ph.D. degree was awarded in 1905 in western region of India.
➢ Only sixteen researchers were awarded the degree of Ph. D. till year 1950.
➢ The period from 2001 to 2012 was the most fruitful period in terms of awarding of Ph.D.s, there were six hundred thirty Ph. D.s during this period.
➢ The period from 1911 to 1940 was the driest period in terms of awarding of Ph.D., there was only one Ph. D.

SUGGESTIONS:

Research is near and dear work of a scholar of literature. There are about one thousand three hundred twenty five Ph.D. degree holders in the region. While carrying out the research, researchers come to know many facts about the researches and it is their humble endeavour to propose a few suggestions:

➢ There should be some paper of research methodology in the syllabus of Master degree so that a student can acquire some methods and practice of research at post graduate level.
➢ The scholars should be provided with good ambiance to understand and begin research.
➢ The scholars should be motivated for research work.
➢ There are some guides who does not produced single Ph.D., some steps should be taken so that they motivate the scholars.
➢ The maximum limit to complete one’s doctoral research should be fixed.
➢ Some financial assistance from universities or institutions should be provided to the Ph.D. scholars.
➢ Self-guide concept should be promoted.
➢ The Ph.D. theses are not easily available after the degree is awarded, they should be properly arranged in some special department.
➢ University must publish the Ph.D. theses after award of the degree or at least the abstract of them should be published on their respective website or uploaded on INFLIBNET website.
➢ The area covered by the researchers of western is very small and they are working on traditional subjects. Some new theories and trends of literature should be taken for the research.
➢ Fiction is the most popular area of research and very few are working on Autobiography/Biography, Epic, Drama, Poetry, Letter and Short Story.
➢ Scanty efforts were made to work on forms like Essay, Ballad, and Sonnet, comparative of English and Hindi and Gujarati, E.L.T., Dalit, Black, Canadian, Ahimsa, Folk and tribal, Jain Tradition, Nationalism This dry area should be taken.
➢ There is lot of room for research in the field of E.L.T, Folk, Tribal, comparative, nationalistic, Diaspora, de-colonization etc.
➢ Seminars, workshops, meeting etc. should be arranged to make the scholars aware about research and its methodology.
➢ Researchers must be trained to operate computers and they should be enlightened about the advantages of the use of computers and ICT in carrying out researchers and Ph.D.
➢ Researchers should use internet to get necessary data.
➢ Electronic media like e-mails, e-books, C.D ROM, and encyclopaedias on CD ROM should be available to the researchers.
➢ Universities should make compulsory for its teachers to publish some definite number of research papers and books to get promotion.
➢ INFLIBNET like institutions should be promoted to make available Indian research abstracts.
➢ The efforts of INFLIBNET like Shodh Ganga and Shodh Gangotri are appreciated and are very much need of the day.
➢ The project like Mahatma Gandhi Online Thesis Library should be encouraged and promoted.
➢ Any research including Ph.D. are for the use of scholars and society. It is not confidential, rather should be given free access. This idea should be properly instructed to universities and particularly to the university librarians by UGC. Sorry to keep it here, but the experience to get data regarding Ph.D. was very bitter at many places.

There is an age old tradition of higher education in India. Takshashila, Nalanda and Vallabhi Vidyapith were very famous for its university level education in ancient India. Another such Vidyapith was developed around Sahstraling Lake in Anhilpur Patan, an ancient historical capital of Gujarat during 720 AD to 1297 AD. Kalikalsarvagna Hemchandracharya was one of the foremost scholars of this Vidyapith of Patan. India has a great tradition of scholarship. The scholarship is not limited to native language only. There are many researches in foreign languages also. The research brings in the light the valuable research work carried out in the subject of English in the universities of western region of India. It also brings the valuable researches to the notice of the readers. Moreover the research provides maximum information possible on the Ph.D.s in English.
Works Cited


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