

Research Output (Doctoral Theses) in Assam University during 2001-2014: An Analytical Study

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Abstract

This paper deals with an analytical study on research output (doctoral theses) in various departments such as Arts, Science, Languages and Technologies in Assam University. The analytical period is from the year 2001 to 2014, June. This paper finds out year-wise submission of PhD theses in different departments and rank-wise distribution of each discipline according to its submitted percentage. Paper shows gender-wise submission of PhD theses in Assam University.

Keywords: A.U, Research Output, Theses, Arts, Science, Analytical Study

1. Introduction

Assam University came into existence through Assam (Central) University Act, 1989. It was established in 1994, since then the university is steadily becoming an excellent centre of learning. Assam University is a teaching-cum-affiliating university. The objectives of the university are to disseminate and advance knowledge by providing instructional and research facilities in such branches of learning as it may deem fit and by examples of its corporate life to make provisions for integrated courses in humanities, natural and physical sciences and social sciences on the educational programmes of the university, to take appropriate measure for promoting inter-disciplinary studies and research in the university; to educate and train manpower for development of the state of Assam. This study has shown the total strength of research output of the Assam University considering the total PhDs submitted year-wise, department-wise, gender-wise and ranking.

2. Period of Study

The keywords Research output (doctoral theses) used in topic field and Assam University used in address field and the period coverage from 2001 to June 2014.

3. Review of Literature

S.Padmamma and R.H.Walmiki 2012[1] conducted an analytical study and has shown the total strength of research productivity of Kuvempu University considering the total PhDs submitted year-wise, department-wise, rank-wise and gender-wise Tejomurthy and Kumar 1998[2] presents the pattern and state-of-the art of research in LIS in India and emphasizes need for financial support and creation of research opportunities and research atmosphere in India. Study by Ramansu Lahiri 1996 [3] finds out the areas of research, types of work, growth patterns status of research and productivity of the universities and suggests that using quality monitoring and good policy to problems can be solved. Kumar 1998[4] highlighted that universities are demanding a doctoral degree for library and informa-



tion science faculties than any other subjects and he has provided statistics of doctoral research in India.

4. Objectives Of The Study

1. To show total no. of departments established in A.U during 1994-2010.
2. To find out research output in A.U during 2001-2014.
3. To show year-wise research output in A.U
4. To study gender-wise distribution of research output.
5. To find out which department had submitted highest no PhDs theses.
6. To highlights rank-wise distribution of the PhDs in arts, science, languages and technologies discipline.

5. Research Methodology

The data under analysis was extracted from A.U library, departmental lists of research output. Beside theses, annual reports of A.U were also used for this study.

6. Analysis And Discussion

The data is analyzed and presented in tabular forms

Table 1: Total no. of departments established in Assam University in Arts, Science, Languages and technologies during 1994-2010:

Table 1.1 Total no. of departments established in Arts during 1994-2010:

SI No.	Social science Departments	Year of Establishment
1	Economics	1994
2	Management	1997
3	Commerce	1994
4	History	1994
5	Sociology	1995
6	Social work	1997
7	Political science	1995
8	Education	1995
9	Law	2004
10	Mass communication	1996
11	Fine Arts	1996
12	Philosophy	1995
13	Library Science	2010

Table 1.2 Total no. of departments established in Science during 1994-2010

SI No.	Science Departments	Year of Establishment
1	Chemistry	1996
2	Mathematics	1994
3	Physics	1996
4	Ecology	1996
5	Life Science	1996
6	Geology	2009
7	Pharmaceutical Science	2010
8	Bio-Technology	2004
9	Micro-Biology	2009

Table 1.3 Total no. of departments established in Languages during 1994-2010

Sl No.	Language Departments	Year of Establishment
1	Bengali	1994
2	Hindi	1998
3	Sanskrit	1995
4	Arabic	1997
5	Manipuri	1997
6	English	1994
7	Linguistic	1995
8	French	2005

Table 1.4 Table 1.3 Total no. of departments established in Technologies during 1994-2010

Sl No.	Language Departments	Year of Establishment
1	Computer Science	1997
2	Information Technology	2006
3	Electronic & Telecommunication	2010
4	Agricultural Engineering	2006

Table 2: Total submission of PhDs to the Assam University: Year-wise distribution

Sl No.	Year-wise	No. of PhD theses
1	2001	02
2	2002	16
3	2003	19
4	2004	23
5	2005	12
6	2006	36
7	2007	33
8	2008	43
9	2009	45
10	2010	70
11	2011	66
12	2012	70
13	2013	96
14	2014	78
Total		609

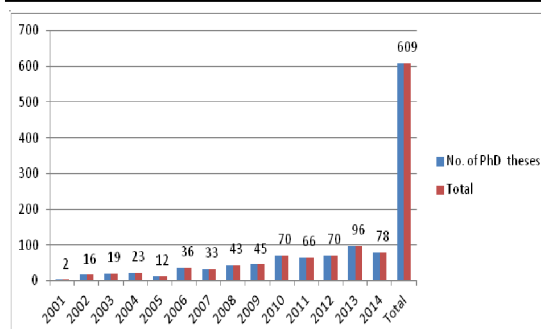
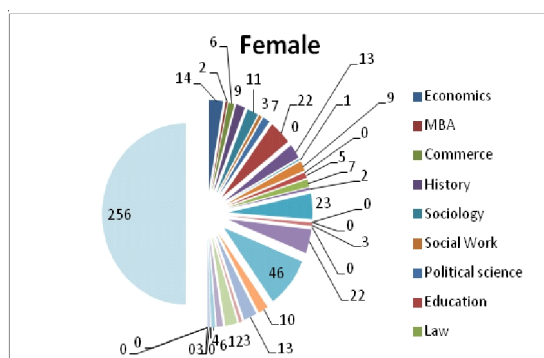
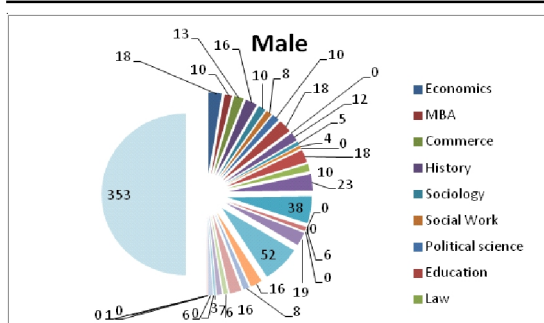


Table 2 shows total submission of PhDs to the A.U: year-wise distribution in arts, science, languages and technologies disciplines. From the above table, it is found that 609 PhDs theses were submitted in A.U during 2001-2014 and the no. of PhDs are fluctuated every year and the highest no of PhDs were submitted in 2013.

Table 3: PhD theses submitted to Assam University: Gender-wise distribution

SINo.	Departments	Male	Female	Total
1	Economics	18	14	32
2	MBA	10	2	12
3	Commerce	13	6	19
4	History	16	9	25
5	Sociology	10	11	21
6	Social Work	8	3	11
7	Political science	10	7	17
8	Education	18	22	40
9	Law	0	0	0
10	Mass Comm	12	13	25
11	Fine Arts	5	1	6
12	Philosophy	4	9	13
13	Library Sc	0	0	0
14	Chemistry	18	5	23
15	Mathematics	10	7	17
16	Physics	23	2	25
17	Ecology	38	23	61
18	Geology	0	0	0

19	Pharmaceutical Sc	0	0	0
20	Bio-technology	6	3	9
21	Micro-biology	0	0	0
22	Life Sc	19	22	41
23	Bengali	52	46	98
24	Hindi	16	10	26
25	Sanskrit	8	13	21
26	Arabic	16	3	19
27	Manipuri	6	12	18
28	English	7	6	13
29	Linguistic	3	4	7
30	French	0	0	0
31	Computer Sc	6	3	9
32	IT	1	0	1
33	Electronic & com	0	0	0
34	Agricultural Egg.	0	0	0
	Total	353	256	609



Total No. is to be done in last column

Table 3 shows gender –wise distribution of doctoral theses. Out of 609 PhDs, 353 were male researchers and 256 were from female candidates. Bengali department has produced highest no. of PhDs including both male and female (98 PhDs), followed by Ecology department (61 PhDs) and Life Sc (41).

Table 4: PhD theses submitted to Assam University: Year -wise distribution 2001-2014

Sl.	Departments	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	
1	Economics	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	2	1	2	3	7	7	4	30
2	Management	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	3	2	1	1	12
3	Commerce	-	1	1	-	1	1	2	2	-	2	1	4	2	2	19
4	History	-	1	2	-	-	4	1	2	-	2	5	-	4	4	25
5	Sociology	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	2	1	1	2	1	11	21
6	Social work	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	2	-	1	1	2	11
7	Political science	-	1	-	4	-	1	-	-	1	3	2	2	2	3	19
8	Education	2	-	1	3	2	-	1	-	-	3	5	3	11	7	36
9	Law	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
10	Mass comm	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	2	4	4	4	2	21
11	Fine Arts	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3

12	Philosophy		4	1	4		1	1	3	1	-	-	1	1	-	17
13	Library Science	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
14	Chemistry					1		4		1	3	5	4	2	1	21
15	Mathematics				4			1	3	1	3		2	3	1	18
16	Physics				3	2	1	2	2	2	3	1	6	5	-	27
17	Ecology	-	1	1		1	2	2	6	13	8	4	6	15	6	65
18	Geology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
19	Pharmaceutical Sc	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
20	Bio-technology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	3	3	9
21	Micro-biology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
22	Life Sc		1				1	4	3	4	6	5	4	12	4	44
23	Bengali	-	5	9	4	3	18	4	10	9	10	8	3	3	12	98
24	Hindi	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	5	9	3	3		25
25	Sanskrit	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	-		3	1	5	3	3	21
26	Arabic	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	4	3	-	3	3	17
27	Manipuri	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	2	3	1	2	12
28	English	-	1		-	-	1	-	1	1	-	1	3	1	2	11
29	Linguistic	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	7
30	French	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
31	Computer Sc	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	3	-	1	1	9
32	IT										1					1
33	Electronic & com	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
34	Agricultural Egg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Total		2	16	19	23	12	36	33	43	45	70	66	70	96	78	609

Table 4 highlights the details about PhD theses of the individual department produced in each year. From this table the increasing trends in PhDs output is visible i.e. from 2001 to 2009, where as in 2010,2011,2012,2013 and 2014, the research outputs were fluctuated and the highest PhDs were submitted in 2013(96) and the lowest no of PhDs submitted in 2001(only 2)

Table 5: PhD theses submitted to Assam University
–Rank-wise distribution of the arts discipline

Research Output (Doctoral Theses) in Assam...

Sl No.	Arts Discipline	No. of PhD theses	%	Ranking
1	Education	40	18.099	1
2	Economics	32	14.48	2
3	History	25	11.31	3
4	Mass Comm	25	11.31	4
5	Sociology	21	9.50	5
6	Commerce	19	8.60	6
7	Political sc	17	7.70	7
8	Philosophy	13	5.88	8
9	MBA	12	5.42	9
10	Social Work	11	4.98	10
11	Fine Arts	6	2.71	11
12	Law	0	0.0	12
13	Library Sc	0	0.0	13
	Total	221	100	

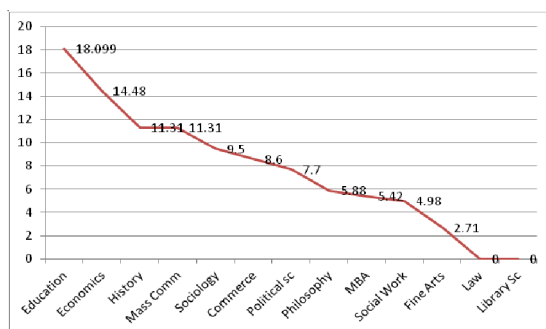
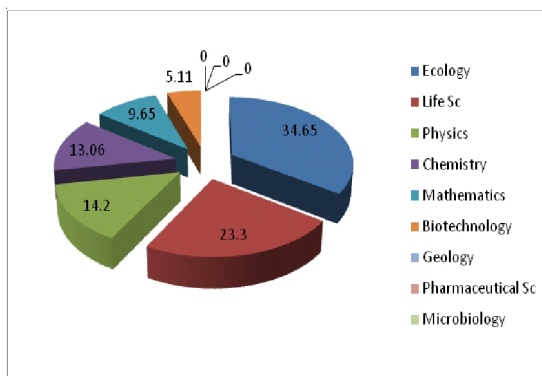


Table 5 shows about the ranking of PhDs productivity in Arts discipline and shows that education department has submitted 40 no. of PhDs (18.099%) and got the first rank

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Table 6: PhD theses submitted to Assam University –Rank-wise distribution of the science discipline

Sl No.	Science Discipline	No. of PhD theses	%	Ranking
1	Ecology	61	34.65	1
2	Life Sc	41	23.30	2
3	Physics	25	14.20	3
4	Chemistry	23	13.06	4
5	Mathematics	17	9.65	5
6	Biotechnology	9	5.11	6
7	Geology	0	0.0	7
8	Pharmaceutical Sc	0	0.0	8
9	Microbiology	0	0.0	9
	Total	176	100	



From the above table, it is noted that Ecology department has recorded the highest rank. This table also shows that 3 departments i.e. Geology, Pharmaceutical Sc and Micro biology has recorded nil research output

Table 7: PhD theses submitted to Assam University –Rank-wise distribution of the Languages discipline

Sl No.	Language Discipline	No. of PhD theses	%	Ranking
1	Bengali	98	50.25	1
2	Hindi	26	13.33	2
3	Sanskrit	21	10.76	3
4	Arabic	19	9.74	4
5	Manipuri	18	9.23	5
6	English	13	6.66	6
	Total	195	100	

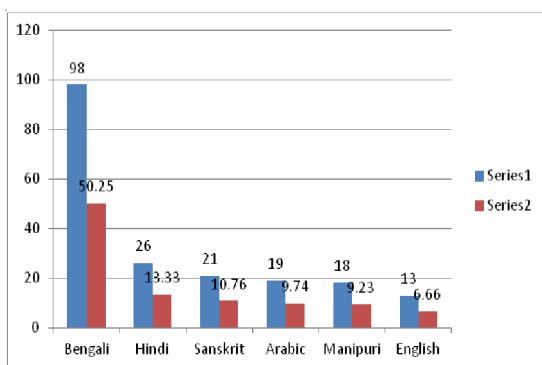


Table 7 shows that PhDs output of the Bengali Department during 2001-2014 has been 195. This table also shows that Bengali department has produced Maximum no of PhDs i.e.98 (50.25%) out of 195, followed by Hindi 26 (13.33%) where as three departments i.e. Sanskrit, Arabic and Manipuri has produced more or less same research output

Table 8: PhD theses submitted to Assam University –Rank-wise distribution of the Technology discipline

Sl No.	Technology Discipline	No. of PhD theses	%	Ranking
1	Computer Sc	9	90	1
2	IT	1	10	2
3	Electronic & Com	0	0	3
4	Agricultural Egg.	0	0	4
	Total	10	100	

Table 8 provides total no of PhDs submitted in Technology Disciplines. Computer Sc has submitted 10 PhDs theses and placed in first rank position.

7. Major Findings of The Study

1. It is found that the highest no of departments were established in the of 1994, followed by the year of 1995 and 1996.
2. It is observed that the departments of Library Science, Pharmaceutical Sc, Micro biology, Electronic & Telecommunication were newly born and no scope of research productivity yet.
3. It is also observed that Department of Law (2004) & Department of Agricultural Engineering (2006) yet to produced single doctoral theses, though it has been functioning since 10 years.
4. Year 2013 has recorded highest no of PhDs production (96 PhDs out of 609).
5. After studies of total research output, it is also found that 353 were male candidates where as 256 were female research scholars.
6. While ranking the research output of arts, science, languages and technologies disciplines, it is observed that education has produced 40 PhDs theses (18.099%), Ecology 61(34.65%), Bengali has produced 98 PhDs theses (50.25) and CS has produced 10 PhDs theses.

8. Conclusions

A.U was set up in 1994, since then the university has been steadily becoming excellent centre for learning. Though 20 years old, A.U produced remarkable PhDs holders in all disciplines. The present study has been carried out and find out the significant contributions of research scholars towards A.U to become a centre of learning. IT is suggested that A.U should laid down more focus and provide more opportunities to students to conduct research towards getting a PhD degree.

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