# SOUTH ASIAN OPEN RESEARCH REPOSITORIES AND NDLTD'S GLOBAL ETD SEARCH

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ETDs are primary information sources, that originate from doctorial theses or dissertations submitted to universities for the doctorial 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. 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 scenarios of South Asian ETD initiatives with respected to NDLTD repositories. The names of the three ETD repositories are Shodhganga, Pakistan Research Repositories and Digital Archive on Agricultural Thesis and Journal stand for India, Pakistan and Bangladesh respectively. 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.

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## INTRODUCTION

Researchers are carrying out activities to generate new knowledge. Access to information from libraries or learning resource centres tells a researcher what is already known about his/her subject domain, it will suggest new lines of investigation and motivate to research. ETDs are primary information sources, that originate from doctorial theses or dissertation submitted to university for the doctorial award. The study should be cover to ETD initiatives by South Asian countries – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The researches will be accessible globally resulting in the acceptability and implementation of the research findings for the society and will help in avoiding duplication of research, which means judicial utilization of the public funds. In India, as per UGC Notification 2016 – it is mandatory to submit e-copy of thesis by the researchers of Indian Universities. And it is university's responsibility to upload in National ETD repository (Shodhganga) with an aim to facilitate open access to Indian theses and dissertations to the academic community worldwide. Pakistan Research Repository is a ETD project taken by Higher Education Commission, Pakistan and similarly Digital Archive on Agricultural Thesis and Journal for Bangladesh. All the existing national ETD repositories are not exhaustive itself individually, so there are necessities to globalize their resources through NDLTD repository. Global ETD is a joint effort of 34 Regions/ Countries throughout of the world under the NDLTDs supervision. When the research output is available in open access platform, it would be widely used for research and teaching and sometimes it may use for decision and policy making.

## OBJECTIVE

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.

## METHODOLOGY

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.

## RESULTS

The number of the resources in the ETD repositories of South Asian countries are containing 5301, 179124 and 10404. In this study, it also found that South Asian ETD repository has contributed 194829 theses that were approx. 4% of the total uploaded resources in the Global ETD repository (4807062) 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.
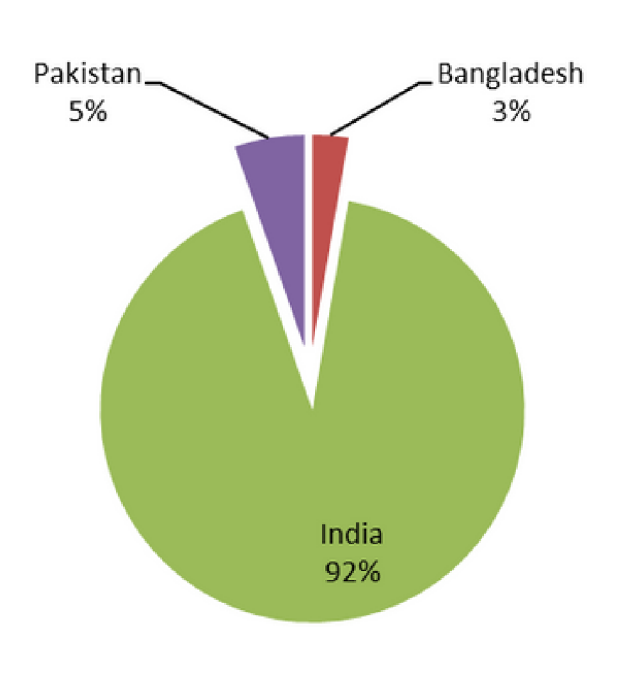
## ANALYSIS

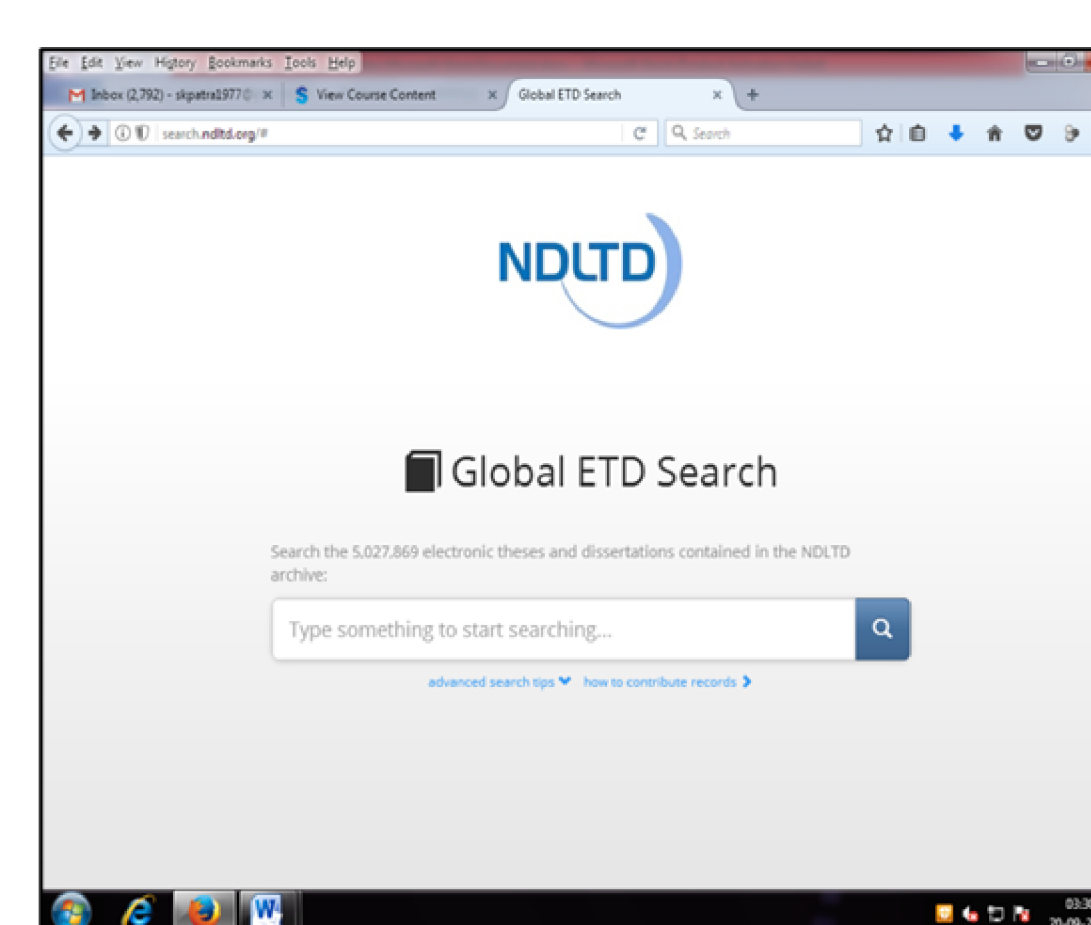| Sl. No. | South Asian ETD Repositories | ETDs | Others Online materials | Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Bangladesh ETD Repository (Digital Archive on Agricultural Thes is and Journal) | ? | ? | Mixed |
| 2 | Indian ETD Repository (Shodhganga) | ? | No | Pure |
| 3 | Pakistan ETD Repository ( Pakistan Research Repository) | ? | ? | Mixed |

we can see that only Indian ETD – Shodhganga is pure ETD repository and on the other hand Bangladesh ETD repository and Pakistan ETD repositories, are both mixed ETD repositories, because they contains conference papers, research articles, etc.

- All ETD repositories are valuable projects of each country, but no one national repository not include MPhil theses. It should also be included in these National ETD repositories to make these comprehensive;
- The repositories must provide bibliographical records of the uploaded theses in various international bibliographic formats such as APA, MLA, ISO 690, etc.
- The post of the head of the national ETD repositories should be selected from among the library professionals.
- Among the three national ETD repositories, statistics and policies of Pakistan Research Repository should make visible on its Website according to the standards provided by OpenDOAR.
- Encourage to all universities and higher education institutes for mandatory to submit electronic versions of theses and dissertations by the researchers in universities into a national repositories with an aim to the academic community worldwide.
- The library professionals should organized workshops and conferences to create awareness on ETD repositories.
- A new scholarly communication paradigm needs to be developed for linking ETDs and integrating universities and faculty with these national ETD repositories. The quantitative analysis of the national ETD repositories ware all landmark achievement of individual ETD participating countries, as these provided the opportunity for researchers, faculty and students for furthering their existing knowledge.
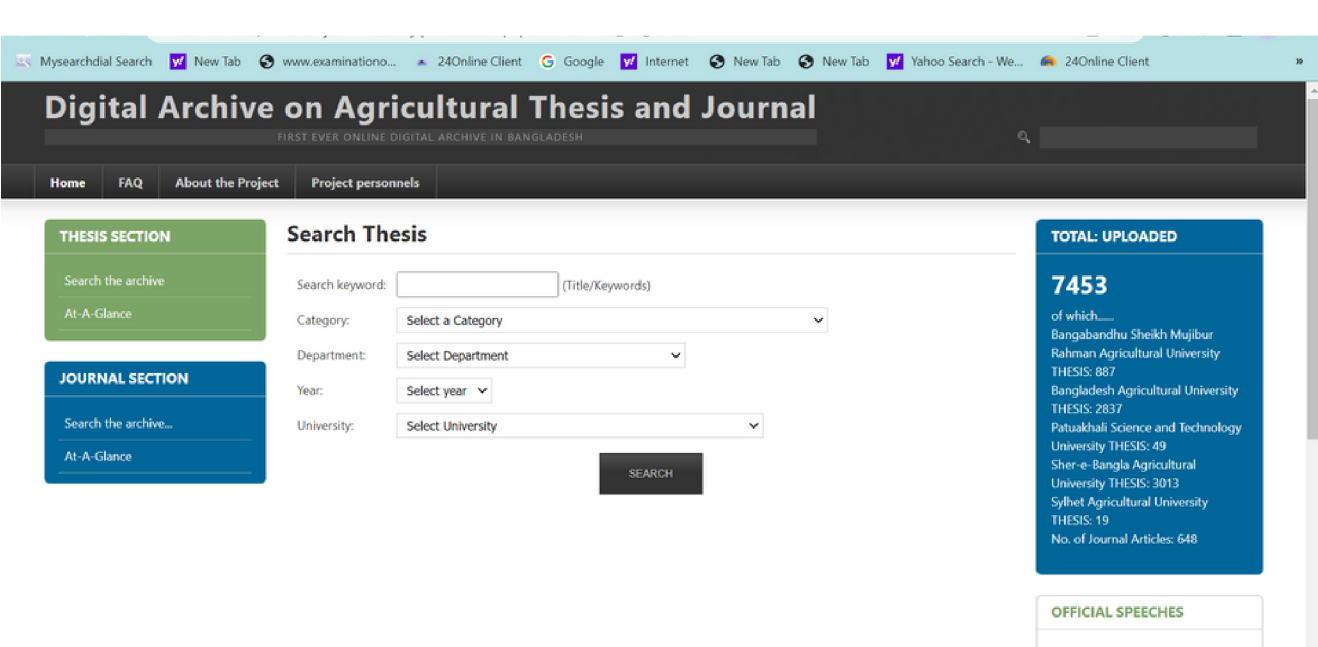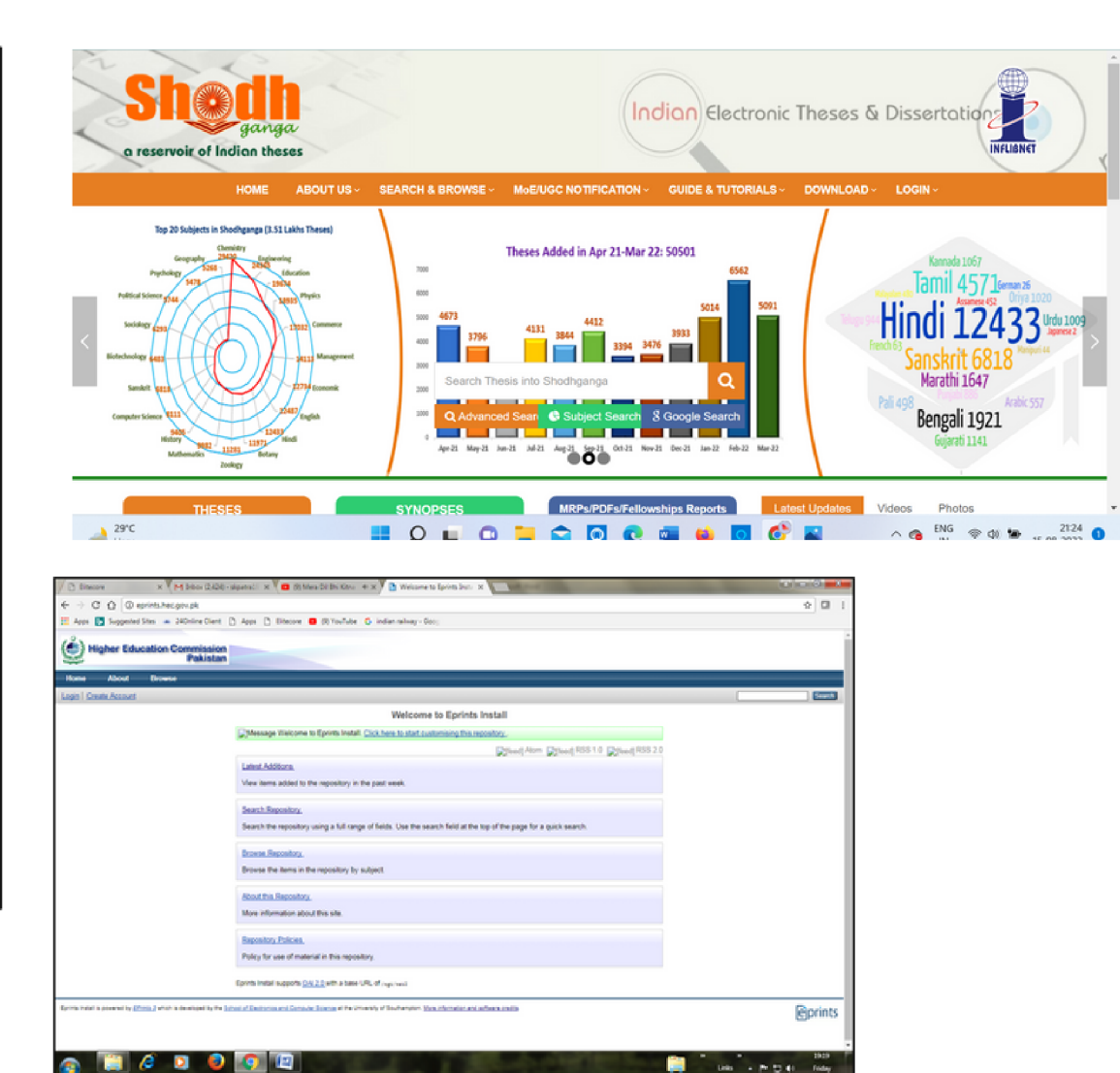
**South Asian ETD Repository**
Pakistan 5% | Bangladesh 3% | India 92%

CURRENT STATUS OF SOUTH ASIAN ETD REPOSITURY

Global ETD Search Window

## CONCLUSION

Global ETD is a joint effort of 34 Regions/ Countries throughout of the world under the NDLTDs supervision. When the research output is available in open access platform, it would be widely used for research and teaching and sometimes it may use for decision and policy making. Most importantly, it helps to avoid duplication of research in many disciplines or avoiding Plagiarism. The Universities must come forward voluntarily to deposit their research content of thesis in their respective repository.

For the repository to provide access to the broader research community, users outside the university must be able to find and retrieve information from the repository. Therefore, ETD repository systems must be able to support interoperability in order to provide access via multiple search engines and other discovery tools.

**Related literature**

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