
VIDWAN (Subject Expert Database): An Overview in Indian Context

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Abstract

An e-learning platform called VIDWAN was developed primarily for academic institutions, policymakers, and research students. The website contains a useful database that can help transfer information from authorities to peers, possible collaborators, funding organizations, politicians, and research academics nationwide. VIDWAN serves as a platform for finding potential specialists with related qualifications. VIDWAN is an excellent resource for background data on subject-matter specialists employed by prestigious academic institutions and R&D companies involved in teaching and research. The article specifically discusses the methods used to choose experts, the attributes and capabilities of the database, and the benefits of each. This project aims to investigate how new technologies may be integrated into the VIDWAN subject expert database. The essay looked at how the national researcher is doing right now..

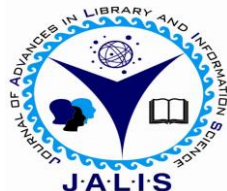
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Introduction

VIDWAN is an online learning platform created to serve the requirements of professors and research scientists from different schools and institutions. Learn how to use the VIDWAN portal's capabilities to your advantage to make your academic study fruitful. Studies being conducted in physical buildings have come to an end because to the global coronavirus pandemic. The constant engagement between students and teachers that was formerly allowed in an institutional setting is now less common. There are alternative ways, nevertheless, for research students to keep up their studies without taking a break. Information and Library Network Centre (INFLIBNET) created and maintains the VIDWAN database with funding assistance from the National Mission on Education through ICT (NME-ICT).

The database received from the VIDWAN Portal will be crucial in helping the GOI choose its panel. The panel members chosen for the panel may be appointed as experts for various task forces and committees created by the Ministries or Government. Experts hired for this reason will be in charge of assessing the procedure and the cases given to them. The faculty members who submit their information to the VIDWAN database as experts have it verified by their colleagues. The research aspirants also utilize this database to complete their studies. A prestigious VIDWAN portal database contains profiles of productive researchers and scientists and other faculty members who work at top universities. Additionally to them, research and development organizations that conduct instruction and research in India.

Who are all can join VIDWAN

1. An expert who possesses a postgraduate degree or doctorate degree in their respective subject with 10 years of professional experience can join VIDWAN;
2. National / International Awardee and citation Laureates;
3. Postdoctoral Fellow / Research Scholar / Assistant Professor / Associate Professor / Professor / Senior Scientist or equivalent positions in teaching & research.

The Experts could locate academics with related fields of study. In addition, academics will have a

free platform to share their knowledge with the scientific community, funding organizations, decision-makers, etc. The institutions or organizations who sign up for VIDWAN would be able to effortlessly work with organizations both inside and outside of India. The process of locating experts for committees and expert panels for existing or planned initiatives would be made simple for policymakers and funding organizations.

The key objectives of the database are:

1. To provide an easy access to information about experts and peers, research scholars, scientists, noble laureates and policy makers in the country;
2. To provide a platform for users to connect experts and peers within focus areas and

Type of Information Contained in VIDWAN Database

Personal Information	Qualification and Experience	Expertise	Publications and other Information
Personal Details with contact number and Email ID	Academic Qualification and	Area of Expertise and	Publications, Awards
URL and Photo	Professional Experience	Brief about expertise area	Scholarships/fellowships Professional Details and
			Any other Information

VIDWAN Features and Functions

1. Browse by Web of Science subject category and organization type;
2. Exact and Free-Text Search allows end users to perform search across multiple archives;
3. Advanced search facility facilitates to search experts by its name, designation, area of expertise, honor awards, organization and organization category;
4. The web-enabled interface allows experts to edit their profiles and hyperlink their publications.
5. Experts can manually add or import CSV files for information such as Honors and Awards, Doctoral Theses Guided, Membership in Professional Bodies, Membership in Committees, Research Projects and Publication in BIBTEXT format.
6. Cloud based Search results displays similar experts in particular fields;
7. Profiles enrichment via automatic updates, with linkage to other databases and external resources;

geographic expertise, and establish a communication facility for further research planning;

3. To provide a platform for subject experts showcasing their expertise, skills, and professional achievements;
4. To create information exchanges and networking opportunities among scientists,
5. To Identify peer reviewers for journal articles and research proposals;
6. To discover prospective collaborators for ongoing research projects, experts for different national and international committees; and
7. To provide unique identification to experts in the country.

8. Facility to hyperlink to ORCID ID, Researcher ID, Google Scholar ID, Scopus ID, Microsoft Academic Search ID, IndCat and Shodhganga;
9. Auto-generated VIDWAN ID

Current Status of VIDWAN PORTAL

As on 25th April 2023, VIDWAN database contains 16,362 organizations, 1,77,147 profiles of the subject experts with 22, 98, 026 faculty publications as shown in below Fig.

Subject wise Analysis

Sl. No.	Subject	No. of Experts	Percentage
1	Agricultural Sciences	10064	5.89
2	Arts and Humanities	14410	8.44
3	Biological Science	6547	3.83
4	Chemical Science	7960	4.66

5	Engineering and Technology	67215	39.39
6	Medical and Health sciences	17987	10.54
7	Physical Sciences	16232	9.51
8	Social Sciences	30212	17.70
	Total	170627	100

Subject wise List of Experts in VIDWAN



Organization Wise Analysis

Sl. No.	Organization	No. of Experts	Percentage
1	Central University	11488	6.85
2	Deemed University	20209	12.06
3	Institute of National Importance	16569	9.89
4	Other Institutes	59109	35.29
5	R and D Organizations	7494	4.47
6	State University	24165	14.60
7	Technical Institutes	28430	16.97
	Total	167464	100

Organization wise List of Experts in VIDWAN

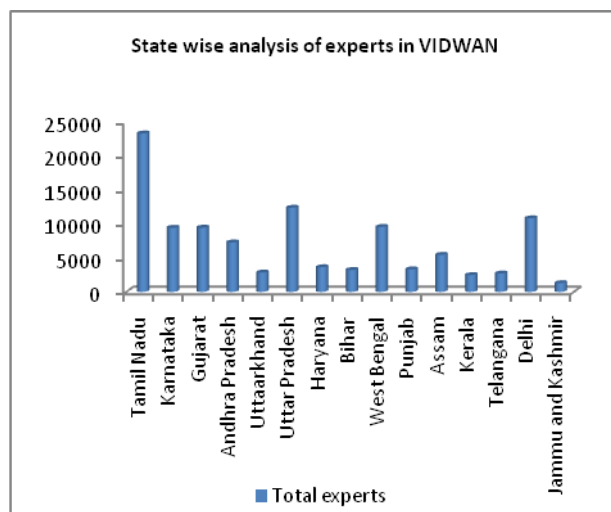


State wise Experts analysis

India is one of the fastest developing countries in the world mostly in all sectors and top-ranking countries in basic research. One of the key factors behind this progress is education. India has 28 States and eight Union Territories. The below table provides a state wise list of experts joined in VIDWAN database (as on 18th March 2023). The data calculates that Tamil Nadu (18.8%), one of the most economically developed states in the country, has occupied top position in the table having the highest number experts contribution, followed by Uttar Pradesh (9.99%), Delhi*(8.74%) and West Bengal (7.71%). and Mizoram (0.57%) is one of the North-East states with small in size and population has occupied the bottom position.

Sl. No.	State	Total experts	Percentage
1	Tamil Nadu	23280	18.80
2	Karnataka	9425	7.61
3	Gujarat	9444	7.62
4	Andhra Pradesh	7273	5.87
5	Uttarkhand	2840	2.29
6	Uttar Pradesh	12372	9.99
7	Haryana	3635	2.93
8	Bihar	3216	2.59
9	West Bengal	9550	7.71
10	Punjab	3320	2.68
11	Assam	5452	4.40
12	Himachal Pradesh	1717	1.38
13	Maharashtra	3978	3.21
14	Nagaland	819	0.66
15	Kerala	2479	2.00
16	Telangana	2706	2.18
17	Madhya Pradesh	2169	1.75
18	Mizoram	709	0.57
19	Rajasthan	1488	1.20
20	Odisha	1453	1.17
21	Meghalaya	1067	0.86
22	Sikkim	573	0.46
23	Goa	821	0.66
24	Chhattisgarh	441	0.35
25	Manipur	228	0.18
26	Arunachal Pradesh	278	0.22
27	Jharkhand	536	0.43
28	Tripura	434	0.35
29	Delhi*	10825	8.74
30	Jammu and Kashmir*	1293	1.04
	Total	1,23,821	100

State wise List of Experts in VIDWAN



Conclusion

VIDWAN is a useful resource for background information for subject experts working at prominent academic institutions and R&D firms engaged in teaching and research in India. Its profile system helps identify local or national experts for various committees, meetings, conferences, and group discussions. It also enables academics, scientists, or government bodies to find other experts in a certain topic. In order for researchers to continue their research in respective fields, VIDWAN bridges these gaps and connects them with colleagues. In order to learn about current events both inside and outside their field of study, researchers are usually permitted to make their own decisions. Additionally, VIDWAN eliminates the problems with discovering active researchers and makes it very simple to construct a researcher's network.

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