"The larger the island of knowledge, the longer the shoreline of mystery."
Mary B. Yates

When I was a guest faculty in the DLIS, University of Kalyani, W.B., I got huge inspiration and encouragement from Dr. Bidhan Chandra Biswas, DLIS, University of Kalyani to pursue research. My dream becomes true when I had an opportunity to interact with Dr. Parthasarathi Mukhopadhyay at Vidyasagar University in 2007; he agreed to guide me and deeply inspired to take up Webometrics as research area. At that time, Dr. Mukhopadhyay was the only researcher, who had published two research papers in the field of Webometrics in India in 2002 and 2004 respectively.

When I look back the trend of research in LIS field, it is evident that the research in the area of information seeking behavior, classification and cataloguing was given emphasis during 60s and 70s, Bibliometrics and Informetrics during 80s, Cybermetrics and Webometrics from mid 1990s onwards. This may be due to advent of Internet and Web. Impact of globalization and change in the mode of scholarly communication from print to digital to web-based had shifted the focus of research area in LIS. The tremendous dependency on the Web due to huge growth of Internet resources created a curiosity among researchers and teachers in the area of information science as well as computer science professionals to study and measure the nature and features of web documents.

The importance of hyperlink analysis, as analogous to citation analysis in print environment in the scholarly communication has been realized and increased tremendously during last decade as we are depending more and more on the web-based resources. Services through websites at the institutional level in all categories are an essential ingredient in human nature. Therefore, performance evaluation, participation and collaboration of the institution through websites are required to be measured and evaluated for enhancing the better performance in this direction.

I hope, the thesis may be useful to know the websites of Indian universities at a glance, to know the web presence and the relative position of the websites of the universities based on web performance. The thesis has developed a ranking system for the Indian universities based on web presence of the universities, by which, each university has been assigned rank at the state, regional and national level. Therefore, the research work may help not only to research scholars but also to academicians in the field of webometrics, especially hyperlink analysis, link topology, ranking of academic institutions, even to the administrators for developing policies for websites.

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