



South Asian Open Research Repositories and NDLTD's Global ETD Search

Abstract. *ETDs are primary information sources, that originate from doctoral theses or dissertation submitted to university for the doctoral award. The study should be cover to ETD initiatives by South Asian countries – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, among these only three countries (India, Bangladesh and Pakistan) have active national ETD repositories. The names of the three ETD repositories are Shodhganga, Pakistan Research Repositories and Digital Archive on Agricultural Thesis and Journal stands for India, Pakistan and Bangladesh respectively. This study aims to analyze the current state of South Asian ETD repositories and to describe their characteristics and performance in brief. The major objectives of the study are to analyze the importance of ETD in global context, to find out linkage between Global ETD and ETDs of South Asian Countries and comparative scenario of South Asian ETD initiatives with respected to NDLTD repositories. The number of the resources in the ETD repositories of South Asian countries are containing 7103, 350000 and 19199 respective. In this study, it also found that South Asian ETD repository has contributed 194829 theses which is approx. 6% of the total uploaded resources in the Global ETD repository (6221799) of NDLTD. By taking in to considerations the findings, at the end of the study, there are some proposals of recommendations to further improvement of the status of national ETD repositories.*

1. Purpose of the paper

ETDs are primary information sources, that originate from doctoral theses or dissertation submitted to university for the doctoral award. The study should be cover to ETD initiatives by South Asian countries – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, among these only three countries (India, Bangladesh and Pakistan) has active national ETD repositories. The names of the three ETD repositories are *Shodhganga*, *Pakistan Research Repositories* and *Digital Archive on Agricultural Thesis and Journal* stands for India, Pakistan and Bangladesh respectively.

2. Objectives

This study aims to analyse the current state of South Asian ETD repositories and to describe their characteristics and performance in brief. The major objectives of the study are to analyse the importance of ETD in global context, to find out linkage

between Global ETD and ETDs of South Asian Countries and comparative scenario of South Asian ETD initiatives with respect to NDLTD repositories.

3. Design, methodology, approach

The data for the study were collected from INFLIBNET website under Shodhganga @ INFLIBNET Centre (<http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/>), Pakistan Research Repository, Digital Archive on Agricultural Theses and Journals for Bangladesh (<http://www.daatj.saulibrary.edu.bd>) and NDLTD website (<http://www.ndltd.org/>) followed by simple MS Excel analysis which are presented in the paper in the form of tables and graphs. The webometric approaches were taken for the study.

4. Findings

The number of the resources in the ETD repositories of South Asian countries (Bangladesh, India and Pakistan) are containing 7103, 350000 and 19199. In this study, it also found that South Asian ETD repository has contributed 376302 theses that were approx. 6% of the total uploaded resources in the Global ETD repository (6,221,799) of NDLTD. By taking in to considerations the findings, at the end of the study, there are some proposals of recommendations to further improvement of the status of national ETD repositories.

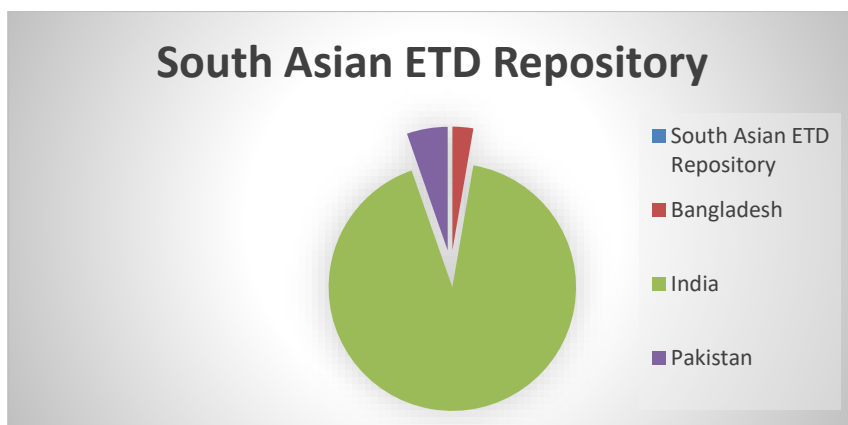


Figure 1: Current status of South Asian ETD Repository

5. Research limitations and implications

The research limited to South Asia context, many other national ETD repositories is also taking initiatives, such as *Trove* of Australia, *ETHOS* for United Kingdom, *JAIRO* for Japan, *TesiOnline* for Italy, etc are not included in this research paper but it investigate recent contribution of South Asian National ETD to NDLTD.

6. Practical implication

When the research output is available in open access platform, it would be widely used for research and teaching and sometimes it may be used for decision and policy making. Most importantly, it helps to avoid duplication of research. While ETD repositories centralize, preserve, and make accessible an institution's intellectual capital, at the same time they will form part of a global system of distributed, interoperable repositories that provides the foundation for a new disaggregated model of scholarly publishing.

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