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Publishing of Articles in Indexed Journals-A Perspective of Research Scholars

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Abstract

Research has been the buzzing word in all the fields i.e., Science, Technology, Industry, Hospital, Education etc. Without research there is no invention. In Educational sector too, various research activities are taking place to bring out the talent of the students in Schools, Colleges and Universities. Government has come forward with various funding agencies to outfield the talent of the student community. One of the Research activity done at College or University level is encouraging the research scholars to publish their articles in Indexed journals so as to make them more knowledgeable and strong in their particular field. Hence an attempt has been made in identifying the factors influencing the research scholars to publish their articles in Indexed journals as it is the need of the hour. A sample of 500 research scholars has been identified using Convenient sampling method who are undertaking their research in well reputed Colleges in Coimbatore city. The study would highlight the main factors which influence them to publish their articles in Indexed journals.

Keywords: Publication; Articles; Indexed; Journals; Research Scholars.

Introduction of the Study

Publishing of articles in journals offers many opportunities to today's users and scholars that were not available to their predecessors. Because of the multidimensional features of Journals, they are becoming the choice of academic as well as public library users. Technology and the Internet, has great potential for altering scholarly communication and research in humanities, sciences, social sciences and health sciences disciplines. Research is an inevitable part in human life today. Our daily life is benefitted directly or indirectly through research and developments at various levels. Research has been promoted by government and many funding agencies to bring out quality research. Recent increase in the enrolment for Ph.D. programs at Indian universities is a best example to prove the importance of research. Universities in India give priority in employment to Doctorate degree holders.

The primary purpose of basic research is documentation, discovery, interpretation, or the research and development of methods and systems for the advancement of human knowledge. But there are millions of researches undergoing at different levels with different purposes. Only a few research turns into real time applications, but majority of research work goes in vain. Various factors that determine the attitude towards research and top reasons that drive students towards research are the major concepts focused in this research. It also focuses on the primary reasons of publishing articles in reputed indexed journals.

Review of Literature

Scholarly articles are primarily required for career advancement and international recognition that can be reflected in values of several citation metrics (Rallison 2015 and Wester 2016). Students' understanding towards publication ethics should be enhanced in order to provide a harmonious academic environment. This can be done by introducing teaching sessions with proper outlines, discussing authorship rights at the beginning of the research process, and following the standard guidelines (Jahanfar et al 2017). The awareness campaigns by professional societies, consultations with information facilitators, implementation of the criteria of best target journals, and

crediting of scholars with use of integrative citation metrics, such as the h-index, are believed to make a difference (Gasparyan et al. 2016).

Statement of Problem

The study explores the top reasons or factors that have high level of importance in their decision to publish their articles in indexed journals. In well established universities and colleges, publishing the articles in peer reviewed journals and indexed journals are given much priority in consideration of their performance appraisal. The scholars are also motivated to publish their articles in indexed journals to enrich their knowledge in research. Hence this study would explore the factors which influence the research scholars to publish in indexed journals.

Objective of the Study

- To identify the factors influencing the research scholars to publish their articles in indexed journals.

Methodology

- **Data Collection and Procedure:** The data for this study was acquired from the research scholars who pursue M.Phil or Ph.D programme. A well established questionnaire was developed to study their attitude towards the research and publication of articles in indexed journals.
- **Sample size:** The size of the sample is 500 scholars.
- **Area of study:** The study was confined to Coimbatore city. Scholars pursuing research in reputed institutions are covered for the study.
- **Sampling Method:** Convenient sampling method was used to collect the data from the research scholars.
- **Statistical tools used:** Percentage Analysis and Factor Analysis.

Limitations of the Study

- The study restricts the number of scholars to 500.
- Time period was also considered to be a constraint.

Results and Discussion

Research Scholars show keen interest in publishing their work in reputed journals and books. Many factors contribute to select a journal for publication. Some of the main factors have been highlighted in the Table 1. Factor Analysis technique has been applied to find the underlying dimensions (factors) that exists in the 12 variables relating to the factors that influenced the research scholars to publish their papers in reputed indexed journals. **T**wo tests namely Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin measures of sampling adequacy (KMO) & Bartlett's Test of Sphercity have been applied, to test whether the relationship among the variables has been significant or not as shown in Table 2.

The result of the test shows that with the significant value of .000 there is significant relationship among the variable chosen. KMO test yields a result of 0.764, which states that factor analysis can be carried out appropriately for these 12 variables which are taken for the study. Table 3 highlights the total variance explained from the 12 variables.The four factors extracted together account for 57.377% of the total variance. From 12 variables, it has been economized to four underlying factors.

From Rotated component matrix table, the variables Physical quality, Publisher, Cost of publication and Possibility of easy Citation have loadings of 0.605, 0.684, .694 and 0.739 on factor 1, this suggests that factor 1 is a combination of these variables. At this point, a suitable phrase which captures the essence of the original variables to form the underlying concept, factor 1 could be named as "Reputation". Incase of the factor 2 columns, the variables Peer-review for scientific qualification, Prestige, Confidentiality and Impact factor have high loadings of 0.726, 0.649, 0.663 and 0.627 respectively. This indicates that factor 2 is the combination of these three variables and named as "Reliability". Incase of the factor 3 column, the variables Standard Editorial Board and Timely publishing of articles have high loadings of 0.593 and 0.721 respectively. This indicates that factor 3 is the combination of these two variables and named as "Standard Review". Incase of the factor 4 column, the variables Abstracting and indexing services and Open access have high loadings of 0.793 and 0.690 respectively. This indicates that factor 4 is the combination of these two variables and named as "Wide Access". Further all the variables which have high loadings are combined with the concerned factor based on their scores as shown in Table 5.

Thus the 12 variables which were selected for the study, using principle component analysis have been reduced to 4 factor model and each factor have been given a name which is associated with the corresponding variables based on the values obtained from the rotated component matrix table. The scree plot highlighted in Chart 1 describes the factor loadings of the 12 variables taken for the study.

Conclusion

Indexed journals are highly preferred to publish the articles to gain high reputation and indexing facility by the Research scholars and professionals. This has been well proved through the factor analysis technique which has been carried out in the study. The four factors extracted nearly 57.37% of the total variance and it has been named as "Reputation", "Reliability", "Standard Review" and "Wide Access". This study would certainly open the eyes of the upcoming research scholars in publishing their articles in indexed journals.

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Table 1

Factors considered for publication of article in Indexed journals

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Abstracting and indexing services	36 (7.2)	80 (16)	120 (24.0)	148 (29.6)	116 (23.2)
Open access	16 (3.2)	102 (20.4)	168 (33.6)	148 (29.6)	66 (13.2)
Peer-review for scientific qualification	13 (2.6)	39 (7.8)	153 (30.6)	229 (45.8)	66 (13.2)
Physical quality	8 (1.6)	106 (21.2)	113 (22.6)	214 (42.8)	59 (11.8)
Prestige	0 (0.0)	80 (16.0)	102 (20.4)	232 (46.4)	86 (17.2)
Publisher	13 (2.6)	62 (12.4)	162 (32.4)	225 (45.0)	38 (7.6)
Standard Editorial Board	11 (2.2)	140 (28.0)	82 (16.4)	192 (38.4)	75 (15.0)
Confidentiality	9 (1.8)	42 (8.4)	121 (24.2)	251 (50.2)	77 (15.4)
Impact factor	9 (1.8)	156 (31.2)	102 (20.4)	172 (34.4)	61 (12.2)
Timely publishing of articles	14 (2.8)	36 (7.2)	168 (33.6)	216 (43.2)	66 (13.2)
Cost of publication	12 (2.4)	127 (25.4)	152 (30.4)	169 (33.8)	40 (8.0)
Possibility of easy Citation	8 (1.6)	58 (11.6)	154 (30.8)	245 (49)	35 (7.0)

Table 2

KMO and Bartlett's Test of Sphercity

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.764
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	1105.603
	Df	66
	Sig.	.000

Table 3

Total Variance Explained

Component	Initial Eigenvalues			Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings			Rotation Sums of Squared Loadings		
	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	3.366	28.047	28.047	3.366	28.047	28.047	2.364	19.696	19.696
2	1.344	11.199	39.245	1.344	11.199	39.245	2.068	17.232	36.928
3	1.096	9.130	48.376	1.096	9.130	48.376	1.289	10.739	47.666
4	1.080	9.001	57.377	1.080	9.001	57.377	1.165	9.710	57.377
5	.919	7.658	65.035						
6	.789	6.576	71.611						
7	.734	6.119	77.730						
8	.720	6.003	83.733						
9	.615	5.123	88.856						
10	.542	4.515	93.371						
11	.444	3.696	97.067						
12	.352	2.933	100.000						

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

Table 4

Rotated Component Matrix

	Component			
	1	2	3	4
Abstracting and indexing services	.117	.028	-.250	**.793**
Open access	-.106	.080	.406	**.690**
Peer-review for scientific qualification	.048	**.726**	.016	.192
Physical quality	**.605**	.165	-.101	.013
Prestige	.395	**.649**	-.016	-.046
Publisher	**.684**	.434	-.062	.112
Standard Editorial Board	.530	-.137	**.593**	-.027
Confidentiality	-.023	**.663**	.300	-.050
Impact factor	.519	**.627**	.146	-.067
Timely publishing of articles	.059	.277	**.721**	-.004
Cost of publication	**.694**	.278	.155	.016
Possibility of easy Citation	**.739**	-.089	.198	.008

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalization

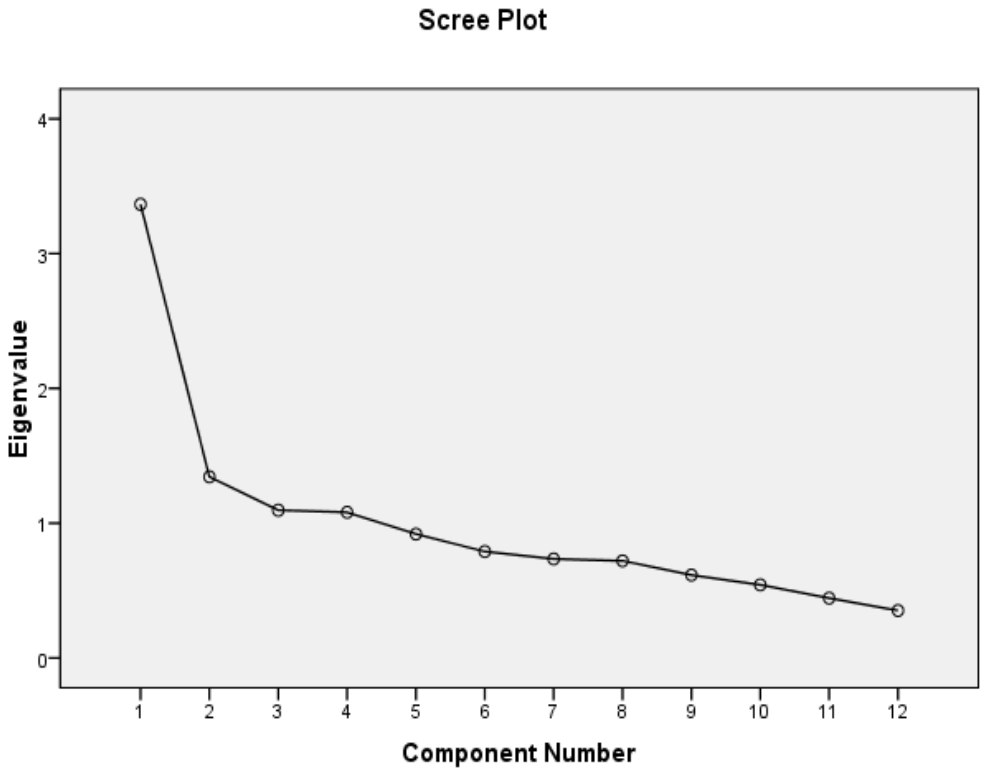
a. Rotation converged in 9 iterations.

Table 5

Variables identified for Factor Scores

S.No	**Variables**	**Factor Name**
1	Physical quality	Reputation
2	Publisher	
3	Cost of publication	
4	Possibility of easy Citation	
5	Peer-review for scientific qualification, , and	Reliability
6	Prestige	
7	Confidentiality	
8	Impact factor	
9	Standard Editorial Board	
10	Timely publishing of articles	Standard Review
11	Abstracting and indexing services	
12	Open Access	Wide Access

Chart 1


Scree Plot
Eigenvalue
Component Number
0
1
2
3
4
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12