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Content Analysis of the Journal University News: A Study from January to August 2024

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Abstract: The present study analyze the content of University News, a weekly journal published by Association of University from January 2024 to August 2024. The study classifies articles in various disciplines including higher education policies, research and development, faculty issues, online learning and international co-operation. The researcher used content analysis method to identify the major themes, type of contribution and writing pattern. The findings of the study shows that NEP 2020 implementation, online teaching learning, and faculty development are amongst the most discussed topics in the mentioned university news issues.

Keywords: University news; content analysis; higher education; NEP 2020; online teaching learning; faculty development.

1. Introduction: In recent years, higher education in India has undergone a profound transformation, driven by significant policy reforms, repaid technological advancement, and increasing global integration. The commencement of National Education Policy 2020 marked a paradigm shift, emphasizing multidisciplinary learning, skill-based education, and the digitization of teaching learning process (Ministry of Education, 2020). This policy aims to modernize the education system by promoting flexible learning ways, fostering research and innovation, and applying digital tools into teaching learning process. These have enhanced the academic environment of the country as there now exists a robust culture of academic journals and publications that focus on policies and strategies formulated and researched, and even the subsequent institutional changes implemented.

One such publication that has had a profound impact is University News which is a journal published on a weekly basis by Association of Indian Universities since 1929. The journal provides a platform for the exchange of views and participatory debates relating to higher education administration, policy and

management, including faculty training, innovative research, and education globalization (University News, 2024). The journal has become the cornerstone of Indian journalism and education due to its widespread circulation and age. Because of that, it is at the center of academic and policy debates on various issues in India.

The key publication in the field of education is University News, a weekly journal published by the Association of Indian Universities since 1929. It serves as a vital platform for academic discussions, policy analysis, and research dissemination in the field of higher education. The journal has become the cornerstone of Indian journalism and education due to its widespread circulation and age. Because of that, it is at the center of academic and policy debates on various issues in India.

There is still much to be studied systematically on themes and trends pertinent to University News. Analysis of University News through content studies offers an interesting avenue.

2. Aims and Objectives:

Following are the main objectives of the study

- To classify the content published in University News from January 2024 to December 2024.
- To identify dominant themes such as NEP 2020, faculty development and online learning.
- To analyze contributions from different categories of authors

3. Review of Literature

Content analysis is a widely accepted research method used to examine communication patterns within texts, including journals, newspapers, and media reports (Krippendorff, 2018). In the field of Library and Information Science (LIS) and education, it is particularly useful for identifying trends, author contributions, subject distribution, and publication patterns. According to Neuendorf (2017), content analysis helps researchers systematically categorize textual data, making it possible to evaluate both the structure and meaning of communication over time.

Several studies have employed content analysis to explore academic journals. For instance, Järvelin & Vakkari (2022) analyzed 50 years of LIS research (1965-2015), showing a shift from traditional library services to scientific communication as the dominant topic. Empirical methods, especially surveys and citation analysis, have increased, and the focus has moved from intermediaries to end-users and developers. The study highlights the growing diversity and maturity of LIS as a research field.

4. Methodology:

The researcher employed content analysis method to systematically examine the journal's coverage of major themes and distribution of various content types. Issues of University News published during January 2024 to December 2024 were collected from Association of Indian Universities and college library for analysis. The researcher categorized collected contents into academic articles, policy reports, doctoral thesis citation, campus news, convocation address, advertisements for academic jobs and admissions, book review. Collected data were analyzed using thematic analysis, where articles were categorized by subject areas. Frequency analysis was conducted to determine the number of articles published under each theme, while authorship analysis categorized contributors into categories such as academicians, policy makers, and researchers to assess their representation in the journal.

5. Analysis and Findings

Table No. 1

Articles distribution by category

Sr. No.	Article Type	Frequency	Percentage
1	Research Articles	121	40.6
2	Opinion/Commentaries	74	24.8
3	Reports/Proceedings	42	14.1
4	Editorials	31	10.4
5	Book Reviews	18	6.0
6	Announcements/News	12	4.1

The above table highlights the content composition of *University News* (Vol. 62, Issues 1-31). It shows that research articles are the highest number of published content, comprising 40.6% of all entries, which reflects the journal's scholarly orientation and its appeal to academic authors. An opinion and commentary follow at 24.8%, indicating the journal's commitment to fostering dialogue among education professionals and policy thinkers. Reports and proceedings (14.1%) suggest consistent coverage of events, conferences, and academic initiatives. An editorial make up 10.4% of the content, often setting the tone or highlighting emerging issues in higher education. Book reviews (6.0%) and institutional announcements or news items (4.1%) serve as complementary sections, adding variety and keeping readers informed about developments in the field. This distribution confirms that while *University News* maintains academic rigor, it also embraces a diverse mix of content to serve a broader audience of educators, researchers, and administrators

Table No. 2

Subject wise distribution of Articles

Sr. No.	Subject Area	Frequency
1	Higher Education Policy & Reforms	84
2	NEP 2020 Implementation	52
3	Curriculum and Pedagogy	34
4	Governance and Leadership	29
5	Technology in Education	27
6	Teacher Education	21
7	Quality Assurance & Accreditation	18
8	Student Support & Inclusion	14
9	Library & Information Science	8
10	Miscellaneous	11

The above table indicates subject-wise distribution of articles in the journal of *University News* (Vol. 62, Issues 1–31) shows that the most commonly addressed topic was **Higher Education Policy and Reforms** with 84 articles, highlighting the journal's strong focus on shaping and analyzing educational change in India. This was followed by 52 articles on **NEP 2020 Implementation**, indicating ongoing interest in how the policy is being applied in practice. Other frequently covered areas included **Curriculum and Pedagogy** (34)**, Governance and Leadership** (29), and **Technology in Education** (27), reflecting key priorities in academic development and modernization. The topics such as **Teacher Education, Quality Assurance,** and **Student Support** also received attention, though to a lesser extent. **Library and**

Information Science had fewer contributions (8), and 11 articles were categorized as miscellaneous. Overall, the journal places strong emphasis on policy, teaching innovation, leadership, and digital transformation in higher education.

Table No. 3
Author Affiliation

Sr. No.	Category	Number of Authors
1	University Professors	146
2	College Faculty	68
3	Policy Makers Administrators	42
4	Research Scholars	25
5	Others (NGOs, Retd.)	17

The above table highlights that most of the authors in *University News* are **university professors** (146), which means the journal is mainly supported by experienced academics. **College faculty** also contributed a good number (68), followed by **policy makers and administrators** (42), who likely shared insights on governance and education reforms. **Research scholars** (25) and **others like retired professionals and NGO members** (17) made smaller contributions. This shows that the journal mostly features articles from senior academics but also gives space to voices from different areas of the education sector.

Table No. 4
Geographical Distribution

Sr. No.	Contributing States	Number of Authors
1	Delhi	36
2	Maharashtra	28
3	Karnataka	24
4	Uttar Pradesh	22
5	West Bengal	17
6	Tamil Nadu	15
7	Others	56

This table shows that authors from all over India contributed to *University News*, with the **highest number from Delhi (36)**, followed by **Maharashtra (28)** and **Karnataka (24).** States like **Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal**, and **Tamil Nadu** also had many contributors. The others category includes authors from various smaller or less-represented states, totalling 56. This shows that while contributions came from across the country, there was a higher concentration of authors from **metro and educationally advanced states**, suggesting a strong academic presence in those regions.

6. Discussion: The content analysis of the journal *University News* revealed a strong alignment toward higher education policy, with NEP 2020 and it remain a central theme. The majority of research articles indicate a scholarly focus, while the consistent presence of opinion pieces and reports points to the journal's broader appeal among education stakeholders.

Authorship trends highlight significant contributions from academic institutions, particularly universities, underscoring the journal's credibility and relevance in higher education. The geographic spread of contributors, though slightly tilted towards metropolitan regions, reflects pan-Indian participation.

The consistent coverage of emerging topics like digital transformation in education, governance reforms, and teacher capacity-building indicates that *University News* is well-aligned with national priorities.

7. Conclusion: *The journal University News* serves as a key platform for academic and policy discourse in Indian higher education. The analysis of 31 issues indicates its multidimensional approach to educational development. This study reaffirms the journal's role in shaping thought leadership and policy direction in India's academic landscape.

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