

AN ANALYSIS OF PROFILE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO VIDWAN EXPERT DATABASE

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Abstracts Vidwan is an Indian Experts Database developed and maintained by INFLIBNET centre and it is available for the public in free of cost to identify the subject experts in their respective fields of study. This paper aims to examine the Vidwan expert's database of scientists/ researchers and other faculty members of Indian institutions. The study adopted web content analysis to collect data related to Vidwan database and it is found that Vidwan database has 54974 plus experts by organisation, 64314 plus subject wise experts and 721999 plus citations, State University occupied in the first position with 14342 (26.08%) of experts in Organization category.

Keywords: Vidwan; INFLIBNET; and Expert Database.

1.0 Introduction

Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) a major National Programme initiated by the UGC in March 1991 under the government of India. INFLIBNET is involved in modernizing university libraries in India and connecting them as well as information centres in the country through a high speed data network for the optimum utilisation of information. INFLIBNET provide many services and activities for the development of Indian higher education and innovated to various platforms like library network, research development, and scholarly communication and so on. Among these programmes, VIDWAN (Expert Database and National Researcher Network) is one recent programme by INFLIBNET. VIDWAN is the premier database of profiles of scientist/researchers and other R&D organization involved in teaching and research in India. It provides important information about expert's background, contact address, experience, scholarly publications, skills and accomplishments of the individuals.

2.0 History of Vidwan Database

The University Expert database was launched in 1999 with profiles of the subject expert serving in the Universities and other educational institution in India. In the year 2001 the centre developed another database called Expert Database in Science and Technology with financial support from the National Information System for Science and Technology (NISSAT), Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), New Delhi that contained profiles of experts working in the R&D organisations, particularly in Science and technology area. These two databases were merged in the year 2012 and renamed as VIDWAN: Expert Database imbibing features and functionalities of new technologies that are now available. With financial support from the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology this database is still maintained by INFLIBNET at Gandhinagar (Vidwan, 2017)¹.

3.0 Purpose of the database

- Quickly and expediently provide information about experts to peers, prospective collaborators, funding agencies, policy makers and research scholars in the country.
- Establish communication directly with the experts who possess the expertise needed by users.
- Enhances the transparency of the process through which experts are invited to participate into various scientific activities
- Identify peer reviewers for articles and research proposals.
- Find out prospective collaborators for an-going research projects
- To create information exchanges and networking opportunities among scientists.

4.0 Review of related literature

Brahma, Mwkthang (2019)² focused on INFLIBNET: Vidwan project initiative an overview. This paper try to understand the VIDWAN concept along with the profile of individuals, university and other research organisation experts, the participation of LIS subject and skill experts, opportunity problem solving as well as LIS researchers'

development. This study concludes that the success of Vidwan database involves high manpower knowledge sharing and national researcher network in India and abroad. Debnath, Sourav and Gala, Bhakti (2018)³ carried out a study on evaluation of Vidwan database: a perspective of name authority control. The data were collected through web content analysis and interview method. The collected data were analysed verified and found that there is no consistent personal name rendering method followed in Vidwan database. Panda, S. K and Kannan, P (2016)⁴ examined Vidwan- a subject expert database and national researcher's network in India. This paper aims to explore the application of emerging technologies in Vidwan subject expert database. They searched with three keywords and data were collected analysed and found that Vidwan is an excellent source of background information of subject experts working at leading academic institutions and research and development organizations involved in teaching and research in India. Sab M, Chaman, Kumar P. D. and Biradar, B.S. (2018)⁵, Jeyapragash, B., Muthuraj, A., and Rajkumar, T. (2017)⁶ have also studied different aspects of Vidwan Database.

4.1 Objectives

The study focused on the following objectives.

- To find out the organization category wise experts of Vidwan database.
- To identify the subjects wise experts of Vidwan database.
- To analyze the experts by subjects of Kerala State Universities.

4.2 Methodology

The data were collected from Vidwan database for this study during May 2020. Different keywords were used for searching the main expert data used in the study. There were about 54,974 experts under the organizations category. Out of which 54,974 experts the State University category shows that 14342 experts in Infilibnet - Vidwan database. Further this data were analyzed by organization categories, subject wise experts, experts of top ten subjects of Kerala State Universities and also used frequency and simple percentage and ranking.

5.0 Data Analysis and Findings

The collected data were analyzed using simple calculation method and ranked.

5.1 Experts by Organization Categories

Vidwan database were analyzed and the organization categories were identified. The different organisation categories such as State University, Institute of National Importance, Central University, Deemed University...etc. and their number of experts are given in Table 1.

Sl. No.	Organization Category	Number of Experts	Percentage	Rank
1	State University	14342	26.08	1
2	Institute of National Importance	13653	24.83	2
3	Central University	7369	13.44	3
4	Deemed University	7239	13.16	4
5	Technical Institute	4917	8.94	5
6	R&D Organisation	4385	7.97	6
7	Other Institute	3069	5.58	7
	Total	54974	100	

Table 1: Experts by organization categories

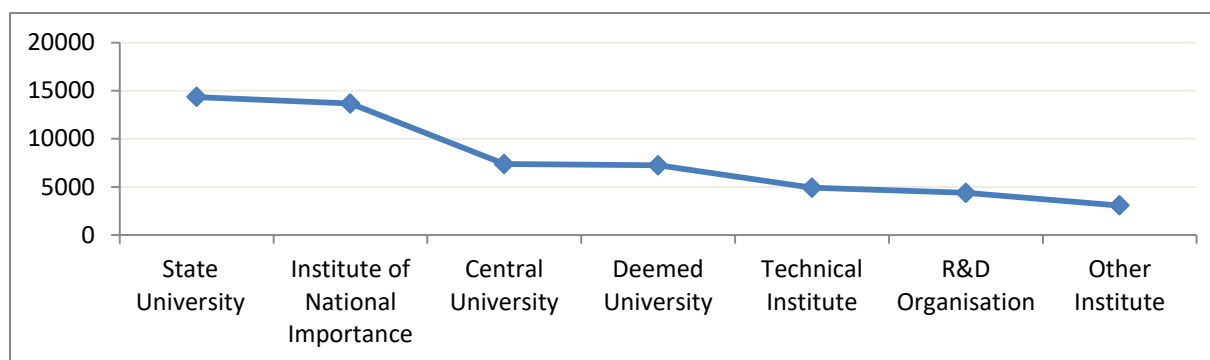


Fig. 1: Experts by Organization Categories

The data from Table 1 shows that State University occupied in the first position with 14342 (26.08%) of experts. It is further found that Institute of National Importance with 13653 (24.83%) experts occupied second rank and followed by the Central University 7369(13.44%) experts and placed third rank. The Deemed university has 7239(13.16%) experts and placed fourth rank and Technical Institute with 4917(8.94%) has fifth position. It is followed by R & D Organisation 4385(7.97%) and other institutes 3069 (5.58%) placed sixth and seventh ranks respectively.

5.2 Subject wise Experts in various domains

The study was analyzed the subject wise experts in Vidwan database and the same is given in Table 2 and Figure 1.

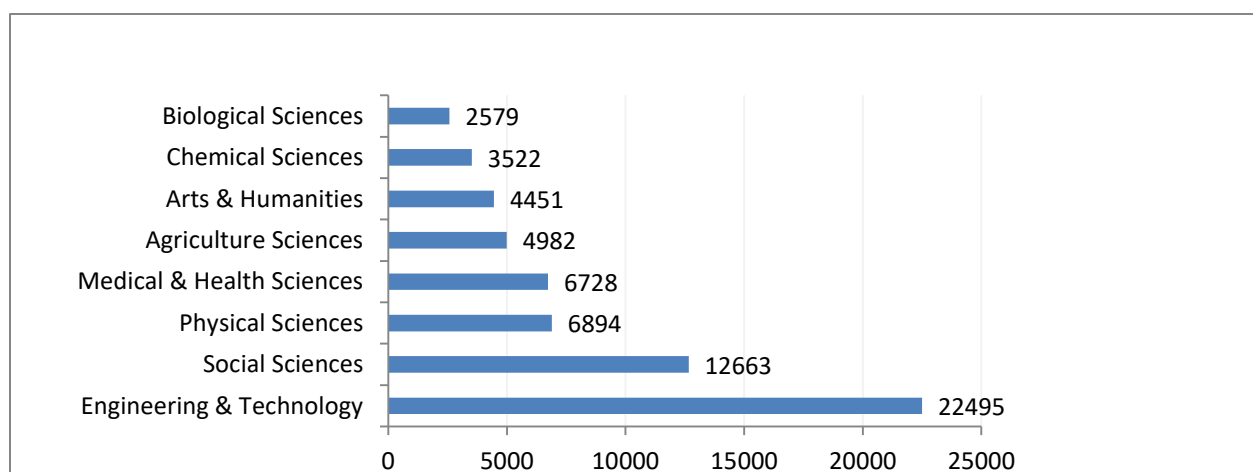


Fig. 2: Subject wise Experts in various domains

Sl. No.	Name of the Subject	No. Of Records	Percentage	Rank
1	Engineering & Technology	22495	34.97	1
2	Social Sciences	12663	19.68	2
3	Physical Sciences	6894	10.71	3
4	Medical & Health Sciences	6728	10.46	4
5	Agriculture Sciences	4982	7.74	5
6	Arts & Humanities	4451	6.92	6
7	Chemical Sciences	3522	5.47	7
8	Biological Sciences	2579	4.01	8
	Total	64314	100	

Table 2: Experts by Subjects

Table 2 and Figure 1 describes that the total of 64314 experts Engineering & Technology has 22495 (34.97%) experts in Vidwan database and placed in first position. It is followed by Social Sciences 12663 (19.68%) Physical Sciences 6894 (10.71%) and placed second and third rank. It is also found that 6728 (10.46%) experts in Medical & Health Sciences and 4982 (7.74%) of experts in Agriculture Sciences placed fourth and fifth rank. Arts & Humanities has 4451 (6.92%) of experts and occupied in sixth position and Chemical Sciences 3522 (5.47%) Biological Sciences 2579 (4.01%) placed seventh and eighth position. In Vidwan database it is observed that there is a vast difference in the experts by the subjects.

5.3 Experts by Top Ten Kerala State Universities

The experts by top ten Kerala State Universities in the Vidwan database were analyzed and the same is shown in Table 3.

Sl. No.	Name of the Universities	No. Of Experts	Percentage	Rank
1	Cochin University of Science and Technology	57	32.38	1
2	University of Calicut	34	19.31	2
3	University of Kerala	30	17.04	3
4	Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam	17	9.65	4
5	Kannur University	13	7.38	5
6	Kerala Agricultural University	11	6.25	6
7	Kerala Veterinary & Animal Science University	7	3.97	7
8	Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit	3	1.70	8
9	APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University	2	1.13	9
10	Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies	2	1.13	10
	Total	176	100	

Table 3: Experts by Top Ten Kerala State Universities (25/05/2020)

Table 3 shows that Cochin University of Science and Technology has contributed 57 (32.38%) experts and occupied in first position in Kerala State Universities, which is followed by University of Calicut 34 (19.31%), University of Kerala 30 (17.04%), M G University 17 (9.65%), Kannur University 13 (7.38%), Kerala Agricultural University 11 (6.25%), Kerala Veterinary & Animal Science University 7 (3.97%) and Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit 3 (1.91%). Further, it is found that the experts from Kerala are very low.

5.4 Experts by Top Ten Designations of Kerala State Universities

The study was analyzed the experts by top ten designators of Kerala State Universities in Vidwan database and it is given in Table 4.

Sl. No.	Designation	No. Of Experts	Percentage	Rank
1	Professor	95	49.22	1
2	Assistant Professor	47	24.35	2
3	Associate Professor	37	19.17	3
4	Director	3	1.55	4
5	Principal	3	1.55	5
6	Assistant Professor- Senior scale	2	1.03	6
7	Deputy Librarian	2	1.03	7
8	Scientist	2	1.03	8
9	Dean	1	0.51	9
10	Faculty Member	1	0.51	10
	Total	193	100	

Table 4: Experts by top ten designation of Kerala State Universities (25/05/2020)

Table 4 indicates that the professor Category has good number of experts 95 (49.22%) and occupied in first position, it is followed by Assistant Professor 47 (24.35%), and Associate Professor 37 (19.17%) placed second and third position. The remaining designations of Kerala State Universities were contributed less than 5 experts.

6.0 Findings

The study found that 54974 experts by organisation category of Infflibnet-vidwan database, 64314 subject wise experts and 721999 plus citations, State University occupied in the first position with 14342 (26.08%) of experts in Organization category. Cochin University of Science and Technology has contributed 57 (32.38%) experts and occupied in first position in Kerala State Universities, which is followed by University of Calicut 34 (19.31%) and University of Kerala 30 (17.04%). The professor Category has good number of experts.

7.0 Conclusion

Vidwan is an excellent source of background information of subject experts working at leading academic institution and R & D organisations involved in teaching and research in India. It create an opportunity for people to interact with subject experts such as information scientists, research experts and other faculty members working in academic institutions and research organisation in India. Vidwan database helps to improve faculty collaboration across organisations in India and identify institutional strength in a given subject area.

8.0 References

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