
A Comparative Study of the Content Pages of Library Websites of NIRF -2020 Ranked Engineering Colleges/Institutes in Delhi

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Abstract

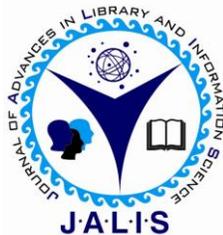
A website is the place that is connected to the Internet, where a company, organization, etc. puts their information that can be accessed on the World Wide Web for the benefits of their users or customers. Library websites also provide useful information about themselves to their users. This paper aims to study the content features of selected library websites of Engineering Colleges in Delhi which are ranked by National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) for the year 2020. A total seven engineering colleges of Delhi are studied in respect to the information about their libraries published on respective websites in this paper.

Keywords

NIRF, NIRF Ranking, Social Networking Tools,
Library Services, Engineering Colleges.

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1. Introduction

Websites in an academic organization play their role as a gateway to its information and various services. Websites are ideally the reflections of the needs of the clientele they serve. Likewise, the library websites are considered as the gateway of an institution from where the users can access their required information and knowledge. Library website plays a role of an extension of a traditional physical library and offers a variety of library services. Internet and websites have become the most popular information and communication tools today. Like other websites, library websites also came into being during 1990s and they are the foremost point to attract the users to explore its resources and services. So, it has become mandatory for managing the knowledge available online so that it can reach to its end users without any hindrance and one of the best solutions is website.

2. Functions of Library Website

The main function of a library website is to focus on its users to provide them the best services. However, other functions of a library website may be summarized as follows:

- It may provide a guide to the availability of learning resources in the library and the services provided by library to its users.
- It may provide the user, a way of their rights to use learning resources.
- It may provide a platform to the patrons to start their search process to avoid ambiguity in accessing the resources.
- It may make the users aware and competent enough to be able to use the library resources as self-dependent learning resource users.
- It may also publicize the resources and services of the library and make the users aware about them.
- It may enhance the access of the library services and sources for distant users anywhere irrespective of their geographic location and may help to overcome the difficulties in accessing the resources of a conventional library system.
- It may provide a single window to user oriented subject specific guide to sources and services to meet their specific needs and

various types of resources to users working in different subject areas.

- It may offer an efficient and effective way of accessing information from a large number of electronic resources from library collection; and
- It may make available the other resources and tailor-made products, such as subject bibliographies, search guides etc. to the users.

3. National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)

National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) is a methodology that is adopted by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India, to rank all institutions of higher education in India. This framework was approved by the MHRD and was launched on 29 September 2015.



Figure 1: NIRF Homepage

Separate rankings are given by NIRF for different types of institutions depending on their areas of operation like universities and colleges, engineering institutions, management institutions, pharmacy institutions and architecture institutions. It is noted that about 1,071 engineering institutions have participated in NIRF ranking for 2020. Out of 1071 engineering institutions only 200 institutes were released by MHRD for ranking in the year 2020. But from Delhi, 13 engineering institutes participated out of which only 7 engineering institutes were listed for 2020 ranking by NIRF.

4. Need for the Study

Library website aims to provide the quality of information to satisfy its users and therefore it needs quality web contents. These websites function as the main gateway for virtual users. Generally, the contents found on websites may include the texts, images, sounds, videos, etc. However, the quality web content and links to all resources make the library website more informative that can serve the purpose of its users. Further, in the present scenario of online/offline study the website has become a necessity of every institute/university or the college.

Hence, a need is felt to analyze the contents of library websites from time to time to provide updated information to their users and also to achieve the uniformity in web contents.

5. Earlier Studies

Karak (2015) has conducted a study on the contents pages of the IIMs websites focusing on the importance of a quality website for a library regardless of the nature of the library. The study also emphasizes on the accuracy and authenticity of the contents provided on the website. It is revealed in the study that these websites are more widespread in developing countries with a maximum contribution from IIMs libraries. But updation of the websites on regular basis and staff training was found necessary for better results. Verma & Brahma (2017) have evaluated the websites of 09 Library Consortia of India. The total number of webpages, domain authority, equity-links, internal and external links were the main criteria used in the study. Further, the study was aimed to calculate the web impact factor and to rank the library consortia. E-ShodhSindhu and DeLCon were found as the most popular library consortia among the 09 selected consortia working in India. Ahmad (2018) has evaluated the contents of selected websites of Department of Library & Information Science in North India. The Department of Library and Information Science, University of Delhi was placed at rank number one among five Departments of Library and Information Science in north India and Department of Library and Information Science, Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak at the last rank. He has suggested that new website evaluation tools should be developed and designed to evaluate the website in order to enhance the quality of website for its communities so that their users could get desired information easily from the department websites.

Krishna Devi & Verma (2018) have carried out a study on the library website/web page of the 19 IITs and 29 NITs. On the basis of score points, IIT Kanpur library website was judged on the first position and NIT Agartala at the last position among all the engineering institutions selected for the study. Further, the evaluation of libraries' website is suggested that is to be done frequently so as to check the structure and information available in the website as well as to keep the website updated. Sahoo & Panda (2019) have investigated and analyzed the library websites of 18 IITs for their web contents, and navigational strengths using standard evaluation criteria followed globally. The study reveals that all 18 IIT library websites do not fulfill all the criteria developed for the study and 3 (16.7%) IIT library websites scored less than 50 items out of 100-items checklist. Further, two features, namely, "Library Website accessible in both English and Hindi language" and "Library organizational chart" was not found present on any IIT library websites. Some suggestions are also given by the author for improving/upgrading the library websites. Dhiman & Joshi (2019) have analyzed the contents of library related information given on the websites of central universities exist in Delhi from different angles to satisfy the needs of users. It is seen that most of the services are common in the university websites to facilitate their users. It is also observed that the university websites are the good medium to get aware about the library resources without physically going to the library and if the material is not available within the concerned library, the same can be offered to the users through inter- library loan from other libraries. Dhiman & Joshi (2020) have studied the use of social networking sites / web 2.0 tools in central universities of Delhi by studying their websites. The results of the present study show that despite of the tremendous growth and expansion of internet facilities, the social networking tools/Web 2.0 tools used by the central universities of Delhi on their websites are not much enough. It is very clear from the study that though five central university websites are using some of the SNS/Web 2.0 tools but among them South Asian University is ahead which is using most of the tools.

6. Present Study on the Library Websites of Engineering Colleges of Delhi

National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India, has ranked seven

Engineering colleges in Delhi region for the year 2020. There are mentioned as below:

- Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD)
- Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI)
- Delhi Technological University(DIT)
- Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi(IITD)
- Netaji Subhas University of Technology (NSUT)
- Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University(GGSIU)
- Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women(IGDTUW)

Thus, the present study will be restricted to above university / institutes and the colleges only.

7. Objectives of the Study

The major objectives of the study are:

- To analyze the library web contents of the Engineering Colleges in Delhi ranked by NIRF for 2020.
- To know the general information about the library website of the Engineering Colleges in Delhi in respect to their NIRF 2020 ranking, year of establishment, URL etc.
- To ascertain different types library services being offered on the library websites by these Engineering Colleges in Delhi.
- To ascertain the details given about the library collection and other services on the websites on Engineering Colleges in Delhi.
- To compare the various features of Engineering Colleges in Delhi websites and to rank them based on selected features.

8. Methodology and Scope & Limitations of the Study

In the present study, the observation technique has been used for data collection. The data were collected from the library websites of the selected engineering colleges of Delhi. The study begins with the search on Google search engine with the sentence "NIRF ranking engineering colleges 2020" and identified total 300 Engineering colleges from all over India from the official website of the Ministry of Human Resource Development. Out of 300 Engineering Colleges, 07 engineering colleges of Delhi were noted as the ranked colleges/institutes or the

universities in Delhi and they are included in the present study.

However, the present study is only limited to the study of the availability or non-availability of the content features of their websites.

9. Data Tabulation and Analysis

Now, the data collected are tabulated and analyzed for studying various objectives framed for the study.

9.1. Engineering Colleges in Delhi with NIRF Ranking in 2020

Table 1 depicts the name of 07 Engineering colleges / institutes in Delhi, their year of establishment, URL and NIRF, 2020 ranking.

Table 1. List of Engineering Colleges in Delhi with NIRF rating as in 2020

S. No.	Name	Year of Establishment	College URL	NIRF Ranking (2020)
1	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi	1961	https://home.iitd.ac.in/	2
2	Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), Delhi	1920	https://www.jmi.ac.in/	28
3	Delhi Technological University (DTU), Delhi	1941	http://www.dtu.ac.in/	36
4	Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Delhi	2008	https://www.iiitd.ac.in/	56
5	Netaji Subhas University of Technology (NSUT), Delhi	1983	http://www.nsut.ac.in/	76
6	Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIU), Delhi	1988	http://ipu.ac.in/urc/digital.htm	86
7	Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women (IGDTUW), Delhi	1998	http://www.igdtuw.ac.in/	145

It is clear from the table that oldest university / institute is Jamia Millia Islamia which was established in the year 1920 and newest one is Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology, Delhi which came into being during 2008. They are ranked 28 and 56 ranks in NIRF ranking respectively. Further, IIT, Delhi is at 2nd rank and IGDTU, Delhi at 145th place.

9.2. Engineering Colleges in Delhi with their Library URL

Table 2 depicts the name of the colleges / university/ institute undertaken for study based on NIRF-2020 ranking. Further the name of library, if different from university / institute name and URL of the websites is shown.

Table 2: List of Engineering Colleges in Delhi with their Library URL

S. No.	Name of College	Name of Library	URL of Library Website
1	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi	Central Library	https://library.iitd.ac.in/
2	Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), Delhi	Dr. Zakir Husain Library	https://www.jmi.ac.in/studyatjamia/library/zhl/introduction
3	Delhi Technological University (DTU), Delhi	Central Library	http://library.dtu.ac.in/
4	Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology	IITD Library & Information Center	https://library.iiitd.edu.in/

	(IIT), Delhi		
5	Netaji Subhas University of Technology (NSUT), Delhi	Central Library	http://www.nsut.ac.in/library/
6	Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIU), Delhi	University Information Resource Centre (UIRC)	http://www.ipu.ac.in/library.php http://www.ipu.ac.in/urc/digital.htm
7	Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women (IGDTUW), Delhi	Learning Resource Centre	http://www.igdtuw.ac.in/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=161&Itemid=38

It is seen from the table that the libraries of IIT, Delhi, Delhi Technological University and that of Netaji Subhas University of Technology is known as Central Library, while Jamia Millia Islamia Library is named as Zakir Husain Library. For others, libraries are known as Learning Resource Centre and Library & Information Centre. Thus, various nomenclature is in vogue for libraries.

9.3. Information Displayed on Library Websites

Table 3 is designed with 19 items to develop general information on the library websites. These items have been prepared on the basis of earlier studies like that of Karak (2015), Verma & Brahma (2017), Ahmad (2018) Krishna Devi & Verma (2018) and Sahoo & Panda (2019). However, the special information varies on the library websites of the 7 engineering colleges of Delhi as ranked in NIRF, 2020 from each other but general information about the library website of the engineering colleges of Delhi uploaded on the website are more or less same.

Table 3: Information Displayed on Library Websites

General Information	IITD	JMI	DTU	IITD	NSUT	GGSIU	IGDTUW
About Library	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Books	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Print Journals	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Manuscripts	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Hindi Books	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Web OPAC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes*
New Arrivals	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
E-Resources(Remote Access)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
e-Books	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
e-Journals	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
e-Database	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Print Resources	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Free Open Access Resources	Yes**	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Digital Library/Repository	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes***
Rare Books	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Announcement/Notices	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Rules & Regulations	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Ask a Librarian	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Sitemap	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
Note: *only on intranet; ** for COVID 19; *** projects for B.Tech. final year							

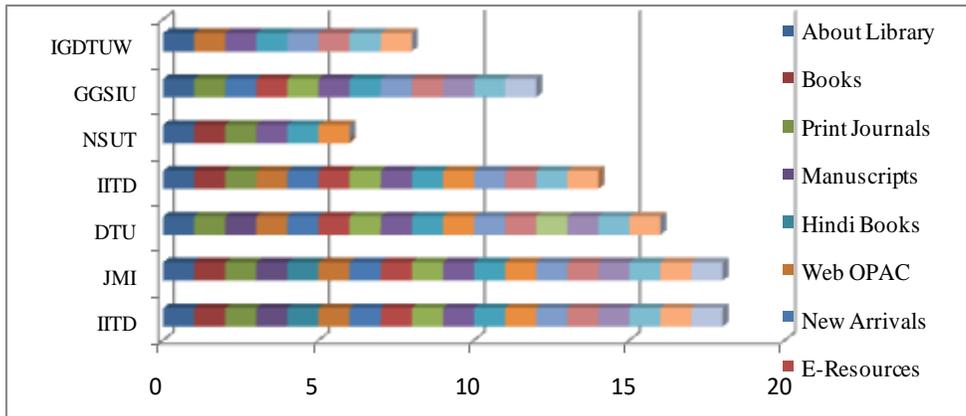


Figure 2: Information Displayed on Library Websites

It may be seen from table 3 that the library all 7 colleges websites have mentioned the availability of the WebOpac, but the library of the IGDTUW work only on Intranet. One has to visit the college first to search the catalogue of the library collection. Almost all 7 library has the information on e-resources, and also the free access to e-database is provided by most of the libraries. IIT Delhi is providing free e- resource for providing support in COVID 19 situation. The e-books at IITD can be used via LAN from <https://library.iitd.ac.in/Browse-E-TextBooks>. IGDTUW has digital collection of full text Project Reports of B.Tech final year students and publication of IGDTUW Faculty available at <http://172.16.60.1:1026/gsd1>.

DTU has mentioned a collection of rare books from 1859 to 1943 but could not find the information regarding general books on the website. Many of the items mentioned on the DTU library website are not found functional. NSUTD has no developed library website. The minimal information regarding its library without further links is found on a single page of the NSUTD college website. Only the figure of the books and journals procured by the NSUTD library is mentioned on the library page. GGSIU has also put on the information related to library on a single page and is jumbled with text and hyperlinks. Many of the hyperlinks do not work. Only one thing is common that is the information “About Library” is on all the websites. Other things can get easily find out through figure 2.

9.4. Social Networking Links of Library Websites

Social networking links as mentioned on the Library website of Engineering colleges in Delhi are listed in

Table 4. It indicates the social networking links are used and present on the library websites of the 7 Engineering colleges of Delhi selected for NIRF, 2020 ranking.

Table 4: Social Networking Links of Library Websites of Engineering Colleges

Social Networking Link	IITD	JMI	DTU	IITD	NSUT	GGSIU	IGDTUW
Facebook	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Twitter	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes
YouTube	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Linkedin	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No

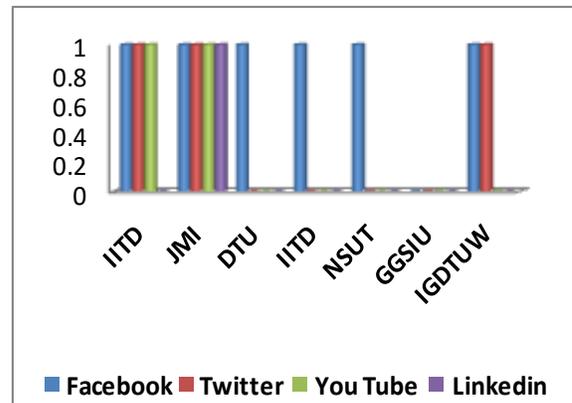


Figure 3: Social Networking Link

It is also clear that except GGSIU, others are using social networking links in their websites. Jamia Millia Islamia use all of social networking tools and

IIT, Delhi three of them. Rest can be seen more clearly through figure 3.

Major Findings

The major findings of this study include the following:

- Jamia Millia Islamia which was established in the year 1920 is the oldest institute / college and newest one is Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology, Delhi which came into being during 2008. Further, IIT, Delhi is at 2nd rank and IGDTU, Delhi at 145th place.
- Various nomenclature is in vogue for libraries; for example, Learning Resource Centre, Library & Information Centre and central libraries.
- Out of 23 points (16 from table 3 and 04 from table 04), Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD) scored 20 points; Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) scored 22 points; Delhi Technological University (DTU) scored 17 points; Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi (IIITD) scored 15 points; Netaji Subhas University of Technology (NSUT) scored 7 points; Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIU) scored 11 points; and Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women (IGDTUW) scored 8 points.

Thus, Jamia Millia Islamia is on the top and NSUT is at the last rank in this list.

- As far as the links to social networking tools are concerned, except GGSIU, others are using social networking links in their websites. Jamia Millia Islamia use all of social networking tools and IIT, Delhi three of them.

Conclusion

So, it can be said that the display of information about the library on its website indicates the virtual presence of its physical library. Hence, this comparative study was conducted for 07 Engineering Colleges as listed in National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), 2020 ranking for 23 items as listed in table 3 and table 4, Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi was at the top with 22 points, followed by IIT, Delhi and DTU, Delhi with 17 points.

However, the number of resources procured by the engineering colleges/ institutes may vary because the present study did not cover the number of resources available/procured in the library. But it is noted that the website of the library of IIT Delhi is very neat and far easier for the users to understand about the library services and their resources without visiting the library. So, further rooms exist for other library websites to improve their contents as well as the presence over net.

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