

RESEARCH OUTPUT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE: DOCTORAL DEGREES AWARDED IN MADHYA PRADESH AND CHHATTISGARH

K. Thavamani* and A Pushparaj**

Abstract This article traces the growth and development of Ph.D. programmes in LIS education in India and highlights the initiatives and efforts of contemporary LIS professionals in Central part of India, (namely Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh). Analysis of doctoral researches conducted by universities clearly indicates that the direction in which, a specific subject field is moving. It also indicates the thrust or grey areas of research that call for attention from researchers. The present analysis depicts the research contribution to the Library and Information Science repository. The study shows that the maximum research was done in the area of Information Sources and Services i.e. 15 (33.33%). And the state of Madhya Pradesh is the highest contributor i.e., 37 (82.22%) to the field of LIS in terms of doctoral research productivity.

Keywords: LIS education in Central India, LIS education- doctoral degrees (Ph.D).

INTRODUCTION

Library Science Education (LIS) aims at providing trained manpower to manage different types of libraries, information and documentation centers which, over a period of time have undergone changes in terms of needs, functions, types and range of services offered as well as tools and techniques being used while rendering the services. Library and Information Science (LIS) education in India has just completed its 100 years in 2011. History provides a clear picture of the growth and development of subject which led us to trace the research output in terms of doctoral degrees awarded in the Central India (namely Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh), during the period 2007- 2011.

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

There is a vast literature crediting Sayyaji Rao Gaekwad, the then Maharaja of the erstwhile princely State of Baroda, for initiating the LIS education movement in the country. American librarians, William Alanson Borden and Asa Don Dickinson were the first LIS teachers in India. John MacFarlane, an Englishman, who happened to be the first librarian of the Imperial Library (now National Library, Kolkata) also, shares the credit for training librarians in our country. It took place between 1901 and 1906 in the Imperial Library when training programmes were organized for its staff. Later it was extended to librarians working in Calcutta

as well as in other states. The first formal training course in library routines was held to impart professional training to librarians in 1911 at the erstwhile Baroda. Another landmark year in the history of LIS education in India is 1915 when it was started for the first time at the university level in Punjab University, Lahore (earlier part of undivided India). Asa Don Dickinson, the university librarian started the course.

The LIS education, which took off from the northern and western parts of the country moved towards the south subsequently. In south the first such attempt was initiated by Andhra Desa Library Association in 1920. In 1929, Madras Library Association (MALA) started a School of Library Science for training college and school librarians in the state of Madras.

In 1947, he moved to University of Delhi started the first postgraduate diploma course. The first batch was awarded diploma in 1948 and continued their studies and were awarded BLIS in 1949. In the same year, a two-year programme for MLIS was introduced replacing the BLIS programme. Simultaneously, the PhD programme was launched by the university in 1949. University of Delhi was the first university to start a doctoral programme in library science in the entire British Commonwealth. The first PhD was also awarded in 1957 to D.B. Krishna Rao from the University of Delhi. His guide was Prof. S.R. Ranganathan. Library science courses were also started in five more universities, Hyderabad, Osmania, Panjab, Pune and Rajasthan by the end of 1960. In 1965, Banaras Hindu University (BHU) was

* Library Assistant, Regional Medical Library, The Tamilnadu Dr. M.G.R Medical University, No. 69, Anna salai, Guindy, Chennai, E-mail kottithavam@gmail.com

** Library Assistant, Regional Medical Library, The Tamilnadu Dr. M.G.R Medical University, No. 69, Anna salai, Guindy, Chennai, E-mail, apushparaj74@gmail.com

the second university to start MLIS courses; courses were later discontinued during 1968-69.

Discovery and dissemination of new knowledge has always been a source of excitement and incalculable social benefit to the society. Tremendous progress made by the mankind in the 20th century is only due to research and new information. Information society subsists on information which is only generated by research. It describes the beginning, growth of doctoral research and proliferation of education in library and information Science (LIS) in India.

Analysis of doctoral researches conducted by universities clearly indicates the direction in which, a specific subject field is moving. It also indicates the thrust or grey areas of research that call for attention from researchers. The output of doctoral researches in LIS field is increasing since 1980 and the growth is significant from 1990s. A steady development has been observed till 1995. The present study traces the growth and development of Ph.D. programmes in LIS education in India and highlights the initiative and efforts of contemporary LIS professionals in Central India.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Sivalingaiah D¹ reports that the output of doctoral researches in LIS field is increasing since 1980 and the growth is significant from 1990s. A steady development has been observed till 1995. While the maximum number of Doctoral dissertations was during 1995 and 2003, the minimum was found during 1998 and 2000-01. Universities in South India have produced more doctoral researchers as compare to North India. Tejomurthy A² describes that there are research opportunities and research atmosphere in India and the library professionals and LIS faculty should be involved in research to improve information sources and services. Madasamy R and R. Alwarammal³ report that Andhra Pradesh has produced the higher number of Ph.Ds during the period of 2003-2008. Conclude that more doctoral research needs to be carried out in the areas of digital libraries and ICT applications. Prabhjeet Kaur and Paramjeet Kaur Walia⁴ provide a glimpse of the situation of LIS education being provided in India with a special focus on the regions of central India. The states covered in the central India are Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. Six universities are imparting LIS education. It was seen that these universities still have to provide an integrated two-year postgraduate course in LIS, which is being widely accepted all over the country because of its recognition by the UGC in its model curriculum.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The primary objective is set for this study is to understand the growth and development of LIS doctoral degrees awarded

and its research output in Central part of India during the period of 2007 – 2011. The specific objectives are:

- To identify the focus areas of research in LIS;
- To understand the contribution by individual state, universities, and research supervisors.
- To identify the expertise of LIS professionals,

METHODOLOGY

The Association of Indian Universities is a premier organization formed in 1973 with intention to promote university activities by the way of sharing information and cooperation in the field of education, culture, sports, and allied disciplines. It serves as an inter university organization for communication, co ordination, consultation, growth and propagation of knowledge, organizing seminars, conferences and workshops and promoting sports among member activities.

University News is a weekly news periodical brought out by the Association of Indian Universities. It provides authentic information on higher education and particularly Indian higher education offered by universities in India. The principle feature of this periodical is listing of doctoral theses accepted by Indian universities in all academic disciplines. It also publishes the articles, national and global thinking campus news and advertisements for openings in universities, research institutes and affiliated colleges.

Data were analyzed by adopting arithmetic and simple statistical methods for compare and contrast records like addition, simple percentage etc. and for identify the variations of maximum and minimum, first and second place between fields and variables.

LIMITATIONS OF STUDY

University News provides authentic information on higher education and particularly Indian higher education offered by universities in India. Therefore the other sources were excluded for the current study.

DATA ANALYSIS

The data on the doctoral theses in LIS was collected from the published version of *University News* pertaining to the period 2007 to 2011. A total of 45 bibliographic records (Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh) were collected which formed the source of data for the present study.

Table No: 1 represents the year-wise distribution of doctoral research output in library and information science in the Central India (Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh). The highest number of doctoral theses i.e., 17 (37.77%) were awarded in the year 2010. The lowest numbers of 5 (11.11%)

doctoral theses were awarded respectively in the year of 2007 and 2011.

Table 1: Year wise Distribution of Doctoral Research Output

S. No.	Year	No. of Doctoral Research Output	% of Out put
1.	2007	5	11.11
2.	2008	8	17.77
3.	2009	10	22.22
4.	2010	17	37.77
5.	2011	5	11.11
Total		45	100.00

Table No: 2. represents the details about the research guide wise distribution of doctoral research output 2007 – 2011. There were 19 supervising guides identified from data. Dr. Hemant Sharma and Dr. Sahoo K.C each of them were guided maximum number of i.e., 5 (11.11%) doctoral theses during the study period. Both of them are from Madhya Pradesh.

The second position was shared by three guides Dr. Brijesh Tiwari Dr. Nigam B.S and Dr. Shrivastava, for their doctoral theses guidance i.e., 4 of each (8.88%) during the study

period. Two of them are from Madhya Pradesh and one is from Chhattisgarh.

The third place bound by Dr. Kumar S for his guidance was identified from data i.e., 3 (6.66%). And facts revealed that many more supervising guides were guided one or more than one doctoral theses during the study period from central part of India.

Out of 45 doctoral research reports, an interesting fact was identified from the data that the two theses were identified as self guided report which was submitted to the Guru Ghasidas University, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh and Makhnall Chaturvedi Rashtriya Patrakarita National University of Journalism and Communication, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

Table No: 3. represents the details about the University wise distribution of doctoral research output during the study period 2007 – 2011. There were ten universities contributed to the field of LIS from the Central India.

In Madhya Pradesh there are seven universities identified for their research contribution to the field of LIS from the data during the research period. Dr. Hari Singh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar, was recorded as highest contributor i.e., 10 (22.22%) among the universities of state of Madhya Pradesh. Awadesh Pratap Singh University, Rewa was identified as the least contributor among the Madhya Pradesh Universities i.e., 1 (2.22%).

Table 2: Research Guide wise Distribution of Doctoral Research Output

S. No.	Name of the Research Guide	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total	% of Out put
1.	Dr. Anand K. Sharma					1	1	2.22
2.	Dr. Bajpai R.P.				2		2	4.44
3.	Dr. Brijesh Tiwari	1		2	1		4	8.88
4.	Dr. Chandel S.S.				1		1	2.22
5.	Dr. Hemant Sharma	2			3		5	11.11
6.	Dr. Kumar S.		1		2		3	6.66
7.	Dr. Nigam B.S.		1	1	2		4	8.88
8.	Dr. Sahoo K.C		1	3	1		5	11.11
9.	Dr. Sengar H.S.				1		1	2.22
10.	Dr. Sharma B.K. and Dr. Hemant Sharma		1	1			2	4.44
11.	Dr. Sharma R.K.		1		1		2	4.44
12.	Dr. Sharma N K				1		1	2.22
13.	Dr. Shrivastava B. P. and Dr. Aslam Khan					1	1	2.22
14.	Dr. Shrivastava B. P. and Dr. Prabhat Pandey					1	1	2.22
15.	Dr. Shrivastava B.P		2			2	4	8.88
16.	Dr. Singh U.N.			2			2	4.44
17.	Dr. Sonal Singh	1		1			2	4.44
18.	Dr. Surender Singh				1		1	2.22
19.	Dr. Verma A.K				1		1	2.22
20.	Self guidance	1	1				2	4.44
	Total	5	8	10	17	5	45	100.00

Table 3: University wise Distribution of Doctoral Research Output

Sl. No.	Name of the University	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total	% of Out put
1.	Awadesh Pratap Singh University, Rewa MP*		1				1	2.22
2.	Dr. Hari Singh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar MP*		3	3	2	2	10	22.22
3.	Guru Ghasidas University, Bilaspur CHH**	2		4			6	13.33
4.	Jiwaji University, Gwalior MP*	2	1	1	3	1	8	17.77
5.	Madhya Pradesh Bhoj (Open) University, Bhopal MP*				1	2	3	6.66
6.	Mahatma Gandhi Chitrakoot Gramodaya Vishwavidyalaya, Chitrakoot, Santa MP*				2		2	4.44
7.	Makhanlal Chaturvedi Rashtriya Patrakarita National University of Journalism and communication, Bhopal MP*		2	1	3		6	13.33
8.	Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur CHH**				1		1	2.22
9.	Pt. Sunderlal Sharma University, Chhattisgarh CHH**				1		1	2.22
10.	Vikram University, Ujjain MP*	1	1	1	4		7	15.55
Total		5	8	10	17	5	45	100.00

* Madhya Pradesh ** Chhattisgarh

Table 4: State wise Distribution of Doctoral Research Output

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total	% of Out put
1.	Chhattisgarh	2	-	4	2	-	8	17.77
2.	Madhya Pradesh	3	8	6	15	5	37	82.22
Total		5	8	10	17	5	45	100.00

There were three universities identified in State of Chhattisgarh from the data. The Guru Ghasidas University, Bilaspur was identified as the highest number of contributor

among the Universities of state of Chhattisgarh in terms of doctoral degrees conferred i.e., 6 (13.33%) during the study period.

Table 5: Subject wise Distribution of Doctoral Research Output

Sl. No.	Name of the Subjects	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total	% of Out put
1.	Academic Libraries	1	2		1	1	5	11.11
2.	Public Libraries	1			1		2	4.44
3.	Information Sources and Services	3	1	2	7	2	15	33.33
4.	Information Literacy		1				1	2.22
5.	User Studies		2	2	1	1	6	13.33
6.	Bibliometric / Scientometric Study			1	2		3	6.66
7.	Information and Communication Technology (ICT)		1	1	1		3	6.66
8.	Library Automation			1			1	2.22
9.	Digital Library			1			1	2.22
10.	E-Resources		1		3	1	5	11.11
11.	Library and Information Management			1	1		2	4.44
12.	Classification			1			1	2.22
Total		5	8	10	17	5	45	100.00

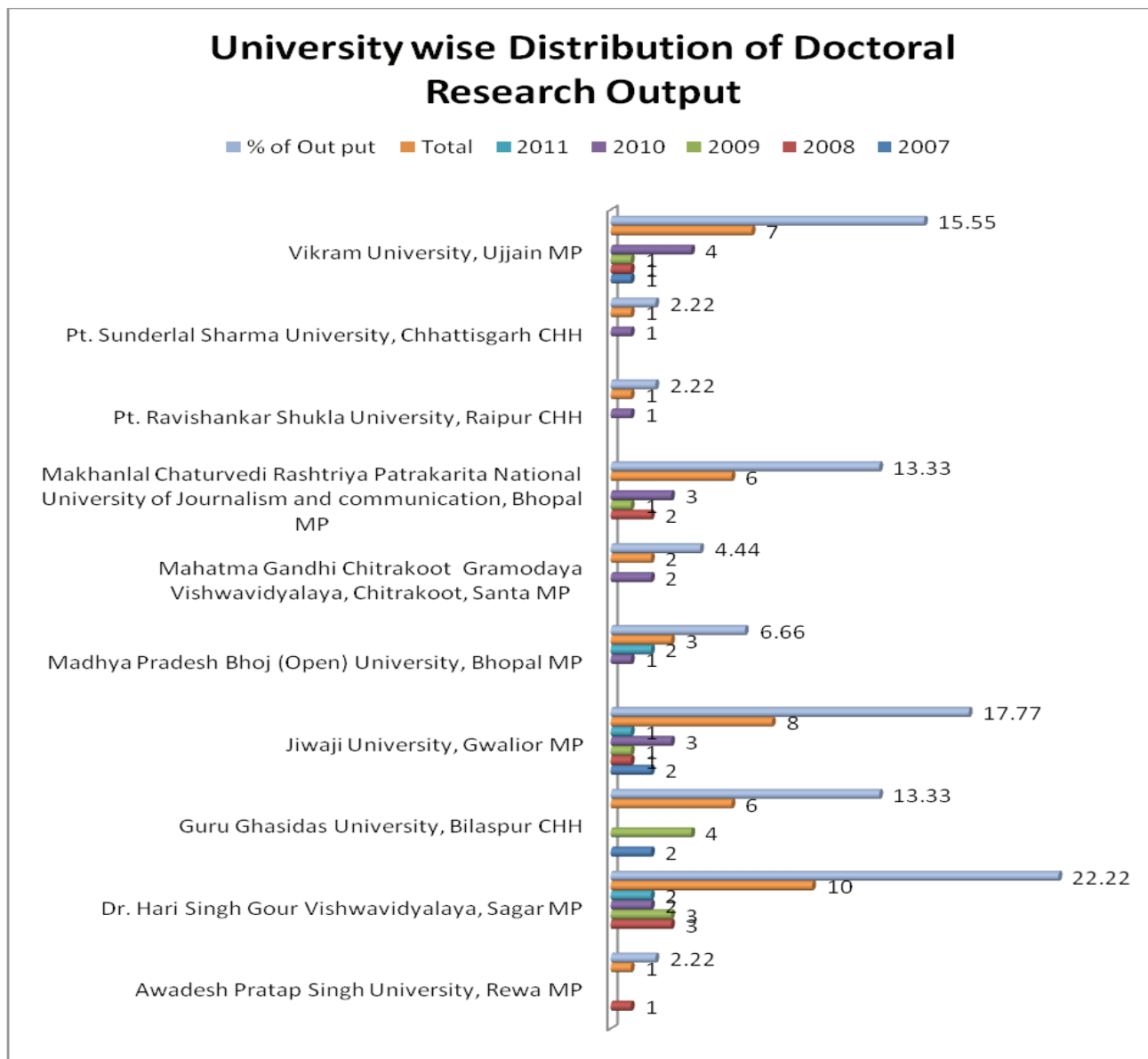


Figure 1: University wise Distribution of Doctoral Research Output

The Figure 1 represents the university-wise distribution of doctoral research output in library and information science in Central India during the year 2007 to 2011.

Table No: 4 geographically there are two states in constitutes in Central part of India. They are Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh which richly contributed the knowledge to the field of LIS. The table indicates that the different percentage of contribution made by the respective states. The result showed that there are 45 doctoral research contributions done during the study period.

Among the 45 research contribution, the state of Madhya Pradesh is the highest contributor i.e., 37 (82.22%), and the state of Chhattisgarh is the least contributor i.e., 8 (17.77%) during the study period.

The Figure 2 represents the state-wise distribution of doctoral research output in library and information science in Central India during the year 2007 to 2011.

Table No: 5 shows subject wise Research contribution to the field of library and information science. There have been twelve areas of subjects identified. Among the twelve areas of subjects, maximum studies were done in the area of Information Sources and Services i.e. 15. (33.33%). The least percentage of study was shared by four different areas of subjects namely, Information Literacy, Library Automation, Digital Library and Classification. Next to the study of Information Sources and Services, the second highest percentage of study was done in the area of User Studies, i.e., 6 (13.33%).

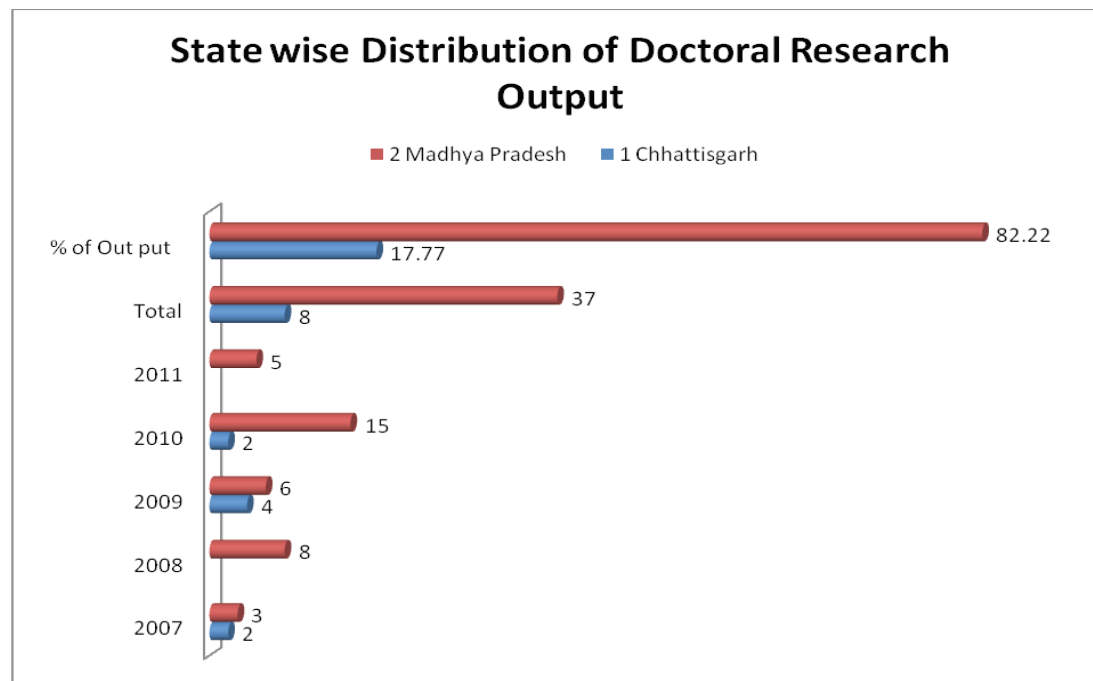


Figure 2: State wise Distribution of Doctoral Research Output

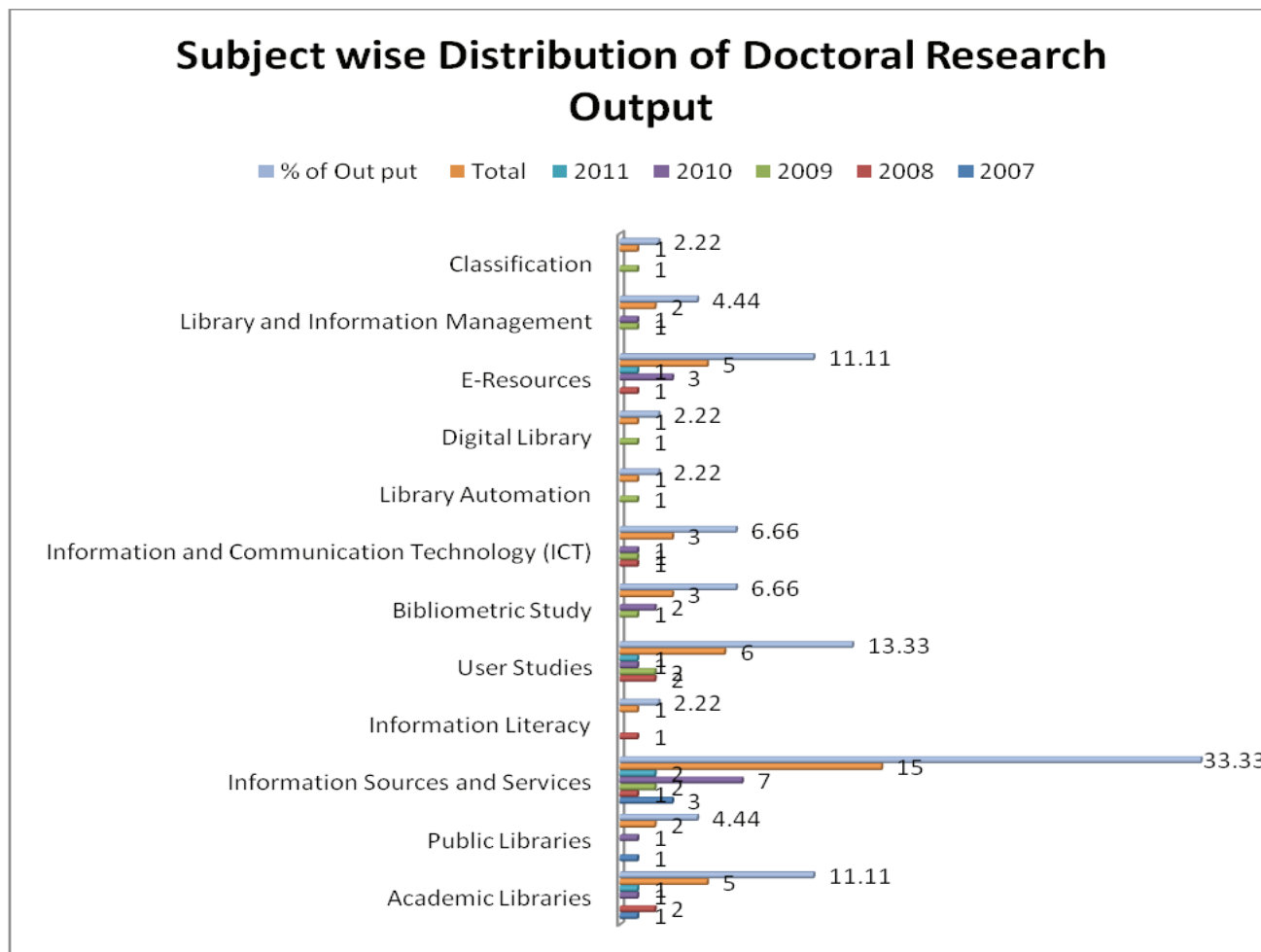


Figure 3. Subject wise Distribution of Doctoral Research Output

The **Figure 3** represents the subject-wise distribution of doctoral research output in library and information science in Central India during the year 2007 to 2011.

CONCLUSION

Research and development are the index of prosperity of the nation. Government of India gave a thrust to application of information technology, through various incentives. UGC also chipped in with liberal funding for establishing computer laboratories. Library schools started revising their curriculum, introducing courses on computer application in libraries, information centers, and established computer laboratories for giving hands on experience to their students. Apart from the Government initiatives, the research result showed the fact that there is no much contribution towards the Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Library Automation, E-Resources and Library and Information Management related doctoral research reports. Therefore, need of the hour is to concentrate and contribute towards the aforesaid areas which definitely be the beacon to the field of library and information science.

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