

DOCTORAL RESEARCH IN TOURISM AND HOTEL MANAGEMENT IN KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY, KURUKSHETRA DURING 1990-2016: A STUDY

Anil Kumar

Jawaharlal Nehru Library

Kurukshetra University Kurukshetra

Email: anilgujar7@gmail.com

Abstract

Research has always been regarded as the most important intellectual activity in the higher education system. This article traced the background of Hospitality and Tourism education in India. It also revealed the origin and growth of Ph.D. programmer in Department of Tourism & Hotel Management (DTHM) in Kurukshetra University Kurukshetra. This article provides data on Ph.D. in the department of Tourism & Hotel Management. It includes details of registered candidates for Ph.D., their supervisor and major areas of research in Department of Tourism & Hotel Management.

Keywords : Tourism & Hotel Management, Hotel Management and Tourism Research, Hospitality & Tourism Education, Kurukshetra University Kurukshetra.

1.0 Introduction

The word 'Research' is composed of two syllables, 'Re and Search'. The dictionary defines the former as a prefix meaning again, a new or over again and the letter as a verb meaning to examine closely and carefully, to test and try, or to probe. Together they form a noun describing a careful, systematic, patient study and investigation in some field of knowledge, undertaken to establish facts or principles (Grinnell, 1993 in Kumar, 2006) Grinnell further adds: research is a structured inquiry that utilises acceptable scientific methodology to solve problems and creates new knowledge that is generally applicable. Burns 1994 defines research as a systematic investigation to find answers to a problem. Behalf above definition we can define research 'as a systematic, self-critical enquiry. The enquiry is aimed at understanding a thing or phenomenon or solving problem'. Research is conducted with the main aim of forming new theories based on facts or giving new direction to the already carried out research. It's a never ending process and a voyage of discovering new facts. In the fast changing environment it is the necessity of each and every university to continually invent and discover new fields of knowledge through research. It leads to the development of intellectual capital which contribute in the growth and prosperity of nation.

1.1 Tourism & Hospitality Education in India

The Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Mumbai, was founded in the year 1954 by the All India Women's Central Food Council under the leadership of Late Smt. Lilavati Munshi. In 1984, the Ministry of Tourism took over hotel management education in India and created an autonomous body, National Council for Hotel Management (NCHM) to monitor the standards of education for all the institutes run by the Government all over India under common syllabus and norms.

In order to harness the resources and also to provide a boost to the tourism industry, Ministry of Tourism established the National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology (NCHMCT) in the year 1982. The council was set up the national board of studies in Food Management, Catering & Nutrition, under the administrative control of Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Food). Currently the office of the council is situated at Pusa, New Delhi.

The council regulates academic activities in the field of Hospitality Education & Training that are imparted through 21 Central Government sponsored institutes of Hotel Managements, 19 State Government sponsored institutes, 1

Public sector undertaking, 14 Private institutes and 9 food craft institutes that function in different parts of country. Many universities have come forward to offer tourism course at diploma and UG like (B.Com (Tourism), BA (Tourism), BBA (Travel & Tourism), BTA (Bachelor of Tourism Administration), BTM (Bachelor of Tourism Management) BTS (Bachelor of Tourism Studies) & BTTM (Bachelor of Travel & Tourism Management)) & Post Graduate Programmes in Tourism are M.A (Tourism) : Master of Arts in Tourism, M.Sc (Tourism) : Master of Science in Tourism, MBA (Tourism) : Master of Business Administration (Tourism), MTA : Master of Tourism Administration, MTM: Master of Tourism Management, MTTM : Master of Travel & Tourism Management, PGDBM (Travel & Tourism) : Post Graduate Diploma in Business Management (Travel & Tourism) equivalent to MBA.

Like Tourism, Hotel Management also offered different courses (like Bachelor of Art in Hospitality & Tourism Management, Bachelors of Business Administration, Bachelors of Science in Hotel Management, B.Sc in Hospitality and Hotel Administration (with and without specialisation), Certificate courses in Hotel and Catering Management, Craftmanship courses in Food and Beverage Service, Craftmanship courses in Food Production, Diploma in Bakery and Confectionery, Diploma in Food and Beverage Service, Diploma in Food Production, Diploma in Front Office, Diploma in Hotel Management, Diploma in Housekeeping, Hotel Reception and Book Keeping, Masters of Business Administration, Masters of Science in Hotel Management, M.Sc in Hospitality Administration, Post Graduate Diploma in Accommodation Operation and Management, Post Graduate Diploma in Dietetics and Hospital Food Services, Restaurant and Counter Services, and after master degree M. Phil & Ph.D. programmes are available for students duly approved by AICTE and NCHMCT and many private institutions, Government, Deemed and Central Universities with the help of UGC funding. A lot of university in overall India also offered Ph.D. programmes like MJP Rohilkhand University Bareilly, Bundelkhand University Jhansi, H.N.B Garhwal University Srinagar, Garhwal, IGNOU New Delhi, Pacific University Udaipur Rajasthan, Pondicherry University, Christ University Bangalore Karnataka and only two University in Haryana i.e. Kurukshetra University and M. D. University Rohtak run Ph.D. programmes.

1.3 Kurukshetra University Kurukshetra

The Kurukshetra University is the oldest institution of higher learning in Haryana, which was established in 1956 as a unitary residential University and its foundation stone was laid by late Dr. Rajendra Prasad. It is Located in the holy city of Kurukshetra, land of the historical battle of 'Mahabharata' and where the great message of Bhagwad Gita was preached. Its campus is situated on the western bank of Brahm Sarovera (the holy tank) and extends over an area of over 400 acres. Starting with only the Department of Sanskrit, it has grown into a multi-faculty University as one of the premier center for advanced study and research in the region. University has a mission of preparing a class of scholars and professionals with ingrained human values, adequately equipped with enviable competencies and dedicated to the advancement of society through preservation, creation and application of knowledge in the emerging global scenario (www.kuk.ac.in).

1.4 Department of Tourism & Hotel Management in KUK

The Department of Tourism & Hotel Management in Kurukshetra University Kurukshetra came into existence in 1990 to impart quality education and modern skills in the field of Tourism & Hotel Management. The Department has the distinction of being the pioneer in Haryana in Tourism & Hotel Management education. Initially, it was headed by Prof. R. S. Dwivedi and manned by two lecturers Dr. O. P. Kandari and Mr. Harbhjan Bansal started MTA and PGDDM. Now, the department have permanent faculty Prof. Mohinder Chand (Chairman), Prof. Manjula Chaudhary, Prof. S. S. Boora, Prof. Ravi Bhushan Kumar, Prof. R. H. Taxak, Dr. D. K. Dhankhar, Dr. Surjeet Kumar & Dr. Ankush Ambardar and contractual male faculty Mr. Manjeet, Mr. Mahesh Kumar, Mr. Rahul Garg, Mr. Sandeep Dhankhar, Mr. Kunal, Mr. Naveen Chahal and female Mrs. Aarti, Mrs. Megha Ambardar & Ms. Kusum. Department offering Bachelor & Master's Degree courses i.e. BHM&CT, MHM&CT, MTTM, M. Phil and Ph.D. are being run. To cope up with the rapidly changing information scenario, curriculum is regularly revised. All the faculty members of this department are recognized in their field of specialization and are invited as visiting faculty in a number of universities. To Impart the quality education the following teaching methods like Lecture Method with and without LCD Projectors, Discussion Method, Tutorial Method, Seminar Method using LCD, Assignment Method are used for Class-Room Teaching of different courses in the department in addition to this

from time to time, Educational visits and tours are also organised by the department The first Ph.D. was awarded to Dr. Kamlesh Rani under the guidance of Prof. D. S. Bhardwaj in April, 1993 on the topic “Land Bank Scheme: It’s role in rural development in Haryana” (Kurukshetra University Annual Report 1993-94). The present study is an analysis of the Ph.D. degrees awarded and ongoing by DTHM in KUK during 1990-2016 based on data collected from different sources.

2.0 Objectives of the study

The present study was conducted to fulfil the following set objectives:

- ✓ To know the registration/enrolment of candidate in Doctoral Program
- ✓ To determine the growth & research productivity at the Doctoral level
- ✓ To know chronological distribution of Ph.D.’s
- ✓ To evaluate the contribution by the individual research supervisor
- ✓ To prepare a list of the major area of research

3.0 Methodology

This study was contemplated to scrutinize Tourism & Hotel Management Doctoral Dissertations from 1990 to 2016 of Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. The data for the present study was gathered from department record Ph.D. Theses available in the Library, Universities Handbook published by Association of Indian Universities (AIU), Shodhganga and the concerned Department for ongoing Ph.D.’s. Information that could not be obtained through above stated data sources was obtained by personal communication from some alumni scholars. The data gathered from above sources has been recorded on spreadsheets and Percentage Method was adapted to analysis the data.

4.0 Data Analysis

Table 1. Enrolment of Research Scholar in DTHM, KUK

Sr. No.	Year	No. of Researcher	% of Researcher
1.	1990-1995	04	04.39
2.	1996-2000	15	16.48
3.	2001-2005	16	17.59
4.	2006-2010	16	17.59
5.	2011-2016	40	43.95
	Total	91	100

The table 1 shows that the majority 40 (43.95%) of the researcher in the field of Tourism & Hotel Management in session 2011-2016. Before 2011 student not interested in this field the growth of this field improve after 2011.

Table 2. Growth of Completed Ph.D. research in DTHM, KUK

Sr. No.	Year	No. of Ph.D.'s Awarded	% of Ph.D.'s Awarded
1.	1990-1995	03	04.84
2.	1996-2000	03	04.84
3.	2001-2005	14	22.58
4.	2006-2010	17	27.42
5.	2011-2016	25	40.32
	Total	62	100

Table two shows that maximum number i.e. 25 (40.32%) of research scholar were awarded for Ph.D. degree during the period 2011-2016. Whereas least number i.e. 03 (04.84%) of research scholar were awarded in the period 1991-1995 & 1996-2000.

Table 3. Gender Wise Distribution Ph.D. Candidates

Sr. No.	Ph.D. Status	Male (%)	Female (%)
1.	Completed Ph.D.	44 (48.35)	18(19.78)
2.	Ongoing Ph.D.	22 (24.18)	07 (07.69)
3.	Total Ph.D.	66 (72.53)	25 (27.47)

The table 3 shows that the majority of male candidates in both categories completed (48.9%) and ongoing (24.4%), while female candidates are less interested in spite of male candidates.

Table 4. Output of Research Supervisor (Completed Ph.D.)

Sr. No.	Supervisor	Individual		Joint		Total
		Male	Female	Male	Female	
1.	Prof. Manjula Chudhary	8 (12.5)	4 (6.3)	1 (1.6)	1 (1.6)	14 (21.9)

2.	Prof. Mohinder Chand	9 (14)	1 (1.6)	1 (1.6)	--	11 (17.2)
3.	Prof. D. S. Bhardwaj	6 (9.4)	3 (4.7)	--	--	9 (14)
4.	Prof. S. S. Boora	4 (6.3)	5 (7.9)	1 (1.6)	--	10 (15.7)
5.	Prof. Ravi Bhushan Kumar	5 (7.9)	2 (3.1)		1 (1.6)	8 (12.5)
6.	Prof. O. P. Kandri	6 (9.4)	--	1 (1.6)	--	7 (11)
7.	Prof. K. K. Kamra	2 (3.1)	1 (1.6)	--	--	3 (4.7)
8.	Dr. Ankush Ambarbar	1 (1.6)	--	--	--	1 (1.6)
9.	Dr. Surjeet Kumar	1 (1.6)	--	--	--	1 (1.6)
	Total	43 (67.2)	16 (25)	4 (6.3)	2 (3.1)	64 (100)

Table 4. Shows the research output of various supervisors of DTHM in Kurukshetra University. Among Ten supervisors, Prof. Manjula Chudhary has guided the maximum number (14) research scholars and ranked as number first on the list based on the supervision provided to scholars. Prof. Mohinder Chand & Prof. D. S. Bhardwaj are ranked second and third as the number (09 & 06) of guidance provided by them is same. Prof. S. S. Boora ranked fourth on bases of supervision provided by him.

Table 5. Output of Research Supervisor (Ongoing Ph.D.)

Sr. No.	Supervisor	Individual		Joint		Total
		Male	Female	Male	Female	
1.	Prof. Mohinder Chand	6	--	--	--	6
2.	Prof. Ravi Bhushan Kumar	4	1	--	1*	6
3.	Prof. Ramesh H. Taxak	5	1	--	--	6
4.	Dr. Surjeet Kumar	2	2	--	--	4
5.	Dr. Ankush Ambardar	3	--	--	--	3
6.	Prof. S. S. Boora	1	2	--	--	3
7.	Prof. Manjula Chudhary	1	--	--	1**	2
	Total	22	6	--	2	30

(Note * =Prof. Manjula Chudhary**=Prof. Ravi Bhushan Kumar)

Table 5. shows ongoing Ph.D’s candidates under Prof. Mohinder Chand has guided the maximum number (06) research scholars and ranked as number first while Prof. Manjula Chudhary has one candidates individual and one in joint supervision with Prof. Ravi Bhushan Kumar.

Table 6. Ranking of High Performing Supervisor (Overall Ph.D.)

Sr. No.	Supervisor	Individual		Joint		Total	Rank
		Male	Female	Male	Female		
1.	Prof. Mohinder Chand	15	1	1****	--	17	1
2.	Prof. Manjula Chudhary	9	4	1	1* +1**	16	2
3.	Prof. Ravi Bhushan Kumar	9	3	--	2***	14	3
4.	Prof. S. S. Boora	5	7	1****	--	13	4
5.	Prof. D. S. Bhardwaj	6	3	--	--	9	5
6.	Prof. O. P. Kandri	6	--	1***	--	7	6
7.	Prof. Ramesh H. Taxak	5	1	--	--	6	7
8.	Dr. Surjeet Kumar	3	2	--	--	5	8
9.	Dr. Ankush Ambardar	4	-	--	--	4	9
10.	Prof. K. K. Kamra	2	1	--	--	3	10
	Total	64	22	4	4	94	

(Note****= Prof. M. Chand, ****= Prof. S. S. Boora, ***=Prof. Manjula Chudhary, **=Prof. Ravi B. Kumar & *=Prof. O. P. Kandri)

Table 6. Shows that overall competed and ongoing Ph.D. research output of various supervisors of DTHM of KUK. Among ten supervisors, Prof. Mohinder Chand has guided the maximum number (17) sixteen individual and one joint supervision with Prof. S. S. Boora and least number of led supervision by Prof. K. K. Kamra i.e. only three.

Table 7. Distribution of Ph.D. these by Majority of Subject in DTHM KUK

Sr. No	Subjects	Frequency (%)	Rank
1.	Culture & Heritage	9 (9.89)	1
2.	Food & Beverage Services Management	8 (8.79)	2
3.	Tourism Development	7 (7.69)	3
4.	Marketing	7 (7.69)	4

5.	Tourism in Haryana	7 (7.69)	5
6.	Finance Management	6 (6.59)	6
7.	Eco-Tourism and Environment	6 (6.59)	7
8.	Customer Behaviour & Relationship	5 (5.49)	8
9.	HRM in Hospitality industry	4 (4.39)	9
10.	Tour & Travelling	4 (4.39)	10

Table 7. Shows the Top 10 ranking Subjects emerging in DTHM research on which maximum number of Ph.D.'s (68.13%) have been awarded or ongoing in the Department of DTHM in KUK. Tourism & Culture is found the most popular area of research with 09 (09.89%) Ph.D. followed by the Food & Beverage Services Management with 08 (08.79%) Ph.D. Tourism Development with 05 (10.10%) Ph.D., and Marketing 07 (07.69%) Ph.D.

Conclusion

The study showed the details of the Ph.D. research activities by DTHM Faculty in Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. So far, 62 Ph.D. have been awarded and 29 researches are under process. A lot of numbers of researcher registered for Doctoral programme is increasing over these years. During the period 2011-16 tremendous growth has been witnessed as maximum number of Degrees being awarded during this time period. Every research supervisor has put their best efforts in supervising their scholars in every possible manner. The study reveals that Culture & Heritage, Food & Beverage Services Management, Tourism Resources & Development, Marketing, Tourism in Haryana etc., are the major thrust areas being opted by the majority of scholars of DTHM at KUK.

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