News Coverage of Libraries in India: An NLP-based Analysis of News Indexed in Google

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Introduction

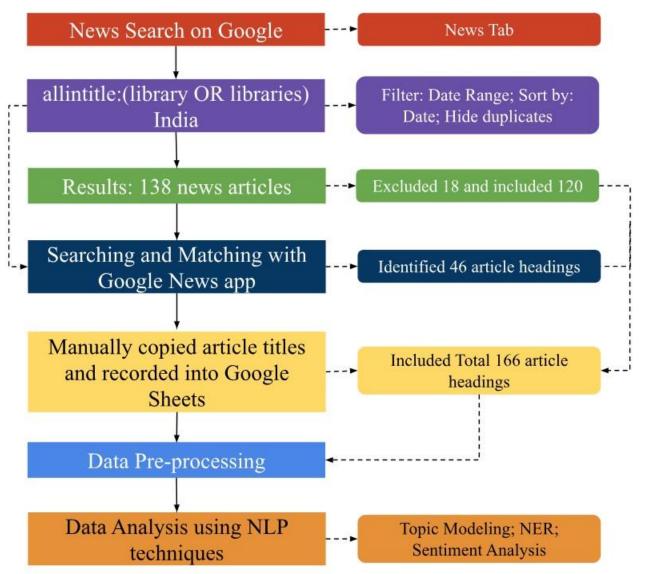
- Libraries play an important role in society for **creating and disseminating knowledge** by providing access to books, digital books, and educational programs.
- Scientific outputs showcase **libraries' activities and innovation**, while **news media** provides information on **library news and initiatives**.
- Online news can be accessed through smartphones, tablets, and computers via the internet.
- Cui and Liu (2017) mentioned three types of online news media: legacy, explanatory, and citizen news.
- Google Search engine dominates the market with **84.20 billion monthly visits** and **91.74%** worldwide market share (Online search market worldwide Statistics & Facts, 2024)
- Google News aggregates news from various sources. In March 2024, it received 375.60 million visits, primarily from the USA.
- This study uses **Natural Language Processing (NLP)** to analyze news trends, topics, and sentiments from India's library news coverage from **April 2023 to March 2024**,

Research Objectives

- To analyse the **trend** of news coverage about libraries in India from April 2023 to March 2024
- To **identify topics** discovered through news titles
- To explore the **entities** that exist in the news titles
- To measure the **sentiment** expressed in the news titles

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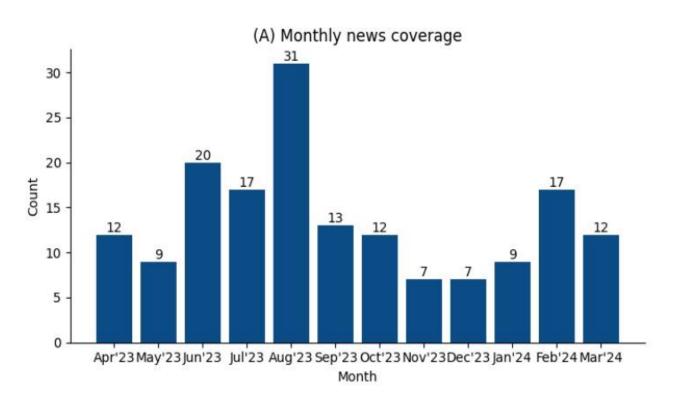
Methods



- **Data** was collected on 01/04/2024
- **Dataset** pre-processing: removal of stopwords, punctuations, special characters, and URLs.
- **Topic modelling** using BERTopic
- **NER** using spaCy
- Sentiment analysis using NLTK's Sentiment IntensityAnalyzer with VADER lexicon.
- Scores includes: Compound Score, positive (CS > 0), neutral (CS \approx 0) and negative (CS <0)
- Data analyses and visualizations are created using Python libraries like Pandas and Matplotlib.

Results

• Trend of News Coverage on Libraries in India



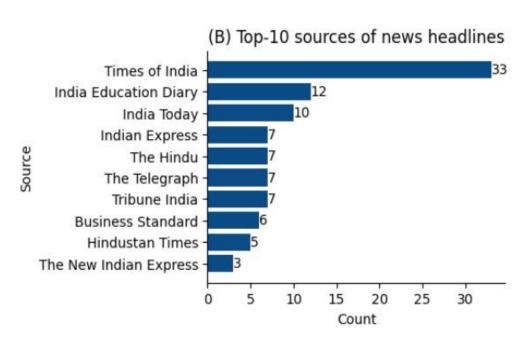


Figure 2 (A): Monthly News Coverage on Libraries and (B) Top-10 Sources of News

Topic Modelling

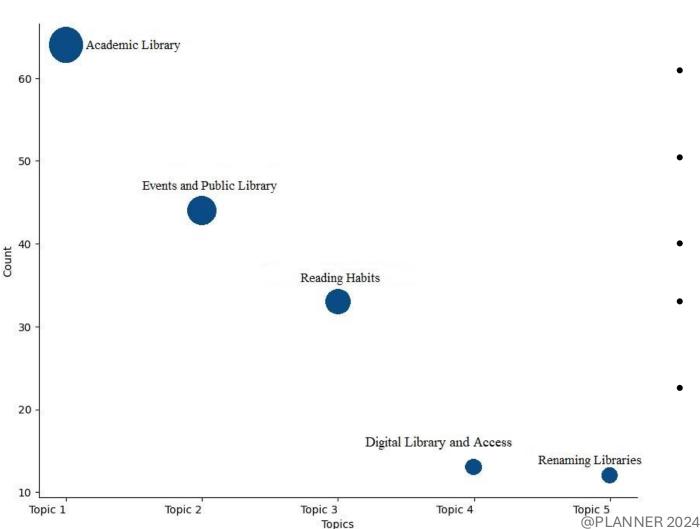


Figure 3: Five Topics Assigned to Topic Numbers

- Academic Library: 'university', 'public', 'director', 'college', 'ranchi', 'students', 'first', 'ever', 'collapses', and 'classical'
- Events and Public Library: 'inaugurates', 'hyderabad', 'delhi', 'list', 'biggest', 'memory', 'chennai', 'mansa', 'national', and 'public'
- Reading Habit: 'book', 'beautiful', 'reading', 'world', 'public', 'biggest', 'digital', 'people', 'visit', and 'old'
- **Digital Library and Access:** 'digital', 'awareness', 'indian', 'national', 'students', 'first', 'treasure', 'subjects', 'nlsiu', and 'underserved'
- Renaming Libraries: 'museum', 'memorial', 'prime', 'renamed', 'ministers', 'society', 'name', 'dropped', 'government', and 'renames'

NER Analysis

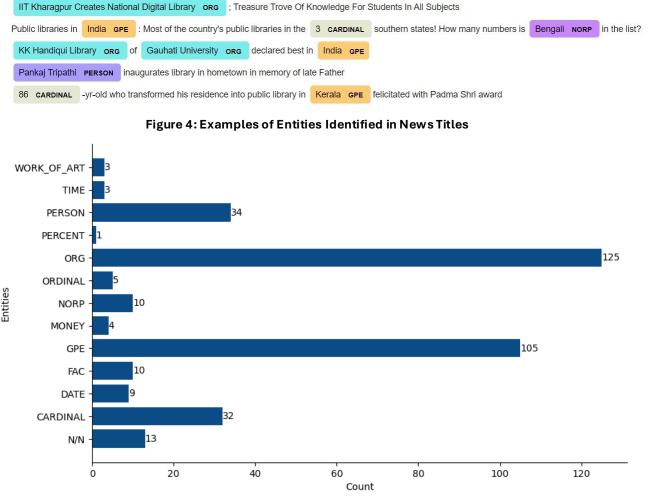


Figure 5: Counts of Entities Identified in News Titles

- 'ORG' (organisations, companies, agencies) is marked in cyan
- 'GPE' (Geo-Political Entities) is highlighted in **yellow**, while 'NORP' (Nationalities or Religious or Political Groups)
- 'PERSON' entities are shown in **light purple**, and 'CARDINAL' (numerals) in grey

- 13 out of 18 entity types were found in 153 news titles
- The most frequent entity type was 'ORG' followed by 'GPE'
- Other frequent entities include 'PERSON,' 'CARDINAL,' 'NORP,' and 'FAC', 'DATE' (n=9), 'ORDINAL', 'MONEY', 'TIME', and 'PERCENT'

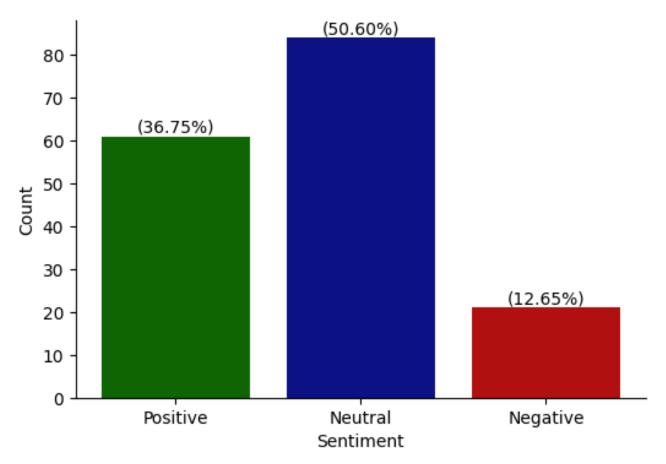
• Sentiment Analysis

Table 1: Examples of Text along with Sentiment Score

Title	Scores				
	Sentiment	Compound	Positive	Negative	Neutral
Visits to public libraries increase	Positive	0.3182	0.535	0	0.465
Dispute rocks Murty Classical Library of India; editorial board dismissed without explanation	Negative	-0.4019	0	0.278	0.722
Library to accept old book donation: The library at Swapnabhor, the senior citizens' club, is building on its stock with donated books	Positive	0.3818	0.191	0	0.809
Connecting People With Books: The Rise of Free Libraries In India	Positive	0.5106	0.452	0	0.548
Talk at the Library: C. G. Jung and India: A Conversation with Cultural Historian Sulagna Sengupta	Neutral	0	0	0	1
Bangalore man arrested for stealing rare, century-old book from Nilgiri library	Negative	-0.7783	0	0.493	0.507
Why libraries are liberating spaces	Neutral	0	0	0	1

Table-1 provides a few titles along with their corresponding sentiment scores. It offers a clear understanding of the emotion of a text. Based on the compound score, the levels of positive, neutral, and negative can be aggregated for an informative outcome

• Sentiment Analysis



- The majority of the sentiments of the news titles are neutral (n=84, 50.60%).
- Positive sentiments were expressed in 61 (36.76%) titles.
- A significant portion of the news emotional tone is either neutral or pointing a positive stance on libraries. On the other hand, a total of negative sentiments were discovered in 21 (12.65%) news titles.

Figure 6: Distribution of Sentiments Expressed in the News Titles

Conclusion

- August 2023 received the highest media attention.
- The Times of India was the top source for library-related news.
- Most prominent topics were 'Academic Library,' 'Events and Public Library,' and 'Reading Habit.'
- 'ORG' and 'GPE' were the top NER categories.
- Sentiment analysis showed a dominant neutral sentiment, with a significant presence of positive sentiment and fewer negative sentiments.
- Library stakeholders can use the findings to focus on community engagement.
- Media professionals can highlight the interests and issues related to libraries.
- In-depth analysis over a longer period to observe the evolution of media coverage.

Key Outcomes

Implications



Only one year was taken as a time frame using a couple of search keywords, which might restrict the comprehensiveness of the search results related to library news in India.



Search results might be changed based on ranking over time, and some entities were not recognized correctly.

Limitations



A more **compact and fine-tuned NER** approach could tackle this situation and reduce bias over entity extraction.



The results provide significant outcomes regarding media coverage of libraries in India and can **guide future research prospects for advancing the field** using more titles, including full-text articles.

Future Research

References

Cui, X., & Liu, Y. (2017). How does online news curate linked sources? A content analysis of three online news media.

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Thank You

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