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AN ANALYSIS OF E-CONTENT PORTAL WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO VIDYA-MITRA

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Abstract

Today one of the greatest challenges of integrating ICT in education is lack of quality e-Content. So it is the need of the hour, to encourage e-Content production at various levels of education. This paper examines the e-content deposited at Vidya-Mitra project. It is found that 62,728 e-contents have been deposited on various disciplines by 50 Major projects. The study considered only Top seven projects of top five departments/organizations by Vidya-Mitra database.

Keywords: E-Content, Vidya-Mitra, INFLIBNET.

1. Introduction

In this knowledge explosion trend, production of creative contents and incorporating innovative Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) for effective dissemination of such contents play a vital role. To develop a knowledge society, integrating ICT at all levels of education is essential. However, even today one of the greatest challenges of integrating ICT in education is lack of quality e-Content. For the upcoming generation i.e. Digital Natives (Prensky Marc, 2001), we need to create a digital learning culture and environment. Mastering ICT skills and utilizing ICT towards creating an improved teaching and learning environment is of utmost importance to teachers in creating new learning culture (Molly Lee, 2005). e-learning serves this purpose in its various forms such as web-based learning, computer-based learning, mobile-based learning, virtual classrooms, and digital collaboration. It includes the delivery of content via internet, intranet/extranet, satellite broadcast, mobile technology. This great transformation poses challenges to educators regarding their basic tenets, to deploy the media in creative

and productive ways, as "teachers are the central forces in tapping the learning opportunities created by ICT" (Majumdar, 2004).

2. E- Content

E-content means content in the electronic form. It is a combination of text, audio, video, images, animation with visual effects. Any digitized content that can facilitate the learning process and/or learning outcome can be termed as e-content. e-Content (defined as learning material with relation to new media) the acquisition of these contents takes place via four different channels: purchase of materials, use of freely available content on the Internet, self-production of material, exchange of existing material in a network with other institutions of Higher Education.

2.1 Advantages of E-Content

- ❖ Scalable
- ❖ Capacity and Consistency
- ❖ High Learning Retention
- ❖ Time and Money Savings
- ❖ Activity and ROI Measurements
- ❖ Reduction of the Carbon Footprint
- ❖ Flexible

3. Vidya-Mitra (INFLIBNET)

Vidya-mitra is an online learning portal for all the e-content projects developed under the NME-ICT (National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology), MHRD. The portal provides facility to search and browse all hosted content wherein a learner can easily access the desired material including audio/video learning material, textual material, multimedia-enriched materials etc. through a single interface. Moreover, features of faceted search, usage statistics, project-wise access, My-Space are incorporated in this portal.

National Mission on Education through Information and Communication and Technology (NMEICT) is an ambitious project undertaken by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India with a view to seamlessly providing quality educational content to all the eligible and willing

learners in India. It has envisaged content and connectivity as the twin pedals for initiating and accelerating ICT-enabled Higher Education.

4. Objectives of the Study

The major objectives of the study are

- ❖ To find out the Project wise e-content of Vidya-Mitra database.
- ❖ To investigate the e-content contributed by top five Departments /Organizations of top projects.

5. Methodology

The data were collected from Vidya-Mitra database (<http://content.inflibnet.ac.in/>) for this study during November 2017. There were about 62,728 e-contents available in the database by 238 projects. Out of 50 Major projects, the top seven projects by Vidya-Mitra were contributed 60,253 e-contents on various subject disciplines in the database there National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL), e-PG Pathshala, eGyankosh, Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC), National Council of Educational Research And Training (NCERT), National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) and Other Projects.

6. Data Analysis

The relevant data were extracted from the project website and analyzed by simple calculation and ranking methods.

6.1 e-content Contributions by Top Projects

The contribution made by top seven projects in the Vidya-Mitra database has analyzed and the same is given Table 1 and Figure 1.

Table: 1 e-content Contributions by Top Projects

S. No.	Description	No. of Records	Percentage (%)	Rank
1	National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL)	34134	54.42	1

2	e-PG Pathshala	13657	21.77	2
3	eGyankosh	10709	17.07	3
4	Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC)	1172	1.87	5
5	National Council of Educational Research And Training (NCERT)	361	0.58	6
6	National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)	220	0.35	7
7	Other Projects (Inclusion of other Inst./Dept. Projects)	2475	3.95	4
	Total	62728	100	

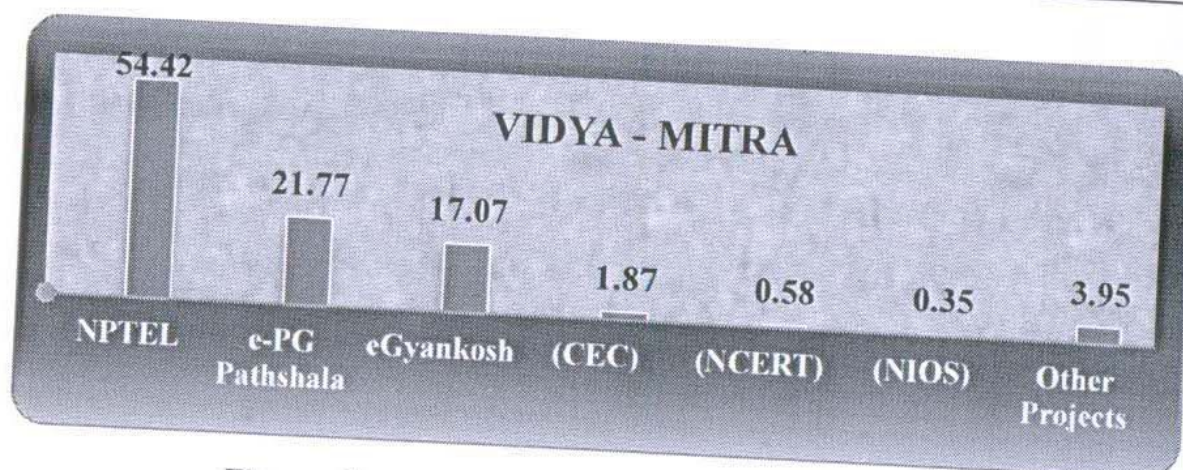


Figure: 1 e-content Contributions by Top Projects

It is fund from Table 1 and Figure 1 that National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL) 34134 (54.42%) has contributed large number of e-content in the Vidya-Mitra and placed in first rank among top projects. It is further fund that e-PG Pathshala has contributed 13657 (21.77%) e-contents and occupied second rank. It is also indicated that eGyankosh has contributed 10709 (17.07%) e-contents, which is followed by Other Projects 2475 (3.95%), Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC) 1172 (1.87%), National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) 361 (0.58%) and National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) 220 (0.35%) e-contents, placed third, fourth, five ranks respectively.

6.2 Table: 2 Contributions of National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL)

The study was analyzed the contribution of top five departments of National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL) and the same is given in Table 2.

Table: 2 Contributions of National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL)

S. No.	Description	No. of Records	Percentage (%)	Rank
1	Mechanical Engineering	5090	14.91	1
2	Civil Engineering	3090	9.05	2
3	Computer Science and Engineering	2857	8.37	3
4	Electronics and Communication Engineering	2717	7.96	4
5	Chemical Engineering	2499	7.32	5
	Total	34134	100.00	

It is found from Table 2 that the Mechanical Engineering were contributed more number of their e-contents 5090 (14.91%) in Vidya-Mitra project and placed in first rank. It is followed by Civil Engineering 3090 (9.05%) and Computer Science and Engineering 2857 (8.37%) e-contents and placed in second and third rank. Chemical Engineering has contributed less number of 2499 (7.32%) of e-contents and placed in fifth rank.

6.3 Table: 3 Contributions of e-PG Pathshala

The study was also analyzed the contributions made by the Top departments of e-PG Pathshala and the same is given in the Table 3.

Table: 3 Contributions of e-PG Pathshala

S. No.	Description	No. of Records	Percentage (%)	Rank
1	Sanskrit (M.A)	640	4.69	1
2	Psychology	593	4.34	2

3	Performing arts (dance/drama/theatre)	560	4.10	3
4	Sanskrit (acharya in vyakarna)	534	3.91	4
5	Sociology	522	3.82	5
	Total	13657	100.00	

Table 3 shows that the Sanskrit (M.A) has placed in the first rank with 640 (4.69%) e-contents contributions, which is followed by Psychology 593 (4.34%), Performing arts (dance/drama/theatre) 560 (4.10%) . The Sociology has contributed less number of e-contents 522 (3.82%). The results of the study clearly indicate that other departments should also be encouraged to deposit in the database.

6.4 Table: 4 Contributions of eGyankosh

The study was also analyzed the contributions made by the Top departments of eGyankosh and the same is given in the Table 4.

Table: 4 Contributions of eGyankosh

S. No.	Description	No. of Records	Percentage (%)	Rank
1	Education	890	8.31	1
2	Hindi	792	7.40	2
3	Philosophy	515	4.81	3
4	Psychology	476	4.44	4
5	Nursing	431	4.02	5
	Total	10709	100.00	

It is observed from Table 4 that Education has contributed 890 (8.31%) e-contents and placed in first rank. Further, it is found that the remaining four departments were contributed less than 8% of e-contents. The results of the study clearly indicate that other departments should also be encouraged to deposit in the database.

6.5 Table: 5 Contributions of Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC)

The contribution made by the Top five departments of Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC) is given in Table 5.

Table: 5 Contributions of Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC)

S. No.	Description	No. of Records	Percentage (%)	Rank
1	History	356	30.38	1
2	Botany	264	22.53	2
3	Anthropology	196	16.72	3
4	English	131	11.18	4
5	Hindi	123	10.49	5
	Total	1172	100.00	

It is witnessed from Table 4 that History has contributed 356 (30.38%) e-contents and placed in first rank. Further, it is found that the remaining four departments were contributed less than 300 e-contents and it ranges from 123 to 264 (10.49%) to (22.53%).

6.6 Table: 6 Contributions of National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)

The study was also analyzed the contributions made by the Top departments of Contributions of National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and the same is given in the Table 6.

Table: 6 Contributions of National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)

S. No.	Description	No. of Records	Percentage (%)	Rank
1	Class-XII: Geography	30	8.31	1
2	Class-XI: Geography	23	6.37	2
3	Class-XI: Biology	22	6.09	3
4	Class-XI: Political Science	20	5.54	4

5	Class-XI: Economics	19	5.26	5
	Total	361	100.00	

It is found from Table 6 that the Class-XII: Geography has contributed 30 (8.31%) e-contents and placed in first rank. Further, it is found that the remaining four departments were contributed less than 300 e-contents and it ranges from 19 to 23 (5.26%) to (6.37%).

6.7 Table: 7 Contributions of National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)

The contribution made by the Top five departments of National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) is given in Table 7.

Table: 7 Contributions of National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)

S. No.	Description	No. of Records	Percentage (%)	Rank
1	Class-X: Sanskrit	31	14.09	1
2	Class-X: Social Science	29	13.18	2
3	Class-X: English	27	12.27	3
4	Class-X: Psychology	27	12.27	3
5	Class-X: Economics	24	10.91	5
	Total	220	100.00	

Table 7 shows that Class-X: Sanskrit has contributed 31 (14.09%) e-contents and placed in first rank. It is followed by Class-X: Social Science has contributed 29 (13.18%) e-contents and occupied second rank. Further, it found that the Class-X: Economics has contributed less number of 24 (10.91%) e-contents and placed in fifth rank respectively.

6.8 Table: 8 Contributions of Other Projects

The contribution made by the Top five organizations of Other Projects is given in Table 8.

Table: 8 Contributions of Other Projects

S. No.	Description	No. of Records	Percentage (%)	Rank
1	OSCAR + +Open source course ware animations repository	320	12.93	1
2	e-Content on theory and practice of literary translation	281	11.35	2
3	Quantum and nano computing virtual centre	219	8.85	3
4	UG course content in cultural education, rural development, proficiency in Indian music, drawing and painting, journalism and mass communication	152	6.14	4
5	Creating Digital Environment for Design in India – e-Kalpa	128	5.17	5
	Total	2475	100.00	

Table 8 shows that OSCAR + +Open source course ware animations repository has contributed 320 (12.93%) e-contents and placed in first rank. Further, it is found that the remaining four organizations were contributed less than 300 e-contents and it ranges from 128 to 281 and it shows the percentage as 5.17% to 11.35%.

7. Findings and Conclusion

The followings are the major findings of this study

- 1) It is found that 54.42% of e-contents by National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL) in Project Category.
- 2) It is found that 14.91% of e-contents by Mechanical Engineering in National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL).
- 3) It is found that 4.69% of e-contents by Sanskrit (M.A) in e-PG Pathshala.
- 4) It is found that 8.31% of e-contents by Education in eGyankosh.
- 5) It is found that 30.38% of e-contents by History in Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC)

- 6) It is found that 8.31% of e-contents by Class-XII: Geography in National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).
- 7) It is found that 14.09% of e-contents by Class-X: Sanskrit in National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS).
- 8) It is found that 12.93% of e-contents by OSCAR + +Open source course ware animations repository in Other Projects.

Indian Higher Education system is encouraging the faculty members to create the e-content for their regular Teaching & Learning. Based on the educator though this project will be helps the Students and Faculty Members to identify the right materials for their Teaching & Learning. This project encourages the faculty members to contribute more on online learning environment.

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