

## A STUDY OF LIS BOOKS DEPOSITED IN THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF INDIA UNDER THE DELIVERY OF BOOKS ACT DURING 2010-2017

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The present analytical study explores the pattern of the deposited books in the National Library, Kolkata under the Legal provisions of DB Act, 1954 (as amended in 1956) in the discipline of Library and Information Science (LIS) during 2010-2017. For this purpose, the volumes of Indian National Bibliography (INB) have been considered and a total of 437 unique book titles are shortlisted. Bibliographical details of the books were categorized and narrated on the basis of different parameters like year, backlog contribution, DDC number, type of books, state, publisher and language. It is found that an overall fluctuating trend has been seen in the appearance of books in the INB volumes. Due to backlog contributions, the average delay in the date of publication of books and its inclusion in the INB are estimated as three and half years. Eventually, some recommendations are also highlighted to strengthen the Legal deposit Acts and to achieve INB and bibliographical control more effective.

**Keywords:** Book Publications, Library and Information Science, Legal Deposit Act, Delivery of Books Act, Indian National Bibliography, Bibliometric Study.

### INTRODUCTION

India's book market is the 6<sup>th</sup> largest in the world worth Rs. 261 billion and is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest of the English language book market in the world. Meanwhile, India also holds the second largest English-language print book publisher in the world with over 9000 publishers (Nielsen India, 2015). However, this huge book publications output need to be controlled, recorded and preserved for use of the future generations.

To achieve national level bibliographical control of these publications, two major Legal deposit Acts are in force in India. The Press and Registration of Books Act (PRB Act) passed in 1867 under the British Government and the Delivery of Books Act (DB Act) which was passed in 1954 (later amended in 1956) (Paul, 2012). The major difference between the earlier one and the DB Act, 1954 is that the responsibility of deposition of materials is fixed on the publishers instead of the printer (Paul, 2012). According to the DB Act (Delivery of Books and Newspapers, 1954), all the publishers are directed to deliver a

copy of a book which is printed in India to the National Library, Kolkata and to three other designated public libraries at their own expenses within 30 days from the date of its publication. The Central Reference Library (CRL) (Central Reference Library, n.d.), a separate subordinate office under the Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India is responsible for the compilation of Indian National Bibliography (INB) based on the receipt of books at the National Library, Kolkata under the DB Act. The present study is an attempt to evaluate the deposited books in Library and Information Science (LIS) discipline at the National Library, Kolkata under the DB Act, 1954 (as amended in 1956).

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Few earlier studies point out the efforts of bibliographical control in India and the status of INB. For instance, Chandrashekharaiiah (2008) investigated the status of bibliographical control in Kannada literature and assessed the leading Indian bibliographical sources in terms of coverage of Kannada language and literature. Paul (2008) stated that the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867 (PRB Act) and the Delivery of Books Act (DB Act), 1954 are the two legal instruments in India to deposit the books in the National Library. He also surveyed the regional publishers to identify their perceptions about the legal Acts and on the bibliographies. In another study, Paul (2012) demonstrated the bibliographical control of printed materials published in Bengal and in Bengali language. He also prepared a 'Bibliography of Bibliographies of Bengali Printed materials'.

In his study, Raju (2009) studied the receipt of books by the India's National Library during the period from 1998 to 2003 from the four South Indian states and depicted that the receipt of books from Tamil Nadu is higher than the remaining states. He also narrated that not more than 30% to 40% of the books published in India are deposited in the National Library, Kolkata under the provisions of

the D.B. Act. Ghosh (2009) depicted the strength and weakness of the INB and concluded that for effective implementation of the DB Act and to make INB more comprehensive, it needs more co-operation and support from the publishers. Ahas and Banerjee (2013) reported the problems faced in alphabetical arrangement of INB and also explained the measures to improve its coverage and the need for strengthening the DB Act of India.

The present literature search reveals that in last decade few studies showed the status, comprehensiveness and weaknesses of INB. Though the INB has been criticized time to time for its weaknesses but still it is considered as the most authentic bibliographical record of printed materials in India. Hence, instead of finding weaknesses, the authors have investigated the status of deposited books in LIS discipline as reflected in the INB.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The present study presents the trend and pattern of deposit of books in the Library and Information Science (LIS) discipline at the National Library, Kolkata under the provisions of the DB Act. The major objectives are to:

1. depict year wise publication of deposit of books in the INB,
2. demonstrates backlog contribution in the volumes of INB,
3. portrait DDC class number wise distribution of books,
4. reveal type of deposit of books,
5. evaluate state wise break up of books,
6. identify leading publishers and
7. examine language wise distribution of books.

## METHODOLOGY

The present analytical study investigates the deposit of books in Library and Information Science (LIS) discipline during 2010-2017 at the National Library, Kolkata under the legal provisions of the Delivery of Books (Public Libraries) Act. (DB Act.), 1954 (as amended in 1956). For this purpose, the annual volumes of Indian National Bibliography (INB) have been referred during 2010-2016 from the Central Reference Library (CRL), Kolkata. But in case of the year 2017, all the monthly issues of INB have already been appeared and the cumulated annual volume of 2017 is yet to publish. Therefore, the authors have referred the twelve monthly issues of the year 2017 separately and then cumulated the data.

Entries in the INB volumes spanning from the period of 2010 to 2017 are classified according to 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) system. Therefore, DDC Class numbers in the range of 020-029 are selected from the INB volumes to pick out the receipt book titles in 'Library and Information Sciences' (LIS) discipline.

The records are manually scanned and the bibliographical data of each title are recorded in to MS-Excel software for developing database. Further, the data have been cross-checked and few repetitive duplicate titles have been deleted. In this way, total 437 book titles are shortlisted and the bibliographical

data of those unique book titles are considered for further analysis. The tables and figures have also been sketched to organize, analyse and interpret the data.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The following sections present and discuss the bibliographical details of 437 books in terms of year-wise, backlog contribution, DDC number, type of books, state, publisher and language wise.

### Year wise break-up of deposit of books

The table 1 demonstrates the data related to books' publication year, *INB* annual volumes and their share of the total number of deposited book titles. A total of 437 book titles in LIS discipline appear in the volumes of INB during the period of 2010 to 2017. Out of total book titles, highest number of 97 book titles (22.2%) publish in the year 2011 followed by the year 2012 with 82 book titles (18.76%) and the year 2016 with 60 book titles (13.73%). It is observed from the figure-1 that overall, an irregular trend has been found in appearance of the book titles. Besides, in the year of 2017, maximum of 27 years delay between the date of publication of book and its appearance in the INB volume has been seen. However, it is also evident that consistently a good number of backlog contributions have been included in every volume of the INB.

Table 1: Deposit of books at the National Library – year wise

Books' Publication Year	INB Annual Volumes								Total
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
1990-1993	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	04
1994-1997	1	0	0	0	3	0	1	1	06
1998-2001	3	1	0	4	3	0	1	0	12
2002-2005	8	22	2	1	1	1	0	2	37

2006-2009	18	44	10	4	7	3	3	6	95
2010-2013	4	29	70	32	25	28	30	14	232
2014-2017	0	0	0	0	1	7	25	16	49
Not available	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	02
Total =	35	97	82	41	43	39	60	40	437
%	8	22.2	18.76	9.4	9.84	9	13.73	9.15	100

**Figure 1: Books receiving trend at the National Library, Kolkata**

### Backlog contribution in the volumes of INB

The table 2 reports the time gap (delay) distribution between the date of publications and its inclusion in the INB. According to the DB Act (Delivery of Books and Newspapers, 1954), all the publishers have to deliver their publications within 30 days from the date of its publication. However, it is seen from the table that highest number of 84 books (19.31%) published with 3 years delay, followed by 79 books (18.16%)

with 1 year delay. Interestingly, only 60 books (13.8%) published in the INB in the current year of its publication. The mean value of the delay of the receipt of book titles during 2010-2017 shows that the average lags of the books appearance in the INB is 3 years.

Average (Mean) value = = = 3.55

**Table 2: Time gap (delay) distribution of receipt books in the INB**

Delay in Years (x)	No of Books (f)	%	Cumulative %	fx
0	60	13.8	13.8	0
1	79	18.16	31.96	79
2	70	16.1	48.06	140
3	84	19.31	67.37	252
4	33	7.6	74.97	132
5	25	5.74	80.71	125
6	24	5.52	86.23	144
7	18	4.14	90.37	126
8	10	2.3	92.67	80
9	01	0.23	92.9	9
10	08	1.84	94.74	80
>>10	23	5.3	100	379
Total =	435	100		1546

\* Dates of publication of two books are not available

**DDC Class number wise break-up of books**

The table 3 sketches the distribution of published books in the INB volumes on the basis of DDC (22<sup>nd</sup> ed.) class numbers. Highest number, i.e. of 226 books (51.71%) belongs to the range of the class no. of 025 which deals with Operations of libraries,

archives, information centers, followed by the class no. 020 i.e. Library and Information Sciences with 94 books (21.51%) and the class no.027 i.e. General libraries, archives, information centers with 74 books (17%). Furthermore, only 1 book publishes in the class no. of 022 i.e. Administration of physical plant.

**Table 3: Distribution of appeared books in the INB according to DDC Class numbers**

DDC Class No.	INB Annual Volume								Total	%
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017		
020	05	20	09	12	11	12	16	09	94	21.51
021	02	04	02	01	02	02	01	01	15	3.43
022	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	0.23
023	-	01	-	-	03	-	-	-	04	0.91
025	17	49	54	20	20	17	32	17	226	51.71
026	03	01	01	-	01	-	-	-	06	1.37
027	07	19	13	06	03	05	09	12	74	17
028	01	03	03	01	03	03	02	01	17	3.9
Total =	35	97	82	41	43	39	60	40	437	100

\* According to DDC 22<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 024 & 029 are unassigned class numbers

**Distribution of books by types**

The table 4 presents the data related to type of books and their share of the total number of books. Based on the available bibliographical details, the receipt books have been categorized into 6 types. Of these, maximum number, i.e.268 books (61.32%) belong to the 'Authored Book' category, followed by the 'Edited/ Compiled/ Translated Book' with 69 books (15.8%) and 'Conference/ Seminar/ Convention Proceedings' with 57 books (13.04%).

**Table 4: Type of books receipt by the National Library in LIS domain**

Sl. No.	Type of Books	No of Books	Percentage
1.	Authored Book	268	61.32
2.	Edited/ Compiled/ Translated Book	69	15.8
3.	Conference / Seminar / Convention Proceedings	57	13.04
4.	Questions & Answers Book for Competitive Exams.	16	3.66
5.	Encyclopaedia/ Dictionary	14	3.20
6.	Others (Report, Review, Guide etc)	13	3
Total =		437	100

### State wise distribution of books

The table 5 shows the state wise publication of the deposited books in LIS discipline. Out of total 437 book titles, maximum of 202 books (46.22%) have been published from the state of Delhi, followed by West Bengal with 94 books (21.51%), Andhra

Pradesh [Undivided] with 40 books (9.15%) and Karnataka with 23 books (5.26%). Apart from these, publishers from the Tamil Nadu state contribute maximum share of 83.33% backlog contributions of at least 4 years delay, followed by the state Karnataka with share of 69.56% backlog publications.

**Table 5: Distribution of Books by publishing states**

Sl. No.	State	No of Books	%	Books with time-gap* of at least 4 years with %
1.	Delhi	202	46.22	57 (28.22%)
2.	West Bengal	94	21.51	24 (25.53%)
3.	Andhra Pradesh [Undivided]	40	9.15	16 (41%)
4.	Karnataka	23	5.26	16 (69.56%)
5.	Maharashtra	16	3.66	0
6.	Rajasthan	13	2.97	08 (61.54%)
7.	Tamil Nadu	12	2.74	10 (83.33%)
8.	Uttar Pradesh	12	2.74	02 (16.66%)
9.	Assam	09	2.06	02 (22.22%)
10.	Others (6 States and 1 Union Territory)	16	3.66	07 (43.75%)
Total =		437	100	142 (33%)

\* Time-gap= Delay between the date of publication and its appearance in INB volume

\* \* Dates of publication of two books (1 from Andhra Pradesh and 1 from Maharashtra) are not available

### Leading deposited publishers

The table 6 reveals the ranked list of leading publishers that deposited at least 8 books in LIS discipline at the National Library, Kolkata. Out of total 437 books, Shree Publishers from New Delhi deposits maximum of 37 books, followed by APH Publishing Co. of New Delhi with 23 books and IASLIC of West Bengal with 20 books. Conversely, the Concept

Publishing Co. of New Delhi deposits maximum share of 87.5% backlog contributions of at least 4 years delay, followed by the Shree Publishers of New Delhi with share of 75.67% contributions. It is also seen from the table that out of top 10 leading publishers, highest numbers of 6 publishers are originated from the state of New Delhi, 3 publishers are from West Bengal and 1 publisher is from Andhra Pradesh.

**Table 6: Top 10 leading publishers that deposited at least 8 books at the National Library**

Rank	Publisher	No of Books	Books with time-gap* of at least 4 years with %
1.	Shree Publishers, New Delhi	37	28 (75.67%)
2.	APH Publishing Co., New Delhi	23	0
3.	IASLIC, West Bengal	20	15 (75%)
4.	Krishna Publications, Andhra Pradesh [Undivided]	18	10 (55.55%)
5.	Prova Prakashani, West Bengal	14	1 (7.14%)
6.	Anmol Publications Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	9	0
7.	Arpita Prakashani, West Bengal	8	1 (12.5%)
7.	Concept Publishing Co., New Delhi	8	7 (87.5%)
7.	Cyber Tech Publications, New Delhi	8	5 (62.5%)
7.	Ess Ess Publications, New Delhi	8	0

\* Time-gap= Delay between the date of publication and its appearance in INB volume

### Language wise distribution of deposited books

The table 7 illustrates the language wise distribution of the deposited books. The INB incorporates Indian publications in 14 major Indian languages including English. Out of total 437 books, highest numbers of 323 books (74%) publish in English language followed by Bengali with 35 books (8%), Telugu with 23 books (5.26%) and Kannada with 11 books (2.51%).

**Table 7: Distribution of receipt books by languages**

Sl. No.	Language	No of Books	%
1.	English	323	74
2.	Bengali	35	8
3.	Telugu	23	5.26
4.	Kannada	11	2.51

5.	Tamil	10	2.29
6.	Hindi	9	2
7.	Marathi	9	2
8.	Urdu	5	1.14
9.	Gujarati	4	0.91
10.	Malayalam	4	0.91
11.	Assamese	3	0.68
12.	Oriya	1	0.23
Total		437	100

### CONCLUSION

The Indian National Bibliography (INB) is an excellent book selection tool for the current Indian publications and it makes a wonderful opportunity for the publishers to make use of the tool for the promotion of their publications. Though INB has poor coverage due to non-submission of books by the publishers, but it is hoped that this is quite a matured

reflections of book publications in LIS domain of India rather than the other domains. As LIS authors are conscious about all these Legal deposit Acts, it is expected that they convince and direct the publishers to make commitment about this acts and also to deliver their written books to designated depository libraries.

CRL, the national bibliographic agency has taken many steps to clear the backlog and to make the publications regularly and up-to-date. However, the fault of poor coverage and backlog contributions in INB doesn't lie with the CRL, but with the poor operation of the DB Act. There are some concerned issues which need to be reconsidered immediately to make the INB comprehensive and more effective. The recommendations to resolve the issues are as follows:

- i. The Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India should review the Legal deposit Acts and also should make suitable amendments for its effective implementation (Raju, 2009).
- ii. The PRB Act and DB Act needs to be amalgamated into a single Act and overlapping provisions need to be eliminated for lesser burdensome to the publishers and printers (Raju, 2009).
- iii. The CRL, National Library and the designated depository libraries should conduct regular awareness programs with the Federation and Association of publishers for seeking their co-operation and commitment towards the Legal deposit Acts.
- iv. At last but not the least, significant penalty should be charged to the defaulting publishers for non-compliance of the legal deposit Acts.

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