

## Development of special library consortia in India: A comparative study of DeLCON and NKRC

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### Abstract

In the current scenario; higher education system in India is so large and multifarious. Access to information resources is now considered more important than the collection building. The present study is an about the Development and Current Status of Library consortia in India from the perspective of a two successful organization DeLCON and NKRC. The purpose of this paper is to describe the development of e journal consortia in India.

**Keywords:** consortium, research, budget, electronic journals, resource sharing, India etc

### Introduction

Libraries are, from time immemorial, established to make information resources available to its user. In fact, readers, which have now been replaced by the word, users have remained the centre point of any library since the establishment of libraries in the society. Applications of Computers, Telecommunication Networks and advent of the World Wide Web have radically changed the way in which Information is acquired, stored, processed, organized, retrieved, and disseminated. However, even though the forms and shapes of resources have transformed over the centuries from cave walls, clay tablets, manuscripts, printed books, electronic media, internet and Cloud, the user's interests and usage have always been the mail goal and purpose of existence of the libraries. Users are also demanding for providing electronic information services. As such, the current library scenario has reached a critical mass both in terms of e-products as well as increased number of users. Due to journals crisis, and cuts in library budgets, the library professionals are forced to come together in forming consortia for subscription of E- Journals. The Necessity of consortium formation was felt when libraries experienced that the ever increasing volume of information resources is not at all manageable both financially and physically. Right since the first Consortium formed, the consortia of all sorts of libraries have been formed and are playing a very constructing role in acquiring resources at reasonably lower cost as well as by having better coordination in terms of resource sharing.

### Purpose of the study

The present study was comparatively analyzing the development of consortia in regard with number of member institutes, resources and geographical distribution as well as preferred models and counters related to usage of resources in consortia so that suggestions are give it to make further improvements in their services depending upon the results.

### Material and Methods

In order to view the work and development of Library consortia in India, the two consortia namely DBT electronic Library consortium and National Knowledge Resource

consortium were chosen which is mainly dealing with Science and Technology

Data related with consortia are collected through Predesigned Questionnaire regarding the activities consortium and websites. Thus, collected and collated the data in order to find out information with an aim to the following:

- Total number of members in Consortia
- Year wise Increase in consortium Members
- Geographical Distributions of Member institutes
- Publisher wise no of resources in consortium
- Preferred Access Model for Usage of resources in Consortia
- Counters Preferred to Take Usage Statistics of Resources in Consortium

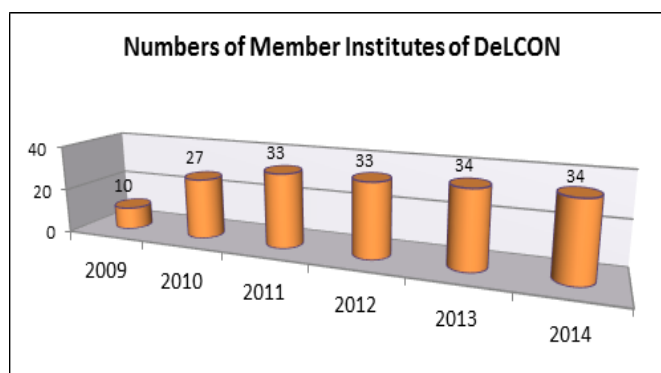
### Result and Discussion

After all the resources were collated and the tabulated result related to status found to be as follows:

**Table 1:** Total number of members in Consortia

Consortium Names	No. of Member libraries
DeLCON	34
NKRC	63

Table 1 shows that total number of members 34 (DeLCON) and 63 in NKRC.



**Fig 1:** Year wise Numbers of Member Increase in DeLCON



Fig 2: Year wise Numbers of Member Increase in NKRC

The figure 1 and 2 shows the year wise increase in number of members in selected consortia. The growth in Members of DeLCON as it started with 10 Members in 2009 and the member continuously grew annually and NKR consortium begins with 39 CSIR libraries and presently 63 institutes are the member of NKRC.

Table 2: Geographical Distribution of Member Libraries

State/Union Territory	DeLCON	NKRC
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0
Andhra Pradesh	5	4
Arunachal Pradesh	1	0
Assam	6	1
Bihar	0	0
Chandigarh	1	3
Chhattisgarh	0	0
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0
Daman and Diu	0	0
Goa	0	1
Gujarat	0	0
Haryana	3	0
Himachal Pradesh	0	1
Jammu and Kashmir	0	1
Jharkhand	0	2
Karnataka	0	6
Kerala	0	1
Lakshadweep	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	0	1
Maharashtra	1	5
Manipur	2	0
Meghalaya	1	0
Mizoram	2	0
Nagaland	1	0
National Capital Territory of Delhi	5	13
Odisha	0	1
Puducherry	0	0
Punjab	0	0
Rajasthan	0	2
Sikkim	0	0
Tamil Nadu	0	4
Telangana	0	0
Tripura	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	5	8
Uttarakhand	0	3
West Bengal	1	6
Total	34	63

The table 2 reveals that DeLCON has only 34 members and covers 13 (36.11%) states of India; in which it has 6 (17.64%) members in Assam whereas Geographical distribution of CSIR institutions in India Indicates that the maximum no member 13 labs libraries in New Delhi and after that 8 in Uttar Pradesh.

Table 3: Publisher wise Number of Title Subscribed in DeLCON

Name of Publisher	Total no. of Titles Subscribed
AAAS	3
ACS	37
AACR	8
ASBMB	2
ASH	1
ASM	12
CSHL	4
Elsevier	415
Mary Ann Libent online	7
Nature	40
Oxford University Press	18
Plant Biologist	2
Society for General Microbiology	3
Springer	237
Taylor & Francis	41
Wiley	86
AAI	1
Total	917

Table 4: Publisher wise Number of Title Subscribed in NKRC

Name Of Publisher	Total no. of Titles Subscribed
ACM	1577
ACS	40
AIP	18
Annual Reviews	30
ASCE	31
ASME	23
ASTM	1
CSIRO	25
CUP	87
Elsevier	1866
Emerald	144
ICE	23
IEEE	151
Indian journals	211
IOP	59
Maney	27
NPG	34
NRC	16
OSA	16
Oxford University Press	99
RSC	73
SAGE	102
Springer	2019
Taylor & Francis	471
Wiley	754
World Scientific Journal	41
Total	7938

The above table 3 and 4 indicate the numbers of resources subscribed by each publisher in selected consortia. Elsevier has a maximum 415 in DeLCON and 1866 resources in NKRC.

**Table 5:** Preferred Access Model for Usage of resources in Consortia

Preferred Access Model	DeLCON	NKRC
Remote	-	-
user id, Password or IP	-	-
IP	√	√
Cover to cover download	-	-
Systematic Download	-	-
Any Other	-	-

The table 5 defines that there are many online access models; the technology has now almost settled it on IP based access where access is provided through the IP of the organization.

**Table 6:** Counters Preferred to Take Usage Statistics of Resources in Consortia

Counters for Statistics	DeLCON	NKRC
Number of Pages	-	-
Number of Articles	√	√
Number of files	-	-
Number of all users	-	-
Number of registered Users	-	-
Numbers of admin	-	-

There are different kinds of variable used to counter the statistics of resources subscribed by consortia and the table 6 shows that Both DeLCON and preferred Number of Articles counter to take Usage Statistics of Resources in Consortium.

**Conclusion**

There are a number of library consortia in operation in India. The National knowledge resource Consortium envisions emerging as a leader to serve the R&D sector with much needed information to strengthen the research and development system in the country

The DBT E-Library Consortium is formed as a tool to access information resources remotely, which is a unique Electronic Journal Consortium work to promote better, faster and more cost-effective ways of providing information resources to the officials and avoid duplication of subscription of E-resources and promote the rational use of government funds.

NKRC and DeLCON both are national stature and facilitate access to maximum resources, enable greater resource sharing thus focussing at greater return on investment and also plays a proactive role to form a federation of all major consortia in country to suggest better ways and means for acquisition and management of electronic resources.

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