

# **National Digital Library of India: A Virtual Repository of Learning Resources for Higher Education**

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## **ABSTRACT**

*The National Digital Library of India (NDLI) project was initiated in 2015 and was launched in the country on June 19, 2018. It is a repository of resources from national and international digital libraries, accessible in English and Indian languages as well. NDLI offers a vast repository of learning resources for various educational levels and domains, including school, competitive exams, science, engineering, and more. It covers diverse resource types like books, videos, simulations, and more, aiming to provide a single-window access point for e-learning. NDLI is a virtual repository that provides search and browse facilities, along with other services for the learner community. The present study aims to assess the current status of the National Digital Library of India and to examine how it organises its learning resources for higher education. The study will further highlight on the scope of learning resources, material, subject's coverage and types of material available to end users in learning resources.*

**KEYWORDS:** E-resources, Higher Education, Information Communication Technology, National Digital Library of India.

## **INTRODUCTION**

National Digital Library of India (NDLI) is a virtual repository of learning resources which is not just a repository with search/browse facilities but provides a host of services for the learner community. It is sponsored and mentored by Ministry of Education, Government of India, through its National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT). Filtered and federated searching is employed to facilitate focused searching so that learners can find the right resource with least effort and in minimum time. NDLI provides user group-specific services such as Examination Preparatory for School and College students and job aspirants. Services for Researchers and general learners are also provided. NDLI is designed to hold content of any language and provides interface support for 10 most widely used Indian languages. It is built to provide support for all academic levels including researchers and life-long learners, all disciplines, all popular forms of access devices and differently-abled learners. It is designed to enable people to learn and prepare from best

practices from all over the world and to facilitate researchers to perform inter-linked exploration from multiple sources. It is developed, operated and maintained from Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur.

The NDLI covers School Education, Higher Education, Career Development, Research, Patents & Standards, Judicial Resources, Cultural Activities and Newspaper Archives. The present study will basically highlights on Higher Education only.

## **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

Das Anup Kumar (2022) suggests a way forward to make operational DL initiatives discoverable to humans and machines with the adaptation of FAIR principles that make e-resources findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable for their discovery beyond respective DL portals.

Verma Aman (2022) focuses on the National Digital Library of India (NDLI) project, which is India's answer to the UDL and Million Books Online Project (MBP). NDLI supports a wide range of academic activities, including research into methods of text summarization, information retrieval, machine translation and transliteration, optical character recognition, handwriting recognition, and morphological and syntactic analyses of natural languages. This report summarizes NDLI's activities in several domains and demonstrates the multilingual resource function of NDLI.

Muniyandi Deivam (2021) explored the current status of the National Digital Library of India and attempted to find out the way learning resources of NDLI are organised. It is also find out the coverage of learning resources and availability of the content with regards to educational level. Besides this, analyze the coverage of the subject and types of content and languages of the learning resources are available to end users.

Fayaz Ahmad Loan (2019) is a platform that intends to provide all citizens of the country with digital educational materials in order to encourage, educate, and promote learning. The National Digital Library of India was investigated in the present study in order to better understand its advantages, features, and contents in the international digital world.

Maya Devi, (2019), the article looked at the current state of the National Digital Library of India and tried to figure out how it organises its learning resources. It's also important to determine the scope of learning resources and material available in terms of educational level. In addition, examine the subject's coverage, as well as the types of material and languages available to end users in learning resources.

## **OBJECTIVES**

- 1) To study the various subjects covered in Higher Education at NDLI
- 2) To examine the resource types in Higher Education at NDLI
- 3) To ascertain the content providers in Higher Education at NDLI
- 4) To find out the educational levels in Higher Education at NDLI
- 5) To study the various languages in Higher Education at NDLI
- 6) To examine the content types in Higher Education at NDLI

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

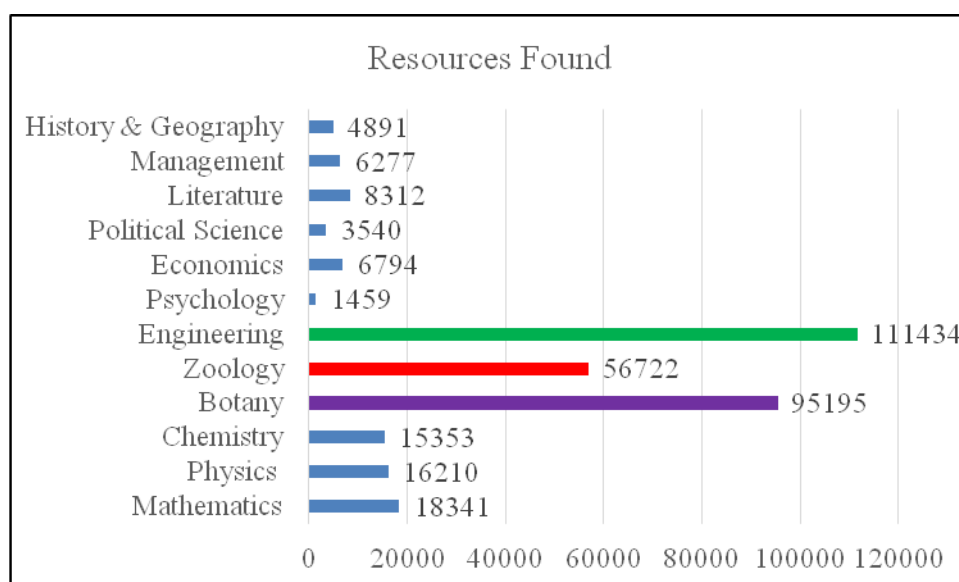
For the present study, the data was collected from the website of the National digital library of India as on dated 28.7.2025. For the present study only the Higher Education e-resources has been studied.

## ANALYSIS OF DATA

The collected data from NDLI website has been analysed and presented in the form of table and graph given below;

**Table No. 1 - Subjects covered in Higher Education at NDLI**

Sr. No.	Subjects	Resources Found
1	Mathematics	18341
2	Physics	16210
3	Chemistry	15353
4	Botany	95195
5	Zoology	56722
6	Engineering	111434
7	Psychology	1459
8	Economics	6794
9	Political Science	3540
10	Literature	8312
11	Management	6277
12	History & Geography	4891

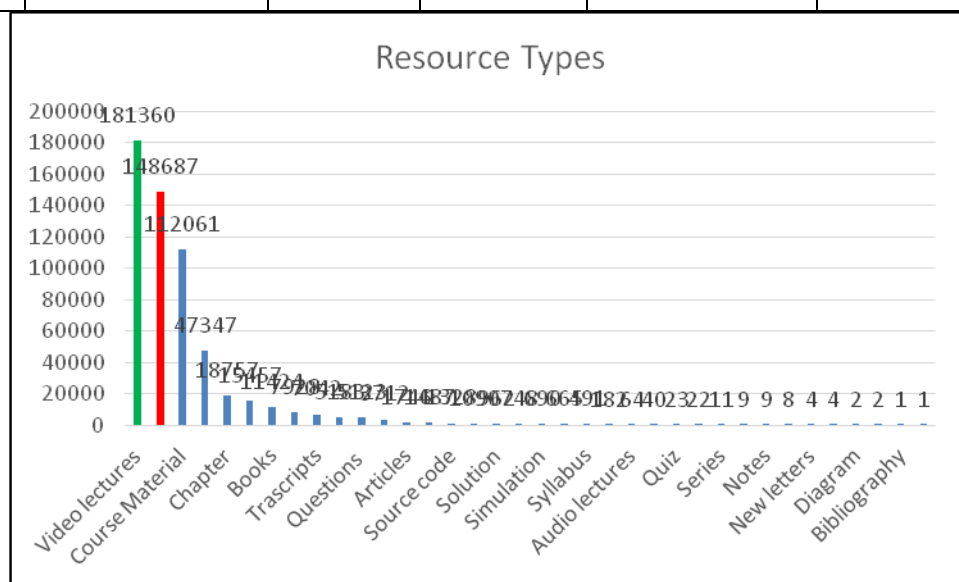


**Graph No. 1 - Subjects covered in Higher Education at NDLI**

It is evident from table no. 1 and graph no. 1 that the 12 major subjects covered in Higher Education most at NDLI were Engineering 111434, Botany 95195 and Zoology 56722 respectively. The least subjects covered is Political Science 3540. It shows that the resources are found in the Engineering subject.

**Table No. 2 - Resource types in Higher Education at NDLI**

Sr. No.	Resource Types	Resources Found	Sr. No.	Resource Types	Resources Found
1	Video lectures	181360	19	Simulation	690
2	Specimen	148687	20	Collection	665
3	Course Material	112061	21	Syllabus	491
4	Lecture Notes	47347	22	Theses	182
5	Chapter	18757	23	Audio lectures	64
6	Self-Assessment	15457	24	Technical reports	40
7	Books	11424	25	Quiz	23
8	Question papers	7928	26	Report	22
9	Transcripts	7042	27	Series	11
10	Presentation	5183	28	Annual reports	9
11	Questions	5123	29	Notes	9
12	Model Answers	3712	30	Journals	8
13	Articles	1746	31	New letters	4
14	Web Course	1487	32	Project report	4
15	Source code	1328	33	Diagram	2
16	Question Sets	1090	34	Manual	2
17	Solution	962	35	Bibliography	1
18	Lab Material	748	36	Discussion	1

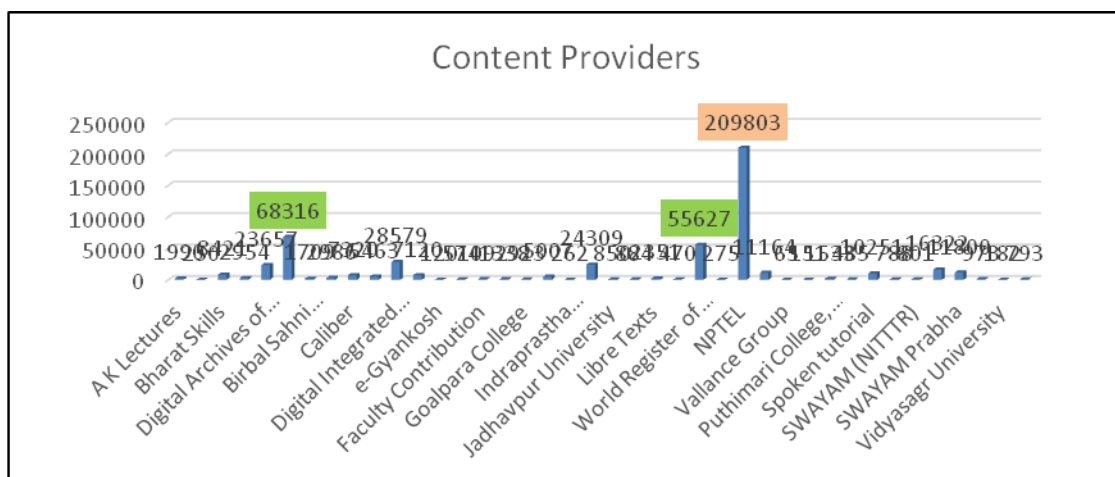


**Graph No. 2 - Resource types in Higher Education at NDLI**

It is evident from table no. 2 and graph no. 2 that among 36 resource types in Higher Education at NDLI that the most resource types available are Video lectures were 181360, Specimen were 148687 and Course Material were 112061. The least resource types available is Discussion is 1. It shows that Video lectures are mostly available on NDLI in Higher Education.

**Table No. 3 - Content providers in Higher Education at NDLI**

Sr. No.	Content Providers	Resources Found	Sr. No.	Content Providers	Resources Found
1	A K Lectures	1990	21	Jadhavpur University	850
2	Astronomy Notes	250	22	Kerala University of Health Science	884
3	Bharat Skills	8421	23	Libre Texts	2351
4	Botanical Survey of India	2954	24	Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad University of ...	470
5	Digital Archives of Botanical Survey of India	23657	25	World Register of Marine Species	55627
6	Indian Virtual Herbarium	68316	26	NASA - Spitzer Space Telescope	275
7	Birbal Sahni Institute of Paleobotany	1709	27	NPTEL	209803
8	Calcutta University	2986	28	OpenStax	11164
9	Caliber	7320	29	Vallance Group	65
10	Consortium for Educational Communication	5463	30	PrinciplesofAccounting.com	151
11	Digital Integrated System for Holistic Teaching ...	28579	31	Puthimari College, Assam	1533
12	e-Adhyayan	7120	32	S.B.M.S. College Digital Library	485
13	e-Gyankosh	120	33	Spoken tutorial	10251
14	Knowledge Unleashed in Multipule Bharatiya ...	574	34	Stom EZ	788
15	Faculty Contribution	1092	35	SWAYAM (NITTTR)	801
16	Free/Libre and O S S for Education	1338	36	SWAYAM (UGC MOOCS)	16322
17	Goalpara College	923	37	SWAYAM Prabha	11800
18	ICAR - NAHEP E-learning Portal	5007	38	Tamil Nadu Agriculture University	973
19	Indraprastha Institute of I.T. Delhi	262	39	Vidyasagr University	182
20	Indlibnet e- PG Pathshala	24309	40	Virtual Labs	793

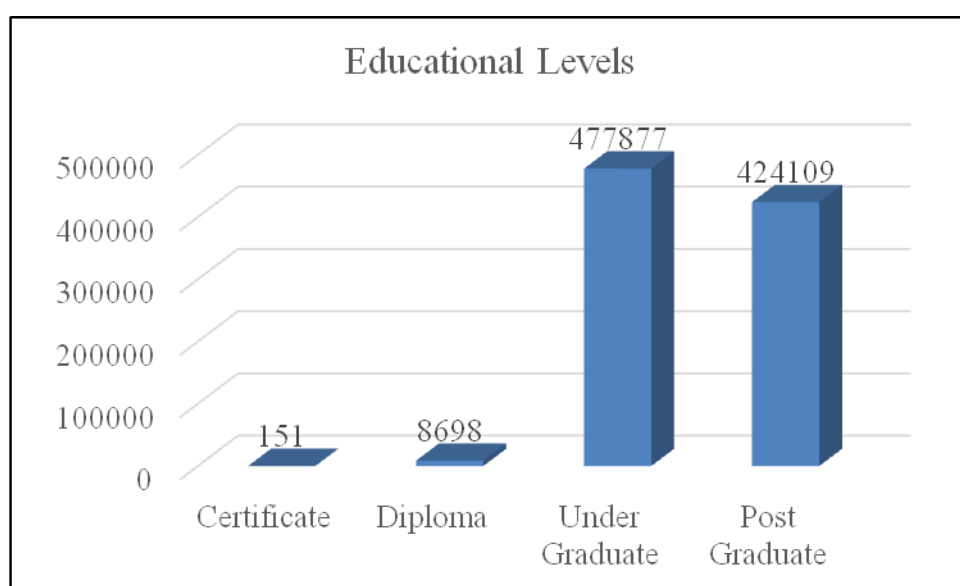


Graph No. 3 - Content providers in Higher Education at NDLI

It is evident from table no. 3 and graph no. 3 that the total Content providers are 40 in Higher Education at NDLI. The most content providers were NPTEL 209803, Indian Virtual Herbarium 68316 and World Register of Marine Species 55627 respectively and the least content providers is Vallance Group 65. It shows that majorly NPTEL provides the content of Higher Education at NDLI.

Table No. 4 - Educational levels in Higher Education at NDLI

Sr. No.	Educational Level	Resources Found
1	Certificate	151
2	Diploma	8698
3	Under Graduate	477877
4	Post Graduate	424109



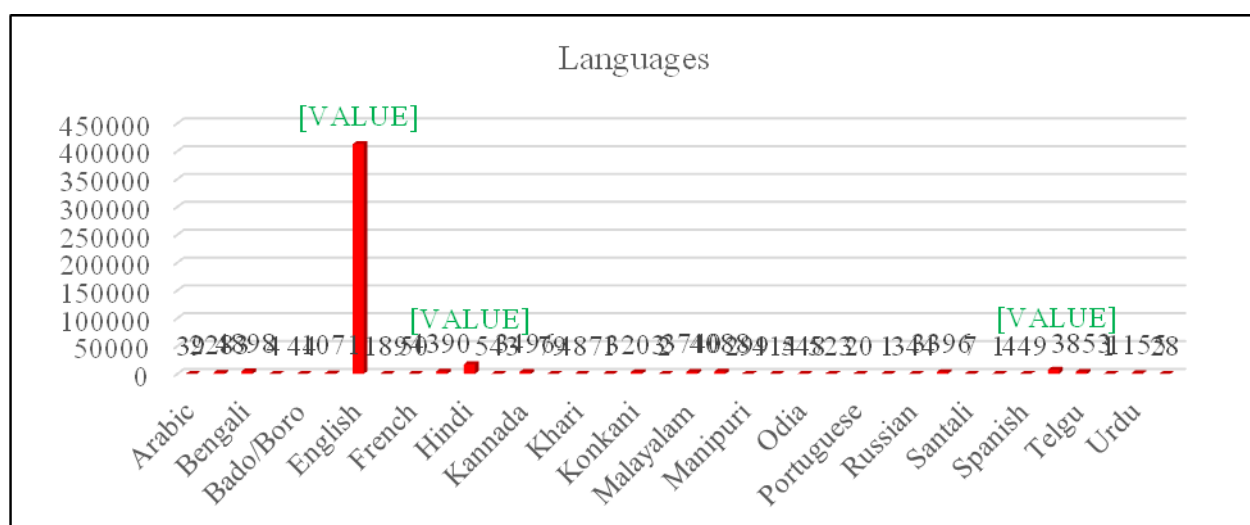
Graph No. 4 - Educational levels in Higher Education at NDLI

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It is evident from table no. 4 and graph no. 4 that the among 4 Educational Levels in Higher Education at NDLI, Under graduate were 477877, Post graduate were 424109, Diploma were 8698 and Certificate were 151. It shows that the resources available in Higher Education at NDLI is for Under graduates.

**Table No. 5 - Various languages in Higher Education at NDLI**

Sr. No.	Languages	Resources Found	Sr. No.	Languages	Resources Found
1	Arabic	39	19	Malayalam	3740
2	Assamese	2283	20	Marathi	4088
3	Bengali	4898	21	Manipuri	299
4	Bhojpuri	4	22	Nepali	414
5	Bado/Boro	44	23	Odia	548
6	German	1071	24	Punjabi	523
7	English	412805	25	Portuguese	20
8	Persian	189	26	Rajasthani	1
9	French	50	27	Russian	344
10	Gujarati	4390	28	Sanskrit	3396
11	Hindi	17417	29	Santali	7
12	Japanese	543	30	Sindhi	1
13	Kannada	3496	31	Spanish	449
14	Kashmiri	79	32	Tamil	7490
15	Khari	487	33	Telgu	3853
16	Central Khmer	1	34	Thai	1
17	Konkani	3203	35	Urdu	1155
18	Maithili	2	36	Vietnamese	28

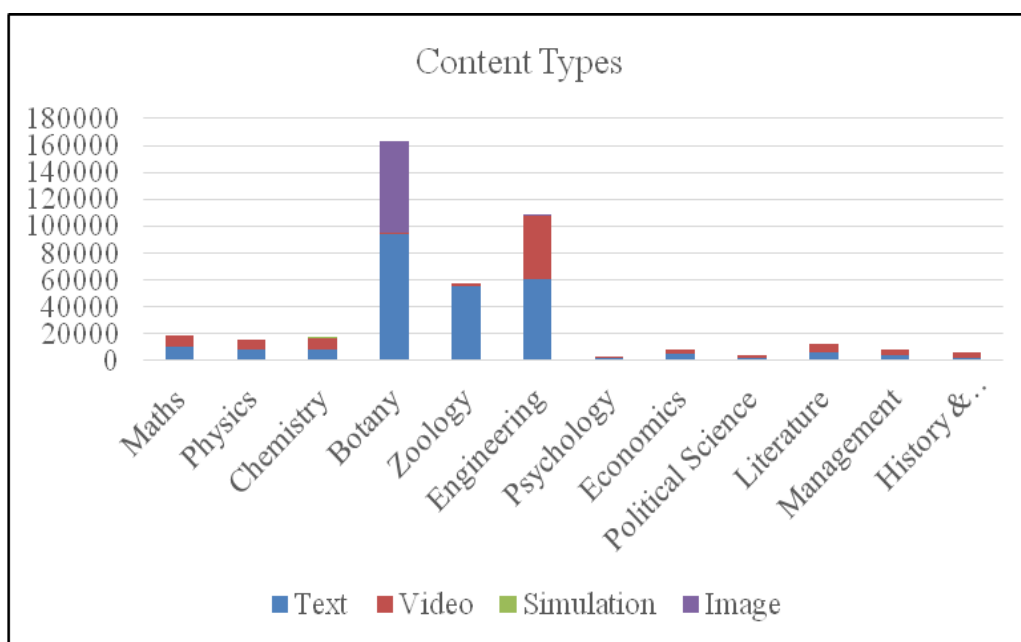


**Graph No. 5 - Various languages in Higher Education at NDLI**

It is evident from table no. 5 and graph no. 5 that among 36 languages, 26 resources are in Indian languages and 10 resources are in foreign language in Higher Education at NDLI, English were 412805, Hindi were 17417 and Tamil 7490 respectively. The least language is Central Khmer, Rajasthani, Sindhi and Thai with 1 responses each. It shows that the English language is mostly preferred in Higher Education at NDLI.

**Table No. 6 - Content types in Higher Education at NDLI**

Sr. No	Content Types	Maths	Physics	Chemistry	Botany	Zoology	Engineering	Psychology	Economics	Political Science	Literature	Management	History & Geography
1	Text	10530	8418	7647	93737	55431	60449	1411	4643	2219	5474	3513	1872
2	Video	8337	7361	8663	1496	1376	46963	1196	3847	2074	7264	4869	3888
3	Simulation	0	0	31	0	0	461	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Image	0	0	0	67645	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0



**Graph No. 6 - Content types in Higher Education at NDLI**

It is evident from table no. 6 and graph no. 6 that 4 Content types in 12 different subject in Higher Education at NDLI were the textual data followed by Video, Images and Simulation. Whereas total number of text are 255344, videos were 97334, Image were 67647 and Simulation were 492 respectively. It shows that Textual content is uploaded in Higher Education at NDLI.

## **FINDINGS**

- 1) It is found that the most resources in the Engineering subject in Higher Education at NDLI.
- 2) It is found that the Video lectures are mostly available in Higher Education at NDLI.
- 3) It is found that the content provider is NPTEL in Higher Education at NDLI.
- 4) It is found that the most resources available are for under graduates in Higher Education at NDLI.
- 5) It is found that the most resources in English language is mostly preferred in Higher Education at NDLI.
- 6) It is found that the It shows that the most Textual content is uploaded in Higher Education at NDLI.

## **CONCLUSION**

The National Digital Library of India (NDLI) is crucial as a single-window, all-digital platform providing access to a vast repository of educational resources for learners of all levels, bridging the gap in access to information and promoting lifelong learning. Its importance lies in its comprehensive scope, equitable access, and alignment with national educational goals.

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