
**WE ARE AT OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS CONTRIBUTION: A STUDY OF
DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS (DOAJ)**

P. Madhava Rao

Research Scholar
Sri Venkateswara University
Tirupati, A.P. (INDIA)

Nagabhushanam Chintha

Research Scholar
Sri Venkateswara University
Tirupati, A.P. (INDIA)

ABSTRACT

Open-access (OA) literature in digital media providing access to the researchers and scientists especially developing countries like India started in the year 2003. This paper discusses the Indian contribution in open access journals towards the open community by various Science and Technology, Social Science institutions and individual, publishers contributing continuously. Articles shows that the yearly growth in various aspects of Open Access Literature around World.

Key Words: Open-Access, DOAJ, Creative Commons, Open Access Journals

INTRODUCTION

Today India has a large community of scientists and scholars and Indian researchers perform research in a wide variety of areas including science, technology, medicine, humanities and social sciences. They publish their research findings in a few thousand journals, roughly half of them in Indian journals and the rest in foreign journals, most of them low-impact journals. The other Academies, professional societies, educational institutions and a few commercial firms also publish journals.

But not many of them are indexed in SCI or Web of Science, which are selective in their coverage. MedKnow Publications, a Bombay-based private company, is emerging as a quality publisher of medical journals. As social science has been neglected for long, there are not many social science journals of repute from India. India trains a very large number of scientists and engineers and a large percent of the best graduates, especially those trained at the famous IITs, migrate to the West, and they seem to perform well.

Open access publishing is the publication of material in such a way that it is available to all potential users without financial or other barriers. An open access publisher is a publisher producing such material. Many types of material can be published in this manner scholarly journals, known specifically as open access journals. Open access journals are scholarly journals that are available to the reader "without financial or other barrier other than access to the Internet itself." Some are subsidized, and some require payment on behalf of the author. Subsidized journals are financed by an academic institution or a government information center; those

requiring payment are typically financed by money made available to researchers for the purpose from a public or private funding agency, as part of a research grant. In 2002, the Budapest Open Access Initiative (BOAI) was launched to encourage science to be freely available on the Internet. To support this nowadays a scientific community can use different open source electronic publishing systems for the e-journals. Some of the popular ones are Digital Publishing System (DPubs), ePublishing toolkit (ePubTk), Open Journal System (OJS). With its features, functionalities such as easy to use, modest system requirements, extensive documentation, user manuals, support, customization and biggest user community Open Journal System (OJS) has become popular journal management system.

Open-access (OA) literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions. Providing open access to the research work will help the researchers, especially in the developing world, to have access to the research literature from across the world. Also, studies have shown that the citations for the open access scholarly literature is higher than the subscription based scholarly literature. Open Access Journals publish articles like conventional journal but are accessible in full without any fee or subscription charges. Open Archives are publicly accessible online repositories where the authors or their representatives or other right holders upload their pre-print or post-print articles.

With the availability of ICTs, it continues to make changes in every aspect of our society and reshapes scholarly communication in many ways. The exponential growth of scholarly literature has put a severe hindrance on their accessibility, and the libraries, particularly in the developing countries is vexed with the problem of providing access to vast amount of literature. Moreover, the increase in the prices of academic journals by the publishers has posed a major threat to libraries which support academic researcher's research activities. To communicate the fruits of scholarly literature to a world wide community of researchers and scientists, the Open Access (OA) initiative emerged as a revolutionary movement that promotes free access to scholarly publications over the Internet, removes the price and permission barriers and ensures the widest possible dissemination of research. OA journals and literature are now expected to be read more often than those with subscriptions thereby having a higher impact rates.

OPEN ACCESS JOURNAL GATEWAYS FROM INDIA

Indian open access journals are made available through OA journal gateways where an OA journal gateway is dedicated for archiving all OA journals of the same publisher. Some of the primary OA journal gateways in India like medIND@NIC, OpenMED@NIC, eJournals@INS, Indianjournal.com, KRE Journals, Indian Statistical Institute Kolkata, IIAP Repository is an institutional repository of Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIAP), which is not listed in DOAJ, because of its formats OJS system.

Online secondary database services are very useful referral tools to the researchers across the world to locate scholarly literature published in wide array of open access journals. There are also secondary gateways that provide referral service to the end-users and re-direct their queries to the appropriate journal gateways.

OA journals are more visible to the professional or research community. Visible societies and institutions can even receive substantial grants and donations from inter-governmental agencies, government agencies, philanthropic trusts and foundations. This way OA journals as well as OA journal publishers can become self-sustainable

AIM OF THE STUDY

The main aim of this study is to produce a reliable and comprehensive analysis of the contribution of open access journal from various countries by their subject areas. The analysis covers a time period starting from 5th September 2011. The methods and data collection are presented; finally, the results are detailed, with a discussion interpreting them in a larger context.

METHODOLOGY

The DOAJ, being an actively maintained and well-established index with clear inclusion criteria was used to define the population of peer reviewed scientific and other OA journals. Data captured from Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) Directory (<http://www.doaj.org>) website, on 5th September, 2011. There are One Hundred and Twelve Countries are participating the in the DOAJ Directory. The study was conducted as a quantitative analysis of the yearly publication volumes of OA journals. If we consider top 10 countries who are adding OA journals to the DOAJ. India stands Fifth position out of top 10 countries, India started contribution to DOAJ from 2002 onward average of 35 journals are added to the Directory. Data is analyzed.

Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), maintained by Lund University Libraries in Sweden, provides a directory service to the users of open access journals. DOAJ is considered as a most comprehensive directory for peer-reviewed open access journals published worldwide. DOAJ aims to cover all subjects and languages. As on 5th September, 2011, 112 countries are participating by adding 6979 journals to the DOAJ Directory.

As DOAJ has worldwide coverage, it refers to several journals published from the South Asian countries as well. Table:1 shows the top ten countries of United States takes the first place being a small countries of Brazil and United Kingdom and Spain are second, third and fourth position toward the contribution and India is on fifth place in DOAJ .

Table-1
Every Year Number of Journals added into DOAJ by Country-wise

#	Country	NUMBER OF JOURNALS ADDED INTO DOAJ BY YEAR									
		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
1	United States	19	201	88	93	61	105	208	174	188	180
2	Brazil	0	8	117	47	51	56	73	43	135	97
3	United Kingdom	5	106	44	41	40	32	31	57	126	38
4	Spain	0	5	20	62	49	27	62	28	77	52
5	India	0	14	18	14	17	19	23	50	126	67

6	Germany	2	12	20	36	26	31	27	23	36	20
7	Canada	0	25	12	11	17	15	25	30	46	33
8	Romania	0	4	1	0	7	5	12	36	81	59
9	Italy	0	4	9	18	16	12	12	29	47	36
10	Turkey	0	4	7	21	10	12	23	23	36	35

This Table shows that India has maximum contribution followed by Pakistan. Out of 163 journals listed in DOAJ, 90 journals are searchable at article level, i.e., covered in DOAJ Content service. Figure 2 illustrates distribution pattern of DOAJ-listed journals amongst South Asian countries. It further shows that India contributes 66.9% out of total 163 South Asian journals, followed by Pakistan (26.4%). Unfortunately, three South Asian countries, i.e., Sri Lanka, Maldives and Afghanistan are not included in DOAJ. Probably these countries do not produce peer-reviewed journals having qualifying features as defined by DOAJ.

Table-2
Total Number of Journals in DOAJ by Country

#	Country	TOTAL NUMBER OF JOURNALS IN DOAJ									
		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
1	United States	19	220	308	401	462	567	775	949	1137	1317
2	Brazil	0	8	125	172	223	279	352	395	530	627
3	United Kingdom	5	111	155	196	236	268	299	356	482	520
4	Spain	0	5	25	87	136	163	225	253	330	382
5	India	0	14	32	46	63	82	105	155	281	348
6	Germany	2	14	34	70	96	127	154	177	213	233
7	Canada	0	25	37	48	65	80	105	135	181	214
8	Romania	0	4	5	5	12	17	29	65	146	205
9	Italy	0	4	13	31	47	59	71	100	147	183
10	Turkey	0	4	11	32	42	54	77	100	136	171

Table-3
Language-wise distribution of Journals by India

Language	No. of Journals.
English	345
English, French	1
Hindi	1
Tamil, English	1
Total	348

The above table shows that Language wise distribution of 348 journals from India, there is only one journal in Hindi language, and each one journal published with the combination of English & French, and Tamil with English one journal, remaining 345 journals are published in English Language.

Table-4
Publication Fee-wise Journals by India

Publication_Fee	No. of Journals.
Conditional	25
Information missing	3
No	202
Yes	118
Total	348

The above table shows that the fee wise distribution of above table shows that the 202 journals are not collecting fee and 118 journals are collecting fee and 25 journals are collecting fee on conditional and remaining journals are not showing any information.

Table-5
Publisher-wise Contribution of Indian Journals

Publisher	No. of Journals.
Academy & Industry Research Collaboration Center (AIRCC)	21
Advanced Research Journals	3
Association of Pharmaceutical Innovators	2
Bioinfo Publications	13
eDent Journals	2
Educational Research Multimedia & Publication	2
Engg. Journals Publications	3
Indian Academy of Sciences	8
Indian Academy of Sciences, Springer	2
Integrated Publishing Association	5
JK Welfare & Pharmascope Foundation	2
Kamla-Raj Enterprises	2
Kamla-Raj Enterprises, Delhi	7
KEJA Publications	2
Medipoeia Publication	2
Medknow Publications	80
NISCAIR	15
Pelagia Research Library	3
RG Education Society	2
Sphinx Knowledge House	2
Others	170
Total	348

International Journal of Library and Information Studies ISSN: 2231-4911 Vol.1(3), Jul-Sep 2011 53 Table-5 Publisher-wise Contribution of Indian Journals Publisher No. of Journals. Academy & Industry Research Collaboration Center (AIRCC) 21 Advanced Research Journals 3 Association of Pharmaceutical Innovators 2 Bioinfo Publications 13 eDent Journals 2 Educational Research Multimedia & Publication 2 Engg. Journals Publications 3 Indian Academy of Sciences 8 Indian Academy of Sciences, Springer 2 Integrated Publishing Association 5 JK Welfare & Pharmascope Foundation 2 Kamla-Raj Enterprises, Delhi 9 KEJA Publications 2 Medipoeia Publication 2 Medknow Publications 80 NISCAIR 15 Pelagia Research Library 3 RG Education Society 2 Sphinx Knowledge House 2 Others 170 Total 348 Table-5 shows that the maximum number of journal publications i.e. 80 nos (22.99 %) are published by Medknow Publications, followed by 21 (6%) published by Academy & Industry Research Collaboration Center (AIRCC) Publisher, another 15 journals (4.31%) published by NISCAIR, 13 journals (3.74%) published by Bioinfo Publications, 9 journals (259%) published by Kamla-Raj enterprises 8 journals (2.3%) published by Indian Academy of Science, and each of 2 to 3 journals published by various publishers Advanced Research Journals, Association of Pharmaceutical Innovators, eDent Journals, Educational Research Multimedia & Publication, Engineering. Journals Publications, Indian Academy of Sciences (Springer), Integrated Publishing Association, JK Welfare & Pharmascope Foundation, KEJA Publications, Medipoeia Publication, Pelagia Research Library, RG Education Society, Sphinx Knowledge House, and single journal contribution by 170 publishers.

Table-6
Subject wise Journals from India

Subjects Area	No. of Journals
Each one journal published from these subjects: Astronomy, Botany, Cytology, Economics, Education, Electrical & Nuclear Engineering, Ethnology, Linguistics, Military Science, Oceanography, Organic Chemistry, Plant Sciences and Zoology (13x1)	13
Each two journals are published from these subjects: Animal Sciences, Biochemistry, Chemical Technology, Dermatology, Gastroenterology, Library and Information Science, Microbiology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Psychology, Ecology, Pathology and Pediatrics (13x2)	26
Each three journals are published from these subjects: Anesthesiology, Anthropology, Earth Sciences, Gynecology & Obstetrics, Mathematics, Multidisciplinary, Ophthalmology, Physics, Social & Public Welfare, Environmental Sciences and Law (11x3)	33
Each four journals are published from these subjects: Genetics, Urology, Cardiovascular, Oncology and Social Sciences	20
Each five journals are published from these subjects: Neurology, languages & Literatures and Technology (5x3)	15
Each six journals are published from these subjects: Public Health & Science (General) (6x2)	12

Each Seven journals are published from these subjects: Biotechnology, Business & Management and Surgery (7x3)	21
Agriculture	8
General and Civil Engineering	10
Chemistry	12
Internal medicine	15
Therapeutics	15
Dentistry	19
Biology	19
Medicine	26
Computer Science	38
Pharmacy and material medica	46
Total	348

Table-6 shows that the maximum number of journal publications from Pharmacy and Material Medical i.e. 46 nos. and table indicates that there is a good contribution from computer science, medical sciences, engineering, business and management few journals from social sciences finally minimum of 8 journals from agriculture are published in DOAJ.

CONCLUSION

India's contribution towards the Open Access Journals from 2003-2011 were found to be 348 journals from the top ten countries India is occupying 5th place. First five years (2003-2007) double in growth, later on it is 50% increase in contribution, there is significant growth in the year 2010. When we look into subject wise there is a tremendous contribution from medical sciences, and very few from Social Sciences. Because of social media and networking, today India has a large community of scientists and scholars and Indian researchers perform research in a wide variety of areas including science, technology, medicine, humanities and social sciences, hope more contributions in OA.

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