

CITATION ANALYSIS OF GREY LITERATURE, REFLECTED IN DISSERTATIONS OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

Venugopal D Hajje

Research Scholar at VTU, Belagavi, India

Dr. K R Mulla

Librarian, VTU, Belagavi, India

ABSTRACT

The Study analysis the citations in Master's degree dissertations submitted to the Department of Library and Information Science, Rani Channamma University, Belagavi during the period 2012-13 to 2015-16, were analyzed for citing Grey Literature and Grey Literature forms. Frequency and percentage distributions (presented in charts, tables) and measures of central tendency were used to analyze data. Findings show that Grey Literature was the most utilized reference materials in the dissertations. Also, library science, in general, had the highest number of Grey Literature cited in the year 2016, 237(26.99%) and lowest number of Grey Literature cited in the year 2012-2013, 207(23.57%). The findings from this study could serve as a user study with implications for collection, development and user services designing in libraries.

Key words: Citation Analysis, Grey Literature, Library and Information Science, Dissertations.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Grey literature has been studied and discussed since the 1970s but users are rarely mentioned. This paper summarizes knowledge gained from interviewing librarians who deal with both the grey literature in their collections and the patrons who use it. Possible improvements and barriers to making grey literature easier for people to find and use will be discussed. Also proposed the possibility that a lack of common and reliable cataloguing negatively impacts grey literature use.

Grey literature covers a very wide range of material, including reports, guidelines, theses, conference proceedings, technical specifications and standards, commercial and official documentation, working papers, data sets and policy documents. It can be produced by any

organization, but it is most often authored by government departments, NGOs, research centres, academic institutions and international organizations.

The grey literature is often difficult to find due to its ephemeral nature. It is often not collected or indexed in databases in the same way as published material, so you may need to look in several places to find it.

Grey literature plays an important role in the rapid and timely distribution of in-depth, recent, scientific and technical information. Grey literature provides access to a broad range of information and often contains new ideas. Searching the grey literature also offers the potential to balance any tendencies for publication bias, in the published literature. Research that is not published in journals but available in other formats (such as reports, theses or conference proceedings) is often much more detailed, is more recent and can be more rapidly disseminated. Due to the competitive and time-consuming nature of publishing in peer-reviewed academic journals, some research may never make it into journals and would therefore be inaccessible to interested parties without the availability of grey literature.

2. WHAT IS GREY LITERATURE?

- Grey literature is any material that has not been formally published by a commercial publisher. If you can buy it in a bookshop, it is probably not grey literature; it does not appear in books or journals.
- The term grey literature refers to research that is either unpublished or has been published in non-commercial form.
- In-house Publications are called as Grey Literature.

3. TYPES OF GREY LITERATURE

Conference Papers, Blogs, Newsletters, Memoranda, Policy Statements, Bulletins, News Paper Clippings, Photographs, Emails, Statistics, Patents, Fact Sheets, Course Materials, Annual Reports, Posters, Legislation, Personal Communication, Pamphlets, Questionnaires, Thesis and Dissertations, Lectures, Book Chapters, Interviews, Government Documents, Press Releases, Physiological Specimens, Bibliographies, Essays, Speeches, etc.

4. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The specific objectives of the present study are to know.

- Total number of dissertations submitted to the university;
- Total number of grey literature cited by the authors;
- How many authors cited Grey Literature in their dissertation;
- Citation as appeared in the dissertations.

5. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

Citation analysis of grey literature like any other study is not free from criticism. The following are some of the limitations of this study.

- The study is confined to the dissertations submitted to the department of library and information science for fulfilment of M.L.I.Sc in Rani Channama University, Belagavi.
- The study is confined to only available dissertations in a library and in the department.
- The study is completely confined to the documentary.
- The study is confined to Four years (2012-13 to 2015-16).

6. METHODOLOGY

For this study, the data is collected from dissertations, in which each and every dissertation submitted during the study period were examined. Title pages and reference sections were photocopied from each of the dissertations submitted to the university in the period (2012-13 to 2015-16) covered by the study. Data concerning the total number of dissertations, a total number of citations for each dissertation are examined. The following tables represent the analyzed data through the MS Excel software and based on this the data is also interpreted.

Table 1 Year wise submission of dissertations in the year 012-2013 to 2015-16

Sl. No.	Year	No. of Dissertations submitted
1	2012-2013	11
2	2013-2014	17
3	2014-2015	17
4	2015-2016	17
Total		62

The table number 1 shows that submission of dissertations in the library and information science in Rani Channamma University, Belagavi, in the period of four years from 2012-13 to 2015-16. In 2012-13, 11 dissertations were submitted to the University likewise 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 are 17 each and it showing in chart-1.

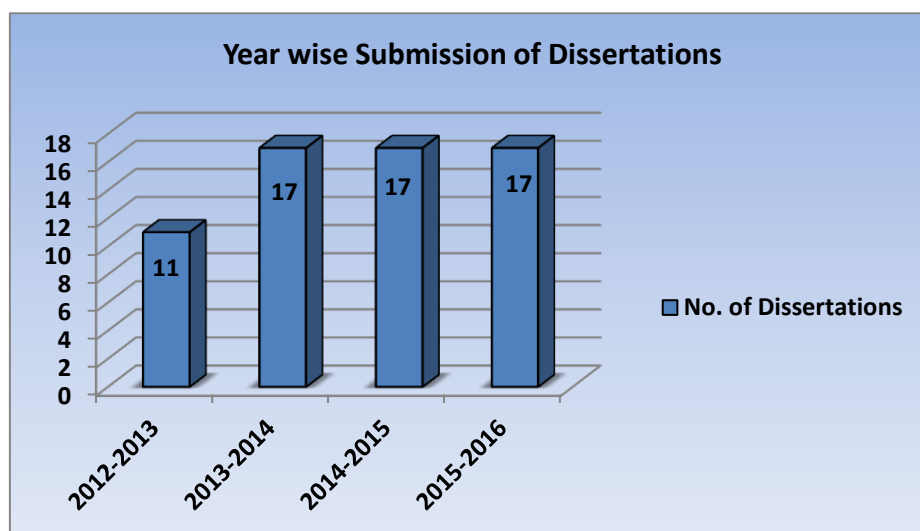


Chart 1

Table 2 Year wise References referred in the dissertations

Sl. No.	Year	No. of References
1	2012-2013	241
2	2013-2014	354
3	2014-2015	379
4	2015-2016	367
Total		1341

Table number 2 showing a total number of references were referred in Dissertations in the department of Library and Information Science in Rani Channamma University, Belagavi in the period of four years from 2012-13 to 2015-16. Here, references in dissertations in the year 2012-13 is 241, 2013-14 is 354, 2014-15 is 379 and in the year 2015-16 is 367. The same is showing below in the chart 2.

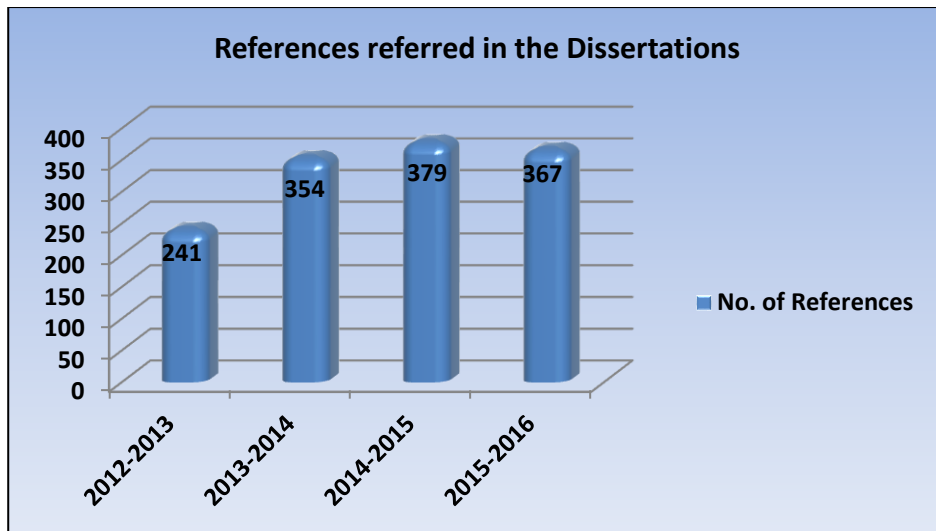


Chart 2

Table 3 Form-wise Citations used by authors in the Dissertations.

Sl. No.	Forms of Publications	Citations	Percentage
1	Journal	214	15.95%
2	Books	93	6.93%
3	Conference Papers	198	14.76%
4	Web	249	18.56%
5	Dissertations	203	15.13%
6	Newspapers	45	3.35%
7	Government publications	36	2.68%
8	Report	197	14.69%
9	Interview	106	7.90%
Total		1341	100

Form-wise citations were used by the authors in the dissertations. Here, table number 3 Reveals that the total number of references is 1341 and in that, most used references by Web resources 249 (18.56%), second most used references by Dissertations 203 (15.13%) and likewise less used reference by Government Publications 36 (2.68%). Showing on the chart 3.

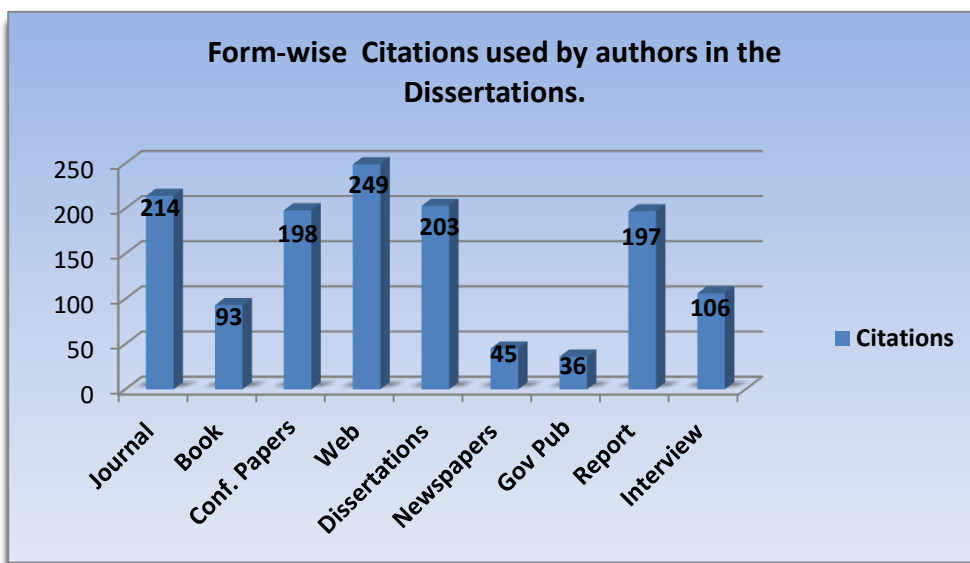
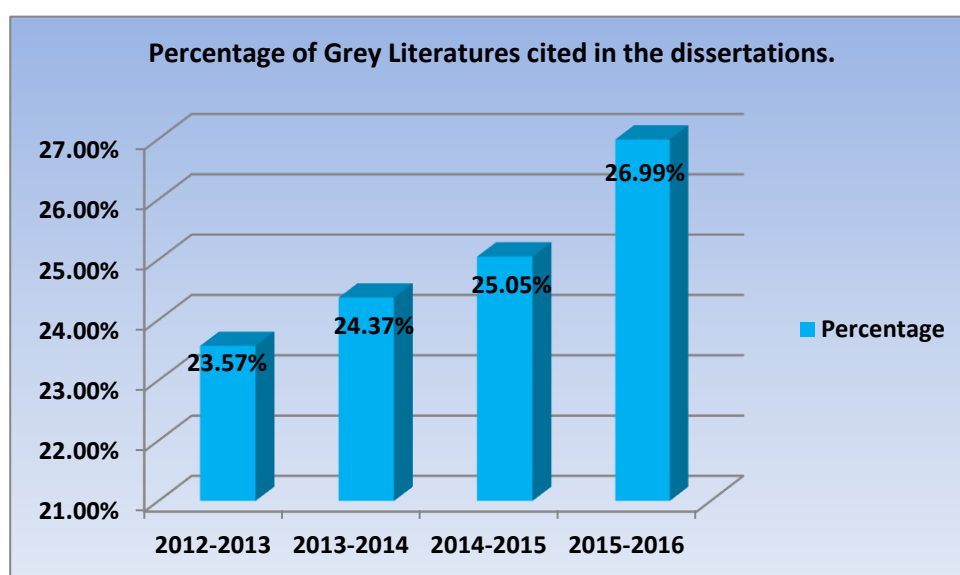


Chart 3

Table 4 The Number of Grey Literature cited in the dissertations.

Sl. No.	Year	Cited Grey Literature	Percentage
1	2012-2013	207	23.57%
2	2013-2014	214	24.37%
3	2014-2015	220	25.05%
4	2015-2016	237	26.99%
Total		878	100

Distribution of Grey Literature cited in the Dissertations in the year 2012-13 is 207 (23.57%), similarly in the year 2013-14, 214 Grey Literature (24.37%) were cited and 220 Grey Literature (25.05%) were cited in the year 2014-15 and likewise in the year 2015-16 is 237 (26.99%). Here we can see how usage of Grey Literature is increasing year by year in the chart 4.

**Chart 4****Table 5** Form-wise grey literature cited in the dissertation from the year 2012-13 to 2015-16.

Sl. No	Forms of Publications	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Total
1	Book	23	21	25	24	93
2	Conference Papers	47	53	48	50	198
3	Dissertations	46	53	49	55	203
4	Newspapers	13	11	10	11	45
5	Govt. Pub	8	10	12	6	36
6	Report	53	48	51	45	197
7	Interview	28	29	25	24	106
Total		218	225	220	215	878

Here, table number 5 showing that form wise and year wise citations were used by the authors in the dissertations. The total number of references is 1341 and in that most used Grey Literature are dissertations 203, second most used Grey Literature is Conference papers 198 and likewise less used Grey Literature is Government Publications 36. Here we can see that which form of grey literature is most used by authors to complete their dissertation work and it showing in the chart 5.

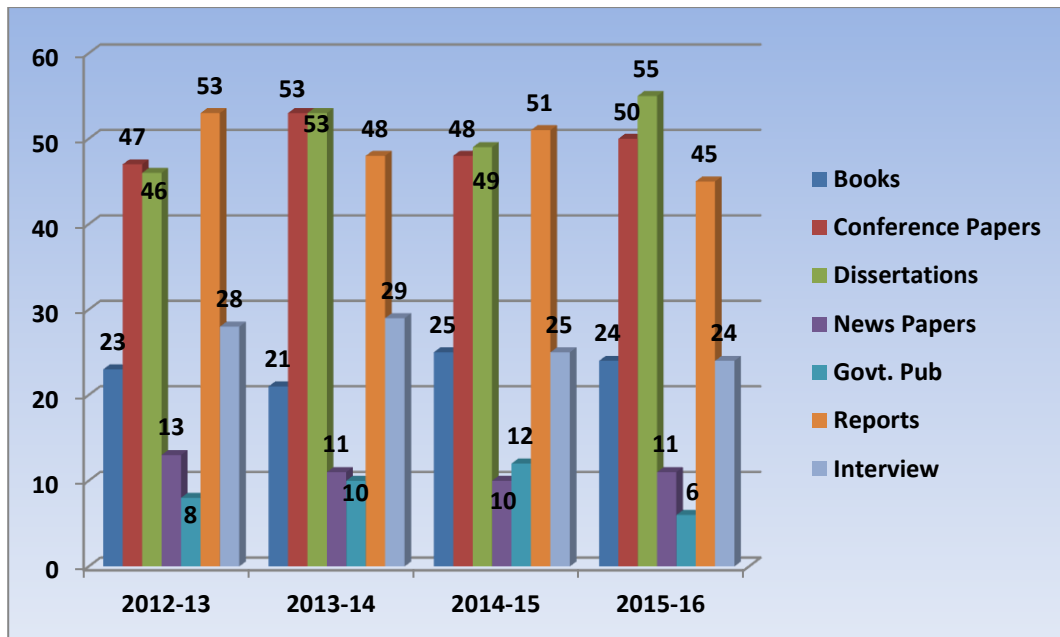


Chart 5 Form-wise grey literature cited in the dissertation from the year 2012-13 to 2015-16.

7. CONCLUSIONS

The Resource management is the efficient and effective operations of an organization's resources when they are needed. This kind of citation analysis study will definitely help the librarians to understand information needs, use of pattern and use of various resources of research scholars and accordingly selection of useful resources as there is an explosion of information and documents in various formats.

This study helps to know how many authors were cited Grey Literature for their respective research and others to know that how much the grey literature is an important resource to refer.

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