



Indian National Consortia: Leading To Research Revolution And Transition To Greater Accessibility And Bridging Academic Divide

Neena Singh

Abstract:

India is positioning itself as a key contributor to global research efforts. It stands 4th in research output but falls to 9th in citation rankings, implying that although the quality of research is impressive its impact and visibility is not reaching to its full potential. India rolls out single subscription scheme across the country called One Nation one subscription (ONOS) to make global research resources more accessible to the underfunded Higher Educational Institutions in the country. This digital platform shall provide access to 13000 journals from thirty International publishers through a unified portal coordinated by the Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET). It is expected that this initiative will bring change in the research ecosystem of the country and bridge the gap between research output and impact of Indian research globally besides advancing the ranking of Indian Institutions. It is also expected to bridge the scholarly divide by making research resources widely accessible to underfunded Institutions specially in smaller urban cities and remote locations of the country.

To cite this article:

Singh, N. (2026). Indian National Consortia: Leading To Research Revolution And Transition To Greater Accessibility And Bridging Academic Divide. *International Journal of Librarianship*, 11(3), 3-27. <https://doi.org/10.23974/ijol.2026.vol11.3.593>

To submit your article to this journal:

Go to <https://ojs.calaijol.org/index.php/ijol/about/submissions>

Indian National Consortia: Leading To Research Revolution And Transition To Greater Accessibility And Bridging Academic Divide

Neena Singh

G B Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar , Uttarakhand, India

ABSTRACT

India is positioning itself as a key contributor to global research efforts. It stands 4th in research output but falls to 9th in citation rankings, implying that although the quality of research is impressive its impact and visibility is not reaching to its full potential. India rolls out single subscription scheme across the country called One Nation one subscription (ONOS) to make global research resources more accessible to the underfunded Higher Educational Institutions in the country. This digital platform shall provide access to 13000 journals from thirty International publishers through a unified portal coordinated by the Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET). It is expected that this initiative will bring change in the research ecosystem of the country and bridge the gap between research output and impact of Indian research globally besides advancing the ranking of Indian Institutions. It is also expected to bridge the scholarly divide by making research resources widely accessible to underfunded Institutions specially in smaller urban cities and remote locations of the country.

Keywords: Indian Higher Education, Unified Subscription, One Nation One Subscription, National Consortium-India, Research ecosystem-India

INTRODUCTION

The creation and distribution of knowledge is essential for the advancement of science and technology, contributing to societal development worldwide. The research landscape is changing. “Thirty years ago, it was the rich countries of the Global North that conducted research. Now, there is a change, and countries from the Global South are becoming more and more relevant in research and science, states Carlos Henrique de Brito Cruz, from Elsevier.

India is establishing itself as a key contributor to global research with its effect being felt more and more in the field of academia and publishing world. The Indian higher education landscape is quite extensive and diverse with 1,113 universities, 11,296 stand alone institutes and 43,796 colleges spread across the country. (Ministry of Education 2023). As per Elsevier Press release 2023 the Indian research output has increased many fold in recent years. India has brought so many collaborations and one of the best things they’re doing in the growth of scientific production is Sustainable Development Goal #2, which is related to reducing hunger in the world, where the scientific production of India is going up 25 percent a year.

Between 2017 and 2022, the nation's research output grew by a staggering 54%, making it the third largest producer of PhD graduates in the world (Chhapiya, Himali 2023). Scholarly journals play a key role in facilitating the distribution and sharing of knowledge among researchers and the academic community. Indian Institutions have been subscribing to journals through different consortia's under the administrative control of various ministries and departments as well as subscribing separately to meet their academic and scientific requirements.

Most of the Indian Libraries' collections budget is usually tied up in subscriptions to expensive journals packages and they often face budgetary constraints particularly the public funded universities and colleges in different states of the country. To address this problem Indian institutions adopted a consortium model of subscription and were able to avail better deals in subscription through negotiations with publishers and were able to share their resources through a digital platform making it much more cost effective and accessible. However, these subscriptions have also been subject to inflation and the Libraries' spending power for collections even for the elite institutions like Indian Institute of Sciences and Indian Institute of Technology's having better grants declines year by year, even if actual budget cuts do not occur. It cannot be denied that "Even the best-funded library can only acquire a tiny fraction of the knowledge that is available for students, faculty, and other researchers." (University of Maryland Libraries, 2025). It is also noted that there is duplication of journal subscriptions across different library consortia and individual subscriptions in higher educational institutions of the country. One Nation having Many Subscriptions through different consortiums and individual subscription leads to overlap in subscription of research resources at differential pricing and leads to inefficient utilization of public funds as well as not having a wider reach to the research resources.

The One Nation One Subscription was initially proposed in the fifth draft of the National Science Technology and Innovation Policy (2020) to address the exorbitant subscription charges that research journals impose on both academics and the public at large to access their published works. (STIP Draft Policy, 2020)

The Indian government that funds most of the consortiums versioned to expand the consortium to one big 'National Consortium' by merging all the existing 10 or more different library consortiums (like E-Shod Sindhu, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research Consortia (CSIR), Consortia for e-Resources in Agriculture (CeRA) etc (detailed in Table 3) into one single subscription covering the entire nation through "One Nation One Subscription" (ONOS) for providing access to select scholarly journals in different STEMM disciplines including management, social science and humanities under one digital platform in a cost effective manner.

The ONOS of India is expected to provide wider access to global research publications and improve the research ecosystem in the country by creating a much more efficient and accessible research framework for growth and innovation of scientific research. It is also expected to lay strong foundations for research and development and to facilitate underfunded public universities and colleges situated in smaller urban centers like tier 2 and tier 3 cities to provide easy access to scholarly journals from global publishers (Ministry of Education, 2025) the initiative is poised to change and ultimately take Indian research to next level for sustained development. This study has been undertaken to enhance understanding of the ONOS initiative, with the following objectives.

OBJECTIVES

The article set forth the following objectives to discuss broadly the single subscription scheme of the National Consortium popularly known as One Nation One subscription.

1. To Analyze the primary aim, objectives and need of the single subscription model, One Nation One subscription rolled out across the country.
2. Assess distinct features or facets of unified subscription, its deployment and focus on how open access is put into practice.
3. Examine the benefits and impact of ONOS is likely to make in Indian research framework, collaborations, rankings and Libraries.
4. Analyze less visible aspects of the National Unified Subscription Scheme.
5. Identify the challenges and prospects of Single Subscription model in Indian Research Eco System.

PURPOSE OF STUDY AND METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this article to examine and analyze the One Nation one subscription model rolled out across the country. The scheme has been rolled out recently from January 2025, therefore this study, is based on secondary data made available from various documentary sources and the press releases of educational ministries, departments and relevant websites. The information from these documentary sources were collected and analyzed to determine the scope of ONOS, its implementation, and the impact it may have in the Indian research eco system. The article also looks into the challenges and opportunities as well as benefits of this scheme or project in terms of visibility of Indian research, ranking of Indian universities and long term sustainability of this model. Terms such as unified subscription scheme, single subscription model, national consortium etc have been used interchangeably throughout the article for enhanced comprehension.

LITERATURE REVIEW

One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) is not the first of its kind, such initiatives already exists in countries like *Germany* as DEAL project (DEAL Consortium 2024). The alliance of Science Organizations in Germany initiated DEAL project to negotiate with journal publishers to enable the open dissemination of research from Germany, under this arrangements the country has National licensing agreement with major publishers. A similar initiate is functional in other countries also aimed at improving access to scholarly research. In the *United Kingdom* the Jisc Collections (Jisc Collections 2025) provides a National licensing scheme for academic journals and databases, benefiting universities and research institutions across the UK. The Higher education and research institutes in *France* gain from the National licenses for electronic resources negotiated by the Couperin collaboration.(Couperin 2025)

Finland has FinE-Lib, the Finnish National Consortium for acquiring electronic resources. It has been negotiating the journal package deals as well as Open Access elements. Currently, there are 12 agreements with open access elements, including Read & Write agreements with major publishers like Elsevier, Springer, Taylor & Francis and Wiley. These negotiations have had a great impact on the openness of research outcomes. The number of research articles opened due to the consortium agreements has risen from just 214 in 2017 to almost 2900 in 2020. There has been a 65% rise in open articles from 2019 to 2020 resulting from long-negotiated transformative agreements with Taylor & Francis and Wiley. (Aaltonen, Mari, 2021)

The Indian Initiative of ONOS aims to provide broader access to scholarly research resources across the country including private Institutions and Public Libraries in phased manner and also encourage open access by negotiating a reduced Article Processing Charges (APC) for researchers through gold route. Anderson and Hinchliffe states that ONOS, based on the traditional subscription model, is a pragmatic choice for India and globally will strengthen the pluralism of the publishing ecosystem. (Juuso Ala-Kyyny 2025)

DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS

Unified National Consortium : Objectives

The One Nation One Subscription is an ambitious project of Indian government to ensure that there is greater expansion of access to knowledge and to a larger academic community in the country. It also ensures that its accessibly penetrates to universities and colleges in smaller cities particularly the smaller urban centers of tier 2 and tier 3 cities that usually struggle with financial constraints to access extensive academic research materials from global publishers. This initiative also aims to ensure that no student and scientific community is deprived of the research information due to lack of grants or resources. [Press Information Bureau(PIB), Smart India Hackthon, 2024] The main objective of the ONOS initiative is to create a Single National consortium for the nation's subscriptions to electronic journals.

The initiative aims to revolutionize the academic research ecosystem in India by ensuring widespread availability of high quality global research which is likely to contribute to elevate the international ranking of Indian universities. Currently a limited number of higher educational institutions are recognized in world university ranking like QS rankings, but this is expected to change gradually, leading to an improved ranking, greater visibility and increased global partnerships in future.

The One National One Subscription framework also aligns with other national initiatives like the National Education Policy NEP-2020 (Ministry of Education,2020) and the new National Education Policy (Soumyadeep, 2024), the Ansandhan Research Foundation (ANRF), the Artificial Intelligence (AI) mission as well as all knowledge driven mission and, transformative projects of the country in the knowledge eco-system leading to boost India's visibility in global research communities all working together for a developed India mission by the year 2047.

Need for a National Subscription Policy

India's decision to introduce One Nation One Subscription model for providing nationwide access to global research resources is driven by some of the following compelling need to:

Overcome Barriers to Research Access

Limited Financial resources is one of the major barriers for Indian institutions to provide access to global research information. The national subscription to journals ensures that all institutions, regardless of their financial capabilities get access high quality research resources and bridge accessibility gaps. The ONOS initiative also makes a provision to addresses article processing charges. Due to limited government and institutional funding, many Indian researchers face significant challenges in publishing their work in high-impact open access journals. The high article processing charges (APCs) associated with these journals often make it financially unfeasible for researchers, thereby reducing the visibility and impact of their scientific contributions. This financial barrier not only hampers individual academic progress but also affects the broader dissemination of Indian research on global platforms.

Reduce Expenditure

Different consortium subscriptions as well as individual subscriptions across the country posed heavy expenditures on public funds as well as led to duplication of resources. The coordinated and centralized approach to negotiations has led to considerable reductions in subscription expenses, positively impacting smaller institutions and researchers. The national consortium expands access to more institutions at lesser cost per institute and also leads to uniform pricing of journals due to a single consortium.

Encourage Innovation

In line with National Education Policy 2020 objectives, the One Nation One Subscription initiative would offer resources that would promote cutting edge research and development and also encourage transformations in research and education eco system of the country .

Boost worldwide Competitiveness

Improve India's standing in global research rankings by providing researchers with the high quality research resources across all higher educational institutions and research organizations which is likely to boost competitive research and also facilitate collaborations and collaborative research globally.

Facets of Unified National Subscription

The One National subscription access to e-journals has been rolled out to the academic community in three phases from January 2025 for a period of three years and will be managed by Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) an autonomous body under the Indian University Grants Commission as stated by Principle Scientific Advisor (PSA) to Govt of India (2024)

The subscribed e-journals from STEMM, Social Science and Humanities streams are nationally funded and accessible to every individual researcher who needs it. It is one stop digital library of

subscribed research resources having a unified portal the “One Nation One Subscription” (<https://www.onos.gov.in>) through which 6500 institutions have access to more than 13000 online journals from 30 prominent International publishers like Elsevier, Springer Nature, Wiley Blackwell, Taylor Francis, Indian Journals.com etc. at a significantly reduced cost per user (National Media Center, 2024) as depicted in Annexure I.

It is coordinated by Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) an autonomous inter university center of the University Grants Commission. The common platform hosts 13000 journals and operate digitally with all state administrations encouraged to promote its usage within their institutions to improve and maximize access among their academic community.

Table 1 : Description of resources covered in National Consortium

National Consortium of Scholarly Research Resources			
Sl. No	Description (First phase)	Resources	Beneficiaries/ Process
1.	No of journals covered	13,000	Researches of all disciplines of STEMM Social sciences, Management and Humanities
2.	No of publishers covered	30	Springer Nature, Elsevier, Science Direct, Taylor Francis, American Chemical society etc
3.	No of Institutions, benefitted	6380	All higher education, R&D Institutions, Research organizations
4.	Academic community to be benefitted	18 million	Students, researchers, teachers scientist
5.	Amount in Rupees to be spent in First Phase (2025-27)	6000 crore or 60,000 million	To subscribe research resources.
6.	Amount spent for Annual subscription in rupees	2000 crore or 20,000 million	All higher institutions covered in first phase
8.	Annual Article Processing Charges APC (central fund)	1.5 crore or 1,500 million	All authors, to support Gold OA. INFLIBNET to negotiate on read and publish model.

Source : ONOS National Media Center, New Delhi , 10th December 2024 , retrieved form https://psa.gov.in/CMS/web/sites/default/files/psa_custom_files/PPT%20ONOS%20press%20conference%2010th%20Dec%2024%20final.pdf

The data presented in table 1 reveals that this initiative is set to improve and broaden accessibility to benefit around 1.8 crore (18 million) students and academic community throughout the country including those residing in tier two and tier three urban areas. It will foster both core as well as interdisciplinary research across the Indian higher education and research network empowering the research ecosystem of the nation (Ministry of Education on ONOS, 2025). The National Consortium also removes the pay wall barriers for over 65000 universities

and research institutions by centrally negotiating a single subscriptions fee to access select journals across the nation.

To boost research access a total outlay of Rs 6000 crore equivalent to 60,000 million has been earmarked for the initial implementation phase, spanning three years (2025-2027). This allocation is intended to cover an estimated annual expenditure of ₹2,000 crore (₹20,000 million) on subscriptions and access to latest research resources for universities and scientific Institutions across the country.

The ultimate aim of ONOS or the National consortia extends beyond merely providing access to scholarly journals; it seeks to establish a sustainable open access framework to support the long-term growth and global visibility of Indian research as it moves forward. The true potential of ONOS lies in its role as a catalyst for open Science –a shift from closed pay walled research to a model where knowledge is shared , reused and built upon freely. (Madalli, Devika 2025)

The National consortia initiative is also designed to support open access journals through Green, Gold and Diamond open access models. The Gold Open Access model requires a researcher to pay an Article Processing Charge (APC) for immediate free online access which could be quite exorbitant. High Article Processing Charges (APCs) pose a significant barrier for Indian researchers aiming to publish in high-impact open access journals. Despite India's substantial contribution to global research output, limited governmental and institutional funding for APCs restricts many scholars from disseminating their work widely, thereby diminishing its visibility and impact. The National Consortium looks into capping and lowering the article processing charges for Indian authors, while also establishing a central fund to assist with APC payments for publishing in significant impactful open access journals. According to a government estimate Indian authors paid nearly 380 crores (3800 million) to publishers as APCs in the year 2021. (Tiwari, B.K. 2025).

The table 1 also reveals that ONOS initiative provides a central fund of Rs 1.5 crore or (1500 million) per year to support the Indian authors pay article processing charges (APC) to publish their research work in high impact open access journals according to Principle Scientific Advisor (PSA), Government of India, 2024. It also looks into negotiating discounts on APC for Indian authors to make it more affordable by creating a central fund to support Gold Open Access and to align with global shift towards open science in future. The information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) has been designated to oversee the process of APC through a subject specific panel of experts designated to negotiate APC for research articles on read and publish model in accordance with the discussions undertaken for a common subscription fee for all public funded higher education institutions in the country.

As review and follow-ups are critical to success of any project the Anusandhan Research Foundation (ANRF) created in 2020 along with New Education Policy (NEP-2020) to improve Indian research and education ecosystem, has been entrusted to periodically review the usage of research resources and the resulting publications by Indian authors. [Press Information Bureau,(PIB) 2025]

The ONOS initiative also advocates for the green open access model, the following table 2 depicts that there are 105 Open Access Repositories in the country that will be enhanced and

interlinked, besides interoperability standard shall be established to enable interlinking with International Repositories.

Table 2: Repositories and Green Open Access (OA)

Sl.No	Green OA Initiatives under ONOS	
1.	No of Open Access Repositories in India	105
2.	Key Initiates under Green OA	Exiting repositories to be enhanced and interlinked Establish interoperability standards to enable interlinking with international repositories Enforce funders mandate to deposit published versions of manuscript in IR
3.	Strengthen Open Science Repositories	Have agreements between confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) and INFLIBNET to coalesce and strengthen the substantial network of Open Science Repositories in India.

Source : ONOS National Media Center, New Delhi, 10 Dec 2024 retrieved from https://psa.gov.in/CMS/web/sites/default/files/psa_custom_files/PPT%20ONOS%20press%20conference%2010th%20Dec%2024%20final.pdf

The National Consortium also encourages the research community to achieve accepted versions of their manuscripts or published works in OA Institutional Repositories to promote Green Open Access. The key initiatives under Green Open Access model is to enforce funders mandate to deposit published versions of their manuscript in Institutional Repositories. It also mentions to have agreements between the confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) and INFLIBNET to coalesce and strengthen the substantial network of Open Science Repositories in India.

The ultimate aim of ONOS is to serve as a launch pad for open science, (Madalli, Devika, 2025) (23). In future this initiative is expected to include a diamond open access model as it moves forward which will facilitate free availability of journals supported by institutional funds on their respective website with intention to ensure that publically funded research is accessible to all at no additional cost. A number of Indian institutions like ICAR, ICMR, IMD and CSIR are already engaged in publishing journals under the diamond open access model which need to be further strengthened and sustained (National Media Center, 2024) There is also a need to look into creating a globally competitive indigenous open access journals for enhanced impact and visibility.

Deployment of ONOS System

The Library and Information Network (INFLIBNET) is the nodal agency for implementing and managing the national subscription framework. It will coordinate the development of technical infrastructure and maintain a centralized digital platform for resource access. INFLIBNET is also entrusted to provide 24x7 user support, including training and guidance for institutions and individual users to maximize effective utilization of the resources.

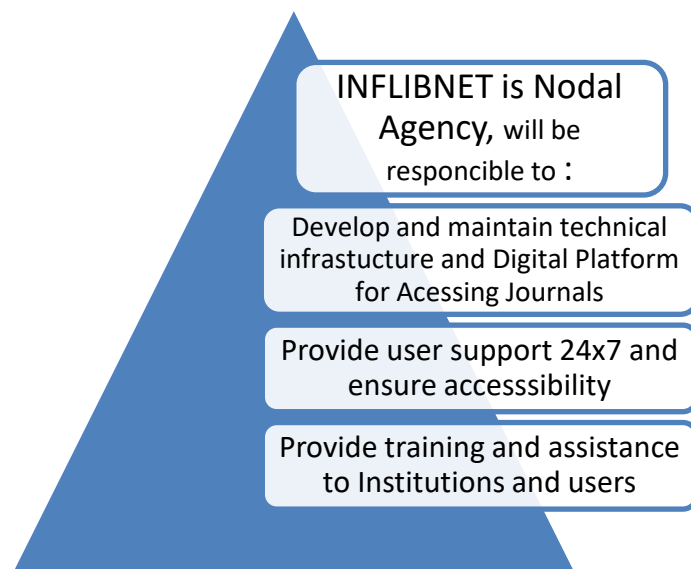


Fig 1 : Role of INFLIBNET to Implement National Subscription

To implement this ambitious initiative the Indian government has rolled out a budget of Rs 6000 cores (approx 723 million dollars) for subscriptions to 13000 digital research resources or journals from 30 major publishers over a period of three years 2025-27 in various academic disciplines as depicted in table 1. The national subscription policy is set to be implemented in multiple phases to ensure an inclusive and effective rollout.

Phase One : In the first phase the existing 10 consortia's, mentioned in table 3 has been merged into single entity with a significant saving by unified subscription and a central negotiation. It is providing access to global research resources to 6300 state and centrally funded higher educational institutions across the country. This is expected to benefit the immediate needs of over 1.8 crore (18 million) academic community including students, faculty and research community, thus creating an initial foundation of nationwide accessibility to research information. A screenshot of the ONOS Portal interface which provides streamlined access to a wide range of research resources is depicted in figure 2.

Phase one also looks in to promoting Open Access (i.e. Gold Open Access) to encourage Indian authors publish in Open Access Journals. Table 1 reveals that an allocation of Rs 150 cores or 1500 million have been made annually to subsidize Article Processing Charges (APC's) for researchers affiliated to public funded institutions. The Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre, is to oversee the process and coordinate the distribution of funds as well as manage the implementation

of this support to ensure that qualified researchers get access to APC support effectively. (Santosh Kumar et.al., 2025)

Table 3 : Major Indian Consortium merged in National Consortium

Sl. No.	Consortium of Group of Institutions
1.	E-Shodh Sindhu (ESS) Consortium under Department of Higher Education (DHE)
2.	CeRA Consortium under Department of Agricultural Research & Education (DARE)
3.	DERCON Consortium under Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)
4.	Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) consortium
5.	DRDO Consortium under Department of Defense Research and Development (DDR&D)
6.	National Knowledge Resource Consortium (NKRC) of the Department of Science & Technology (DST) and Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR)
7.	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)
8.	DeLCON Consortium for Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and North-Eastern Region Institutes
9.	Department of Space (DoS) consortium
10.	Electronic Resources in Medicine (ERMED) Consortium under Department of Health Research (DHR)

Source : ONOS National Media Center, New Delhi, 10 Dec 2024 retrieved from https://psa.gov.in/CMS/web/sites/default/files/psa_custom_files/PPT%20ONOS%20press%20conference%2010th%20Dec%2024%20final.pdf

Phase Two : aims to expand access to the private educational institutions and include them into the program through a public private partnership. Phase two looks into refining the article processing charges support mechanisms based on the outcomes of the first phase. The concept of transformative agreements is new to the Indian Scenario, as very few elite institutions have started to avail its benefits but it is fast gaining attention of the institutions. As more journals transaction to open access, transformative agreements, based on read and publish model shall be considered to make APC's more affordable. (PSA, Govt. of India, 2024)

Phase Three : envisions universal access—beginning with all public libraries and eventually reaching every citizen in need of research and knowledge resources in the long term . Implementation of ONOS aims to expand access to scholarly knowledge to every citizen eventually as stated by ONOS implementation team (ONOS Press Interaction, 2024)

The existing digital infrastructure in the country indicates that upcoming phase two and phase three are expected to pose significant challenges before the nodal agency, requiring to build, a solid and sustainable digital infrastructure in universities and colleges situated in smaller urban centers particularly in tier 2 and tier 3 cities that have been facing economic challenges for accessing a wide range of research materials from global publishing sources.

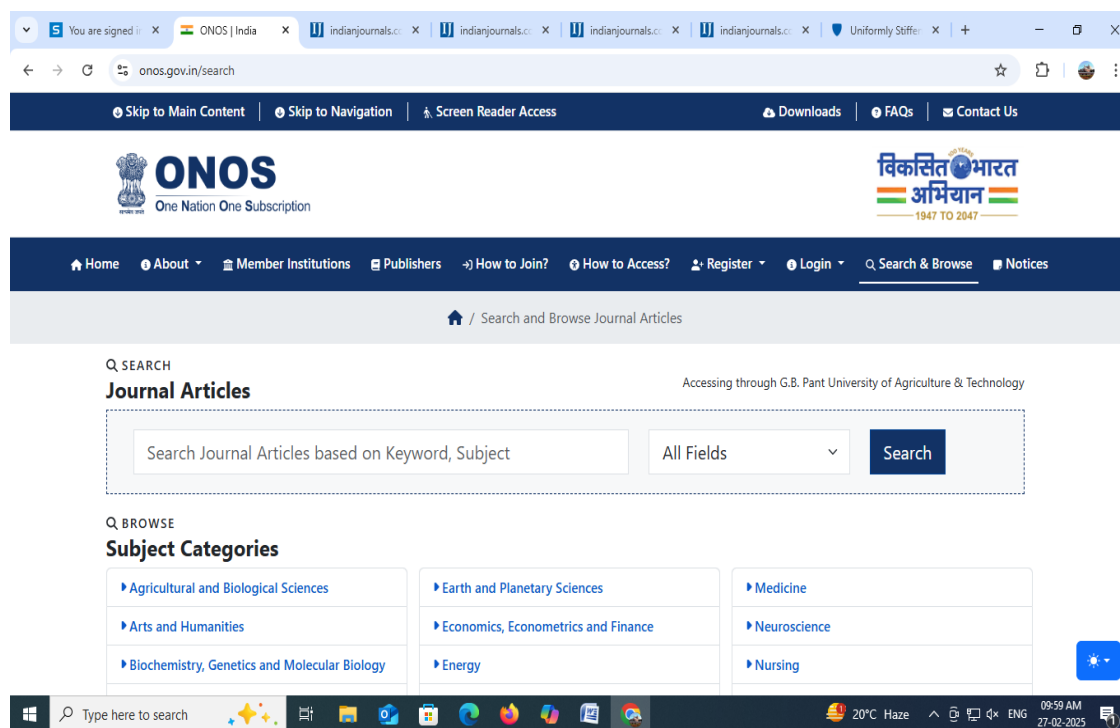


Fig: 2 Screen short of ONOS Portal interface enabling access to research resources

The phased approach demonstrates foresight and strategic alignment with other national initiatives like New Education Policies, establishment of Anusandhan Research Foundation etc leading to goals of developed India. It also ensures continuity by utilizing the existing One Nation One Subscription plan initiated in the first phase while transiting to next phases, leading to a much more sustainable practice.

Benefits and Impact of Unified Subscription on India's Global Research

The one nation one subscription plan is anticipated to be a transformative initiative and a game changing move that is expected to raise the number of users as well as beneficiary institutions at lesser cost per institute. Table 4 reveals a 213.6% rise in the number of users, which includes students, faculty, and researchers. With the first phase of implementation of ONOS, the number of users increased from 56.7 lakh (5.67 million) to an impressive 177.82 lakh (1.7782 million) users. The ONOS model is also expected to raise the ranking of Indian universities at global level. Looking at India's higher education ecosystem, the country having numerous Institutions are unable to compete to the top 100 world ranking such as QS rating except for some elite institutions like Indian Institute of Sciences or Indian Institute of Technologies(IIT's) etc.

Table 4 : Advantages of One Nation One Subscription Model

No.	Advantages	Before ONOS	After ONOS	% Increase
1.	Increase no. of users; students faculty and researchers	56.7 lakh or 5.67 millions	177.82 lakh or 17.782 millions	213.6%

2.	Increased no. of beneficiary institutions	2360	6380	170.3%
3.	Increase No. of Journal titles	8078	13400	66%
4.	Wider Access to Journals by each user	Discipline-specific access	All journal for all users (promotes inter-disciplinary research)	

Source: ONOS Principle advisor to Govt. of India National Media Center, New Delhi.

https://psa.gov.in/CMS/web/sites/default/files/psa_custom_files/PPT%20ONOS%20press%20conference%2010th%20Dec%2024%20final.pdf

The table 4 illustrates that users count prior to implementation of ONOS was 56.7 lakh which surged to 177.82 lakh following its rollout this year representing a remarkable increase of 213.6 % . Additionally the number of academic institutions benefitting from National Consortia rose by 170.3% . Figure 3 depicts the growth in number of institutions benefitting from ONOS Phase one . Following the implementation of National Consortium, the count of journal titles experienced a notable rise from 8078 to 13400 titles, marking an increase of more than 65% .

The Indian higher education sector demonstrates a weak emphasis on research component which poses a significant challenge for Indian universities in their efforts to compete with their international equivalents having more developed research capabilities.

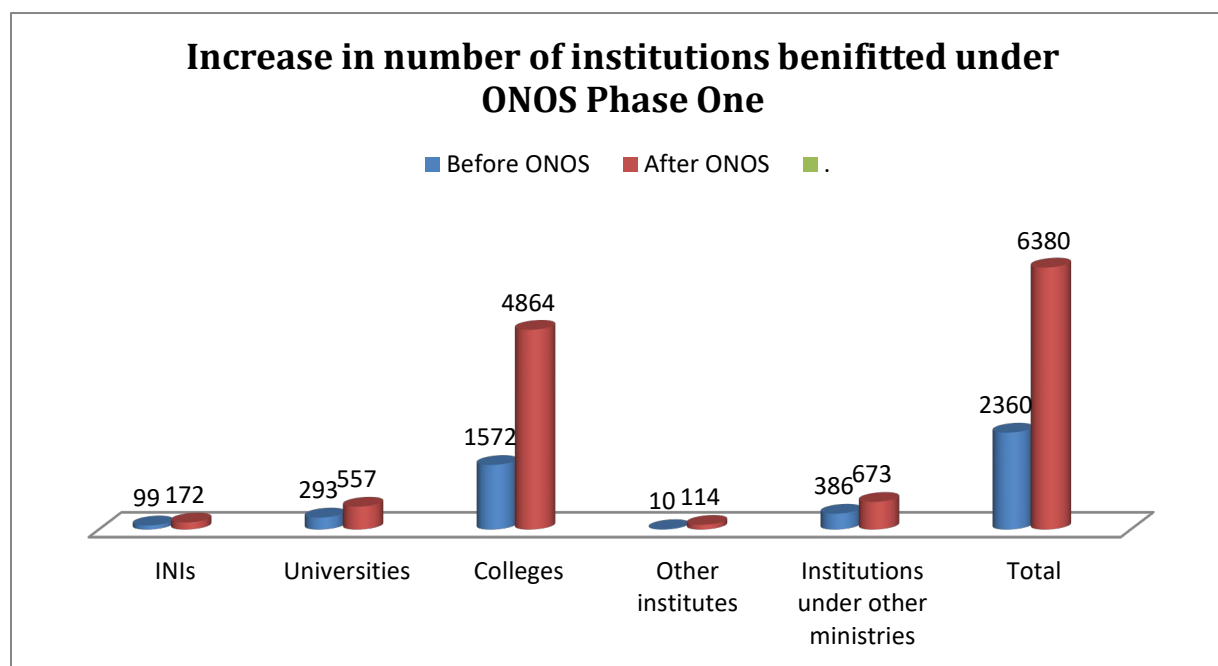


Fig : 3 Increase in number of beneficiary institutions under ONOS Phase-1

The National Education Policy 2020 (NEP-2020) has identified research as a co-requisite for achieving excellence in education and national development. (Ministry of Education, NEP 2022) It emphasizes the need to strengthen the research ecosystem across the country.

The NEP-2020 encourages research at under graduate level that was missing in addition to the postgraduate programs. The NEP-2020 also aims to create a robust research culture by setting up Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities (MERUs) that will attain the highest global standards in quality education (Ministry of Education, 2020) that corresponds with unified subscription scheme of ONOS. The New Education Policy NEP-2024 further strengthens the Education Policy of 2020 and removes the traditional barriers between arts, science, and commerce streams to develop critical thinking among researchers and encourage interdisciplinary research. This evolution permits the students to explore subjects across multiple disciplines enhancing a cross disciplinary educational framework and research. The ONOS, combined with these activities in the country's higher education sector are projected to have a stronger impact on the Indian research ecosystem.

Some of the other benefits and impact this ambitious project is likely to have is mentioned as follows :

Improved Access

The ONOS initiative, is projected to play an important role in bridging access to global research and empower Indian research and academic community to be more informed about global research. Wider access to global research information is predicted to boost the research output of the Indian scientific community. The Indian institutions are expected to focus more on research and increase their presence in global journals, boosting the visibility of national research productivity.

Enhanced Collaboration

Access to latest cutting edge research facilities and resources is expected to enhance opportunities for international collaboration, enabling the Indian scientific community to play a more prominent role in global intellectual and academic arenas. It is also expected to facilitate and foster collaboration and collaborative research with other global institutions and to promote research excellence in the country.

Higher Citation rates

Improved quality research is anticipated to increase citation rates for Indian publications thereby enhancing the global reputation, impact, and visibility of Indian higher education institutions on a global scale.

Ease of doing Research

The unified single subscription is in line with the new education policy and is expected to promote core as well as interdisciplinary research in the country. Some of the learned academic communities advocate that ONOS is a timely step towards establishing India in the global research ecosystem by bringing ease of doing research to the doorstep of all students, faculty and researchers in public institutions. The ONOS initiative improves access to journals. The students and faculty in underfunded smaller urban towns or rural institutions can access the same resources as those in elite universities and institutions leading to bridging educational disparities. (Govt. of India, n.d).

Impact on Indian Library and Information System and their Role

The unified subscription plan is likely to affect the libraries' traditional model of subscription in a different ways. It may lessen the burden of annual subscriptions and financial limitations, as well as reduce the repetitive tasks involved in routine subscriptions. Some professional might see it as an infringement on academic freedom of institutions' need-based library subscriptions.

While the national subscription under ONOS provides access to approximately 1,300 journals from 30 international publishers, access to journals beyond this list requires individual institutional subscriptions. This can lead to unnecessary duplication of research resources across institutions, although likely at a smaller scale. To enhance cost-effectiveness and ensure broader access, a centralized platform needs to be developed to consolidate the individually subscribed electronic resources of all Higher Education Institutions. Integrating a robust Document Delivery Service (DDS) or an efficient document delivery request mechanism within this platform as would to enable seamless inter-library sharing of resources, reducing redundancies and strengthening the national research infrastructure.

The unified subscription framework focuses broadly to enhance immediate access to latest global research information to the academic community. It does not include a formal and functional Document Delivery Request (DDR) or interlibrary loan system that existed in previous consortiums like DELCON or Consortia of e-Resources in Agriculture (CeRA) to make request for research articles outside its subscription portfolio or the platform. The platform also lacks built-in discovery features, users cannot search across contents of individual subscribed resources by different libraries, build researcher profiles, or perform bibliometric analyses limiting its capacity to support research evaluation, networking, and academic visibility.

The libraries and knowledge centers would require to subscribe additional databases like Web of Science or Scopus for such activities, however the ONOS policy does not limit the educational institutions in any way and they are free to subscribe independently more journals and other e-resources like e-books and databases required by their faculty and researchers. Libraries are evolving to knowledge management centers and have greater role and responsibilities as teachers, besides information providers and facilitators.

With roll out of National subscription scheme and centralized access to research resources, the Information Scientist, Librarians or Knowledge Mangers role is being refined and strengthened from dealing with repetitive tasks of annual subscriptions to more strategic and impactful functions of a facilitator and a teacher. They have greater opportunity for interacting and engaging with students and faculty members of their institutions assuming a range of scholarly support roles such as :

Awareness And Training

The libraries play an important role in disseminating information and knowledge, with ONOS on the move they have greater responsibilities to create awareness and strengthen Information and digital Literacy to engage and train actively their students, faculty and researchers on effectively using the wealth of research publications available, also conduct workshops and awareness campaigns to maximize usage of these resources.

Research Ethics

In addition to training on effective use of research resources, and integration of resources into the research workflow, the library educators also need to extend their instruction beyond database training to include critical topics such as open access publishing, ethical publishing standards, recognition of predatory journals, copyright literacy, and strategies for avoiding plagiarism.

Strengthen Institutional Repositories

Library educators have to actively encourage and raise awareness among faculty and researchers about the importance of depositing preprints, post prints, and research datasets in institutional repositories through self-archiving. This practice ensures broader access to research outputs, even when the original articles are published in closed-access journals.

Constraints and Less visible aspects of National Subscription

A care full analysis would be required to see some of the less visible aspects of unified subscription like how judicious is to dedicate significant funds towards expanding access to complex research information for a large number of smaller institutions nationwide, most of which may be deficient in research capacity and resources?

A research by Ramamoorthi and Jeyashankar found that researchers in research intensive institutions like Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and Department of Atomic Energy used less than 20% of the journals available to them through consortia or institutional subscription. How to deal with open access articles published in journals, *The Web of Science database* shows that at least *half* of the articles published in past four years have been *freely accessible* and almost 50% of the papers published in 2024 are already open access also a significant portion of articles published in 2023 by most of the publishers who are now part of ONOS scheme were Open Access (Madhan, M. 2024) it is important to look into the strategy of paying for research information or articles that are already in open access. The Negotiations committees have scope to further dip on subscriptions charges of these journals and curtail payments for open access articles or look into deep capping on article processing charges paid by Indian authors. The National consortia merges the 10 major consortia's as indicated table 3 to provide access to research resources under one platform. While the beneficiary institutions are getting access to the subscribed resources the ONOS platform lacks features like Document Delivery Request services i.e access beyond subscription which enables the researchers to request and receive article not covered by their subscriptions from other member libraries and get digitally delivered across the consortium for example Consortia for e-Resources in Agriculture (CeRA) , DELCON etc. integrated these features.

Challenges and Prospects in Indian Research Eco System

The National Consortium initiative projects some of the following avenues and challenges that will shape the growth of Indian research ecosystem.

Look at Prospects

The unified subscription initiative seeks to deliver global research content from prominent international publisher to all publically funded academic institutions of India, hence bridging the economic divide between the privileged and less privileged Institutions.

Bold Step for transformation

India is the third largest producer of scientific research globally, overtaking the UK in 2022. According to data from Elsevier, Indian scholarly output has been increasing steadily with growth rate of around 11% over the past 20 years. Nick Fowler, Chief Academic Officer at Elsevier highlights that there has been a significant improvement in the academic quality of Indian research where the Field Weighted Citation Impact of Indian research jumped up from 0.85% in 2019 to 1.05 % in the year 2021, thus putting India above the global average for publication citations. (HT Correspondent, 2023).

This indicates that Indian research influence is being felt in the academic and publishing world. India currently ranks 9th globally for citations, suggesting that while research output is high, it may not be reaching its full potential in terms of impact and visibility. (Himali Chappia, 2023) This gap between research output and citations suggests to a need for more effective strategies for dissemination and promotion of Indian research. The One Nation One Subscription initiative backed by government is likely to transform the growing research in terms of more impactful output, inviting collaborations and improving ranking of Indian Higher Institutions. The Monitor of research resources used by Higher Educational Institutions under ONOS initiative by Ansandhan Research Foundation (ANRF) including the publication output from Indian researchers quantify to evaluate the impact of research nationally as well as globally. This would lead to further discussions and making policies for improvements in the Indian research eco-system.

Encourage Interdisciplinary Research

The unified subscription initiative represents a significant step towards democratizing scientific knowledge and promoting multidisciplinary research in India. It is expected to significantly transform the research landscape by providing the academic community a seamless access to latest journals or research resources across wide range of disciplines. This inclusive access, irrespective of researcher's specific area of specialization aims to foster interdisciplinary studies, and promote collaboration across traditional academic boundaries—an approach that aligns closely with the goals of India's National Education Policy (NEP). Under the earlier consortium-based approach this provision was limited; the introduction of a unified single-subscription framework now addresses these constraints more effectively.

Cost Cutting and Duplication

The ONOS initiative backed by substantial annual budget of rupees 20,000 million (2000 crore) annually, is expected to partially alleviate the financial burden on public funding for higher education and research. By centralizing access and eliminating duplication of journal subscriptions across multiple library consortia and individual institutions, it will help reduce unnecessary expenditures on overlapping resources.

Framework for transformation

The ONOS policy has been rolled out to address the immediate need of over 18 million students, researchers and faculty. It is laying a strong foundation for long term transitions to India's journey

towards a balanced and sustainable research ecosystem aligning with best global practices (Divaakaran,D. 2024) taking inconsideration the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) set by the United Nations to address environmental, political and economic challenges and India's vision of Viksit Bharat i.e. Developed India. It is expected to align with best Global practices starting with support to Green Open Access initiatives that allows researchers to achieve their preprint and post publications in Institutional repositories while publishing in closed accessed journals, making it accessible to all and enabling gradual steps towards openness.

The provision of 1500 million in the initial phase to assist researchers with Article Processing Charges (APCs) facilitates the adoption of Gold Open Access, wherein scholarly articles become freely and immediately accessible upon publication. This initiative is likely to reduce gradually the Indian researchers dependency on subscription based journals and align with global shift towards openness by expanding open access and eventually creating a qualitative, high impact globally competitive indigenous Open Access journals that would enhance India's research output as well as reduce reliance on expensive international publishers aligning with self reliant Indian initiative.

SOME CHALLENGES AHEAD

The unified subscription initiative represents a significant step toward fostering innovation within the broader higher education landscape. While its advantages such as enhanced accessibility, cost-efficiency through collective bargaining, and support for interdisciplinary research are commendable, certain potential challenges must be acknowledged and addressed to ensure successful implementation the initiative. Identifying and proactively managing these potential obstacles will be essential to the effective execution and long-term sustainability of this project.

Digital Infrastructure gaps

Digital infrastructure such as high speed internet access, comprehensive campus WIFI in public institutions situated in remote areas, and the ability to access data via smart phones devices poses a significant challenge which needs to addressed for the success of this initiative .

Establishing digital libraries across all participating institutions particularly to benefit students from lower-income backgrounds in smaller urban centers such as tier 2 and tier 3 cities is likely to present a significant challenge. To ensure the success of this initiative, it is essential to develop robust and equitable digital infrastructure across institutions.

User training and skill Development:

Comprehensive training programs aimed at enhancing digital literacy will be essential to enable both students and faculty to effectively utilize the extensive resources made available through the Unified Subscription Initiative. Users at institutions in remote areas and smaller cities may face challenges due to limited digital skills, which could hinder their ability to fully benefit from these resources. Strengthening digital competencies not only supports the effective implementation of this initiative but also aligns with the objectives of the National Education Policy 2024 (NEP-2024), which emphasizes the development of both digital and interpersonal skills as integral to India's evolving educational framework.

Copyright and Licensing

A dedicated team of experts needs to be established to examine and interpret the complexities of international copyright and licensing laws. Navigating the complex landscape of international copyright laws and licensing agreements for such large scale project requires establishing a specialized cell to address potential license infringement and legal challenge that may rise in the successful implementation of this initiative.

Publishing Awareness and Research Integrity

A significant portion of the research community particularly in underprivileged institutions may lack adequate awareness of international publishing standards and procedures. This includes critical aspects such as the peer review process, proper citation practices, and adherence to publication ethics. To effectively address the growing concerns around predatory journals and unethical publishing practices in the country, the establishment and enforcement of a strong national research integrity standards is essential.

Promote Indigenous OA Journals

Given that research is international and cannot be limited to authors publishing in other high-impact international journals that charge article processing fees, how can the nation encourage and influence its scientific community to publish high-quality research in domestic open access journals and increase its influence internationally? shall be challenging to address and sustain.

The National Subscription Initiative should, in its future seek to establish globally competitive, indigenous open-access journals operating under a diamond OA model. Moreover, it ought to formulate and disseminate robust guidelines to support, endorse, and elevate existing diamond-OA journals published by premier institutions such as CSIR, ICAR, ICMR and IMD etc.

Besides improving the ranking and international collaborations, a mechanism for influencing and motivating the country's scientific community to publish quality research in home-grown open access journals and improving its global impact needs to be developed, keeping in view, that research is global and authors publishing in other high impact international journals cannot be restricted but motivated.

A UNESCO GOAP report on India identifies that while government and institutional journals have adopted OA platforms (e.g ICAR,CSIR) many society-run journals still operate behind pay walls or as hybrid publications (Global Open Access portal, 2025) The ONOS initiative needs to Identify indigenous societies and associations that publish high impact journals and support them to bring into diamond access model.

Long term Sustainability

Developing a sustainable financial model or viable long-term framework is critical to ensure the continuity of the Unified Subscription Program beyond its initial three-year phase. For the initiative to achieve lasting success, it is equally important to strengthen and maintain infrastructure in underprivileged urban areas and public libraries particularly during the third phase

by securing ongoing financial support for infrastructure maintenance, upgrades, and operational sustainability.

While the initial rollout of the Unified Subscription Scheme in its first phase may be relatively straightforward, the subsequent phases aimed at extending access to research information to every individual in the country—are likely to present greater challenges. In particular, the second and third phases, which focus on expanding access to private institutions and public libraries nationwide, will require careful planning, resource allocation, and robust infrastructure to ensure equitable and effective implementation.

Many state public libraries in India remain underfunded and lack the robust digital infrastructure needed to meet contemporary demands. Although the country has approximately 46,746 public libraries, only a some meet the international standards. (Ministry of Culture, 2025), According to a 2019 survey by the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, State Central and District Libraries were more likely to possess digital resources, while rural and non-urban libraries lagged significantly behind in terms of digital infrastructure. (RRRLF, 2019) This disparity presents a substantial challenge to the modernization of these libraries and their potential to function as inclusive knowledge hubs. To address these gaps effectively, substantial government investment is required to ensure the long-term sustainability of this initiative and to generate meaningful impact at the grassroots level.

SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSION

The Indian National Consortium or the One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) initiative is an revolutionary move to democratize access to high-quality research aiming to reduce institutional inequalities and eliminate financial constraints. It ensures that all public universities, colleges, and institutions who were denied of quality research resources due to underfunding have now access to 13,000 journals from global publishers, reducing costs through negotiating an efficient centralized subscription. This project also aims to raise the profile and visibility of Indian research, invite international collaborations, and improve the rankings of Indian universities and Institute of higher education in the world, such as the QS higher education rating firm.

The National Consortia initiative aims to support multiple open access pathways, including Green Open Access, the Gold route through subsidized Article Processing Charges (APCs), and, in the future, Diamond Open Access models as the project evolves. The Green Open Access model encourages authors to deposit published or accepted versions of their research in Open Access Institutional Repositories. However, India currently lacks a unified platform or central facility for archiving post prints of peer-reviewed manuscripts. While some independent repositories exist such as *IndiaRxiv* (India Archive), launched in 2019, and *AgriRxiv* (Agri Archive), established in 2017 these are largely supported by the Indian Open Access movement (Mallapaty, Smriti 2019) and operate independently of a centralized national framework.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) and the Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) should take the lead in establishing and promoting a centralized open repository that allows researchers to independently deposit their scholarly work similar to the existing Shodhganga platform for doctoral dissertations.

While ONOS is a commendable initiative aimed at bridging the scholarly divide within the Indian academic community, there are certain gaps too that must be addressed strategically to ensure its long-term effectiveness. One key shortcoming is the absence of a comprehensive National Policy on Research Publishing Practices that would guide researchers on ethical, credible, and high-quality publishing standards such as prioritizing reputable journals and avoiding predatory publishers. Although some institutions have established their own guidelines to uphold research integrity and publication quality, a unified national framework is essential to maintain consistent standards across the academic ecosystem.

Many institutions have developed their own policies or guidelines to ensure that researchers publish in credible journals to uphold high research standards. Additionally the country does not have National Open Access Policy that has been adopted officially. India currently lacks a formally adopted National Open Access Policy. Despite the absence of a unified national framework, several leading government research organizations including the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) have taken proactive steps by implementing their own independent open access mandates. Researchers funded by these agencies are required to deposit their research outputs in designated open access repositories.

The country needs to adopt a National Open Access policy mandating to make all publically funded scientific publications freely/openly accessible. A draft National Open Access Policy was submitted in 2017 by OA India community to Ministries of Human Resource development and Science and Technology, (Nazim, M et.al 2023) while not adopted it advocates for a unified approach to open access emphasizing the importance of making publically funded research freely available. Implementing such a policy would align India with global best practices and significantly strengthen its open science infrastructure.

Similarly India has a draft National Science Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP 2020), which includes provisions related to research publishing practices. However, as of April 2025 this policy has not yet been formally adopted . (Sattiraju, V. K., & Janodia, M. D. 2024) STIP 2020 seeks to strengthen and enhance the country's research and innovation ecosystem by fostering collaboration between academia, industry, and government, by promoting indigenous technologies and grassroots innovations aiming to create a more inclusive and self-reliant scientific landscape.

While both policies aim to enhance the research landscape in India, they operate on different fronts one ensuring open accessibility of research outputs, and the other safeguarding the quality and integrity of research publications. Without these two essential policies at national level the enforcement and adherence have been inconsistent across institutions. To ensure that all institutions, not just elite universities and R & D organizations benefit from ONOS, the country needs to invest in enhancing digital literacy and strengthening research infrastructure at institutions located in smaller cities.

While the ONOS initiative is undoubtedly bold and forward-thinking, it is not without its challenges. The phased implementation approach is a pragmatic step toward achieving its stated objectives. However, certain aspects of the model needs attention and a closer analysis. For instance, in the context of

the Indian economy, how appropriate is allocating substantial amount of public funds to publishers overseas? particularly in support of a closed-access subscription model. This raises concerns about long-term sustainability of this initiative, financial prudence, and the alignment of the initiative with India's broader goals of self-reliance and open access to publicly funded research.

Though there may be some concerns regarding promoting subscriptions to closed access journals during the initial stages of implementing One Nation One Subscription. However, it's important to recognize that ONOS is designed to strategically transition towards an open access publishing model as it progresses. According to media conference (ONOS Media Center, 2024) on roll out of the National Consortia in December 2024 the One Nation One Subscription is not a value judgment on the subscription-based model of knowledge dissemination rather it's an adoption of the most practical India-specific solution towards expanding knowledge access till a sustainable open access model is achieved globally.

Balancing investments in closed access frameworks with a strong commitment to open access will foster equitable, significant, impactful, and sustainable research practices for the Nation. Over all the long term vision for ONOS is not merely to provide journal access but to lay the groundwork for open science ecosystem in India. The initiative must be seen as an enabling ecosystem /framework, setting the stage for future where Indian research is not just consumed but also produced, shared and openly validated. (Madalli, Devika 2025)

As the nation undertakes the phased implementation of the ONOS framework gradually , the coming years will be critical in determining its overall effectiveness and long-term impact. While the scheme holds great promise in transforming the research landscape through increased access and collaborative potential, it remains a wait-and-watch scenario for the country's higher education ecosystem. The true success of this initiative will be reflected in tangible improvements in research output, higher citation rates, and enhanced global rankings of Indian universities. Equally significant will be its role in shaping a strong and inclusive open access ecosystem—one that ensures publicly funded research is widely accessible, ethically published, and globally visible. Strategic monitoring, inclusive policymaking, and sustainable funding will be essential to realize the full potential of this transformative effort.

References

- Soumyadeep (2024, December 10). New education policy 2024. Adda247.
<https://www.adda247.com/school/new-education-policy-2024/>
- Ala-Kyyny, J. (2025, April 24). Open science annual review 2024: News from Finland and abroad. Helsingin Yliopisto. <https://blogs.helsinki.fi/thinkopen/open-science-review-2024/#intia>
- Chhapia, H. (2023, March 23). India is world's fourth in research output. Times of India.
<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/india-is-worlds-4th-in-research-output-but-ranks-9th-in-citations/articleshow/98924312.cms>

- COUPERIN (2025, August 11). Unified consortium of academic and research institutions for access to digital publications. <https://www.openaire.eu/couperin>
- DEAL Consortium. (2024, December 22). About DEAL. <https://deal-konsortium.de/en/about-deal>
- Department of Science and Technology. (2020, December 4). Science Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP draft policy). DST, Ministry of Science and Technology. https://dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/STIP_Doc_1.4_Dec2020.pdf
- Divakaran, D. (2024, December 13). One Nation One Subscription (ONOS): India's research revolution or just another expensive patchwork?. <https://www.deepeshdivakaran.com/post/one-nation-one-subscription-onos-india-s-research-revolution-or-just-another-expensive-patchwork>
- Elsevier. (2023, July 12). Elsevier releases latest industry study revealing surprising growth trends from the global south among G20 nations.[Press release]. <https://www.elsevier.com/en-in/about/press-releases/elsevier-releases-latest-industry-study-revealing-surprising-growth-trends-from-the-global-south-among-g20-nations>
- HT Correspondent. (2023, June 18). India is 3rd largest producer of scientific research. Hindustan Times. <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/pune-news/indias-achievements-in-scientific-research-discussed-at-g20-education-working-group-meeting-in-pune-101687028712442.html>
- Aaltonen, Mari (2021, May 20). Open access in Finland: Down the long road. IFLA Academic and Research Libraries Section Blog. <https://blogs.ifla.org/arl/category/finland/finland-finland/>
- Jisc Collections. (2025,October 23). International Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC). Jisc Collections. <https://www.icolc.net/participating-consortia/jisc-collections>
- Madhan, M. (2024, December 5). India's one nation one subscription enriches publishers and benefits few. London School of Economics and Political Science. <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2024/12/05/indias-one-nation-one-subscription-deal-enriches-publishers-and-benefits-few/>
- Madalli, D. (2025, February 24). India's bold first step to an open science future. Nature India. <https://www.nature.com/articles/d44151-025-00028-y>
- Mallapaty, S. (2019, April 17). Indian scientists launch preprint repository to boost research quality. Nature. <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-01082-0>
- Ministry of Culture, Government of India (2025, December 15). National Mission on libraries strengthens public library network all over the country. [Press release] https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2204106&utm_source=chatgpt.com®=3&lang=2
- Ministry of Education. (2020, September 14). Highlights of new education policy. [Press release] <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1654058>
- Ministry of Education. (2022, August 1). Salient features of NEP 2020. [Press release] <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1847066>
- Ministry of Education. (2023, January 29). All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2020–21. [Press release] <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1894517>
- Ministry of Education. (2025, January 2025). ONOS: Empowering India's research ecosystem. [Press release] <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2089179>
- Ministry of Human Resource Development. (2020, n. d). National education policy 2020. https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf
- Nazim, M., et al. (2023). Open access publishing in India: Trends and policy perspective. *Global Knowledge Memory and Communication*. 72 (4-5), 437- 451 <https://www.emerald.com/insight/content/doi/10.1108/gkmc-09-2021-0158/full/html>

- Principle Scientific Advisor, Govt. of India (2024, November 25). One Nation One Subscription (ONOS)[Press release]. <https://www.psa.gov.in/oneNationOneSubscription>
- National Media Center (2024, December 10). ONOS press conference presentation. New Delhi. https://psa.gov.in/CMS/web/sites/default/files/psa_custom_files/PPT%20ONOS%20press%20conference%2010th%20Dec%2024%20final.pdf
- Government of India. (2025, n.d). About One Nation One Subscription (ONOS). <https://www.onos.gov.in/about>
- Press Information Bureau (2024, December 9). PM interacts with participants of Smart India Hackathon 2024. [Press release] Delhi. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=2083386>
- Principle Scientific Advisor, Govt. of India. (2024, December 10). Press interaction on one nation one subscription scheme.[Press release] <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=2083002>
- Press Information Bureau (2025, November 2024). Cabinet approves one nation one subscription. [Press release] Delhi. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2077097>
- Santosh Kumar et.al (2025, January 1). ONOS: Empowering India's research ecosystem. Ministry of Education. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2089179>
- Ramamoorthi, P., & Jeyshankar, R. (2016). Is there a correlation between access to journals and their productive use? *Annals of Library and Information Studies*, 63(1), 24–30.
- Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation. (2019, n.d). Quantitative & qualitative survey of public libraries in India. https://www.rrrlf.gov.in/Docs/pdf/Survey_Report.pdf
- Sattiraju, V. K., & Janodia, M. D. (2024). Analysis of science, technology and innovation (STI) policies of India from 1958 to 2020. *Journal of science technology and policy management*, 15(6), 1691-1708. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JSTPM-02-2022-0030>
- Chhapiya, Hemali. (2023, March 23). India is world's 4th in research output but ranks 9th in citations. Times of India. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/india-is-worlds-4th-in-research-output-but-ranks-9th-in-citations/articleshow/98924312.cms>
- Tiwari, B. K. (2025, November 29). One nation one subscription can be a game changer for the research and innovation sector. Education Times. <https://www.educationtimes.com/article/campus-beat-college-life/99737059/one-nation-one-subscription-can-be-a-game-changer-for-the-research-and-innovation-sector>
- UNESCO. (n.d.). *Global Open Access Portal: Asia and Pacific- India*. <https://www.goap.info/oa/access-by-region/country/india>
- University of Maryland. (2025, n.d). Library spending reductions: Spending reductions for collections. <https://www.lib.umd.edu/about/org/as/budget/reductions>

Annexure -I

LIST OF THIRTY PUBLISHERES INCLUDED NATIONAL CONSORTIA			
1.	Elsevier Science Direct	16.	Indianjournals. com
2.	Springer Nature	17.	ASME
3.	IEEE-IEL Online-Complete	18.	Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press
4.	Wiley Blackwell Publishing	19.	ACM Digital Library
5.	Taylor and Francis	20.	Annual Reviews
6.	Lippincott Williams & Wilkins (Wolters Kluwer)	21.	ICE Publishing
7.	Institute of Physics	22.	American Society for Microbiology
8.	American Chemical Society	23.	American Association for the Advancement of Science
9.	Cambridge University Press	24.	American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA)
10.	American Physical Society	25.	American Mathematical Society
11.	Oxford University Press	26.	Emerald Publishing
12.	BMJ Journals	27.	Sage Publishing
13.	ASCE	28.	Bentham Science
14.	American Institute of Physics	29.	SPIE Digital Library
15.	Project Muse	30.	Thieme Medical Publisher

Source: ONOS Press Conference (2024) ONOS Principle Advisor to GOI, National Media Center , New Delhi. Accessed from chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://psa.gov.in/CMS/web/sites/default/files/psa_custom_files/PPT%20ONOS%20press%20conference%2010th%20Dec%2024%20final.pdf

About the author

Needa Singh is the Deputy Librarian of University Library, G B Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar , Uttrakhand, India. She can be reached at nshill6@gmail.com.