



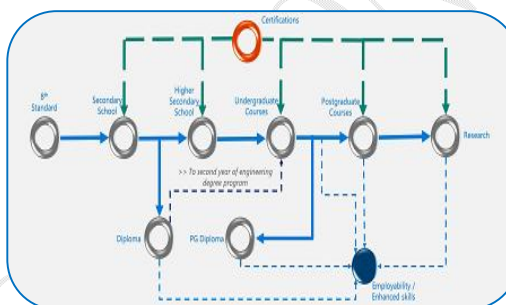
LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE COURSES ON SWAYAM: A STUDY

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ABSTRACT :

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) are increasing day-by-day. The courses are comparatively cheap, easily available, can be completed at home and learner-centric. The courses are often approved as well as offered by various Universities, Govt. bodies, and well-known famous institutions. Ministry of human resource development, Government of India also takes initiative to provide such type of facility at free of cost and developed 'SWAYAM' programme. At present there are over 1622 courses on various disciplines like Engineering, Education, Management, Language, Humanities, Library and Information Science, Science etc. Among all the 1622 courses only 25 courses are categorized as Library and Information Science. Present study focuses on these courses- their types, enrollments, starting year, credit point, learning path, ratings etc.



KEYWORDS : courses, Library and Information Science, MOOC, SWAYAM.

1. INTRODUCTION

Education system in India is changing simultaneously changing and evolving with improving science and technology. Modern techniques, equipments, teaching-learning material makes learning easy and fruitful. Now-a-days internet has changed total scenario of education system especially in India. Comparing with the scenario of a 70's or 80's Indian education system with today's education system one can simply assume how much the system have changed. There was a mainstream education lineup i.e., the formal school-college system through which, everyone have to pass through. This thing has now also exist but in a modified way. The school based education system is till the backbone but, there are also so many alternatives which are very useful to the needy learners who are lacking in the mainstream education system as well as who are out of the formal education stream. There are so many alternatives like digital content, online lectures, videos, various online courses etc. Among them one of the important parallel learning paths is MOOC (Massive Open Online Course). The courses are comparatively cheap, easily available, can be completed at home and learner-centric. One can choose his/her course according to his need. The courses are often approved as well as offered by various Universities, Govt. bodies, and well-known famous institutions. So, such types of courses are sometime as valuable as similar formal course. Learners enrolled themselves in such courses and that is why MOOC courses are getting huge popularity day-by-day.

After a huge success of MOOC, various Universities, Govt. bodies, and well-known famous institutions started offering such type of courses. And a step towards 'Digital India' the Government of India also takes initiative to provide such type of facility at free of cost. So, ministry of human resource development, Government of India develop 'SWAYAM' programme keeping the youth generation of India in

mind. Swayam is a Sanskrit word which means 'self'. The name is very significant as one can easily enrolled in the course at home. The only necessary thing is internet. Network service providers are providing hi-speed internet facility at a very affordable price today. The courses can easily be completed on smart phones. Now the 'swayam' app is launched which makes things very easy for a learner.

There are basically four aspects of the courses are – School Education, Out of school Education, Undergraduate Education, Postgraduate Education. SWAYAM provides a long range of courses in various fields. In each field, there are so many courses depending on the level of the learner. The learning paths are- School, certificate, diploma, Undergraduate and Postgraduate. At present there are over 1600 courses on various fields offered by various universities, IITs, IIITs, IIMs, IISc, IGNOU, NIOS, and more.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

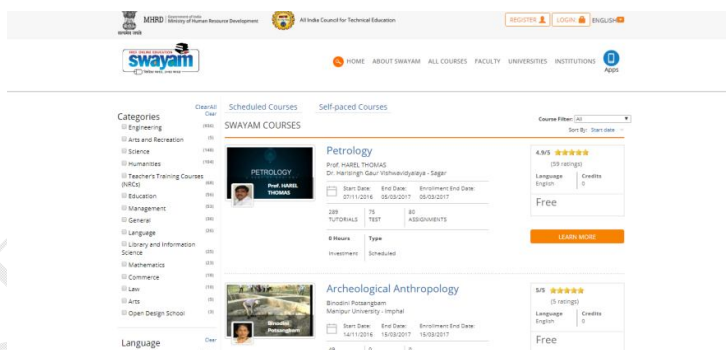
Present study is focused on 'Library and Information Science' courses available on Swayam. The Purpose of the study is as follows –

- ✚ How many courses are there on this discipline?
- ✚ How many candidates are enrolled?
- ✚ Characteristics of the courses.
- ✚ Ratings of the courses.

3. METHODOLOGY

To get information I have visited official website of SWAYAM i.e. <https://www.swayam.gov.in/> on 2nd November 2018. When all courses were searched, a total of 1622 courses appeared categorized under 15 categories. Then in categories, Library and Information Science was clicked and the results were analyzed. A screenshot has given aside.

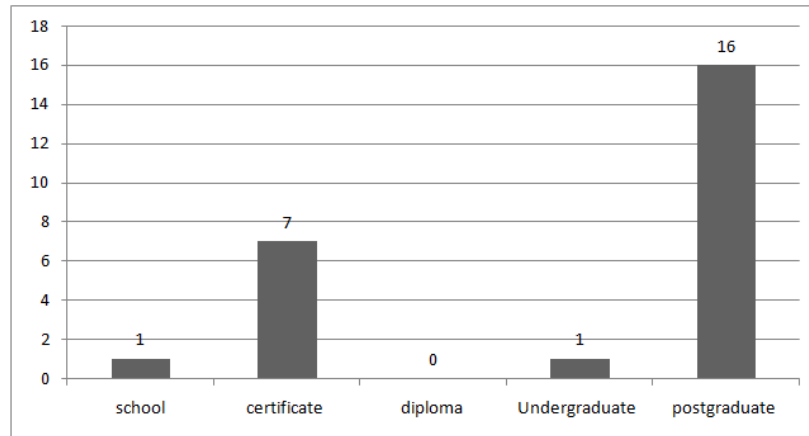
FIGURE 1: SCREENSHOT OF SEARCH RESULTS OF ALL SWAYAM COURSES



4.1.1. FINDING I:

25 courses were found on the discipline 'library and information science'. Among them 7 were designed for certificate level learner, 1 for school level, 1 for Undergraduate level and 16 for postgraduate level. No diploma level course was found on the specific discipline. Following table shows the distribution of 25 courses according to learning path.

Figure 2: Distribution of courses according to learning path

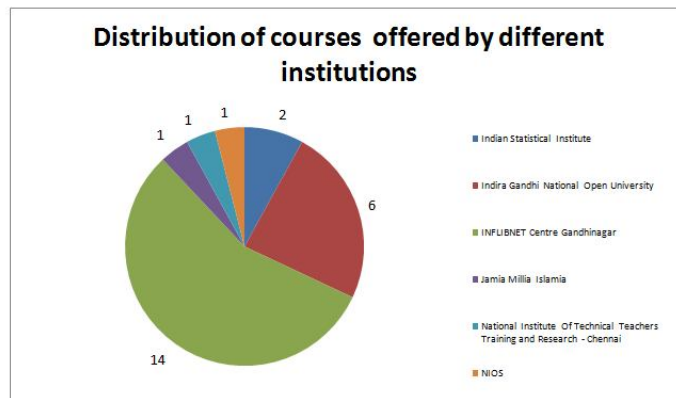
**4.1.2. ANALYSIS:**

Maximum courses were designed for postgraduate and certificate level while, a few for school level and Undergraduate level.

4.2.1. FINDING II:

The 25 courses were offered by six different institutions - Indian Statistical Institute, Indira Gandhi National Open University, INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar, Jamia Millia Islamia, National Institute Of Technical Teachers Training and Research – Chennai and NIOS . The distribution is as follows –

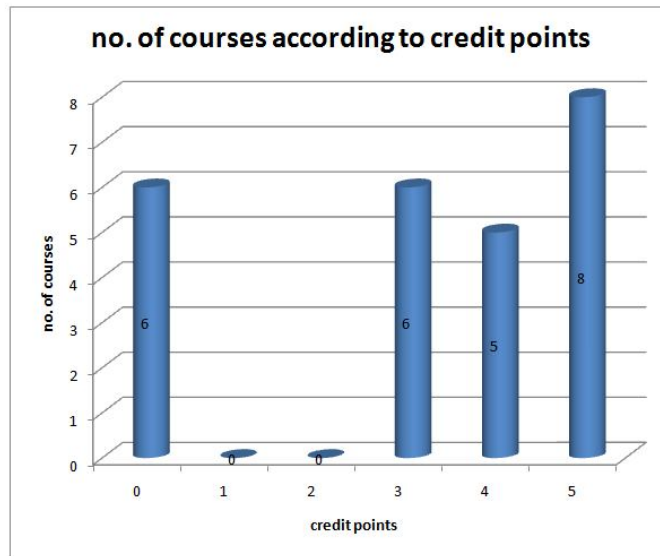
Figure 3: Distribution of courses offered by different institutions

**4.2.2. ANALYSIS:**

More than half of the courses were offered by INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar.

4.3.1. FINDING III:

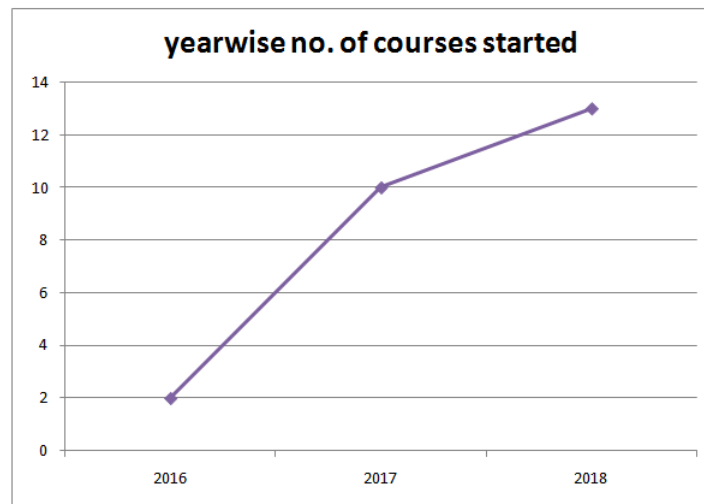
Among the 25 courses, 19 courses have credits of 3-5; while, 6 courses have no credit.

Figure 4: no. of courses according to credit points**4.3.2. ANALYSIS:**

Most of the courses have credit points.

4.4.1.FINDING IV:

Among the 25 courses 2 were started in 2016, 10 were started in 2017 and 13 were started in 2018. As the data was collected on 02.11.2018 so, there may be more courses be added in this discipline until the end of 2018.

Figure 5: yearwise no. of courses started**4.4.2. ANALYSIS:**

With the passing of time, amount of courses are increasing.

4.5.1. FINDING V:

Following table shows the enrollment number of candidates of the 25 courses.

TABLE 1: ENROLLMENT NUMBER OF CANDIDATES

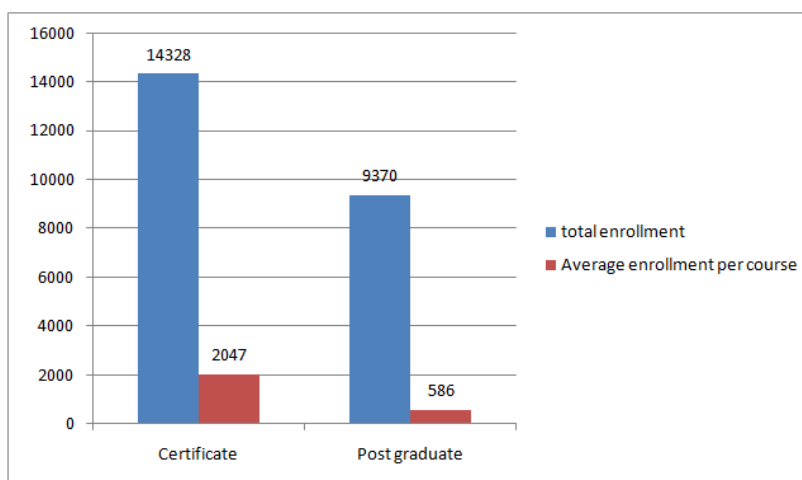
Sl no.	Name of the course	Offered by	learning path	enrollment
1	Management Of Libraries And Information Centres And Knowledge Centres	INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar	PG	0
2	Digital Libraries	INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar	PG	680
3	Library Automation And Digitisation	IGNOU	Certificate	2816
4	Advertising And Public Relations	Jamia Millia Islamia	Undergraduate	4868
5	Information Sources And Library Services	IGNOU	Certificate	1418
6	Digital Library	INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar	PG	2117
7	Scientometrics	INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar	PG	297
8	Information Storage And Retrieval	Indian Statistical Institute	PG	337
9	Knowledge Society	INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar	PG	331
10	Information And Communication Technology For Libraries	INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar	PG	708
11	Information Sources System And Services	INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar	PG	445
12	Management Of Libraries And Information Centres & Knowledge Centres	INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar	PG	537
13	Document Processing And Organisation	IGNOU	Certificate	1159
14	Database And Content Organisation	IGNOU	Certificate	1703
15	Library Automation And Digitisation	IGNOU	Certificate	1840
16	Information Sources And Library Services	IGNOU	Certificate	881
17	Senior Secondary:Library & Information Science	NIOS	School	479
18	Information Storage And Retrieval	Indian Statistical Institute	PG	628
19	Information And Communication Technology For Libraries	INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar	PG	863
20	Bibliometrics And Scientometrics	INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar	PG	285
21	Management Of Libraries And Information Centres & Knowledge Centres	INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar	PG	445
22	Information Sources System And Services	INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar	PG	313
23	Knowledge Society	INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar	PG	383
24	Digital Library	INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar	PG	1001
25	E-content development	National Institute Of Technical Teachers Training and Research - Chennai	Certificate	4511

Total enrollment and average number of enrollment per course are tabulated below -

TABLE 2: TOTAL ENROLLMENT AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF ENROLLMENT PER COURSE

learning path	No. of course offered	Total no. of enrollment	average
certificate	7	14328	2047
school	1	479	479
Undergraduate	1	4868	4868
Postgraduate	16	9370	586

As there was only one course in school level and Undergraduate level so, it is not satisfactory and 100% correct to compare them with certificate or Postgraduate level courses. The graph provided below shows the comparison of enrollment between certificate and Postgraduate level courses.

Figure 6: comparison of enrollment between certificate and Postgraduate level courses

4.5.2. ANALYSIS:

Highest number of candidates got enrolled in certificate level courses and lowest number of candidates got enrolled in school level courses. In case of, average no. of enrollment per course- the highest number is of Undergraduate level course and the second highest is certificate level course. It can also be said that certificate level courses are more popular than the Postgraduate courses.

4.6.1. FINDING VI:

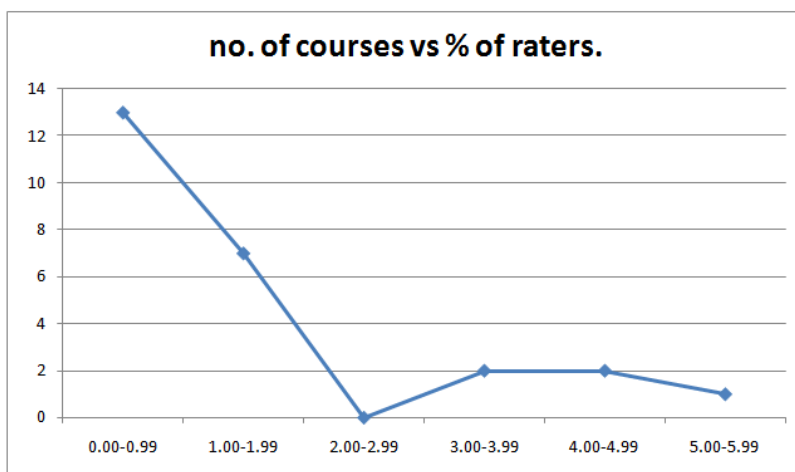
There is a rating option in each course so that, candidates can rate the course 1 to 5. Rating is not mandatory and kept as an optional. Among the 25 courses, two remain unrated. Highest number of candidates (143) rated 'Library Automation and Digitisation' course.

TABLE 3: TOTAL REVIEWS, ENROLLMENT AND % OF RATERS OF THE COURSES

Sl no.	Name of the course	No. of candidates gave rating	enrollment	% of raters
1	Management Of Libraries And Information Centres And Knowledge Centres	0	0	0.00
2	Digital Libraries	28	680	4.12
3	Library Automation And Digitisation	143	2816	5.08
4	Advertising And Public Relations	20	4868	0.41
5	Information Sources And Library Services	27	1418	1.90
6	Digital Library	19	2117	0.90
7	Scientometrics	9	297	3.03
8	Information Storage And Retrieval	5	337	1.48
9	Knowledge Society	1	331	0.30
10	Information And Communication Technology For Libraries	7	708	0.99
11	Information Sources System And Services	2	445	0.45
12	Management Of Libraries And Information Centres & Knowledge Centres	5	537	0.93
13	Document Processing And Organisation	17	1159	1.47
14	Database And Content Organisation	18	1703	1.06
15	Library Automation And Digitisation	82	1840	4.46
16	Information Sources And Library Services	27	881	3.06
17	Senior Secondary:Library & Information Science	3	479	0.62
18	Information Storage And Retrieval	7	628	1.11
19	Information And Communication Technology For Libraries	8	863	0.92
20	Bibliometrics And Scientometrics	5	285	1.75
21	Management Of Libraries And Information Centres & Knowledge Centres	4	445	0.90
22	Information Sources System And Services	0	313	0.00
23	Knowledge Society	1	383	0.26
24	Digital Library	13	1001	1.30
25	E-Content Development	25	4511	0.55

Here, % of raters = $\frac{\text{No. of candidates gave rating}}{\text{enrollment}} \times 100$

The graph presented below represents the no. of courses vs % of raters.

Figure 7: no. of courses vs % of raters.**4.6.2. ANALYSIS:**

In 13 courses, less than 1% of the enrolled candidate had rated the course.

4.7.1. FINDING VII:

Ratings of the courses were as below –

TABLE 4: RATINGS OF THE COURSES

Sl no.	Name of the course	rating	rater	path
1	Senior Secondary:Library & Information Science	4	3	School
2	Advertising And Public Relations	4.7	20	UG
3	Database And Content Organisation	4.7	18	Certificate
4	e-content development	4.7	25	Certificate
5	Library Automation And Digitisation	4.4	143	Certificate
6	Document Processing And Organisation	4.4	17	Certificate
7	Information Sources And Library Services	4.3	27	Certificate
8	Library Automation And Digitisation	4.3	82	Certificate
9	Information Sources And Library Services	4	27	Certificate
10	Management Of Libraries And Information Centres & Knowledge Centres	5	5	PG
11	Information Sources System And Services	5	2	PG
12	Knowledge Society	5	1	PG
13	Scientometrics	4.8	9	PG
14	Digital Libraries	4.6	28	PG
15	Information And Communication Technology For Libraries	4.6	8	PG
16	Information And Communication Technology For Libraries	4.6	7	PG

17	Digital Library	4.4	19	PG
18	Information Storage And Retrieval	4.4	5	PG
19	Digital Library	4.2	13	PG
20	Information Storage And Retrieval	4	7	PG
21	Management Of Libraries And Information Centres & Knowledge Centres	3.8	4	PG
22	Bibliometrics And Scientometrics	3	5	PG
23	Knowledge Society	3	1	PG
24	Information Sources System And Services	0	0	PG
25	Management Of Libraries And Information Centres And Knowledge Centres	0	0	PG

4.7.2. ANALYSIS: Among the 25 courses, most of the courses have above 4 star rating in 5.

5. CONCLUSION:

From this study it may conclude that,

- i. Most of the courses are at postgraduate level.
- ii. No. of courses are increasing yearly.
- iii. Learners are getting enrolled more in certificate level courses.
- iv. A few part of enrolled candidates (<1%) had rated the course.
- v. Most of the courses had a rating above 4.

SWAYAM is the gateway through which learners can freely complete courses according to their needs, learn a lot of things in an interesting audio-visual way. In future, SWAYAM will get more popularity, more institutions will get involved. In field of library and information science, more courses will be added and people have interest in this field, can get more knowledge through this platform.

6. REFERENCES:

1. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Massive_open_online_course accessed on 28.10.2018
2. <https://swayam.gov.in/courses/public> accessed on 02.11.2018



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