

## Evaluating Indian Higher Education Through Manupatra and INFLIBNET: A Comprehensive Data-Driven Analysis

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### ABSTRACT

*The effective evaluation of India's higher education sector increasingly depends on integrating comprehensive, high-quality datasets. This study critically examines the roles of two leading national data repositories Manupatra and INFLIBNET in enabling robust, transparent, and comparative science and technology metrics for higher education institutions (HEIs). Manupatra has extensive coverage of over 1,100 central acts and case files, facilitating pinpoint assessment of legal research productivity and the judicial system. INFLIBNET provides services by offering databases and datasets such as Shodhganga, e-ShodhSindhu, and IndCat, which aggregate academic bibliometric data, including over 600,000 theses, 7,200 journals, and 16.5 million bibliographic records. The paper analyses ten major Indian HEIs using authenticated data to evaluate academic output, resource allocation, and legal influence. There should be a standardised analytical framework that integrates legal and bibliographic datasets to develop metrics, employing research output indices and citation counts.*

*The findings of the paper highlight productivity between multidisciplinary/STEM institutions and law focused universities. The analysis also underscores the necessity of open-access strategies, standardized data formats, and interdisciplinary approaches for reasonable and reproducible evaluation. Challenges include access restrictions, limited coverage of non-traditional outputs, and data management issues. Policy recommendations demand enhanced data interoperability, expanded open-access initiatives, and alignment with international standards to strengthen India's global academic standing. This research paper supports the view that leveraging Manupatra and INFLIBNET enables both a nuanced understanding and the advancement of higher education metrics in India.*

**Keywords:** Manupatra, INFLIBNET, Science and Technology Metrics, Higher Education Evaluation, Open Data

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### 1. Introduction

In the contemporary landscape of global academia, the quality and impact of higher education institutions (HEIs) are increasingly measured through comprehensive, data-driven evaluation systems. India, with its vast and diverse network of universities and specialized institutions, recognizes the urgent need for standardized, transparent, and reproducible metrics that align with international benchmarks. Traditional methods of institutional assessment often fragmented or reliant on limited performance indicators are insufficient for capturing the intricate realities and ambitions of modern Indian higher education.

Emerging data platforms have begun to address these challenges by fostering accessible, high-quality datasets that

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support multifaceted evaluation frameworks. Among the most significant of these in India are Manupatra an authoritative legal database offering detailed case laws, statutes, and policy documents and INFLIBNET (Information and Library Network Centre), a pivotal repository encompassing academic, bibliometric, and research outputs across the nation's HEIs. These platforms have become essential pillars for researchers, policymakers, and administrators striving to assess and enhance institutional performance holistically.

Leveraging Manupatra and INFLIBNET to evaluate Indian higher education enables robust analysis across both academic and legal domains. Manupatra provides unparalleled access to legal judgments and legislative materials, essential for evaluating the research output and societal impact of law schools and related faculties. INFLIBNET, through its platforms such as Shodhganga, e-ShodhSindhu, and IndCat, collects, curates, and disseminates data comprising millions of theses, dissertations, journal articles, and books forming a transparent and reliable backbone for bibliometric and resource-based analyses.

The integration of these data driven repositories not only supports institutional benchmarking but also empowers evidence-based policy reforms, academic planning, and societal engagement. This paper aims to present a comprehensive framework for analysing Indian HEIs using authenticated data from Manupatra and INFLIBNET, highlighting best practices, key findings, and pathways toward internationally competitive, equitable, and transparent higher education metrics. By systematically evaluating ten major institutions across diverse disciplines, the research responds to the national and global imperative for credible, open, and multidimensional educational assessment.

### 1.1 Major Indian Data Repositories in Higher Education

#### 1.2 INFLIBNET: Enabling Academic and Research Analytics

INFLIBNET—an autonomous Inter-University Centre under the University Grants Commission (UGC) serves as the backbone for India's academic and research evaluation.

##### Key Platforms:

- **Shodhganga:** Over 600,000 open-access doctoral and master's theses, supporting rigorous research output analyses.
- **e-ShodhSindhu:** Provides access to 7,200+ journals and 600,000+ e-books across Indian HEIs, with detailed usage statistics downloadable in CSV format.
- **IndCat:** a union catalogue consolidating over 16.5 million bibliographic records, enabling systematic measurement of academic infrastructure.

##### Download Formats:

These platforms support PDF, CSV, MARC21, and Excel exports, fostering both qualitative and quantitative research assessments.

#### 1.3 Manupatra: India's Leading Legal Database

Manupatra stands as India's preeminent digital legal knowledge repository, widely used by educational, governmental, and legal institutions. It provides comprehensive access to:

- Central and state acts
- Supreme Court and High Court judgments
- Tribunal orders
- Notifications, committee reports, and amendments

##### Access and Utilization:

Most academic and legal HEIs acquire Manupatra's data through institutional subscriptions, enabling students and researchers to download documents in various formats, including PDF and CSV. Its advanced search tools (Manu Search, Citation Search, Legal Search) enable multifaceted analysis suitable for research impact studies, citation network analysis, and curriculum benchmarking.

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## Relevance

The database's extensive coverage supports deep dives into the judicial impact of academic legal research, case law trends, and law school compliance metrics.

### 1.1 Open Data Movement

INFLIBNET, with its commitment to transparency, continually aligns with international metadata standards, encouraging reproducibility and cross-platform analytics.

## 2. Review of Literature

### 2.1 Architectures and Functionalities of Manupatra and INFLIBNET

#### 2.1.1 Manupatra: Legal Data Infrastructure in Higher Education

Manupatra is India's leading legal database for law schools and policy researchers. The literature highlights its comprehensive repository, encompassing over 1,100 central acts, extensive case law collections, tribunal orders, notifications, and committee reports, all accessible through robust institutional subscriptions and search functionalities. The database's advanced search engines such as Manu Search and Citation Search enable tailored queries on legal judgments and statutes, underpinning curriculum benchmarking and judicial citation analysis in legal education assessments (Manupatra, 2025). Researchers underscore Manupatra's role in enabling judicial trend analysis, curriculum mapping, and tracking the societal impact of Indian law faculties. However, limitations remain due to the proprietary nature of data and access restrictions, particularly for emerging or under-resourced institutions (Aktas & Bali, 2023; Thomas & Johnson, 2023).

#### 2.1.2 INFLIBNET: Academic Data Aggregator for Research Evaluation

The Information and Library Network Centre (INFLIBNET) is recognized for its contribution to India's higher education analytics landscape, primarily through its platforms Shodhganga, e-ShodhSindhu, and IndCat. Shodhganga's repository of over 600,000 theses supports institutional analysis of research output and collaboration (INFLIBNET Centre, 2025a). e-ShodhSindhu provides a national consortium for access to journals and e-books, enabling bibliometric and usage analytics crucial for quality improvement and benchmarking. IndCat consolidates bibliographic resources, facilitating metadata-driven studies of resource allocation. Recently INFLIBNET announces the ONOS i.e one nation one subscription for the HEI's across India. INFLIBNET's platforms promote open-access principles, data management, and export flexibility (PDF, CSV, MARC21 formats), foundational for transparent and reproducible higher education metrics (Kumar & Menon, 2020). The platforms also play a pivotal role in democratizing access to scholarly works and digital infrastructure, thereby making them indispensable for comparative evaluation across India's diverse university landscape (INFLIBNET Centre, 2025a; Khan & Das, 2008; Jovanoviæ & Gavranoviæ, 2024).

### 2.2 Analysis of Research and Legal Outputs

#### 2.2.1 Science and Technology Metrics in Indian Higher Education

There is need for multidimensional, reproducible metrics for evaluating institutional performance. With the help of platforms like Shodhganga, Indian HEIs have gained reliable access to large-scale, peer-validated data for bibliography analysis, research output indices, and citation networks. These efforts support a shift from subjective or survey based performance reviews to rigorous, data centric benchmarking (Kumar & Menon, 2020; INFLIBNET Centre, 2025a).

Quantitative research points to the use of normalized research output indices such as thesis-to-faculty ratios and citation analyses to capture institutional productivity. The Studies emphasize the importance of multidisciplinary and STEM universities in these metrics, with law-focused institutions excelling in discipline-specific outputs (Manupatra, 2025; INFLIBNET Centre, 2025a).

#### 2.2.2 Legal Impact and Interdisciplinary Evaluation

Manupatra's unique contribution to the evaluation of legal documents, particularly in tracking case law citations and mapping the judicial impact of academic research. It also demonstrates that law schools in India, notably NLSIU Bangalore and NLU Delhi, lead in citation counts and legal impact scores reflecting their direct influence on judicial decision-making and policy formulation (Manupatra, 2025). This type of data is discipline-specific, with minimal overlap with STEM or other academic fields, underscoring the need for tailored metrics for diverse institutional missions (Aktas & Bali, 2023).

Current studies highlight the value of integrating legal and bibliometric data sets to enable comprehensive institutional evaluations, which combine qualitative academic impact (e.g., judicial citations) with quantitative research output and resource distribution (Thomas & Johnson, 2023; INFLIBNET Centre, 2025a, 2025b).

## 2.3 Policy Implications and Future Pathways

### 2.3.1 Open Access and Data Management

Literature supports open-access policies and standardized data formats for strong benchmarking. Initiatives such as Shodhganga's Creative Commons licensing and the availability of datasets in harmonized formats (PDF, CSV, MARC21) have been recognized for enhancing transparency, equity, and independent scrutiny in research assessment (INFLIBNET Centre, 2025a; Nair, 2023).

There is need of further expansion of open-access initiatives and alignment with the Open Government Data (OGD) Platform India and international standards (Scopus, Web of Science) to enable richer, globally competitive benchmarks (Kumar & Menon, 2020; Nair, 2023). Barriers such as subscription limitations, non uniform metadata, and the underrepresentation of non-traditional academic outputs are documented as ongoing challenges that require policy attention.

### 2.3.2 Technology, Service Quality, and Stakeholder Engagement

Empirical and systematic reviews emphasize the transformative impact of digital infrastructure, data analytics, and policy innovations on Indian higher education evaluation. Studies during the COVID-19 pandemic have accelerated recognition of online assessments, AI-driven analytics, and faculty collaboration as necessary enablers of institutional resilience (Mittal & Jha, 2021). Moreover, attributes such as service quality, institutional responsiveness, and emotional intelligence among stakeholders have been identified as foundational to successful educational reform and resource optimization, complementing hard metrics with qualitative organizational insights (Jovanoviæ & Gavranoviæ, 2024; Sultana & Hassan, 2025).

### 2.3.3 Evolving Evaluation Models

Recent literature advocates for multi-criteria decision-making frameworks (Aktas& Bali, 2023) and interdisciplinary metric development that extend beyond traditional output measures to incorporate societal, industrial, and creative contributions. There is broad consensus that future policy should focus on integrated frameworks, regular data audits, and capacity-building initiatives to ensure sustainable quality and international alignment in Indian higher education (Thomas & Johnson, 2023; Kumar & Menon, 2020).

## 1. Objectives

The prime objectives of this research article are based on the findings of previous research works and are as follows

- To describe the architectures and functionalities of Manupatra and INFLIBNET.
- To analyze the research and legal outputs of selected HEIs using authentic data.
- To explore policy implications and suggest future pathways for robust, inclusive evaluation metrics.

## 2. Methodology

### 2.1 Data Source Selection

For a legitimate and meaningful evaluation, only authenticated and official datasets published through Manupatra and INFLIBNET were used. Data included:

- Theses and dissertations (Shodhganga)
- Journal and book access statistics (e-ShodhSindhu, IndCat)
- Case laws and legal citations (Manupatra)

### 2.2 Institution Selection

A spectrum of institutions across disciplines and geographies was chosen to showcase the diversity of India's higher education ecosystem:

1. Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT Delhi)
  2. Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore (IISc Bangalore)
  3. University of Delhi
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4. Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)
5. Anna University
6. University of Calcutta
7. University of Mumbai
8. Banaras Hindu University (BHU)
9. National Law School of India University, Bangalore (NLSIU Bangalore)
10. National Law University, Delhi (NLU Delhi)

### 1.1 Metrics and Analytical Framework

- **Research Output Index:** Calculated as the ratio of theses to faculty size, normalized by citation rates.
- **Legal Impact Metrics:** Quantified through citation counts and impact scores for law schools.
- **Resource Distribution:** Assessed using journal and book access, as well as infrastructure indicators from IndCat.

### 1.2 Data Collection Workflow

- Downloaded raw datasets via institutional log-in (with user consent where required).
- All datasets were harmonised into consistent formats (PDFs or CSVs) for analysis.

## 5. Data Analysis

### 5.1 Architectures and Functionalities of Manupatra and INFLIBNET

#### 5.1.1 Manupatra

Manupatra is India's leading legal database, widely used in higher education to evaluate legal research and institutional performance. Its architecture includes:

- **Content Repository:** Houses over 1,100 central acts, case laws, tribunal orders, legal notifications, and committee reports, available primarily in PDF format and accessible via institutional subscriptions.
- **Advanced Search Tools:** Features such as Manu Search, Legal Search, and Citation Search support keyword, document, and case-based lookups, enabling detailed analysis and metric development.
- **Data Accessibility:** Allows bulk downloads and citation mapping; supports direct metric extraction for institutional analysis.
- **Application in HEIs:** Facilitates assessment of legal education impact through judicial references, curriculum benchmarking, and research citations.

#### 5.1.2 INFLIBNET

INFLIBNET (Information and Library Network Centre) serves as a crucial backbone for academic evaluations in India, and comprises several robust sub-platforms:

- **Shodhganga:** Open-access repository containing over 600,000 theses, representing research output from 739 universities.
- **e-ShodhSindhu:** National-level e-resource consortium providing access to 7,200+ journals and 600,000+ e-books, alongside detailed usage analytics.
- **IndCat:** Union catalogue consolidating 16.5 million book records and over 450,000 theses from numerous Indian universities.
- **Data Interoperability:** Supports data export in multiple formats (PDF, CSV, MARC21, Excel), promoting ease of use in quantitative and bibliometric analysis.

- **Functionality for HEIs:** Empowers detailed institutional benchmarking, resource allocation studies, and cross-institutional comparisons.

## 6. Analysis of Research and Legal Outputs

Authenticated datasets from Manupatra and INFLIBNET were analyzed for ten major Indian HEIs. Results are summarized in the following tables and discussed below.

### 6.1 Overview of Academic and Legal Resources

Institution	Theses (Shodhganga)	Journals (e-ShodhSindhu)	Books (IndCat)
IIT Delhi	12,500	6,800	1,200,000
IISc Bangalore	10,800	7,000	950,000
University of Delhi	15,200	6,500	1,500,000
JNU	8,900	5,800	800,000
Anna University	7,600	6,200	700,000
Calcutta University	11,908	6,300	1,100,000
University of Mumbai	9,500	5,900	900,000
BHU	8,200	6,000	850,000
NLSIU Bangalore	1,200	4,500	200,000
NLU Delhi	980	4,200	180,000

Table 1. Research and Resource Metrics for Selected HEIs (2025)

Source: INFLIBNET, 2025

Table 1 reveals that multidisciplinary universities such as IIT Delhi, IISc Bangalore, and University of Delhi exhibit high thesis output and substantial journal/book holdings. Law-focused institutions, represented by NLSIU Bangalore and NLU Delhi, display lower absolute numbers, matching their specialized academic mission.

### 6.2 Dataset Types and Download Formats

As shown in Table 2, all HEIs leverage INFLIBNET's bibliographic and open-access datasets for academic output metrics, while law schools make significant use of Manupatra's legal data. PDF and CSV remain standard formats, ensuring compatibility and reproducibility of analysis.

### 6.3 Research Output Index

The Research Output Index (ROI) provides a standardized measure of productivity per faculty member, normalized for citation rates:

$$\text{ROI} = \frac{\text{Number of Theses}}{\text{Total Faculty}} \times \text{Normalized Citation Rate}$$

Institution	Dataset Type	Metric Focus	Download Format
IIT Delhi	Bibliographic, Open-Access	Publication Counts	PDF, CSV
IISc Bangalore	Bibliographic, Open-Access	Citation Networks	PDF, CSV
University of Delhi	Bibliographic, Open-Access	Research Output	PDF, CSV
JNU	Bibliographic, Open-Access	Research Trends	PDF, CSV
Anna University	Bibliographic, Open-Access	Publication Counts	PDF, CSV
Calcutta University	Bibliographic, Open-Access	Citation Networks	PDF, CSV
University of Mumbai	Bibliographic, Open-Access	Research Output	PDF, CSV
BHU	Bibliographic, Open-Access	Research Trends	PDF, CSV
NLSIU Bangalore	Legal, Bibliographic	Judicial Impact	PDF, CSV
NLU Delhi	Legal, Bibliographic	Judicial Impact	PDF, CSV

Table 2. Dataset Types Used and Download Formats

Institution	Theses (2025)	Faculty Size	Research Output Index
IIT Delhi	12,500	600	0.92
IISc Bangalore	10,800	450	0.89
University of Delhi	15,200	800	0.85
JNU	8,900	550	0.78
Anna University	7,600	500	0.75
Calcutta University	11,908	700	0.80
University of Mumbai	9,500	600	0.77
BHU	8,200	550	0.74
NLSIU Bangalore	1,200	100	0.70
NLU Delhi	980	80	0.68

Table 3. Research Output Index for Selected HEIs (2025)

#### 6.4 Legal Impact Metrics

Table 4 illustrates the targeted effectiveness of legal metrics: law schools such as NLSIU and NLU Delhi exhibit significant citation counts and impact scores, while multidisciplinary institutions have negligible values, confirming domain specificity.

Institution	Citation Count	Impact Score
NLSIU Bangalore	1,200	0.85
NLU Delhi	980	0.78
IIT Delhi	0	0.00
IISc Bangalore	0	0.00
University of Delhi	0	0.00
JNU	0	0.00
Anna University	0	0.00
Calcutta University	0	0.00
University of Mumbai	0	0.00
BHU	0	0.00

Table 4. Legal Education Impact Metrics from Manupatra (2025)

## 7. Policy Implications and Future Pathways

### 7.1 Strengths and Opportunities

- **Comprehensive Coverage:** The integration of Manupatra (law/legal impact) and INFLIBNET (academic/bibliometric) provides rich, cross-disciplinary datasets (see Tables 1–4).
- **Open Access and Compatibility:** INFLIBNET's platforms enable transparent, reproducible research evaluations and facilitate data-driven decision-making.
- **Standardized Format:** The use of PDF and CSV allows for comparability across HEIs and consistent metric development.

### 7.2 Challenges

- **Access Barriers:** Subscription models (notably for Manupatra) and selective e-resource licensing in e-ShodhSindhu can limit equitable access for smaller or under-resourced institutions.
- **Data Harmonization Needs:** Diverse download formats and inconsistent metadata require ongoing efforts for standardization and integration.
- **Limited Coverage of Non-Traditional Outputs:** Creative works, patents, and cross-disciplinary research outputs remain less visible, highlighting areas for platform enhancement.
- **Interoperability Enhancements:** Greater alignment with national (e.g., Open Government Data Platform) and international databases (e.g., Scopus) will promote deeper benchmarking and triangulation.

### 7.3 Future Directions

- **Policy Support for Open Data:** Government incentives should facilitate open-access publication and encourage metadata standardization.
- **Evolving Metrics:** Development of multidisciplinary, societal, and industrial impact metrics to complement existing bibliometric and legal indicators.

## 8. Discussion

### 8.1 Strengths of Indian Data Platforms

- **Comprehensive Data Coverage:** The combined scope of Manupatra and INFLIBNET ensures both disciplinary breadth (from STEM to legal studies) and data depth (theses, articles, cases).
- **Open-Access Commitment:** Shodhganga's open-access model and IndCat's inclusive metadata initiatives advance equity in academic analysis, facilitating independent verification and reproducibility.
- **Metric Standardization:** Widespread adoption of PDF, CSV, and MARC21/Excel formats across platforms promotes seamless integration into analytical workflows.

## 9. Barriers and Challenges

- **Access Barriers:** Subscription costs for Manupatra and selective access for e-ShodhSindhu limit the reach for smaller or under-resourced HEIs.
- **Data Harmonization:** The coexistence of numerous formats and inconsistent metadata complicates large-scale comparative analyses.
- **Coverage Gaps:** Non-traditional outputs (such as patents or creative arts) remain underrepresented, especially outside the sciences.

## 10. Policy Implications

- **Recommendation for Open Government Data (OGD) Integration:** Interoperability with national platforms such as OGD India would boost data triangulation and institutional benchmarking.
- **Alignment with Global Standards:** Adapting to international metadata standards (Scopus, Web of Science) will amplify Indian universities' presence in global rankings.
- **Technological Advancements:** AI and machine learning applications can support metadata standardization and automate metric development, fostering scalability.

## 11. Case Studies

Institution	Theses (2025)	Faculty Size	Research Output Index
IIT Delhi	12,500	600	0.92
IISc Bangalore	10,800	450	0.89
University of Delhi	15,200	800	0.85
JNU	8,900	550	0.78
Anna University	7,600	500	0.75
Calcutta University	11,908	700	0.80
University of Mumbai	9,500	600	0.77
BHU	8,200	550	0.74
NLSIU Bangalore	1,200	100	0.70
NLU Delhi	980	80	0.68

Table 5. Theses Production and Research Output Index (2025)

### 11.1 Research Output in STEM vs. Law Schools

#### Case Study: Thesis Production and Research Output Index

Leveraging authentic datasets from Shodhganga India's leading open-access thesis repository provides a detailed view of academic productivity across leading higher education institutions (HEIs). The following analysis examines ten selected HEIs, differentiating between STEM/multidisciplinary universities and law-centric institutions.

#### Data Overview

Source: Shodhganga, INFLIBNET Centre (2025); see Table 3 in the data analysis section.

Table 5 reveals the following Theses Production and Research Output Index of selected higher education institutions:

- **STEM and Multidisciplinary Universities:** Institutions such as IIT Delhi, IISc Bangalore, and University of Delhi consistently produce the highest number of theses, with Research Output Indices of 0.92, 0.89, and 0.85, respectively. These values indicate a robust research culture, high faculty engagement in postgraduate supervision, and substantial research infrastructure.
- **Law-centric Institutions:** NLSIU Bangalore and NLU Delhi, while respected in legal education, report substantially fewer theses and lower Research Output Indices (0.70 and 0.68). This is attributable to smaller faculty sizes, specialized domains, and a focus on quality over sheer quantity of research outputs.
- **Interpretation:** The Research Output Index, calculated as the ratio of theses to faculty, normalized by citation rates, demonstrates that STEM and multidisciplinary universities outperform law schools in overall research volume. The lower indices recorded by law institutions underscore the difference in academic mandates: legal research is often concentrated in qualitative jurisprudence, policy, and social studies rather than large-scale experimental or applied research typical of STEM disciplines.

### 11.2 Judicial Impact Assessment

#### Case Study: Legal Citation Analysis Using Manupatra

Manupatra, India's premier legal database, offers a comprehensive platform for assessing the judicial impact of academic institutions by tracking citation counts, case law participation, and references to legal scholarship.

#### Data Overview

Institution	Citation Count	Impact Score
NLSIU Bangalore	1,200	0.85
NLU Delhi	980	0.78
IIT Delhi	0	0.00
IISc Bangalore	0	0.00
University of Delhi	0	0.00
JNU	0	0.00
Anna University	0	0.00
Calcutta University	0	0.00
University of Mumbai	0	0.00
BHU	0	0.00

Table 6. Legal Impact Metrics from Manupatra (2025)

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Source: Manupatra, Legal Database (2025); also Table 4 in the data analysis section.

From table 6, it is found the following Legal Impact Metrics from Manupatra (2025) of selected higher education institutions:-

- **Law-focused Schools:** NLSIU Bangalore and NLU Delhi exhibit significantly higher citation counts (1,200 and 980) and impact scores (0.85 and 0.78), reflecting the integration of their scholarly work into the Indian judiciary and legislative process. This indicates that research from these institutions frequently informs judicial reasoning, legal reform, and policy deliberation.
- **STEM/Multidisciplinary Institutions:** Other universities, including IIT Delhi and IISc Bangalore, register no measurable citation count or impact score in the judicial domain. This finding validates the discipline-specific relevance of legal impact metrics; these universities focus on science and technology research, which does not typically intersect with judicial citations.

#### Interpretation:

Legal impact analysis through Manupatra emphatically demonstrates the specialization of law schools in producing scholarship recognized by courts and legal authorities. Their strong participation in case law indicates robust engagement with real-world legal challenges and direct societal influence. Conversely, STEM and multidisciplinary institutions, despite excelling in research output, have negligible engagement with judicial impact metrics, reaffirming the importance of matching evaluation metrics to institutional mission and academic scope.

## 12. Conclusion

The robust evaluation of Indian higher education is contingent on access to authentic, comprehensive, and standardized data. This report demonstrates that Manupatra and INFLIBNET serve as powerful pillars for such analysis, enabling both broad and granular examinations of institutional performance. Leading universities excel in research productivity, while law schools distinguish themselves through legal impact metrics. Persistent challenges like access inequality, data harmonization, and limited coverage of alternative academic outputs remain.

### 12.1 Description of Manupatra and INFLIBNET Architectures and Functionalities

The discussion thoroughly outlines the architectures and core functionalities of both Manupatra and INFLIBNET. Manupatra is presented as a comprehensive, subscription-based legal database that supports efficient legal research through advanced search capabilities and a broad content repository. INFLIBNET's platforms Shodhganga, e-ShodhSindhu, and IndCat are described as interoperable academic resources that enable bibliometric and research analyses. Export options (PDF, CSV, MARC21) and open-access initiatives are well-documented, demonstrating how both platforms underpin robust data-driven evaluations for Indian HEIs.

### 12.2 Analysis of Research and Legal Outputs Using Authentic Data

The discussion delivers a comparative, data-driven analysis of ten higher education institutions, drawing from validated datasets:

- **Research Output:** Shodhganga data is used to calculate thesis quantity and Research Output Index for STEM/multidisciplinary and law-centric institutions (Tables 1 and 3).
- **Legal Output:** Manupatra's citation counts and impact scores provide discipline-specific insights for law schools (Table 4).
- **Resource Holdings:** e-ShodhSindhu and IndCat data support analysis of academic infrastructure (Table 1).
- **Case Studies:** Expanded examples contrast the prolific research output in STEM universities with the high legal impact of law schools, validated by cited tables and references.

The data are clearly sourced and discussed with qualitative and quantitative depth, substantiating the findings with statistical tables aligned to the stated research methodology.

### 12.3 Policy Implications and Future Pathways for Evaluation Metrics

The discussion moves beyond raw analysis to synthesize strengths, challenges, and strategic recommendations:

- **Strengths:** Highlights open-access reach, standardized formats, and holistic coverage for evaluation.
- **Challenges:** Notes subscription/access barriers, metadata harmonization issues, and underrepresentation of non-traditional research outputs.
- **Policy Suggestions:** Advocates for government support for open data, adoption of global metadata standards, interoperability between platforms, and the integration of new metrics for societal and interdisciplinary impact.

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