

Availability Patterns of Library and Information Science Dictionaries in India: A Bibliometric Study

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ABSTRACT

This study is based on 80 dictionaries of library and information science published in India covering the period from 1960 to 2022. It describes the meaning, importance, objectives, scope, data sources, methodology, conclusion, etc. This study investigated the author, subject, publisher, place, year, and volume wise patterns of LIS dictionaries. The study reveals that, among 80 published dictionaries, CSTT emerges as the most productive author with 7 contributions, the Ess Ess publication house appears as the top publisher, and New Delhi is a prominent place for publication. It also reveals a steady increase in the publication of dictionaries in the field of LIS after the 1980s. The study identified various critical issues that need to be addressed, such as a lack of uniformity in vocabulary compilation, the need for a mobile app for library and information science dictionaries, and the compilation of more polyglot dictionaries in Indian vernacular languages.

Keywords: Dictionary, Library and Information Science, Glossary, Encyclopedic Dictionary, India

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1. Introduction

Reference and information sources are widely used for academic work, day to day queries, and to determine the precise meaning of a particular term. Dictionaries have always been considered tools for understanding the etymology, meaning, history, uses, etc., of a word or term.

Generally, dictionaries are categorized as general dictionaries, special dictionaries, subject dictionaries and translating dictionaries. They provide the spelling, meaning, etymology, uses, pronunciation, synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, etc. of a term. Dictionaries are also denoted by different terms such as glossaries, thesaurus, vocabularies, lexicon, and concordance etc. All these terms have specific meanings and purposes and are used in specific contexts. In the field of library and information science, dictionaries also play an important role in disseminating the meaning of a particular term. In dictionaries, the words are arranged in a particular order, usually in alphabetical order; sometimes the entries are also arranged in classified order.

2. Review of Literature

The origin of library and information science dictionaries can be traced back to the writings of Dr S.R. Ranganathan. In his several works, Dr. S.R. Ranganathan compiled a technical terminology of library and information science terms from English to Sanskrit; it represents an early attempt to standardize the LIS technical terms in English and their equivalent in Sanskrit in Indian context.

To conduct a bibliometric analysis, it is necessary to trace the history of similar studies to identify existing research gaps and assess the importance of these studies. Various attempts have been made to conduct a bibliometric study of dictionaries by several authors. Sharma and Mall (2004) examined the importance and publication patterns of 73 Sanskrit polyglot dictio-

naries covering the period from 1798 to 1999. Another study by Sharma (2005) analysed bilingual Sanskrit English and English Sanskrit dictionaries, revealing that the period 1951–1975 saw the highest output, with 18 publications. In the library and information science field, Sharma (2015) analyzed 53 LIS dictionaries published between 1950 and 2010, revealing that authors such as Pandey S.K. Sharma, P.N.Gour and P.S.Kawatra were the most prolific, each contributing three dictionaries. After reviewing the available literature, we found that few bibliometric studies have examined the availability patterns of LIS dictionaries published in India. Hence, there is a need to conduct more such studies that will benefit the users of library and information science.

3. Objectives

The main objective of the present study is to provide data and information on the availability patterns of dictionaries in the field of library and information science. The other objectives are:

1. To find author/editor/collaborator/compiler-wise patterns of library and information science dictionaries.
2. To identify the authorship pattern distribution of library and information science dictionaries.
3. To identify key terms for information retrieval.
4. To identify subject wise, place wise, year wise, and volume wise dictionaries of library and information science.
5. To highlight the recent trends in the availability of library and information science dictionaries.

4. Scope of the study

The present study is based on 80 dictionaries and encyclopedic dictionaries published in India in English, Hindi, and other Indian languages, available in print or online, covering the period from 1960 to 2022. The present study is limited to LIS dictionaries published in India or by an Indian publisher, in English, Hindi, or other Indian languages. The present study does not claim to include all dictionaries published in library information science in India, but the authors have made every effort to collect available data from print and electronic sources.

5. Sources of data

The present study is based on 80 dictionaries, and the data have been collected from various print/ electronic and online sources, including libraries, bibliographies, catalogues, websites, and repositories. For this study, data have been compiled from various authentic sources, such as Indcat, Worldcat, the Indian National Bibliography Online, and OPACs of various Universities and College Libraries. Data is also retrieved from the websites of various Indian publishers, E-Commerce Platforms like Amazon and Google Books, and Institutional Repositories of reputed institutes in the field of Dictionary preparation, such as CSTT, IGNOU, and InFLIBnet. Efforts have been made to collect as much data as possible from multiple sources, and the authenticity and accuracy of the data have been verified by multiple reputable sources.

6. Methodology

A total of 80 dictionaries were studied and analyzed in the present study. Various tools and techniques are available for analysing bibliographical data. In the present study, bibliometric techniques were applied to analyse the collected data. The data were analyzed based on the study objectives. Data were analyzed author-wise, subject-wise, publisher-wise, year-wise, and volume-wise to show various trends. The present study is based on 80 dictionaries, glossaries, and encyclopedic dictionaries of Library and Information Science; thus, the findings and trends are derived solely from them. Various data are presented in the form of tables and graphs and analyzed using statistical techniques.

7. Bibliometric Analyses of Library and Information Science Dictionaries

Data were collected from various sources and classified into various groups for analysis and interpretation. The data are presented in tabular form, in alphabetical order, to show the nature and trends across library and information dictionaries. The data analysis is also presented in the form of graphs.

7.1 Author-Wise Analysis

The analysis of author-wise distribution data given in Table 1 reveals the productivity of authors in publishing dictionaries in the field of library and information science. In this table, the names of Indian authors, collaborators, compilers, or editors of

the first published editions of library and information science dictionaries and foreign-author dictionaries published by an Indian publisher were considered the authors for analysis.

S. No.	Name of Author/ Collaborator/ Editor/ Compiler	No.	S. No.	Name of Author/ Collaborator/ Editor/ Compiler	No.
1	Agrah, U. R.	1	41	Nasir, Mohammad	1
2	Agrawal, S.P.	1	42	Parmar, P. P.	3
3	Ali, A.	2	43	Patra, Swapan Kumar	1
4	Arya, Satish	1	44	Rajput, P.S.	1
5	Balasubramanian, P.	2	45	Raju, A.A.N.	1
6	Bhuta, B.	2	46	Ramaiah, L.S.	2
7	Bindu, S.	1	47	Rangra, V. K.	1
8	Chakrabarti, Bhubaneswar	1	48	Rawat, P.P.	1
9	Chakraborty, A. R.	1	49	Salavdor, M.	1
10	Chanchareek, K. L.	1	50	Sangam, S.L.	1
11	Chopra, R. N.	2	51	Satarkar, S. P.	1
12	Choudhary, Mahender Singh	1	52	Satija, M. P.	1
13	Commission for Scientific & Technical Terminology (CSTT)	7	53	Sehgal, R.L.	1
14	Dhyani, Pushpa	1	54	Sethi, Sumit	1
15	Disouza, John	1	55	Sharan, Ram	1
17	Gautam, J.N.	1	56	Sharma, Arvind Kumar	2
18	Gour, P.N.	3	57	Sharma, C.K.	2
19	Gunjal, S.R.	1	58	Sharma, Monika	1
20	Gupta, O.P.	1	59	Sharma, Pandey S.K.	2
21	Harrod, L.M.	1	60	Sharma, S.K.	1
22	IASLIC	1	61	Singh, Gurdev	1
23	Indian Standards Institution	1	62	Singh, R.B.	1
16	Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)	1	63	Singh, Shivkumar 1	1
24	James, Rita	1	64	Sinhamahapatra, Sakti Sankar	1
25	Jaswal, D.S.	1	65	Siwatch, A.S.	1
26	Kawatra, P. S.	1	66	Somaraju, P.	1
27	Khan, Imran	1	67	Sood, Satyendra Pal	1
28	Khan, Zaved	1	68	Suraj, V.K.	1
29	Konnur, Sujata	1	69	Swaminathan, K. L. M.	1
30	Krishnamurthy, R.	1	70	Taher, Mohamed	1
31	Kumar, P. Vijay	1	71	Tiwari, Purushotham	1
32	Kumar, P.S.G.	1	72	Tyagi, S.	1
33	Kumar, Satyendra	1	73	Udani, Niharikabehan	1
34	Kumar, T.	1	74	Vaigyanik aur Takniki Shabdawali Aayog	1
35	Kumar, Vinod	1	75	Venkatappaiah, V.	2
36	Madan, Som Nath	1	76	Victoria, B.	1
37	Malviya, Aashi	1	77	Unknown	1
38	Menon, Rajeev	1			
39	Mittal, Savita	1			
40	Murthy, P. Sadashiva	1			

Table 1. Author-Wise Distribution

The data in Table 1 indicate that 77 contributors have contributed to the field of library and information science dictionaries. Of these 77 contributors, the Commission for Scientific & Technical Terminology (CSTT) emerges as the most prolific author, having contributed 7 publications in this area. After that, P.N. Gour and P.P. Parmar emerged as the second-leading prolific authors with 3 publications each. Nine Contributors have contributed 2 publications each. Sixty-five authors have contributed 1 publication.

S. No.	Authorship Pattern	No. of Publications
1.	Single	60
2.	Joint	19
3.	Unknown	01
	Total	80

Table 2. Authorship-Wise Pattern
Distribution

S. No.	Subjects	No. of Publications
1	Acronyms, initialisms, and abbreviations	4
2	Biographical Dictionary of LIS Professionals	1
3	Book Crafts	1
4	Cataloguing	1
5	Classification	1
6	Communication	1
7	Comprehensive Glossary	2
8	Computer	2
9	Data Processing	1
10	Documentation	1
11	Education	1
12	Encyclopedic dictionary	14
13	English- Marathi/ Marathi- English	1
14	English- English- Marathi	1
15	English- Hindi	12
16	English- Hindi- Gujarati	1
17	English- Hindi- Manipuri	1
18	English- Hindi- Tamil	1
19	English- Kannada	1
20	English-Hindi- Kashmiri	1
21	English-Hindi- Punjabi	1
22	Hindi- English	9
23	Illustrated	2
24	Indian Regional Languages	1
25	Indian Terminology	1
26	Information Technology	4
27	Librarianship	1
28	Library and Information Management	1
29	Library and Information Science & Network	1
30	Library and Information Systems	1
31	Library Professional's	1
32	Quotations	1
33	Ranganathan	1
34	Reference Books	1
35	Reference for NET, SET, SSC Examinations	1
36	Terms	11

Table 3. Subject-Wise Distribution

The analysis of authorship-wise distribution reveals that, out of 80 publications, there is a primary preference for single authorship, with 60 publications. It also indicates that 19 publications have joint authorship, suggesting that authors prefer single authorship to joint authorship and collaboration. The data also show that one publication has an unknown author.

S. No.	Publisher	No. of Publications
1	Aditya Prakashan	1
2	Ane Books	1
3	Anmol Publications Pvt. Ltd	5
4	Aph Publishing Corporation	1
5	Arts & Science Academic Publishing	1
6	Arun Publishing	1
7	Associate Publication House	1
8	AU Press and Publication	1
9	Bihar Rastrabhasha Parishad	1
10	Bharat Bharti	1
11	Book Centre Pvt Ltd	1
12	BR Publishing Corporation	1
13	Castle Books Pvt Ltd	1
14	Central Hindi Directorate	1
15	Citation Publications	1
16	Commission For Scientific & Technical Terminology, (CSTT)	7
17	Commonwealth Publishers	1
18	Concept Publishing Company	3
19	Crest Publishing House	1
20	Cyber Tech Publication	2
21	Diamond Publications	9
22	Ess Ess Publications	1
23	Guru Nanak Dev University	1
24	IASLIC	1
25	Indian Book Company	1
26	Indian Standards Institution	1
27	Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)	1
28	Insha Publications	1
29	Isha Books	1
30	JBD Book Distributor	1
31	K. S. Paperbacks	1
32	Kautilya Books	2
33	Library Publications	1
34	Lotus Press	1
35	Multivista Global	1
36	Neelkamal Publications Pvt. Ltd.	1
37	Pacific Books International	1
38	Paradise Press	1
39	Parvathi Book Centre	1
40	Pooja Pustak Kendra	1
41	Prova Prakashani	1
42	Raj Publishing House	1
43	Rajat Publications	1
44	Rajkumar & Sons	2
45	Regal Publication	1
46	Sahitya Prakashan	1
47	Sarita Book House	1
48	Shashi Publishing Company	2
49	Shree Publishers & Distributors	1
50	The Readers Paradise	1
51	The World Press	1
52	University Granth Nirman Board	1
53	Unknown	1
54	Venus Publications	1
55	Vidhya Vihar	1
56	Y.K.Publishers	1
	Total	80

Table 4. Publisher-Wise Distribution

7.2 Subject-Wise Analysis

The subject-wise analysis in Table 3 shows that the major LIS dictionaries are devoted to 'Encyclopedic dictionaries' (14 publications), 'English- Hindi' (12 publications), 'Terms' (11 publications), 'Hindi- English' (9 publications), 'Acronyms, initialisms and abbreviations', and 'Information Technology' (4 publications each). Comprehensive Glossary', 'Illustrated', and 'Computer' subjects deal with 2 publications each. Single publication deals with subjects like 'Biographical Dictionary of LIS Professionals', 'Book Crafts', 'Cataloguing', 'Classification', 'Communication', 'Data Processing', 'Documentation', 'Education', 'English- Hindi- Gujarati', 'English- Hindi- Manipuri', 'English- Marathi/ Marathi- English', 'English- English- Marathi', 'English- Hindi- Tamil', 'English- Kannada', 'Indian Regional Languages', 'Indian Terminology', 'Librarianship', 'Library and Information Management', 'Library and Information Science & Network', 'Library and Information Systems', 'Library Professional's', 'Quotations', 'Ranganathan', 'Reference Book', 'Reference for NET, SET, SSC Examinations'.

7.3 Publisher-Wise Analysis

The analysis of publisher-wise data in Table 4 reveals that Ess Ess Publication has published 9 dictionaries, which is the maximum number of publications, 7 from Commission For Scientific & Technical Terminology (CSTT), 5 from Anmol publications, and 3 from Crest Publishing House, 2 each from Diamond Publications, Library Publications, Regal Publication, Shree Publishers & Distributors, and 48 publishers have published 1 publication each.

Among all publishers, Ess Ess Publications emerged as a leading Indian publisher of dictionaries in the field of Library and Information Science in the Indian Scenario.

7.4 Place-Wise Analysis

The Place-wise analysis of data in Table 5 shows that out of 80 publications, the maximum number of publications, that is, 59, were published from New Delhi, after that 3 each from Kolkata and Patna, 2 each from Agra and Pune, and 1 each from Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Bangalore, Chandigarh, Chennai, Gulbarga, Guntoor, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Noida, and Visakhapatnam. New Delhi was the most common place of publication, dominating all other places. Nearly 73.75% of the dictionaries were published in New Delhi.

S. No.	Place of Publication	No. of Publications	Percentage
1	Agra	2	2.5%
2	Ahemdabad	1	1.25%
3	Amritsar	1	1.25%
4	Bangalore	1	1.25%
5	Chandigarh	1	1.25%
6	Chennai	1	1.25%
7	Gulbarga	1	1.25%
8	Guntoor	1	1.25%
9	Hyderabad	1	1.25%
10	Jaipur	1	1.25%
11	Kolkata	3	3.75%
12	New Delhi	59	73.75%
13	Noida	1	1.25%
14	Patna	3	3.75%
15	Pune	2	2.5%
16	Visakhapatnam	1	1.25%
	Total	80	100%

Table 5. Place-Wise Distribution

7.5 Year-Wise Analysis

The year-wise analysis of dictionaries in Table 6 reveals that the maximum number of publications, 27, appeared from 2010 to 2019; 24 from 2000 to 2009; 12 from 1990 to 1999; 11 from 1980 to 1989; and 3 and 1 from 1960 to 1969 and 1970-1979, respectively. From 2020 onward, there have been 2 publications. Data analysis revealed a rise in the production of LIS dictionaries every decade since the 1980s. This shows that from the decade of 1980-1989 to the present day, there has been an increase in the need, popularity, and growth of dictionaries in the field of Library and Information Science.

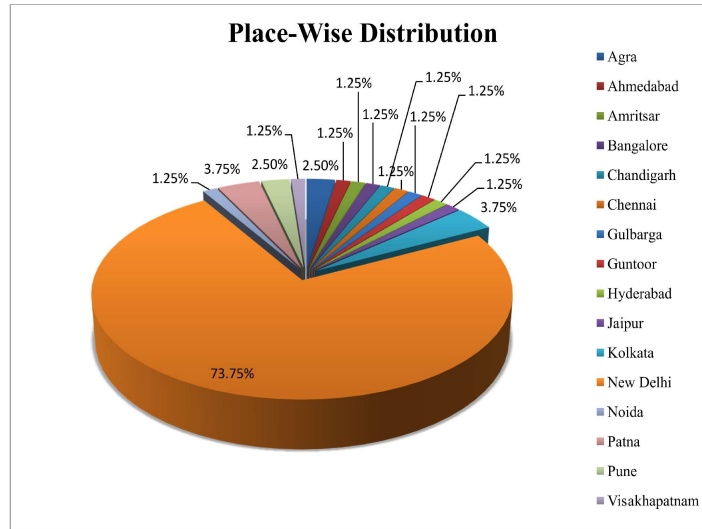


Figure 1. Place-Wise Distribution

S. No.	Time Period	No. of Publications
1.	1960- 1969	3
2.	1970- 1979	1
3.	1980- 1989	11
4.	1990- 1999	12
5.	2000- 2009	24
6.	2010- 2019	27
7.	2020-	2
	Total	80

Table 6. Year-Wise Distribution

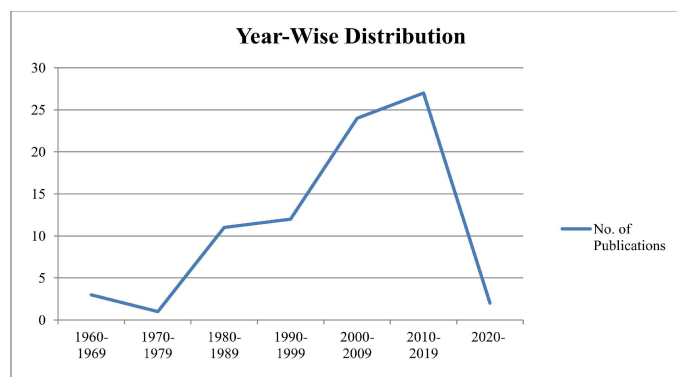


Figure 2. Year-Wise Distribution

7.6 Volume-Wise Analysis

The analysis of the data in Table 7 reveals that, of 80 dictionaries, 70 have been published in a single volume, while 10 have been published in multiple volumes.

S. No.	No. of Volume	No. of Publications
1.	Single Volume	70
2.	Multi Volume	10
	Total	80

Table 7. Volume-Wise Distribution

So, it indicates a preference for publishing dictionaries in a single volume rather than in multiple volumes.

7. Discussion and Conclusion

“The present study explores various aspects such as trends and availability patterns in dictionaries of library and information science”. The study findings reveal that CSTT emerged as the leading prominent author, contributing 7 publications, while the publisher-wise pattern shows that Ess Ess publication is the prominent publisher with 9 publications. The study finds that New Delhi has the largest share, about 73.75%, as the leading place for publication; there is also a steady rise in the publication of dictionaries in library and information science after the 1980s.

There is a crucial necessity for dictionaries as reference materials for the comprehension of specialised library and information science terminology. Although the publication of LIS dictionaries has been increasingly consistent over the decades, there remains an enormous gap in the publication of subject-specific dictionaries. In the wake of the ever-expanding frontiers of knowledge and information, the need for specialised reference tools has become all the more urgent. As such, it is critically necessary for LIS professionals and researchers to focus on developing detailed, subject-specific dictionaries, especially for emerging knowledge areas such as knowledge management, information communication and technology, indexing, and library management. In doing so, it will be more feasible for precision, standardization, and accessibility of library and information science terminologies for both learners and practitioners.

The study identified various critical issues that need to be addressed, such as:

- There is a lack of uniformity in vocabulary among dictionaries of library and information science.
- There is an urgent need to develop mobile apps for the library and information science dictionary in India.
- There is a need for more polyglot dictionaries in the Indian context for the wider acceptance of library and information science. It is necessary to compile a polyglot dictionary of LIS technical terms, incorporating improved English terms and their equivalents in all Indian languages, to help diverse groups of Indian users.
- There is an urgent need to have collaboration regarding the compilation of dictionaries among ministries, departments, institutions and universities; this will help in standardization of dictionaries.

The analysis underscores that, given the changing current scenario, there is a need to update and create new dictionaries that accommodate newly coined terms and concepts in the library and information science field. The analysis of the data also indicates a need for LIS dictionaries containing indigenous language terms so users can use them easily.

Recognising the importance of dictionaries, the Ministry of Education and the Department of Official Languages, under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, have recently taken the initiative to compile dictionaries, including library and information science technical terms from English to Hindi, with descriptions. Now there is a shift from print to electronic or digital media; the LIS dictionaries are also available in digital form. Users can consult dictionaries of library and information science on the website and other digital platforms such as <https://shabd.education.gov.in> or <https://cstt.education.gov.in/terminology-search>. On these links, users can search various terms, including library and information science. There is a need of more such initiatives for the benefits of the users.

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