

**LIBRARY HERALD**

**Vol 61 No 1**

**March 2023**

## **D.Phil. Theses Contributed Towards the Shodhganga Repository: A Study of the Universities in Jammu and Kashmir**

**Vinod Parihar\***

**Pramod Kumar Singh\*\***

**Riya Khajuria\*\*\***

**Pooja Rana\*\*\*\***

The Shodhganga repository has been set up for conserving the doctoral dissertations submitted by Indian Research Institutions. The modus operandi for conserving the research theses is absolutely an electronic one. Many Indian universities have signed a Memorandum of understanding with INFLIBNET for contributing to the Shodhganga intellectual reservoir. Some universities fail to realize the significance of the research platform that accommodates the research thesis for futurity. Therefore, the present study identifies the contribution made by the universities in Jammu and Kashmir to Shodhganga with convenient sampling as one of the techniques. The study establishes that the University of Kashmir tops in contributing electronic theses and dissertations to Shodhganga, followed by the University of Jammu and others. This paper also discusses the various ways of improving the contribution towards the aforesaid repository; it also answers the question: 'Why is significant to upload the thesis on Shodhganga?'

**Keywords:** *Shodhganga, ETDs, Contribution, Jammu and Kashmir, Universities*

---

\* Alumnus, DLIS, University of Jammu, Jammu-180006 (India), Mo.: 7298328609, E-Mail: pariharvinu.77@gmail.com

\* Department of Library and Information Science University of Jammu, Mo.: 9419227136, E-Mail: pksingh22@gmail.com

\* Ph.D. Scholar, Dept. of Lib and Info. Science, University of Jammu, Jammu-180006 (India), E-Mail: khajuriariya9086@gmail.com

\* Ph.D. Scholar, Dept. of Lib and Info. Science, University of Jammu, Jammu-180006 (India), E-Mail: pr27.23.0000@gmail.com

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Research in different domains is being conducted in different institutions of the world for futurity and their accessibility for conducting further research. Conducting the research and contributing to them is purposeful for framing the policies, rules, and regulations. So much so that societies get benefited. Moreover, the accessibility to research ensures the elimination of the replication of the research and helps in maintaining the quality of research. Also, the majority of Ph.D. theses spend their life and become obsolete within the walls of the library. In the recent past, the majority of the research were hardly accessible to the research community due to the lack of proper scholarly communication channels or platforms but the emergence of the open access movement has made it possible to provide an easy and free-of-cost access to the scholarly information (Ramesh, 2013).

Shodhganga is the open-access repository of electronic theses and dissertations developed by INFLIBNET which provides access to the full-text electronic theses and dissertations to the academicians (Sengupta, 2015). According to a resolution passed in 2009, the University Grants Commission made it compulsory for researchers to submit their theses and dissertation to Shodhganga within 30 days for the award of a Ph.D. degree (Shodhganga, n.d. & Panda, 2016). Shodhganga has been developed using the D-Space software, documents, and indexes, in an electronic form for future conservation (Verma, Yadav & Singh, 2017).

### 1.1 PREVIOUS RESEARCH (STUDIES)

Ramesh (2013) mentioned that it was Maharashtra Higher Education Institutions contributed the highest number of theses to Shodhganga in the field of Library and Information Science. In a study in Maharashtra, it was found that 50% (25) of the universities of Maharashtra had signed MOU with INFLIBNET for contributing to the Shodhganga repository.

However, only 19 of them had contributed to Shodhganga and it was identified that Shivaji University had contributed the highest number of theses to Shodhganga (Sengupta, 2015).

Verma, Yadav, and Singh (2017) proposed on the contribution of central universities to Shodhganga that it was Aligarh Muslim University [AMU] ranked first with the highest no. of Ph.D. contributions to Shodhganga, followed by Manipur University which ranked second, North-Eastern Hill University [NEHU] which ranked third and so on., Jhamb and Samim (2017) also put forth that the AMU has contributed the highest number of theses to Shodhganga followed by Jawahar Lal Nehru University and the faculty of Science. After analyzing the contribution of ETDs to Shodhganga by the State Universities in Maharashtra, it was Savitribai Phule Pune University contributed the highest number of ETDs in the field of Library and Information Science, and Deshpande was identified

as the top research supervisor in terms of the highest number of theses submitted in Shodhganga under his supervision (Sengupta, 2019). In another study, it was found that among the open-access repositories by the Northeast Universities in India, universities of the state of Assam contributed the highest number of theses to Shodhganga (Esh & Gosh, 2021). Moreover, in a similar study, it was identified that 9 out of the 10 central universities of Northeast India have signed MOU with INFLIBNET for participating in the Shodhganga project and Northeast Hill University had contributed the maximum number of theses to Shodhganga among all the central universities of Northeast India (Saloi, 2021).

The review of the literature identified that no study has been conducted on the contribution of the universities in Jammu and Kashmir towards the Shodhganga, a research repository platform. Therefore, the present research undertakes to identify the contribution made by the universities of Jammu and Kashmir.

## 2 OBJECTIVES

- To identify the universities of Jammu and Kashmir which have signed an MoU with INFLIBNET for participating in the Shodhganga project.
- To find out the total number of theses contributed by the universities of Jammu and Kashmir to Shodhganga.
- To highlight the university-wise contribution of theses by the universities of Jammu and Kashmir.
- To figure out the individual contribution made by the departments of each university of Jammu and Kashmir.
- To establish the highest research contributing departments.
- To show the ranking of the research supervisors in the field of Library and Information Science who have made contributions in Shodhganga.

## 3 METHODOLOGY

The data for the present study were collected by accessing and analyzing the Shodhganga repository. The present research is confined to the Universities of Jammu and Kashmir region. Each faculty member of the individual university in Jammu and Kashmir has been considered for gauging his or her research contribution. A total number of 2508 theses are submitted or uploaded to the Shodhganga Reservoir.

## 4 DATA ANALYSIS

There are total of 10 universities in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. But only 8 universities have signed MoU with Shodhganga to contribute

their theses to the repository. Analysis of data collected from Shodhganga showed that a total of 2508 theses are contributed to Shodhganga by the universities of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

**Table 1: The Universities of Jammu and Kashmir & INFLIBNET MoU**

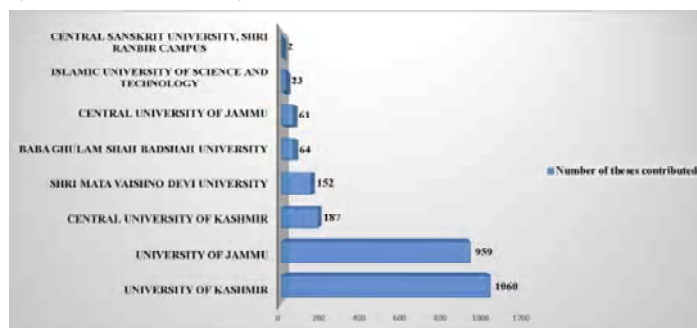
S. No.	Name of the University	Year of Establishment	Year signing MOU with INFLIBNET
1.	University of Kashmir	1948	2011
2.	University of Jammu	1969	2016
3.	Central Sanskrit University, Shri Ranbir Campus	1971	2022
4.	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University	1999	2012
5.	Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University	2002	2013
6.	Islamic University of Science and Technology	2005	2016
7.	Central University of Kashmir	2009	2017
8.	Central University of Jammu	2011	2015
9.	Cluster University of Jammu	2016	Not signed yet
10.	Cluster University of Kashmir	2016	Not signed yet
11.	SKUAST Srinagar		
12.	SKUAST Jammu		

Figure 1 illustrates the faculty-wise contribution of the universities of Jammu and Kashmir to Shodhganga. Universities of Jammu and Kashmir contribute a total of 2508 theses to Shodhganga. Data analysis found that the University of Kashmir (2011) was the first university of Jammu and Kashmir to have signed MOU with INFLIBNET to participate in the Shodhganga project, followed by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (2012), and then by Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University (2013). Afterward, Central University of Jammu (2015), University of Jammu (2016), Islamic University of Science and Technology (2016), central university of Jammu (2016), Central University of Kashmir (2017), Central Sanskrit University, Shri Ranbir Campus (2022), and Shri Ranbir campus (2022) also signed the aforementioned MoU.

#### *41 THE CONTRIBUTION MADE BY THE UNIVERSITIES OF J&K TO SHODHGANGA*

It was identified that out of the 8 universities, the University of Kashmir being the oldest in Jammu and Kashmir, ranks first as it has contributed the maximum number of theses i.e., 1060 to the Shodhganga till today, followed by the University of Jammu which is the second older university of Jammu and Kashmir, has a contribution of 959 theses and Central University of Kashmir ranks third with the contribution of 187 theses. Further, it was identified that Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University ranks fourth with 152 theses, Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University ranks fifth with 64 theses, the Central University of

Jammu ranks sixth with 61 theses, Islamic University of Science and Technology ranks seventh with 23 theses and Central Sanskrit University, Shri Ranbir Campus ranks eighth with 2 theses. The University of Kashmir has contributed the maximum number of theses and the Central Sanskrit University, Shri, Ranbir Campus has contributed the minimum number of theses. Central Sanskrit University, Shri Ranbir Campus established in 1971, is the third oldest university in Jammu and Kashmir has signed MOU with Shodhganga at a very later stage and therefore, lags behind the other universities.



**Figure 1: University-wise contribution to Shodhganga**

#### 42 DEPARTMENT-WISE CONTRIBUTION OF UNIVERSITIES TO SHODHGANGA

##### 421 CONTRIBUTION BY THE UNIVERSITY OF JAMMU

Figure 2 shows the faculty-wise contribution from the University of Jammu to Shodhganga. It was found that 33 departments of the University of Jammu have contributed to Shodhganga yet. It was also identified that out of the 33 departments, the department of Chemistry has contributed the maximum number of theses followed by the department of English and the department of zoology; the rest of the departments have contributed comparatively less with the department of Microbiology the least. Moreover, the University of Jammu has 41 departments in total but only 33 departments have contributed their ETDs in Shodhganga. This shows that 8 departments have escaped from contributing to the Shodhganga platform.



**Figure 2: Faculty-wise contribution by the University of Jammu**

### 422 CONTRIBUTION BY UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

It was identified that a total of 51 departments of the University of Kashmir have contributed to Shodhganga. The Department of Botany has contributed the highest number of ETDs in the Shodhganga project by contributing 110 ETDs, followed by the Department of Zoology which has contributed 103 ETDs, the Department of Hindi with 69 ETDs, and so on. Moreover, the University of Kashmir has 61 departments, 4 departments under open distance learning, and 8 research centers. But only 51 departments of the university have contributed to Shodhganga yet.

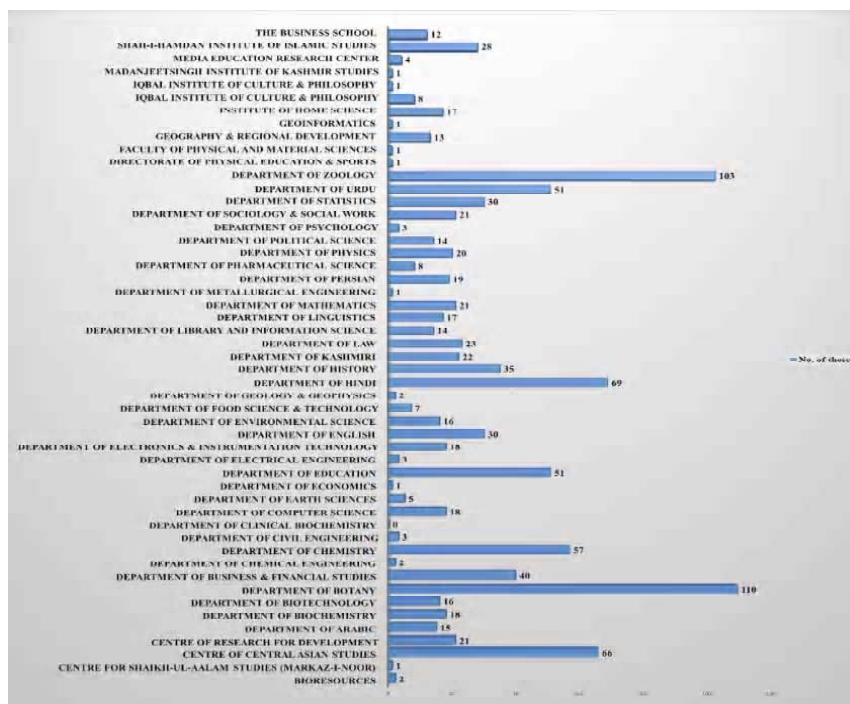
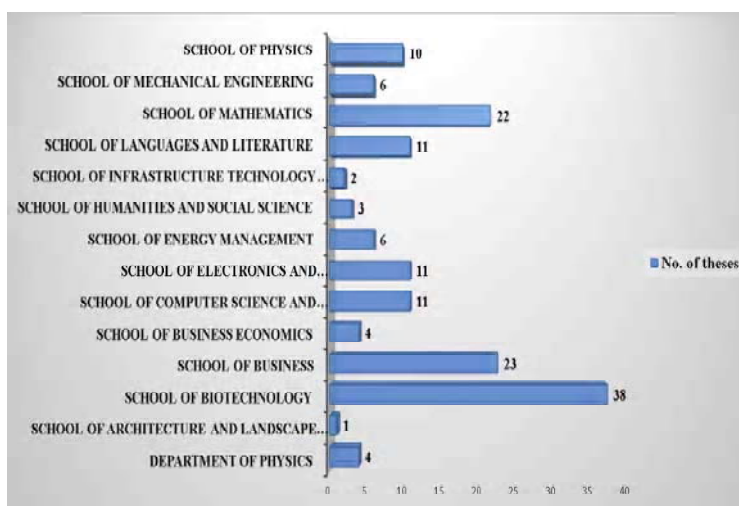


Figure 3: Faculty-wise contribution by the University of Kashmir

### 423 CONTRIBUTION BY SHRI MATA VAISHNO DEVI UNIVERSITY

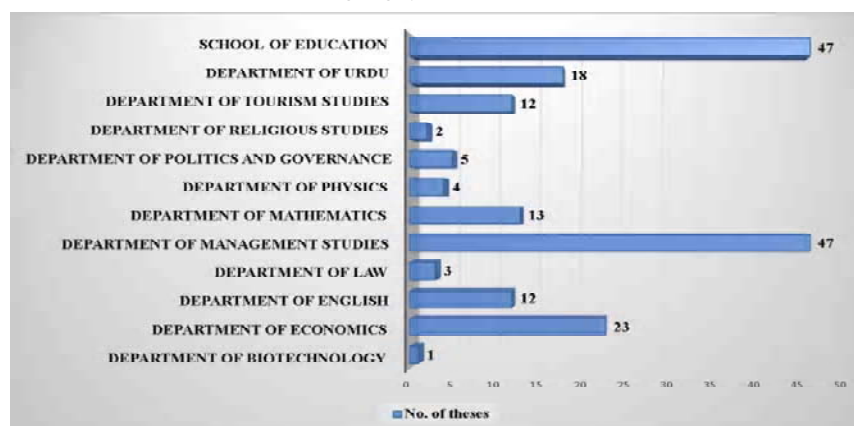
Figure 4 depicts the faculty-wise contribution of theses to Shodhganga by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University. It was found that the majority of the contribution to Shodhganga is made by the School of Biotechnology, followed by the School of Business and the School of Mathematics. Moreover, the university has 14 departments and all of the departments have contributed more or less to the Shodhganga project.



**Figure 4: Faculty-wise contribution by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University**

#### 424 CONTRIBUTION BY CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

Data analysis showed that the department of Education and Management Studies has contributed the majority of theses to Shodhganga, followed by the Department of Economics and the Department of Urdu, and so on. The Central University of Kashmir has a total of 20 departments out of which only 12 departments have contributed to the Shodhganga project and the other 8 departments have been unsuccessful in conducting the research and feeding the dissertations to the Shodhgangayet.

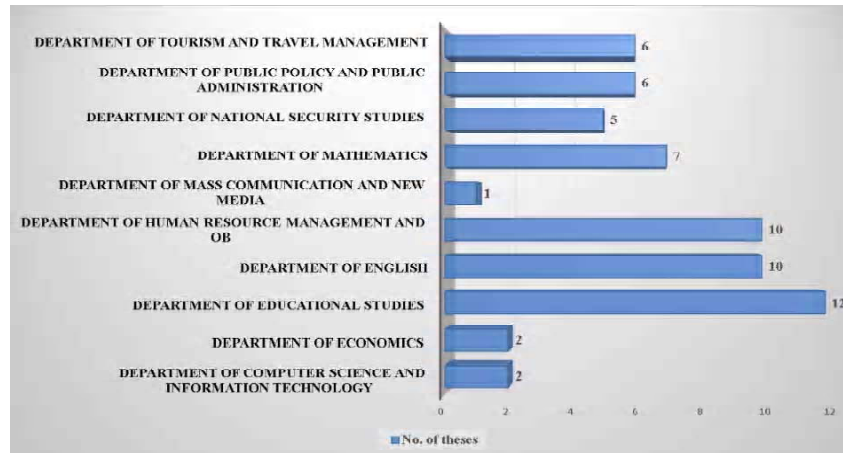


**Figure 5: Faculty-wise contribution by Central University of Kashmir**

#### 425 CONTRIBUTION BY CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF JAMMU

Figure 6 illustrates the faculty-wise contribution of theses to Shodhganga

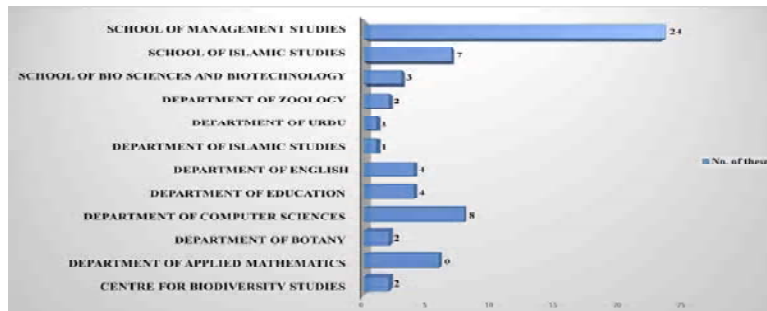
by the Central University of Jammu. It was found that the majority of the contribution was made by the department of Educational Studies, followed by the department of Human Resource Management & Organizational behavior and the department of English. There are a total of 12 departments in the Central University of Jammu out of which 10 departments have contributed to the Shodhganga project and there are 2 departments that have not contributed to Shodhganga.



**Figure 6: Faculty-wise contribution by Central University of Jammu**

#### 426 CONTRIBUTION BY BABA GHULAM SHAH BADSHAH UNIVERSITY

Figure 7 shows the faculty-wise contribution of theses made by Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University. It was found that the school of Management Studies has contributed the maximum number of theses to Shodhganga followed by the department of Computer Sciences and the school of Islamic Studies and so on. Out of the total 24 departments in the Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University, only 12 departments have contributed to the Shodhganga project and the remaining 12 departments have not yet contributed to the Shodhganga.

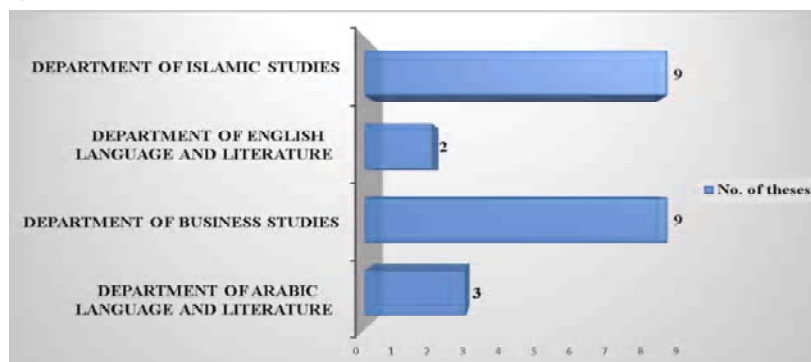


**Figure 7: Faculty-wise contribution by Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University**



#### 427 CONTRIBUTION BY THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

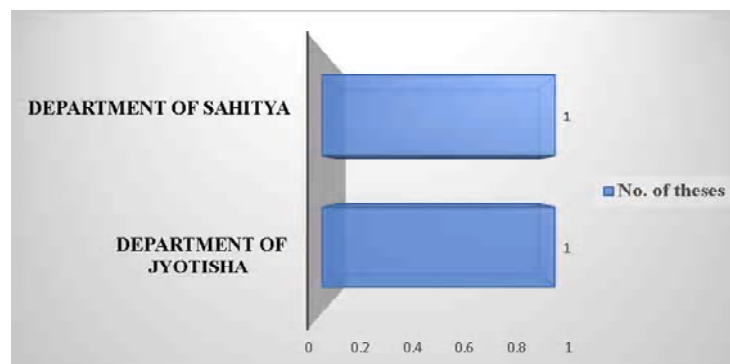
Figure 8 shows the faculty-wise contribution of the Islamic University of Science and Technology. It was found that the department of Islamic Studies and the department of Business Studies have contributed the maximum number of theses to the Shodhganga. There are a total of 18 departments in the university out of which only 4 departments have participated in Shodhganga and the remaining 14 departments have not contributed to the Shodhganga project.



**Figure 8: Faculty-wise contribution by the Islamic University of Science and Technology**

#### 428 CONTRIBUTION BY CENTRAL SANSKRIT UNIVERSITY, SHRI RANBIR CAMPUS

Figure 9 illustrates the faculty-wise contribution of Central Sanskrit University. It was found that the department of Sahitya and the department of Jyotisha have contributed an equal number of theses to Shodhganga. Whereas no records in the case of other departments have been observed.



**Figure 9: Faculty-wise contribution by Central Sanskrit University, Shri Ranbir Campus**

*429 FIVE TOP FACULTIES CONTRIBUTING TO SHODHGANGA*

The analysis of the faculty-wise data leads to the identification of the top departments of the universities in Jammu and Kashmir contributing to Shodhganga repositories. It was identified that the Department of Botany, University of Kashmir ranks first by contributing the highest number of ETDs i.e., 110, to Shodhganga, followed by the Department of Zoology, the University of Kashmir which ranks second by contributing 103 ETDs, Department of Chemistry, University of Jammu ranks third with 79 ETDs, Department of English, University of Jammu ranks fourth with 73 ETDs and the Department of Zoology, University of Jammu ranks fifth with 72 ETDs.

**Table 2: Five top faculties contributing to Shodhganga**

<b>Name of the Faculty</b>	<b>Name of the University Associated with</b>	<b>The number of ETDs contributed</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Department of Botany	University of Kashmir	110	1
Department of Zoology	University of Kashmir	103	2
Department of Chemistry	University of Jammu	79	3
Department of English	University of Jammu	73	4
Department of Zoology	University of Jammu	72	5

*430 RANKING OF THE RESEARCH GUIDES WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED  
TOSHODHGANGA*

**Table 3: Ranking of research guides in the LIS field**

Name of the Research Guide	Name of the University Associated with Respected Theses	No. of contributions	Rank
Dr. Sangita Gupta	University of Jammu	7	1
Dr. I. V. Malhan	University of Jammu	5	2
Dr. S. M. Shafi	University of Kashmir	5	2
Dr. Shabir Ahmad Ganaie	University of Kashmir	4	3
Dr. Sumeer Gul	University of Kashmir	3	4
Dr. Wajih Ahmad Alvi	University of Kashmir	2	5
Dr. M. L. Wali	University of Kashmir	1	6

After analyzing the data, it is evident that there are a total of 7 Research Supervisors' who have contributed to Shodhganga till the moment. Based on the number of supervised Ph.D. theses contributed to Shodhganga, the ranking of the research guides is from 1 to 6, where Dr. Sangita Gupta of the University of Jammu ranks first with 7 theses contributed in Shodhganga under her supervision. Her rank of one marks her caliber in research and her capability is noted through the task of uploading and maintaining the ETDs over Shodhganga. This further motivates that the refresher courses ought to be offered to utilize the full potential of portals such as Shodhganga. Dr. I.V. Malhan (Retd.) of the University of Jammu and Dr. S.M. Shafi rank second with 5 theses contributed under the supervision of each research supervisor. Dr. Shabir Ahmad Ganaie ranks third with 4 theses contributed under his supervision. Dr. Sumeer Gul ranks fourth with 3 theses contributed under his supervision. Moreover, Dr. Wajih Ahmad Alvi ranks fifth by contributing 2 theses under his supervision. M.L. Wali ranks sixth by contributing only 1 Thesis under his supervision.

## 5 CONCLUSION

The findings of the present study identified a total of 2508 ETDs submitted to Shodhganga by the universities in Jammu and Kashmir. It was revealed that the University of Kashmir ranks first by contributing the highest number of ETDs to Shodhganga followed by the University of Jammu, Central University of Kashmir, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, and others. The study also identified that the Department of Botany, University of Kashmir ranks highest in contributing ETDs to Shodhganga, followed by the Department of Zoology,

University of Kashmir, Department of Chemistry, University of Jammu, and others. Moreover, it was also revealed that Dr. Sangita Gupta of the Department of library and information science, Jammu and Kashmir ranks first with the highest number of Ph.D. submitted to Shodhganga under her supervision.

The study revealed that most of the universities in Jammu and Kashmir are not actively involved in submitting the ETDs to Shodhganga. Moreover, there is the majority of departments in many universities have contributed zero to Shodhganga to date; it connotes the improper utilization of the resources. This may be due to a lack of awareness and knowledge regarding the MOU signed between their university and INFLIBNET and may be due to their lack of skills regarding the uploading of ETDs. To minimize this problem, the university administration should take steps to aware the academic community and guide them on how to upload the ETDs on Shodhganga.

#### REFERENCES

1. ESH (M), and GOSH (S) (2021). Role in Contribution to Open-Access Repository by the Northeast Universities in India: A Case Study of Shodhganga. *DESIDOC Journal of Library and Information technology*, 41 (6), 448-454. doi:10.14429/djlit.41.6.17027
2. JHAMB (G) and SAMIM (A) (2017). Contribution to open access repository by the Central Universities of India: a case study of Shodhganga. *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. Retrieved from <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/1559/>
3. PANDA (SK) (2016). Shodhganga – a national level open access ETD repository of Indian electronic theses: current status and discussions. *Library Hi Tech News*, 33 (1), 23-26. Retrieved from <http://dx.doi.org/10.1108/LHTN-09-2015-0062>
4. RAMESH (AA) (2013). An analysis on “Shodhganga-a reservoir of India theses” with special reference to Library and Information Science Theses. *International Journal of Library and Information Science Research and Development*, 2 (1), 71-78. Retrieved from [https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=3599135](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3599135)
5. SALOI (A) (2021). Contribution of electronic theses and dissertations (etds) by the Central Universities of Northeast India to the Shodhganga project of INFLIBNET: an evaluative study. *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*.
6. SENGUPTA (S) (2015). Etd contributions in Shodhganga: a status report of Universities of Maharashtra (India). *Knowledge Librarian*, 2 (6), 50-75. Retrieved from [https://www.academia.edu/21386352/ETD\\_Contributions\\_in\\_Shodhganga\\_A\\_Status\\_Report\\_of\\_Universities\\_of\\_Maharashtra\\_India\\_](https://www.academia.edu/21386352/ETD_Contributions_in_Shodhganga_A_Status_Report_of_Universities_of_Maharashtra_India_)

7. SENGUPTA (S) (2019). Mapping the contribution of ETDs to Shodhganga by state universities in Maharashtra in LIS research. Paper presented at the 5<sup>th</sup> ICCLIST.
8. SHODHGANGA. (n.d.). *MoU with Universities*. Retrieved from <https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/>
9. SHODHGANGA. (n.d.). *About Shodhganga*. Retrieved from <https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/>
10. VERMA (MK), YADAV (SK), and SINGH (SN) (2017). Mapping the contribution to shodhganga by Central Universities of India in LIS research: an evaluation. *International Journal of Library Management and Services*, 4 (2), 14-24. Retrieved from [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/327465792\\_Mapping\\_The\\_Contribution\\_to\\_Shodhganga\\_by\\_Central\\_Universities\\_of\\_India\\_in\\_Lis\\_Research\\_an\\_Evaluation](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/327465792_Mapping_The_Contribution_to_Shodhganga_by_Central_Universities_of_India_in_Lis_Research_an_Evaluation)