

## India's Contribution to Women's Studies during 1990–2015: A Bibliometric Analysis

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### Abstract

*This paper is analysis of 439 articles from India's contribution to women's studies, during the year 1990–2015 are taken up to observe the year-wise growth, authorship pattern, keyword analysis, and sources of publications and top rank organization. Results indicate that most frequently occurred keywords were gender, the highest contributing source title found from the Indian Journal of Gender Studies and among the institutes the University of Delhi contributed highest articles.*

**Keyword:** *Bibilometric analysis, women's studies, feminists, India*

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### INTRODUCTION

Women's Studies is an interdisciplinary field of academic study that examines gender as a social and cultural construct, the social status and contributions of women, and the relationships between power and gender. In most institutions, women's studies bases its teachings off of a Triad Model. This means it has equal components of research, theory and praxis. Faculty incorporates these components into classes across a variety of topics including: Popular Culture, Women in the Economy, Reproductive and Environmental Justice, Classes centered on Women of Colour, Globalization, Feminist Principles, and Queer Studies. Women's Studies programs and courses are designed to explore the intersectionality of gender, race, sexuality, class and other topics that are involved in identity politics and societal norms through a feminist lens. Many of these programs involve classes around media literacy, sexuality and race, history involving women, queer theory, multiculturalism and many other closely related courses.

### BACKGROUND STUDIES

Satyanarayana [1] examined Indian contributions in biomedical research (3605 papers in 1990 and 3241 papers in 1994) as

indexed in three databases, such as; Index Medicus, Excerpta medical and Tropical Disease Bulletin. Gupta and Karisiddappa [2] who have worked in the field of Theoretical Population Genetics for the period from 1907–1980, by applying different growth models, concluded that power model is observed to be the only model among the models viz., exponential logistics, Gompertz which best explain the cumulative growth of publication and author count in the field of Population Genetics. Karki and Garg [3] have studied the activity and growth of Organic Chemistry research in India during the years of 1971–1989 using Chemical Abstracts as source database.

Malciene [4] defined the membership and structure of a scientific school and to trace the dynamics of its development. Formation and evolution of a scientific school is presented as a purposeful scientific-information process involving changes in the nature and dynamics of the types of information links. McKiernan [5] has described the bibliometrics as traditionally associated with the quantitative measure of documentary materials and embraces all studies which seek to quantify the process of written communication. Munshi and Pant [6] studied the collaboration pattern in the field of nuclear science and found that

more than 66% of papers are the results of collaborative efforts, and the USA, Germany and Japan secure the top positions among collaborating countries.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The major objectives of the study are as follows:

- To identify the document type.
- To measure the year-wise growth of publications.
- To find out the authorship pattern.
- To identify most frequently used keywords.
- To identify the source of publications
- To rank the Universities and Research Institutes.

### SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

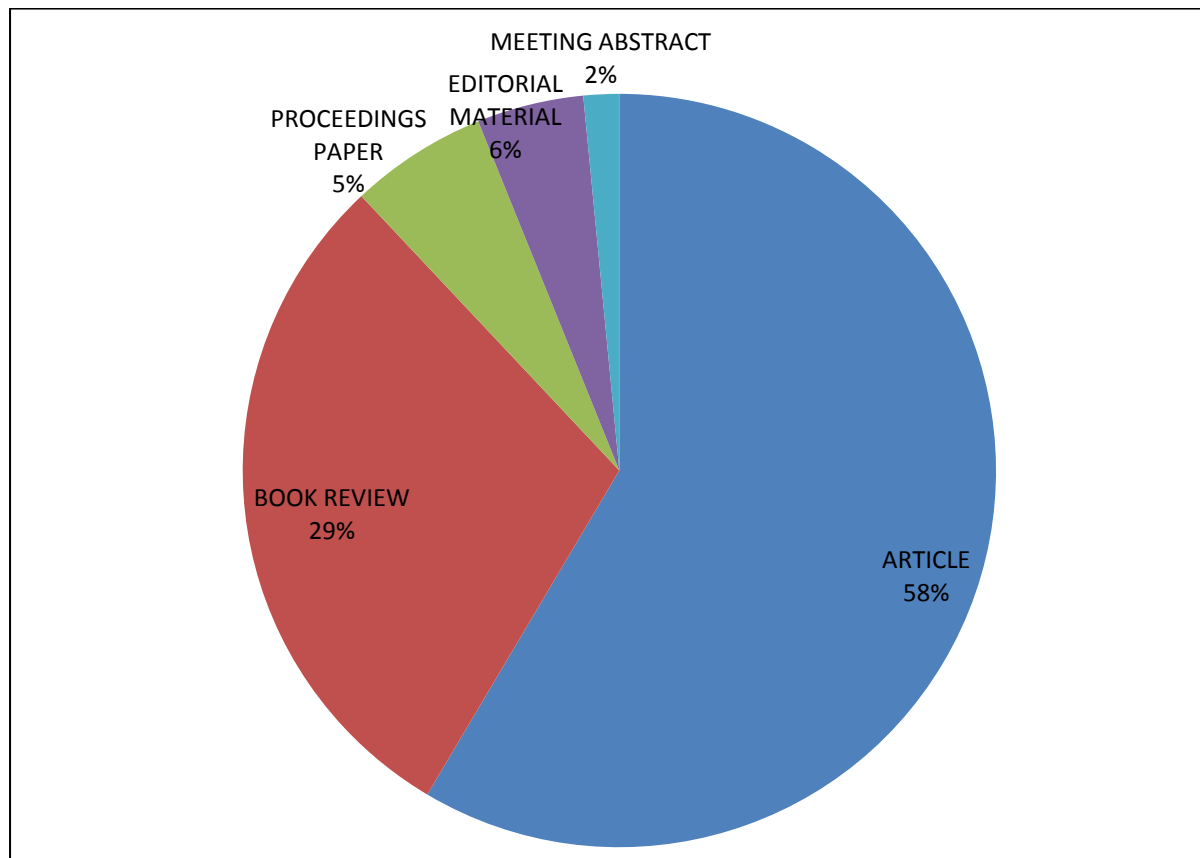
The study covers only twenty-six years of web of science, i.e., year 1990 to 2015. The subject coverage is limited to articles on women's studies. In those twenty-six years, 439 articles on women's studies are indexed in web of science.

### METHODOLOGY

The data source for the study is ISI Web of Science, published by Thomson Scientific. It is the world's leading abstracting and indexing service providing on all aspects of science. By using suitable strategy related to literature produced women's studies, the bibliographic details for each record included author, authors affiliation, title, type of document, source of publication, year of publication, keywords, language of the article and country of input have been collected. Further all the bibliographic details have been transferred to a spreadsheet. Later the data were analyzed as per the objectives of the study.

### DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATIONS

Figure 1 shows the different categories of documents in Women's studies during the years 1990 to 2015. Out of the total 439 documents in Women's studies discipline, Article was highest 268 (58%), followed by 135 (29%) of book review, 27 of editorial material (6%), 27 of proceedings papers (5%) and 7 meeting abstract (2%).



*Fig. 1: Categories-wise Documents.*

**Table 1: Year-Wise Publications.**

Sl. No	Years	Items	% of 439	Sl. No	Years	Items	% of 439
1	2015	45	10.25	13	2003	8	1.82
2	2014	39	8.88	14	2002	6	1.37
3	2013	34	7.75	15	2001	9	2.05
4	2012	38	8.66	16	2000	14	3.19
5	2011	41	9.34	17	1999	6	1.37
6	2010	36	8.20	18	1998	3	0.68
7	2009	31	7.06	19	1997	2	0.46
8	2008	30	6.83	20	1996	2	0.46
9	2007	36	8.20	21	1994	2	0.46
10	2006	21	4.78	22	1991	3	0.68
11	2005	22	5.01	23	1990	2	0.46
12	2004	6	1.37	<b>Total</b>		<b>439</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Table 1 presents the year-wise growth of publications which shows that during the period 1990–2015 a total of 439 articles were published in India. There were more number of contributions of 45 (10.25%) articles in 2015, followed by 41 (9.34%) articles in 2011, 39 (8.88%) articles in 2014, 39 (8.88%) articles in 2013, 38 (8.66%) articles in 2012, 36 (8.20%) articles in 2010, 34 (7.755) articles in 2013, 31 (7.06%) and least were published in the year 1990 to 1997, i.e., 2 (0.46%) articles.

**Table 2: Author wise Publications.**

Sl. No.	Authors	Items	% of 439
1	Karlekar M	7	1.60
2	Nair S	7	1.60
3	Addlakha R	5	1.14
4	Basu S	5	1.14
5	Devika J	5	1.14
6	Rao M	5	1.14
7	Eichler M	4	0.91
8	Nayar PK	4	0.91
9	Nigam S	4	0.91
10	Roy A	4	0.91

Table 2 gives the top 10 prolific Indian contributors of the articles published in Women’s studies during the years 1990 to 2015. The top two prolific contributors had seven articles, followed by four contributors

had five articles each and four contributors had four articles each.

**Table 3: Authorship Pattern.**

Sl No.	Number of Authors per article	Items	% of 439
1	Single Author	315	71.75
2	Two Authors	64	14.58
3	Three Authors	24	5.47
4	Four Authors	16	3.64
5	Five Authors	10	2.28
6	Six and above Authors	10	2.28
<b>Total</b>		<b>439</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 3 shows that the authorship pattern in Women’s studies during the years 1990 to 2015, Single authored articles were the highest 315 (71.75%), followed by 64 two authored articles (14.58%), 24 Three authored articles (5.47%), 16 four authored articles (3.64%) and the lowest were about five authored and more than Six-authored articles 10 (2.28%) each.

The Table 4 shows that the most frequently occurred keywords were gender (n = 15), feminists (n = 14), India (n = 11), women (n = 10), and dalit and domestic violence (n = 7). Development, empowerment, family, feminism, Kerala, marriage and migration, women's empowerment, sexuality, violence, agency and decision-making were also frequently occurred keywords.

**Table 4: A List of Keywords.**

Rank	Keyword	Occurrence	Rank	Keyword	Occurrence
1	Gender	15	10	Agriculture	2
2	Feminists	14		Attitude	2
3	India	11		Caste	2
4	Women	10		Community	2
5	Dalit	7		Discipline	2
	Domestic violence	7		Elementary education	2
6	Culture	6		Employment	2
	Migration	6		Equality	2
7	Development	5		Evaluation	2
	Empowerment	5		Gender Inequality	2
	Family	5		Gender Relations	2
	Feminism	5		Girl Child	2
	Kerala	5		Harassment	2
	Marriage and Migration	5		Hijra Roles	2
	Women's Empowerment	5		Human Rights	2
8	Sexuality	4		Indian	2
	Violence	4		Indian Women	2
9	Agency	3		Inheritance	2
	Decision-Making	3		Lesbian	2
	Education	3		Motherhood	2
	Gender Evaluation	3		Muslims	2
	Girls	3		Power	2
	Globalization	3		Sex Ratios	2
	HIV/AIDS	3		Sexual Violence	2
	Labour	3		Social Reproduction	2
	Queer	3		Time Use	2
	Reproduction	3		Traditional Knowledge	2
	Women's Movement	3		Women's Agency	2

**Table 5: Journal Wise Distributions.**

Sl. No	List of the Journals	Items	% of 439
1	Indian Journal of Gender Studies	234	53.30
2	Asian Journal of Womens Studies	47	10.71
3	Journal of Gender Studies	13	2.96
4	Violence Against Women	13	2.96
5	Feminist Economics	11	2.51
6	Health Care for Women International	11	2.51
7	Womens Studies International Forum	11	2.51
8	Feminist Review	9	2.05
9	International Feminist Journal of Politics	8	1.82
10	Journal of Womens History	8	1.82

Table 5 shows that top 10 productive source titles, out of 439 articles, 234 articles (53.30%) were found from the *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*. The second highest contributing source title in *Asian Journal of Womens Studies* with 47 articles (10.71%), followed by *Journal of Gender Studies* and *Violence Against Women* with 13 (2.96%) articles both,

*Feminist Economics, Health Care for Women International* and *Womens Studies International Forum* with 11 (2.51%) articles each, *Feminist Review* with 9 (2.05%) articles and *International Feminist Journal of Politics* and *Journal of Womens History* with 8 (1.82%) articles.

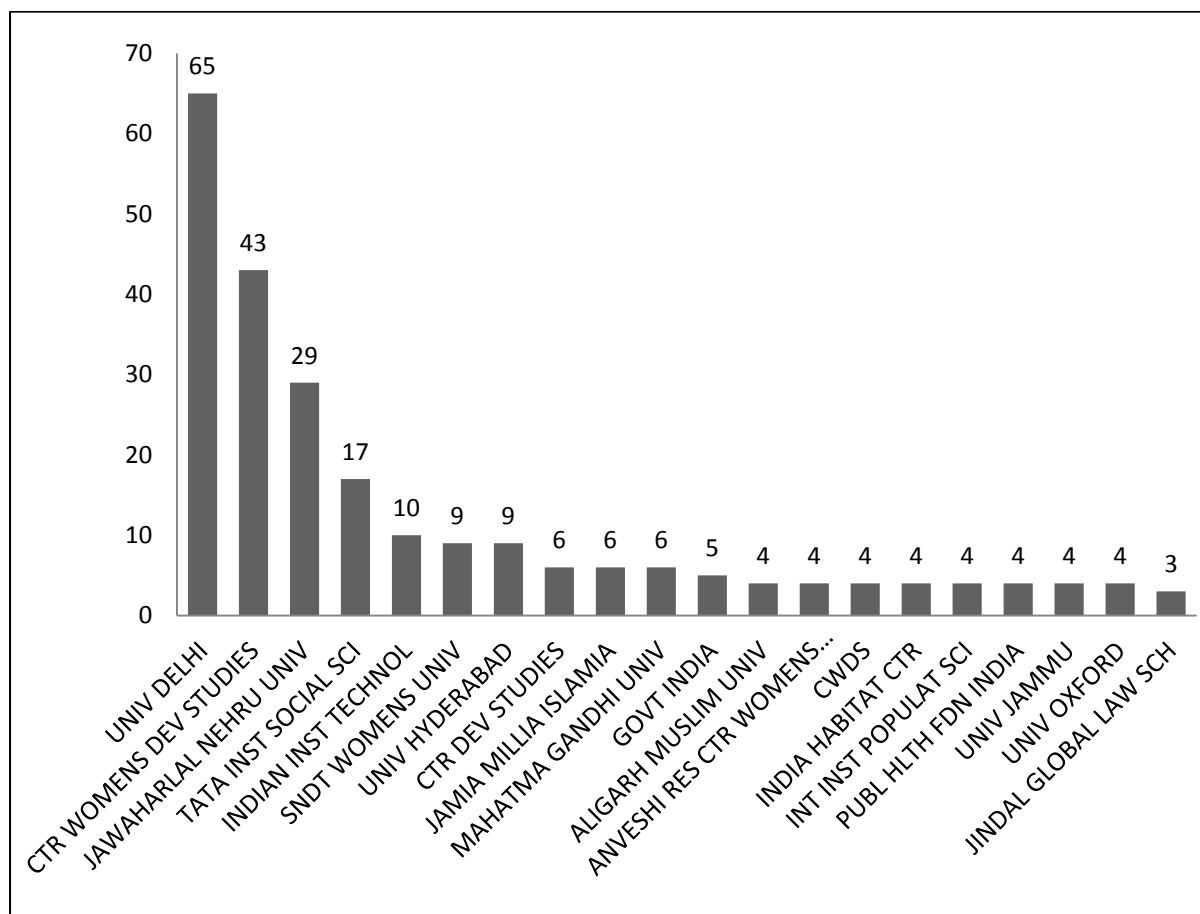


Fig. 2: Organization wise Contribution.

Figure 2 shows that most prolific organizations contributed in Women’s studies during the years 1990 to 2015. Among the institutes the University of Delhi contributed 65 articles (14.81%), followed by 43 articles from the CTR Women’s Development Studies (9.79%), 29 articles from Jawaharlal Nehru University (6.61%), 17 articles form Tata institute of social science (3.87%), 10 articles from a Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (2.28%), 9 articles from SNDT Women’s University and University of Hyderabad each (2.05%), 6 articles from CTR Development Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia and Mahatma Gandhi University (1.37%) each and so on.

## FINDINGS

According to data analysis and interpretation investigator has find out the major findings to the study.

- The majority of document categories were Articles 268 (Figure 1).
- During the period 1990–2015 a total of 439 articles were published in India. There were more number of contributions of 45 articles from the year 2015, and least were published in the year 1990 to 1997, i.e., two articles (Table 1).
- Among the top 10 prolific Indian contributors Karlekar M and Nair S had seven articles (Table 2).

- The authorship pattern in Women's studies during the years 1990 to 2015, Single authored articles were the highest 315 (Table 3).
- The most frequently occurred keywords were gender (n = 15), feminists (n = 14), India (n = 11), women (n = 10), and dalit and Domestic violence (n = 7) (Table 4).
- The highest contributing source title found from the *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*. The second highest contributing source title in *Asian Journal of Womens Studies* with 47 articles (Table 5).
- Among the institutes the University of Delhi contributed highest articles (Figure 2).

## CONCLUSION

It should be kept in mind that the data presented in this study embrace only a part of the bibliometric information collected by present. Surveying the literature of bibliometrics one can conclude that there are no ready recipes for bibliometric evaluations; each system has its own characteristics. Bibliometric researchers are exploring features of information processes in scientific research but are far from finding the solution to all problems. Scientific research is a social organization; therefore, the possibility for a description by quantitative methods has more limitations than in the field of natural sciences.

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