

EPW JOURNAL: A BIBLIOMETRIC STUDY

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Abstract: - *This paper presents a Bibliometrics analysis of the journal titled "Economic and Political Weekly. The analysis covers mainly the authorship pattern, subject wise distribution of articles, average no. of references per articles, forms of document cited, yearwise distribution of cited journals etc. The result showed that out of 2880 articles single author contributed 1725 (59.89%) articles while the rest 505 (17.53%) Two Author, 340 (11.80%) Three author, 180 (6.25%) articles were contributed by joint authors and EPW & Economic Weekly 130 (4.51%) articles Published Jointly. Study reveals that most of the contributions are from Higher Education 405 (14.06%) and Political Thinker 305 (10.59%) and Economic Thinker 255 (8.85%) and 97.04% are from India and 2.95% from other countries.*

Keywords: Bibliometrics, Subjectwise Distribution, Bibliography, Authorship pattern, Geographical distribution.

Introduction:

Ever since the first issue in 1966, EPW has been India's premier journal for comment on current affairs and research in the social sciences. It succeeded Economic Weekly (1949-1965), which was launched and shepherded by Sachin Chaudhari, who was also the founder editor of EPW. As editor (1969-2004).

The term bibliometrics was first defined by Pritchard (1996) as "The application of mathematical and statistical methods to books and other media. It involves the analysis of a set of publications characterized by bibliographic variables such as the author (s), the place of

publication, the subject keywords, and citations."

The methods of bibliometrics and closely related specialism of informatics, scientometrics and webometrics (Hood and Wibon 2001) are to investigate the increasing range of topics, including the frequency distributions and the extent to which individual, research groups or institutions are published or cited in the literature (Bar-Ilan 2008; Borgman and Furner 2002; Cronin 1984; Garfield 1979; The Wall, Vaughan and Bjornebom 2005; Willson 1999). This last application is of particular current importance as publication and citation measures are increasingly being used as performance indicators relating to

the quality of the research of an individual or of an institution. There have been several previous bibliometric studies of information science . One of the very first such studies sought to identify the principal subject areas in the discipline (Salton and Bargmark 1979) while, more recently Goodrunetal . (2001) and Katerattanaul Han and Hong (2003) have reviewed the disciplines literature. There have also been several Bibliometrics analysis of specific subject areas, such as ZML (Zhao and Logan 2002) .Computer supported collaborative work (Holsapple and Luo 2003) and information science. We are witnessing large number of bibliometrics studies for over last two decades. The present study has been undertaken in order to know the nature and contents of articles in the LISA journal.

Review of literature:

Hazarika , Goswami, and Das (2003) opined that “It is used to identify the pattern of publication, authorship citation and coverage of journal papersinterims of geographic , subject organization and other related parameters. In their study of authorship pattern, Rodrigueromelda-Gomez and moya- Anegon (2010) opined that “Detection and identification of communities with factors analysis is a useful tool for experts in Bibliometrics and scientometric studies. Likewise the networks obtained are a useful frame work for decision making.” The result could help in library sources management and planning strategies for documentation service to the user community of that particular literary discipline. Similarly Glover

and Bowen (2004) hold the view that “There are many ways with which bibliometrics and citation tool can be used. Bibliometric analysis can be used to take macro view of research output.” The generality of the usage are centered to words multidirectional approaches and studies on documents and authors taking into consideration the appropriate mathematical and statistical analysis to be applied. Lo (2010) in the study of genetic engineering research says that, “During the past several decades, plenty of studies were done to show the productivities and research impact. There are quite and amount of studies which applied the methods adopted from bibliometrics while periodical articles were used for analyzing .” The result of analyses is useful for the proper handling of information sources and resources in a given library, information centre organization or institution.

Thonuscodi(2010) discussed the research output performance of social scientists on social science subject. The analysis covers mainly the number of articles, authorship pattern, and subject wise distribution of articles. Average number of reference per articles.

Year wise distribution of articles.

Verma, Tamrakar and Sharma (2007) revealed that majority of the articles in the journal were two authored and majority of the contributions were from New Delhi . Mittal and Ahmad (2006) conducted a Bibliometrics study of literature on digital libraries. The important finding was that most of the articles 1725(59.89%) were single

authored. Author productivity is not in agreement with Lotka's Law, except in one case where the number of article is three; the maximum number of articles were published in the journal D-Lib margarine; distribution of articles hearty follows Brand fords Law; and USA ranked first for maximum number of journals. Patra, Bhattacharya and Verma (2006) analyzed the growth pattern, core journal and authors distribution in the field of Bibliometrics using data from Economic and Political Weekly Journals (EPW) and found that the growth of literature does not show any definite pattern.

Need for the Study:

The periodicals/journal are the indicators of literature growth in any field of knowledge. They emerge as the main channel for transmitting knowledge. Due to the escalating cost of the periodicals and lack of adequate library budget the selection of any particular journal for the library should be done carefully. Therefore the library authority are forced to reduce the number of journal subscriptions. Bibliometrics analysis has many applications in the library and information science filed in identifying the research trends in the subject and core journals. These studies will be helpful for librarians as well as professors of Economics and Political science to plan a better collection development.

Objectives of This Study:

The present study has been undertaken with the objective of analyzing the following aspect:

1. To make an analysis of articles published in the Library and Information science Abstract (EPW) from 2012 to 2016.
2. To know the number of contributions published during the period of study.
3. To find out the year wise distributions of the articles.
4. To analyze the subject wise distribution.
5. To study the authorship pattern.
6. To identify the geographic distribution of the articles.

Methodology:

Methodology applied to the present study is Bibliometrics analysis which is used to study in detail the bibliographic features of the 2880 articles, published in Economic and Political Weekly (EPW) from 2012 to 2016.

Analysis of Articles:

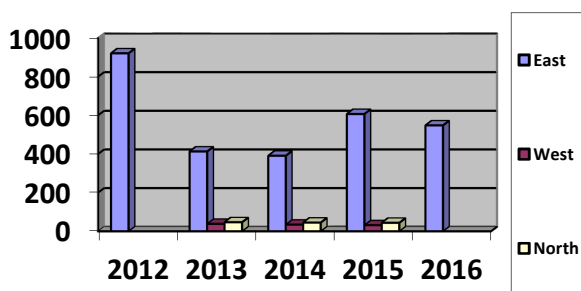
All the details such as authors, title year publication, institution affiliation etc of all articles published from 2012 to 2016 were recorded for following analysis.

Year Wise Distribution of the Articles:

The number of articles published in the Library and Information Science Abstract for the period 2012 to 2016 is presented in the table no. 1 and figure no. 1.

Table No.01**Year Wise Distribution of Articles**

Sr. No	Year	No. of Contribution	Percentages
01	2012	921	31.97%
02	2013	413	14.34%
03	2014	391	13.57%
04	2015	607	21.07%
05	2016	548	19.02%
	Total	2880	100.00%

Figure No.01**Year Wise Distribution**

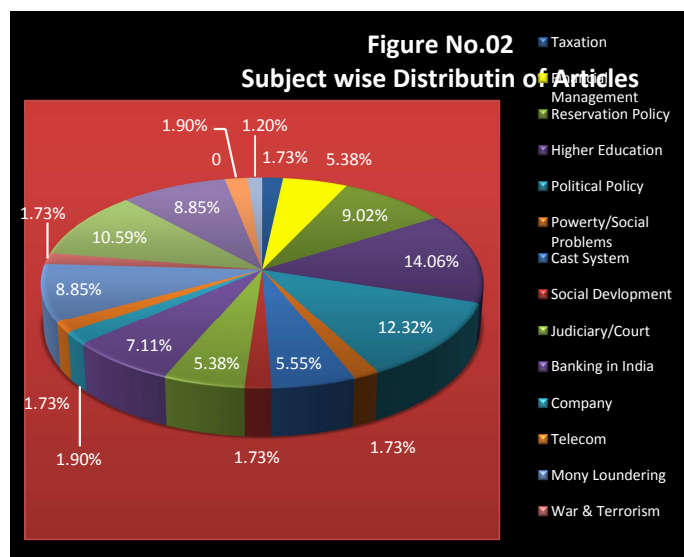
The EPW Journals published 2880 research papers during the period of study i.e from 2012 to 2016. The journal an average has published 576 research papers per year. The above table showed that the maximum number of articles were published in the year 2012. Minimum papers are published in the year 2014 i.e.391(13.57%).

Subject wise Distribution of the Articles:

The subject wise distribution of the articles is shown in table no. 2 and figure no. 2

Table No.02**Subject wise Distribution of Articles**

Sr. No.	Subject	No. of Articles	Percentages
01	Taxation	50	1.73%
02	Financial Management	155	5.38%
03	Reservation Policy	260	9.02%
04	Higher Education	405	14.06%
05	Political Policy	355	12.32%
06	Powerty/Social Problems	50	1.73%
07	Cast System	160	5.55%
08	Social Devlopment	50	1.73%
09	Judiciary/Court	155	5.38%
10	Banking in India	205	7.11%
11	Company	55	1.90%
12	Telecom	50	1.73%
13	Mony Loundering	255	8.85%
14	War & Terrorism	10	1.73%
15	Political Thinker	305	10.59%
16	Economic Thinker	265	8.85%
17	Historical	75	2.64% ^S
18	Health	55	1.90%
19	Postscript	35	1.2%
	Total No.	2880	100%



Figures in the table shows that majority of the contributions appeared under the Higher Education 405 (14.06%). In the above table showed minimum contribution of postscript 35(1.2%)Political Thinker publishing is also good position in the average position ie article (10.59%)..

Authorship Pattern:

Table No.03

Authorship Pattern

Sr. No.	Year	No. of Authors					EPW/Eco. weekly	Total
		01	02	03	04			
01	2012	371	107	61	37	11	587	
02	2013	345	97	77	41	17	577	
03	2014	227	102	59	27	31	446	
04	2015	477	86	83	55	47	748	
05	2016	305	113	60	20	24	522	
	Total	1725	505	340	180	130	2880	

Collaborative research is increasing very much in feature of the Economic and Political Weekly especially during the 21st century. It is a natural reflection of complexity, scale and cost of modern investigations in Economic and Political Weekly. Multy authorship provides different

measures of collaboration in the subject. Table no. 3 reveals the authorship pattern of articles published during the period of study. Maximum number of articles were contributed by single author 1725(59.89%). This is followed by two authors with 505 (17.53%). Three authors were contributed 340(11.80%) articles, EPW/Eco.weekly were contributed 180 (6.25%) articles.

Regarding the Year wise Authorship Pattern from 2012 to 2016 is Showing as Follow

Table No.04

Year wise Authorship Pattern

Sr. No.	Authorship	Year					Total
		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
01	Single	371	345	227	477	305	1725
02	Double	107	97	102	86	113	505
03	Triple	61	77	59	83	60	340
04	Four	37	41	27	55	20	180
05	EPW/Eco.Weekly	11	17	31	47	24	130
	Total	587	577	446	748	130	2880

In the above table showed that maximum single authors contributed 477(16.56%) articles published in the year 2015. In the year 2014 minimum contribution of single authors ie.227(7.88%) The above table showed contribution of double authors in maximum range 113(3.92%) in 2016. Minimum contribution of articles in the year 2012 ie 11 (0.41%).In the year 2016 minimum contribution of Triple authors as like 60(2.08%). In the year 2015 maximum contribution of Triple authors i.e. 83 (2.88%) The above table showed that the contribution of EPW

and Economic weekly authors is only 11.(0.38%) in the year 2012. In the year 2015,47(1.63%) is contribution of EPW and Economic Weekly articles contributed .

Geographical Distribution of the Articles:

Table No. 05

Geographical Distribution of Articles

Sr. No.	Name of states	No. of Articles	Percentages
01	Mumbai	515	17.88
02	Delhi	715	24.82
03	Uttar Pradesh	107	03.71
04	Keral	227	07.88
05	Karnataka	349	12.11
06	West Bengal	97	03.36
07	Gujrat	128	04.44
08	Hariyana	77	02.67
09	Tripura State	59	2.04
10	Andhra pradesh	267	09.27
11	Orisa	157	05.45
12	Assam	97	03.36
Geographical Distribution of the Articles(Foreign Country) :-			
13	Newzealand	15	0.52
14	U.S.	25	0.86
15	U.K.	30	01.04
16	England.	15	0.52
	Total	2880	100.00

The table no. 5 showed that most of the contributions were from Foreign country with 85 (2.95) and in India contribute 2795(97.04%) the second level of the contribution is from foreign

country US that is 25 (0.86%) articles. The rest 0.52% per country from Newzealand and England.UK contribute 30(01.04%)articles.In the above table no.5 is showed 715(24.82%) articles are Delhi , and 515 articles contributes from Mumbai. Minimum contribution of Articles from Tripura State ie.59(2.04) Twelve states are participated in EPW Journals, ie. Uttar Pradesh, Keral, Karnataka West Bengal, Gujrat, Hariyana, Andhra Pradesh, Orisa Assam

Conclusions:

The study of Bibliometrics techniques are being used for a variety of purposes like determination of various scientific indicators, evaluation and analysis of scientific output selection of journals for Library and information centers and even fore casting the potential of a particular field. The popularity in the adaptation of Bibliometrics techniques in various disciplines stimulated stupendous growth of literature on the Bibliometrics and its related areas. The EPW journal has published 2880 articles during the period of study. The maximum number of contribution are single authors 1725(59.89%). The present study reveals that the highest number of articles have appeared in the area of Higher education. Mostly contributions of articles are from Delhi with 715(24.82%) while Newzealand and England 15(0.52). The study revealed that the highest contributions were in the year 2015, 748(25.97%) published.

EPW is the highly preferred journal for Higher education, Economic Thinker ,Political Thinker by the economic and political thinkers and social science professionals. Minimum articles are published in the year 2014,391 (13.57%).

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