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INDIAN OPEN ACCESS SOCIAL SCIENCE JOURNALS IN GOOGLE SCHOLAR: A STUDY

Sk. Abul Salam

Librarian, Shibpur Dinobundhoo Institution (College)

Email: Salamabul876@gmail.com

Abstract:

This study tries to highlight the analytical study of Indian open access social science journals. Journals details as well as their cited and uncited papers, citations, author productivity ha**s** been examined for the quantitative assessment of Indian social science research in open access environment. Fifteen open access social science journals have been selected for the present study indexed in Social Science Citation Index, SCImago and Directory of Open Access Journals. Citations of the articles ha**ve** been recorded form Google Scholar with the help of Publish or Perish 6 software. The study found 5827 articles have been published by fifteen open access journals, out of them 3632 articles cited. Correlation Coefficient of cited and uncited articles has showed the positive trend.

Keywords: Open Access, Social Science Journals, Google Scholar, Publish or Perish, India.

Introduction:

Scholarly journalis always considered as primary source to create the interest of the authors and researchers in regard to generate the new ideas and to disseminate the research publication among any type of discipline for further development. After the publication of first English periodical in the year 1665 i.e. Philosophical Transactions of The Royal Society of London (Ratcliffe, 2015), scholarly journal has completed more than three hundred fifty years with many significant research contributions in the society. Electronic journals have started their journey first time in the year 1980 (Shackel, 1983) and spread world widely after 90s and flourish at 21st century.

The introduction and development of computer, internet and information communication technology have played a very important role to create electronic resources globally. But the main problem of scholarly communication was funding for publishing as well as the access with commercial journal or publisher. The introduction of the concept of Open Access in the year 2002 has helped to increase the scholarly communication more wisely throughout the world. Open-access (OA) literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions (Suber, 2004). Presently a large number of open access initiatives are available throughout the world to provide open access literatures.

In India the first Indian scientific periodical was 'Asiatick Researches' published by the Asiatic Society in the year 1788 (Sen, 2002). Previous studies have shown that India contributed large number of subscribed and open access journals in various subject fields. Social science research is very must essential in Indian context because the multi-dimensional and diverse cultural, political and socio-economic background of the people. Some related well documented works (Goel & Garg, 1993; Goel, 2001, Tyagi & Johri, 2004; Arunachalam, 2008; Papola, 2010; Gupta, Kumbar & Gupta, 2013; Gupta & Mahesh, 2013; Gupta, Tiwari & Gupta, 2014; Dhawan, Gupta & Gupta, 2015, Kirtania & Chakrabarti 2018) on Indian social science research showed that India has contributed a significant impact. But the present study has tried to attempt to analysis the open access social science journals in India.

Objectives:

The main objective of this study is to evaluate the Indian open access social science journals by identifying scholarly impact as reflected in Google Scholar.

Review of related literatures:

Number of studies has carried out by researchers in different areas of social science research, journals and other important areas. Nederhof (2006) stated the research performance monitoring of social sciences and humanities indexed in SCI and A&HCI using citation analysis. The study finds various bibliometric monitoring of social science and humanities like research performance, citation analysis and citation behavior etc. Kousha and Thelwall (2007) investigated whether the web can helpful to find out the research performance of social science publications through the monitoring of the web citations behavior. Nabi (2012) studied on the open access journals in social science globally during 1991 to 2011. The study found that 72 countries have contributed 1506 online open access journals out of them highest number was contributed by United States of America.

Kennison and Norberg (2014) proposed a dramatically new model for open access (OA) publishing and archiving for humanities and social sciences.

Vimala (2015) presented a bibliometric study on open access journals in social science. The study analyzed 3091 articles of ten open access journals indexed in social science during the time covering 2002 to 2014. Bhattacharyya (2017) presented a paper on open access publishing in social science journals in the SAARC countries indexed in DOAJ. This study covers 14 open access social science journals and has been analyzed on the basis of different parameter including citation count. Padmavathi (2017) conducted a bibliometric study on 470 open access journals indexed in directory of open access Journals and focused on year wise growth, language and country etc. Besides these publications some other significant works includes the works on Journal Ranking (Gordon, 1982; Nisonger, 1994; Brown, 2003; Martín-Martín, Orduna-Malea & López-Cózar, 2017), citation analysis (Mingers & Lipitakis, 2010; Bergman, 2012; Harzing, 2016), highly cited papers (Stern, 2014; Green, 2016), research evaluations (Leeuwen, 2013; Stern, 2013; Prins et al, 2016; Bornmann et al, 2016, Maity & Hatua, 2016).

Methodology:

For the present study, at the first step open access journals on social science, published from India, were listed from Social Sciences Citation Index (Web of Science), SCImago Journal and Country Rank (Scopus) and Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) with the help of database search mechanism. Fifteen journals were found and selected from the earlier mentioned databases. The selected journals for this study are Annals of Library and Information Studies, Conservation and society, IIMB Management Review, Indian Journal of Psychiatry, International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences, International Journal of Cyber Criminology, International Journal of Educational and Psychological Researches, International Review of Social Sciences and Humanities, Journal of Education and Health Promotion, Journal of Extension Education, Journal of Mid-Life Health, Journal of Social Work Education and Practice, Journal of Intellectual Property Rights, Mens Sana Monographs and Social Science Spectrum. Citation data of these journals were collected from Google Scholar with the help of Publish or Perish 6 software. Publish or Perish is a citation analysis tool (Anne-Wil Harzing, 2016) which retrieves and analyses scholarly citations form different platforms like Google Scholar or Scopus or web of Science. Every individual journal record has been stored, organized and presented in MS Excel for tabulation, analysis and interpretation, for the fulfillment of the objectives.

Data analysis & findings

Table 1: Overview of paper and citations of the journals

Journal Name	Citation year	Papers	Citations	Cites / paper	Cites/ Year
Annals of Library and Information Studies	64	1000	4202	4.2	65.66
Conservation and society	15	628	12384	19.72	825.6
IIMB Management Review	30	447	4084	9.14	136.13
Indian Journal of Psychiatry	66	999	4285	4.29	64.92
International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences	12	185	1142	6.17	95.17
International Journal of Cyber Criminology	11	226	2969	13.14	269.91
International Journal of Educational and Psychological Researches	3	159	108	0.68	36
International Review of Social Sciences and Humanities	7	192	1385	7.21	197.86
Journal of Education and Health Promotion	6	605	2870	4.74	478.33
Journal of Extension Education	3	106	32	0.30	10.67
Journal of Mid-Life Health	8	347	2570	7.41	321.25
Journal of Social Work Education and Practice	2	41	1	0.02	0.5
Journal of Intellectual Property Rights	23	560	1589	2.84	34.54
Mens Sana Monographs	15	254	1930	7.6	128.67
Social Science Spectrum	3	78	10	0.13	3.33
Total	-	**5827**	**39561**	**6.79**	-

Table 1 describes the distribution of the journals according to their citation. The table shows that 39561 citations have been cited by 5827 articles with 6.79 cites per paper rate. In case of individual journal Annals of Library and Information Studies have contributed highest number of papers and Conservation and society have contributed highest number of citations, cites per paper and year per citation rate. Among the journals 8 journals have below ten year of total publication time, however they have also contributed significant citations which is good sign for Indian social science research.

Table 2: Author productivity of the journals

Journal Name	Papers	Cites/ Author	Paper/ Author	Author/ Paper
Annals of Library and Information Studies	1000	2824.48	764.35	1.56
Conservation and society	628	7678.37	447.95	1.88
IIMB Management Review	447	2733.77	320.93	1.72
Indian Journal of Psychiatry	999	2319.59	556.88	2.33
International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences	185	844.42	139.7	1.66
International Journal of Cyber Criminology	226	2057.48	163.4	1.76
International Journal of Educational and Psychological Researches	159	39.53	67.62	2.77
International Review of Social Sciences and Humanities	192	819.63	120.78	2.04
Journal of Education and Health Promotion	605	928.4	194.27	3.46
Journal of Extension Education	106	15.25	49.50	2.35
Journal of Mid-Life Health	347	1021.73	152.35	3
Journal of Social Work Education and Practice	41	0.5	31.53	1.59
Journal of Intellectual Property Rights	560	1171.65	448.73	1.54
Mens Sana Monographs	254	1498	207.533	1.43
Social Science Spectrum	78	5	49.33	1.88

Table 2 describes the author productivity of these journal articles. Author productivity of these journals has showed the positive trend. In case of individual journal Paper / Author is highest by Conservation and society and Author / Paper is highest by Journal of Education and Health Promotion followed by Journal of Mid-Life Health.

Table 3: Cited and uncited papers of the journals

Journal Name	Total Papers	Cited		Uncited	
		No	%	No	%
Annals of Library and Information Studies	1000	650	65	350	35
Conservation and society	628	470	74.84	158	25.16
IIMB Management Review	447	333	74.50	114	25.50
Indian Journal of Psychiatry	999	472	47.25	527	52.75
International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences	185	131	70.81	54	29.19
International Journal of Cyber Criminology	226	182	80.53	44	19.47
International Journal of Educational and Psychological Researches	159	44	27.67	115	72.33
International Review of Social Sciences and Humanities	192	179	93.23	13	6.77
Journal of Education and Health Promotion	605	391	64.63	214	35.37
Journal of Extension Education	106	24	22.64	82	77.36
Journal of Mid-Life Health	347	241	69.45	106	30.55
Journal of Social Work Education and Practice	41	1	2.44	40	97.56
Journals of Intellectual Property Rights	560	348	62.14	212	37.86
Mens Sana Monographs	254	157	61.81	97	38.19
Social Science Spectrum	78	9	11.54	69	88.46
Total	**5827**	**3632**	**62.33**	**2195**	**37.67**

Table 3 describes the distribution of cited and uncited status of the articles which have retrieved from Google Scholar. Among the papers it has been observed that overall 62.33% articles have cited, which have a similarity with previous study (Kirtania, 2018). Based on the citation trend it has been observed that out of fifteen journals ten journals have more than 50% cited papers which reveals the quality of Indian social science journals. International Review of Social Sciences and Humanities and International Journal of Cyber Criminology have contributed more than 80% of their total paper.
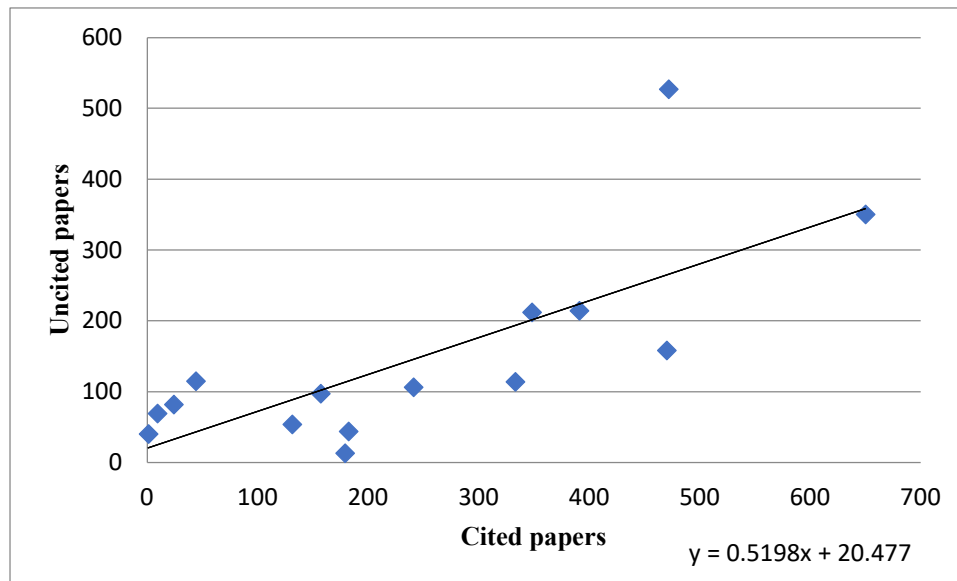
Table 4: Publication trend of the journals

Journal Name	H 5 Index	H 5 Median
Annals of Library and Information Studies	11	14
Conservation and society	19	26
IIMB Management Review	17	35
Indian Journal of Psychiatry	27	40
International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences	-	-
International Journal of Cyber Criminology	-	-
International Journal of Educational and Psychological Researches	4	7
International Review of Social Sciences and Humanities	-	-
Journal of Education and Health Promotion	20	27
Journal of Extension Education	-	-
Journal of Mid-Life Health	19	29
Journal of Social Work Education and Practice	-	-
Journals of Intellectual Property Rights	-	-
Mens Sana Monographs	-	-
Social Science Spectrum	-	-

Table 4 describes the present situation of these articles (as on October, 2018). Out of the fifteen journals, seven journals have indexed in Google Scholar top publication matrix. Among the individual journal Indian Journal of Psychiatry have highest H5 Index followed by Journal of Education and Health Promotion. Within last five year two journals have crossed more than 100 citations in two individual articles which is a remarkable achievement.

Correlation Coefficient of cited and uncited articles

Below chart showed the Correlation Coefficient of cited and uncited articles and the regression trend line. The Correlation Coefficient stated a perfect and positive trend (r_{xy}= 0.75) which indicated the strong relationship between cited and uncited papers. The mathematical formula of the Correlation Coefficient is $r_{xy} = \dfrac{Cov\ (x,\ y)}{\sigma x\ \sigma y}$ (Das, 1991). The equation of regression trend line of this analysis is y = 0.519x + 20.47 which also build a strong positive relationship between cited and uncited papers.

$$y = 0.5198x + 20.477$$

Conclusion:

Indian researchers have started to contribute scientific communication to the different disciplines from the nineteenth century onwards. Social science researches develop presupposes freedom of intellectual choice and opinion in the society. So far Indian open access social science journals have published 5827 articles, out of them 62.33% have cited, which reveals the acceptance of the quality of the research. Author productivity such as Cites per Author, Paper per Author and Author per Paper of the articles has a positive value. Statistical analysis correlation coefficient of cited and uncited paper fit the equation with positive result 0.75. The findings of the study have strongly revealed the quantitative research impact of Indian open access social science journals. Finally India has great prospective in sustaining the higher publication and research output growth in social sciences in the coming years.

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