

# NATIONAL LEVEL ETD INITIATIVES BY SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES CONTRIBUTED TO NDLTD REPOSITORY

Dr. Sukanta Kr Patra<sup>1</sup>, Prof. Juran Krishna Sarkhel<sup>2</sup>, Mousumi Das<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Jadavpur University, Kolkata, India*  
[Skpatra1977@gmail.com](mailto:Skpatra1977@gmail.com)

<sup>2</sup> *University of Kalyani, WestBengal, India*  
[jksarkhel@hotmail.com](mailto:jksarkhel@hotmail.com)

<sup>3</sup> *Techno India University West Bengal, India*  
[mousumidaspatra@gmail.com](mailto:mousumidaspatra@gmail.com)

**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) 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. 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 respected to NDLTD repositories. 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 which is 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.

## **Keywords:**

ETD repository, NDLTD, Shodhganga, Pakistan Research Repository, Digital Archives on Agricultural Theses and Journals.

## **Extended Abstract:**

### **INTRODUCTION**

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. 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.

## FINDINGS

The number of the resources in the ETD repositories of South Asian countries are containing 5301, 179124 and 10404 by Bangladesh, India and Pakistan respectively. 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.

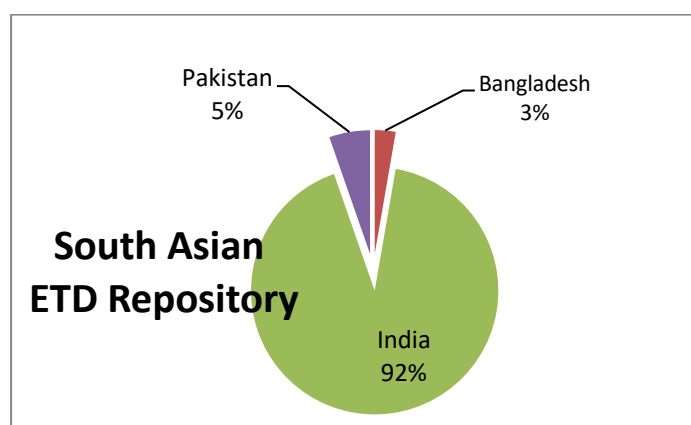


Figure 1: Current status of South Asian ETD Repository

## CONCLUSIONS

When the research output is available in open access platform, it would be widely used for research and teaching and sometimes it may used for decision and policy making. Most importantly, it helps to avoid duplication of research. 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. 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. 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 were all landmark achievement of individual ETD participating countries, as these provided the opportunity for researchers, faculty and students for furthering their existing knowledge.

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