
Plagiarism Detection of Doctoral Theses: Current Indian Practices & Functionalities

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Abstract

UGC (India, 2013) was reported that there are 20275 doctoral degree awarded during this year but integrated hard statistics regarding doctoral research output in India in a single document so far is not been available but on the basis of extrapolation of available statistics, it is estimated that there is around 50 to 60 thousands doctoral theses are produced in India annually. Further the figure is much higher if M.Phil and other postgraduate dissertations are considered. Due to traditional practices, localization and absent of national policies in past for accepted theses and dissertations remains an un-tapped and under-utilized asset, leading to unnecessary duplication and repetition that, in effect, is the antitheses of research and wastage of human resources the quality is sacrificed. In India due to evolution of advanced technologies and subsequent its uses the practice of electronic publishing took place and plagiarism became most important issue directly related to quality of research work that most students and faculty have. However, the risks of exposure of plagiarism is much larger in a scenario where theses are available in electronic format publicly given the fact that most scholars and researchers still work in fields where a fairly small group of workers have detailed knowledge of their work. Moreover, the technology that has made ETD possible also provides mechanism to detect plagiarized passages in electronic documents. Several software packages have now been developed that detect plagiarism. The software examines document files submitted for detection of plagiarism. It extracts the text portions from these documents and looks through them for matching words in phrases of a specified minimum length. When it finds matching files that share enough words in a number of phrases, a report are generated which contain the document text with the matching phrases underlined. Widespread use of such packages would increase risks of detection. (UGC, 2005). This study has been surveyed of 249 MOU based universities from shodhganga repository homepage and set hypothesis whether all universities that are made MOU with INFLIBNET centre are scanned ETD files to detect plagiarism prior to upload the theses the repository or not. The primary result is positive encouraged that they are gradually changing their local statute and making plagiarism certificate mandatory to the scholars. Now India has national policy for the promotion of ETDs, in this context Government of India has issued regulation in 2009 under which regularizes different issues related to research degree awarded by universities and institutions. Said regulation also mandate is mandate to deposit to shodhganga repository within period of 30 days from its submission. A Part of this INFLIBNET (Inter University Centre UGC) has signed Memorandum of Association to 249 universities in India those are listed under section 2(f) & 12 (B) of University Grants Commission Act, 1956 are providing anti plagiarism software free of cost that the plagiarism check to doctoral theses

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becomes mandatory .

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S.T. Kale has been working as Librarian at J.D. Patil Sangludkar Mahavidyalaya Daryapur District Amravati (Maharashtra, India) is member of Networked Digital Library of Theses & Dissertations (NDLTD). He did Master's degree in Commerce and Master in Library and Information Science from SGB Amravati University Amravati (Maharashtra), Post Graduate Diploma in Library Automation and Networking (PGDLAN) from University of Hyderabad and Post Graduate Diploma in Digital Library and Information Management (PGDLIM) from Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) Mumbai. He has 19 years of experience in librarianship in electronic information environment and contributed many publications in journals as well as in seminars and conferences in India as well as abroad. He is the life member of Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centre (IASLIC) Kolkata (India) presently work on Institutional repository, digital libraries, D-Space, SOUL 2.0 and Koha

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