

**Glimpses of Doctoral Research in English Studies in India:  
A Study of Institute of Advanced Studies in English, Pune**

**Ravindra B. Tasildar, M.A., Ph.D.**

Associate Professor and Head

Department of English and Post-Graduate Research Centre  
Sangamner Nagarpalika Arts, D. J. Malpani Commerce and

B. N. Sarada Science College

Sangamner – 422 605 Dist. Ahmednagar

Maharashtra

[ravishmi1@gmail.com](mailto:ravishmi1@gmail.com)

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**Abstract**

The studies on PhDs in the subject of English in Indian universities mainly focus on the research carried out at the university departments. Just like the departments of English in universities, the institutes affiliated to Indian universities also contribute to the research in English Studies. Based on the list of PhD achievers of the Institute of Advanced Studies in English (IASE), Pune, the present study is an attempt to consider research productivity of the institute in comparison to its affiliating university - Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU). The study focuses on the preferred areas of research in English Studies at IASE. It deals with the most and least explored areas of research in English and throws some light on the shifting trends in doctoral research in English Studies in India. This paper is an attempt to take a glimpse at the state of the art doctoral research in English Studies in India in the first two decades of 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Keywords:** Institute of Advanced Studies in English (IASE), Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU), Types of English Studies, Indian Universities, Doctoral Research

**Introduction**

Doctoral research is one of the less discussed topics of English Studies in India. It is necessary to know the developments in doctoral studies in British Literature (BL), American Literature (AL), Indian English Literature and in English Translation (IEL), New Literatures (NL), Comparative Studies (CS), Literature and Film (L & F), Literary Criticism and Theory (LCT), English Linguistics (EL) and English Language Teaching (ELT). Research in English Studies in Indian universities was mostly carried out at the university departments alone. With the spread of research institutes and research centres at the post-graduate colleges affiliated to the universities, the research phenomenon is no longer prerogative of the university departments. Through the study of PhDs in English at a recognized research institute, this paper is a modest attempt to take a glimpse at the research trends in English Studies in India.

## Literature Review

Working on seventy-nine PhD studies at Kakatiya University (KU), Warangal, Damodar (1993) mentions some research trends in English. His main observations are BL is not considered seriously for research and fiction is the popular form of research in AL and IEL. Kamble (2003) went for the citation analysis of doctoral dissertations in English in Gulbarga University while Mishra, Gawde and Solanki (2014) took up a bibliometric study of fifty-five PhD theses in English in Vikram University during 1975 to 2007. After taking a survey of 240 PhD theses in The English and Foreign Languages University (EFLU), Hyderabad, during 1968-2011, Tasildar (2013) noticed that most of the doctoral studies at the university are in EL (39%) and ELT (34%). The study also comes across 17% of theses each in AL and IEL. In another survey of 116 PhD theses in English at Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University (BAMU), Aurangabad during 1967-2008 Tasildar (2013) found that the largest number of theses (31%) are in IEL. One noteworthy observation in both the universities is that LCT has failed to attract research scholars for doctoral studies. In their study of doctoral dissertations in English subject awarded by the Universities of Western Region of India, Vyas and Joshi (2013) note that fiction is the most popular area of research and there is lot of room for research in the field of ELT, folk, tribal, comparative, nationalistic, diaspora, de-colonization, etc.

The above studies, mainly limited to year-wise, university-wise, gender-wise, supervisor-wise distribution of numerical data are of three types, viz. studies by librarians [Kamble (2003) and Mishra et al (2014)], studies by subject teachers [Damodar (1993) and Tasildar (2013)] and collaborative studies by librarians and subject teachers [Vyas and Joshi (2013)]. The librarians go beyond mere subject lists for citation analysis and bibliometric studies like Kamble (2003) and Mishra et al (2014) respectively. These studies not only differ in the sample size like Tasildar (2013) considering 240 theses at the ELFU and Mishra et al (2014) considering fifty-five theses but also in duration as Damodar (1993) considered the PhD theses from 1979 to January 1993 and Mishra et al (2014) considered PhD theses during 1975-2007. The sources used for data collection in these studies are varied - university departments, Boards of University Teaching and Research (BUTR), administrative offices of the universities and university libraries as in Vyas and Joshi (2013).

These previous studies on PhDs in the subject of English in Indian universities mainly focus on the research carried out at the university departments. According to Sagar (2016) the research in English Departments in Indian universities is a momentous disappointment. Just like the departments of English in universities, the institutes affiliated to Indian universities also contribute to the research in English Studies. The present study is an attempt to consider research productivity in English Studies at the Institute of Advanced Studies in English (IASE), Pune affiliated to the Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU). The present study, limited to the titles of the PhD theses, focuses on the topics of research, pattern of research guidance and preferred areas of research at IASE.

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## Doctoral Research in English at IASE

Established in the academic year 2003-04, IASE is one of the reputed centres for postgraduate studies and research in English affiliated to SPPU. The institute offers M.A., M. Phil. and Ph.D. programmes in English recognized by the SPPU. The institute offers ‘Teacher Enrichment Programs’ to English language teachers and regularly organizes international conferences on language, literature and culture studies. Besides, IASE brings out two international journals on English Studies. The research at the institute is mainly in language, communication, sociolinguistics and literature. The first doctoral degree was awarded in the year 2005 to the thesis ‘Reading Comprehension Skills among Yemeni Students: A Case Study’. The study was carried out by Al-Mahadi Iman Abdullah (2005) under the guidance of Dr. Silloo Chopra. During the last fifteen years the institute has emerged as the globally recognised centre for advanced studies in English. The alumni of the institute are spread in every state in India and twenty countries across the globe. The list of achievers from the institute’s website has been the main source for this study. It includes name of the researcher, topic, guide and date of declaration. By the end of 2017 the number of research scholars who completed their PhDs in English was 112. Out of these 112 PhDs only two theses have been excluded from this study as the date of declaration and topic of research are not mentioned in the list of achievers. Hence, the corpus of this study constitutes 110 doctoral theses awarded during 2005-2017.

**Table 1 Year-wise and Gender-wise distribution of PhD theses at IASE (2005-2017)**

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total	%
Male Scholars	--	04	04	04	14	05	09	08	10	09	02	03	03	75	68.18
Female scholars	01	02	04	01	04	04	03	06	04	03	01	01	01	35	31.82
No. of Theses	01	06	08	05	18	09	12	14	14	12	03	04	04	110	

The above table reflects the doctoral researches carried out at the IASE by seventy-five male researchers (68.18%) and thirty-five female researchers (31.82%). In the year 2009 the highest number of PhDs i.e. eighteen (16.36%) were awarded whereas fourteen (12.72%) PhDs were awarded in 2012 and 2013 apiece. Similarly, twelve (10.90%) PhDs were awarded in 2011 and 2014 each. Thus, the duration from 2011 to 2014 (second decade of twenty-first century) can be said as the most productive years in terms of doctoral research at IASE.

## Research in the Sub-disciplines of English Studies

In this short span of thirteen years the doctoral research at IASE deal with different sub-disciplines of English Studies. Out of the 110 PhDs, sixty-five (59.10%) are in literary

studies and forty-five (40.90%) are in language studies. These studies are in BL, AL, IEL, NL, CS, L & F, LCT, EL and ELT. These abbreviations are used in the following table.

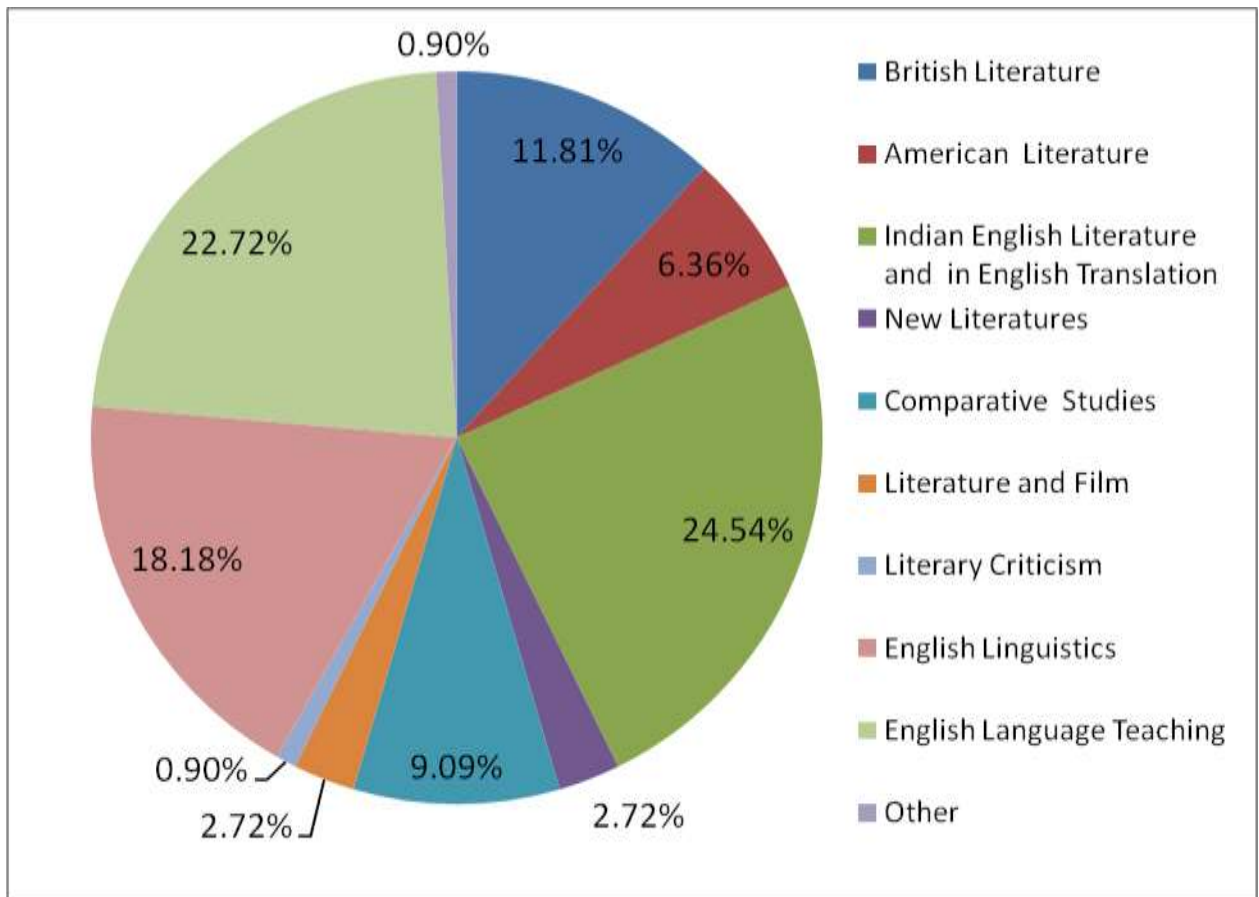
**Table 2 PhD theses at IASE (2005-2017) in the sub-disciplines of English Studies**

Year	No of PhD Theses										Total
	BL	AL	IEL	NL	CS	L & F	LCT	EL	ELT	Other	
2005	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	01	--	01
2006	01	01	03	--	--	01	--	--	--	--	06
2007	--	02	02	01	01	--	--	--	01	01	08
2008	01	--	01	--	01	--	--	01	01	--	05
2009	01	--	02	01	01	01	--	09	03	--	18
2010	02	--	02	--	01	--	--	02	02	--	09
2011	02	--	--	--	01	--	--	02	07	--	12
2012	01	01	06	01	01	--	--	02	02	--	14
2013	01	01	04	--	01	--	01	01	05	--	14
2014	03	02	03	--	--	--	--	01	03	--	12
2015	--	--	--	--	02	--	--	01	--	--	03
2016	01	--	01	--	--	01	--	01	--	--	04
2017	--	--	03	--	01	--	--	--	--	--	04
Total	13	07	27	03	10	03	01	20	25	01	110

A brief scrutiny of 110 PhD theses at IASE during 2005-2017 revealed the following trends.

- i) There are thirteen theses (11.81%) in BL, seven (6.36%) in AL. The number of theses in BL is almost double of the number of theses in AL. The studies in BL and AL are limited to the nineteenth and twentieth century novels and plays. Rudyard Kipling's short stories have been studied. Allen Ginsberg is the only American poet explored for doctoral research.
- ii) Out of the 110 theses, twenty-seven (24.54%) theses are in IEL. The following titles of PhD theses indicate the nature of doctoral studies.
  - a) Nirmale (2010) A Study of Code-Switching and Code-Mixing in the Selected Fictional Work by Indian Writers in English
  - b) Karandikar (2014) A Study of Code-Mixing in Selected Novels in Indian English
 One of the studies in IEL deals with non-fictional writings of Swami Vivekananda. In another research the impact of Indian epics on IEL is assessed. Most of the theses in IEL are related to pragmatics and discourse analysis.
- iii) The research in NL is relatively low with only three theses (2.72%) in it. Novels of Coetzee, Achebe and Ngugi have been studied.

- iv) There are ten (9.09%) theses in CS and three theses (2.72%) are in L & F. These studies include research in science fiction, Indian and American drama. The titles of the following two theses, awarded with a gap of ten years, indicate the major shift in the research in English Studies in India.
- a) Bandal (2006) *Imaging the Word: Visual Interpretations of Psychological Realism in Joseph Conrad and D. H. Lawrence with special reference to Lord Jim, Heart of Darkness, The Rainbow and Women in Love*
- b) Patel (2016) *Books in Motion: A Study of the Adaptations of Four Indian Novels into Films*
- The four novels and films considered here are Chetan Bhagat's *Five Point Someone* and the film '3 Idiots' based on it, *Susanna's Seven Husbands* by Ruskin Bond and the film '7 Khoon Maaf', the novel *Q & A* by Vikas Swarup and the film 'Slumdog Millionaire' and Jhumpa Lahiri's novel *The Namesake* and the film 'The Namesake' .
- v) There is only one thesis is in LCT and another study is on feminist writing in India.
- vi) There are twenty theses (18.18%) in EL. Studies in linguistics at IASE not only include comparative linguistics but also deal with topics like linguistic study of advertisements and political discourse.
- vii) The twenty-five (22.72 %) theses in ELT consider almost every aspect of this sub-discipline from syllabus designing to evaluation procedures.



**Fig. 1** PhDs in English Studies at IASE (2005-2017)

### Studies in Literary Genres

In the literary studies, the researchers generally prefer major forms of literature. It would be worth to know the literary form popular among the researchers of IASE. The studies in the genres - fiction, drama, poetry and prose are considered here.

**Table 3** Form-wise PhDs in English Studies at IASE (2005-2017)

Sr. No.	Sub-disciplines	Novel	Short story	Drama	Poetry	Prose/ other	Total
1	British Literature	06	01	06	--	--	13
2	American Literature	02	--	04	01	--	07
3	Indian English Literature and in English Translation	20	02	03	01	01	27
4	New Literatures	03	--	--	--	--	03
5	Comparative Studies	06	--	04	--	--	10
6	Literature and Film	02	--	--	--	01	03
7	Literary Criticism	--	--	--	--	01	01



8	Other	--	--	--	--	01	01
	Total	39	03	17	02	04	65

From the above table it can be inferred that novel is the most explored literary form for doctoral studies at IASE. The studies in Indian novels (51%) exceed half of the research in this genre while there are only two studies in American novels. Among the three studies in short stories two are on Indian stories while one is on British stories. British plays have been studied by more researchers. Poetry is the least explored major form of literature with only two studies- one in American and another in Indian poetry, respectively. All the studies in new literatures are in fiction and comparative studies are more in novel as compared to drama.

### **The Sample Size of Doctoral Research in English**

The consideration of sample size varies widely in the number of literary works selected for the study. Here we may consider the number of novels and plays considered for a thesis in English Studies. We come across the study of as many as eleven novels in the doctoral thesis ‘Violence in the novels of J. M. Coetzee’ by Mujawar (2012). Similarly, in the thesis ‘Popularity of Popular Literature: A Study in Science Fiction’, Borde (2012) studies six British and American authors and their ten novels. In contrast, Nagane (2013) studies two novels - *Train to Pakistan* and *The Company of Women* for the doctoral thesis ‘A study of illocutionary force and perlocutionary effect in Khushwant Singh’s selected novels.’ Similarly, Rashid (2013) studies two novels - *The Old Man and The Sea* and *For Whom The Bell Tolls* for the thesis ‘Cohesive devices in English and Arabic with analysis of two of Hemingway’s novels and their translations’.

The observations regarding sample size of the doctoral research on drama are not very different. Patil (2006) studies plays by American playwright Arthur Miller and in the comparative study of American and Indian (Marathi) plays Pendse (2010) selects four playwrights and their plays. In the doctoral thesis on American drama by Flefil (2013) nine plays by four playwrights have been studied. Paradoxically, Rashed (2014) studies only two Shakespearean plays for the thesis ‘The Major Social and Political Forces in Shakespearean Drama: A Study in *Hamlet* and *The Merchant of Venice*.’

Here one may fail to understand the requirement of the maximum or minimum literary works to be explored for the doctoral research.

### **Authors Considered for the Doctoral Research**

The authors considered for the doctoral studies are not easily known through the titles of some PhD theses. Some examples from the list of PhD achievers of IASE are given below.

- i) Sabiha Shaikh (2006) A Study of Politeness in Indian Fiction in English

- ii) Lokhandwala (2006) A Study of Nativisation in Five Indian Novels in English
- iii) P. R. Bhabad (2007) Exploitation of Non-Verbal Strategies in Indian English Novels

The following analysis (see Table 4) is carried out excluding the above mentioned studies.

**Table 4 Authors studied more than once for PhD at IASE**

Sr. No.	Author	Gender	Nationality	Form	No. of Theses	Rank
1	Arthur Miller	Male	American	Drama	02	V
2	Arundhati Roy	Female	Indian	Novel	06	I
3	Eugene O'Neill	Male	American	Drama	02	V
4	George Bernard Shaw	Male	British	Drama	02	V
5	Girish Karnad	Male	Indian	Drama	04	III
6	Mulk Raj Anand	Male	Indian	Fiction	05	II
7	Shobha De	Female	Indian	Fiction	05	II
8	Thomas Hardy	Male	British	Novel	03	IV
9	William Shakespeare	Male	British	Drama	02	V

Thomas Hardy, the British novelist has been studied thrice for doctoral research. Among the British dramatists, there are two studies each on William Shakespeare and George Bernard Shaw. Similarly, the American dramatists Arthur Miller and Eugene O'Neill have been studied twice each. Girish Karnad, the Indian playwright, has been most researched on. Arundhati Roy is the Indian woman novelist who has been explored in six theses for doctoral studies. Mulk Raj Anand and Shobha De have been studied for their novels as well as short stories. There are four doctoral studies each on their novels and one study apiece is on short stories. Here it is to be noted that Damodar (1993) had mentioned Mulk Raj Anand as the most popular writer in IEL for research at KU.

### Research Guidance by the Supervisors

During these thirteen years of doctoral research at IASE, twenty research guides were associated with the institute. They have supervised the research work of a number of scholars on the variety of topics. Here is a modest attempt to acknowledge their contribution to the English Studies.

**Table 5 Guide-wise distribution of PhD theses at IASE**

Sr. No.	Name of the Guide	No. of scholars guided	Sr. No.	Name of the Guide	No. of scholars guided
1	Simon Bernabas	04	11	Arjun Patil	01
2	Shirish Chindhade	06	12	Pitamber Patil	05



3	Silloo Chopra	04		13	SmitaPatil	09
4	Shridhar Gokhale	02		14	Vinay Deep Rathi	04
5	Grace Jacob	01		15	Shubhangi Raykar	01
6	Arjun Jadhav	01		16	Supriya Sahasrabuddhe	09
7	Bhausahab Jarange	05		17	Vilas Salunke	01
8	Anand Kulkarni	05		18	Prabha Sampath	01
9	Munira Lokhandwala	11		19	Ashok Thorat	27
10	Muktaja Matakari	01		20	BalchandraValke	12

Among the supervisors, eight women have guided thirty-seven (33.63%) research scholars whereas their twelve male counterparts have supervised seventy-three (66.37%) theses. Among women supervisors Dr. Smita Patil and Dr. Supria Sahasrabuddhe have guided nine research scholars each while Dr. Munira Lokhandwala has guided eleven research scholars. Among the male supervisors, Dr. Balchandra Valke has guided twelve research scholars and Dr. Shirish Chindhade has guided six research scholars while Dr Ashok Thorat has guided the largest number of research scholars, i.e. twenty-seven (24.54%). Here we may consider the titles of the PhD theses guided Dr. Ashok Thorat (see Table 6).

**Table 6 PhD Theses supervised at IASE by Dr. Ashok Thorat**

Sr. No.	Year	Researcher	Title of the Thesis	Area of Study
1	2006	Lokhandwala Munira Abbas	Study of Nativisation in Five Indian Novels in English	IEL
2	2006	Shaikh Sabiha Mohammad Ismail	Study of Politeness in Indian Fiction in English	IEL
3	2007	Haji Javadi Maryam	A Study of Politeness and Cooperativeness in Conversation with Special Reference to Selected Novels of William Faulkner	AL
4	2007	Poothongoen Wirat	Problems of English Language Learning Teaching in Higher Secondary School: the case Study in Yangtalat District Kalasin Province Thailand	ELT
5	2008	Gokhale Madhuri S.	Verb Phrase in Indian English	EL
6	2008	Jadhav Arjun Dashrath	Study of Speech Acts in Mulk Raj Ananda's <i>Untouchable</i> and <i>Coolie</i> .	IEL
7	2009	Ahmed Abdelrahman Ahmed Hassan	Study of the Process of Teaching and Learning English Vocabulary within the Second Language Context	ELT

8	2009	Aziza Saleh Mabrook AI- Zabidi	Linguistic Analysis of Errors made in written English by Yemeni Students	ELT
9	2009	Pharmaha Khunakorn Khongchana	Thai - English Code - Mixing: A Case Study of the Use of English by Thai Students studying in the Faculty of Humanities at Naresuan University, Phitsanulok	EL
10	2010	Sameer Hameed Ahmed Saeed	Reassessing Translation Programs in Yemeni National Universities: Towards a Model Translation Program	ELT
11	2011	Almarfadi Saleh Ahmed	The image of imperialism in English literature with special reference to Conrad's <i>Heart of Darkness</i> and Achebe's <i>Things Fall Apart</i>	CS
12	2011	Hussein Musa Kadhim	A Semantic Study of 'Purpose ' in Modern Standard English and Modern Standard Arabic: A Contrastive Analysis	EL
13	2011	Muyyad Omram Chaid	Conventional Correspondence and E-mails Distinguishable Text Types: a Comparative Study	EL
14	2011	Shinde Vaishali Jayaprakash	Linguistic analysis of advertisements in print and audio media: a Comparative Study	EL
15	2011	Yomyao Adisak	A Critical Study of English Language Teaching in Higher Vocational Schools in Thailand: A case study of English language Teaching in higher vocational schools in Chiangrai Province	ELT
16	2012	Bhattacharjee Krishnanjan	English Discourse Analysis and Information Categorization: A Semantic Pragmatic Analysis	EL
17	2012	Manaal Jassim Mohammad	The use of Rhetorical structure theory in political Editorials: A Contrastive Study of Text Analysis With Special Reference to its Application as Text Based Generation	EL
18	2012	Patil Nivrutty Namdeo	A Study of Speech Situations in Rama Mehta's <i>Inside The Haveli</i> Arundhati Roy's <i>The God of Small Things</i> and Kiran Desai's <i>The Inheritance of Loss</i>	IEL
19	2013	Bushra Nima Rashid	Cohesive Devices in English and Arabic with Analysis of Hemingway's Novels and Their Translation	CS
20	2013	Ahmed Mohammed S.	Taboo Words and Euphemism in English and Arabic: A Contrastive Study	EL
21	2014	Choudhary	A Critical Study of the Syllabus and the	ELT

		Shruti Prakash	Textbook of Std I for Non English Medium Schools as Tools for Developing Adequate Oracy as Prerequisite for Literacy	
22	2014	Mohammad Naji Hussain	A Study of the Victim-Victimizer Relationship in Victorian Fiction with Special Reference to Thomas Hardy's Novels	BL
23	2014	Phra Kittisak Jarphan	A Study of the Problems in Teaching and Learning English as a Foreign Language at the Upper Secondary School Level: The Case Study in Muang District, Suphanburi Province, Thailand	ELT
24	2015	Karmarkar Muckta Anand	Discourse Analysis of Indian Parliamentary Debates with Special Reference to Wit and Humour	EL
25	2016	Patel Swagat Kunjban	Books in Motion: A Study of the Adaptations of Four Indian Novels into Films	L & F
26	2016	Lakde Satish Vishwambar	Violation of Co-operative Principle in the Great Speeches of Barack Obama	EL
27	2017	Misbah Ansari	A Study of Indirect Speech Acts in selected works of Four Immigrant Writers	CS

Thus, the list of PhD theses supervised by Dr. Ashok Thorat reveals the variety in the topics of doctoral research at IASE which ranges from literary analysis to language use and applied linguistics. On the other hand, the titles of the theses supervised by Prof. V Saraswathi focus more on English Language Teaching. Prof. P.A. Attar's focus is on literary studies (see Table 7). The titles of the theses supervised by these three senior scholars may be comparatively viewed.

**Table 7 PhD Theses supervised by Prof. V Saraswathi and Prof. P.A. Attar**

<b>PhD Theses supervised by Prof. V Saraswathi (University of Madras)</b>				
Sr. No.	Year	Name of the Scholar	Title of the research topic	Area of Study
1	1991	V Padma	Towards a Curricular Alternative in the Teaching and Learning of English Literatures: Tertiary Level	ELT
2	1993	Revathi Viswanathan	Towards the Self- Directed Learning of English: An Experimental Study at the Undergraduate Level	ELT
3	1997	Noor Jehan Kother Adham	Towards Teacher Development through Learner Materials: An Applied Linguistics Study	ELT

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4	2001	P Ramanujan	Towards an Evaluative Framework for General English Textbook Selection: A Study in the Undergraduate Context in Nagarjuna University	ELT
5	2001	Rita Jacob Cherian	Towards an Alternative Curriculum for English Literature Students at the Tertiary Level	ELT
6	2001	S Charumathi	Towards a Meta-Fictional Approach: A Study of Malcolm Lowri's Novels	BL
<b>PhD Theses supervised by Prof. P. A. Attar (Shivaji University, Kolhapur)</b>				
1	2002	V. A. Rankhambe	The Fiction of M. M. Kaye: A Critical Study	BL
2	2004	U. R. Chavan	The Fiction of Audrey Thomas: A Critical Study	NL
3	2006	S. R. Ghatge	The Novels of Fay Weldon: A Critical Study	BL
4	2009	H. B. Patil	The Novels of Hugh MacLennan: A Thematic Study	NL
5	2010	S. Y. Hongekar	The Novels of Matt Cohen: A Thematic Study	AL

(Based on Tasildar 2013:13)

### Contribution of IASE to the doctoral research in English Studies

Vyas and Joshi (2013) surveyed 909 theses in the subject of English till 2012 in twelve universities in Maharashtra. The number of theses in English in SPPU was 120 and the number of guides was thirty (Vyas and Joshi, 2013: 23). After its establishment in 1949, the first PhD in English at SPPU was awarded in 1958. The IASE was established in 2003 and the first PhD was declared in 2005. The research output till 2013 at IASE has been compared with that of SPPU. The data for SPPU output is taken from Londhe (2014).

**Table 8 Year-wise distribution of PhD theses at SPPU and IASE**

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Total
SPPU	14	14	17	10	27	15	22	17	30	166
IASE	01	06	08	05	18	09	12	14	14	87

From the above table it is clear that the share of IASE in the research productivity in English Studies at SPPU during 2015-2013 is just above the half of the total research in English at SPPU, i.e. 52.40 %. Hence it would be worth to consider the contribution of IASE in the sub-disciplines of English Studies.

**Table 9 Comparison of PhDs in English during 2005 and 2013 at SPPU and IASE**

	No of PhD Theses											Total
	BL	AL	IEL	NL	CS	TS	L & F	LCT	EL	ELT	Other	
SPPU	19	19	40	03	14	01	02	04	17	42	05	166

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IASE	09	05	20	03	07	--	02	01	17	23	--	87
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TS= Translations Studies

The present study highlights the contribution of IASE in the research output of SPPU. It is important to mention that two theses in L & F awarded by SPPU during the said period are from IASE. Here it needs to be clarified that apart from the research in EL at IASE, there are three more studies at SPPU. But three studies at IASE are not mentioned in the SPPU list by Lokhande (2014) and hence it appears that there is no research in EL at the Department of English of SPPU during the period. The academic output at IASE is 50% in IEL and CS. The contribution of IASE in ELT research is 54.76%.

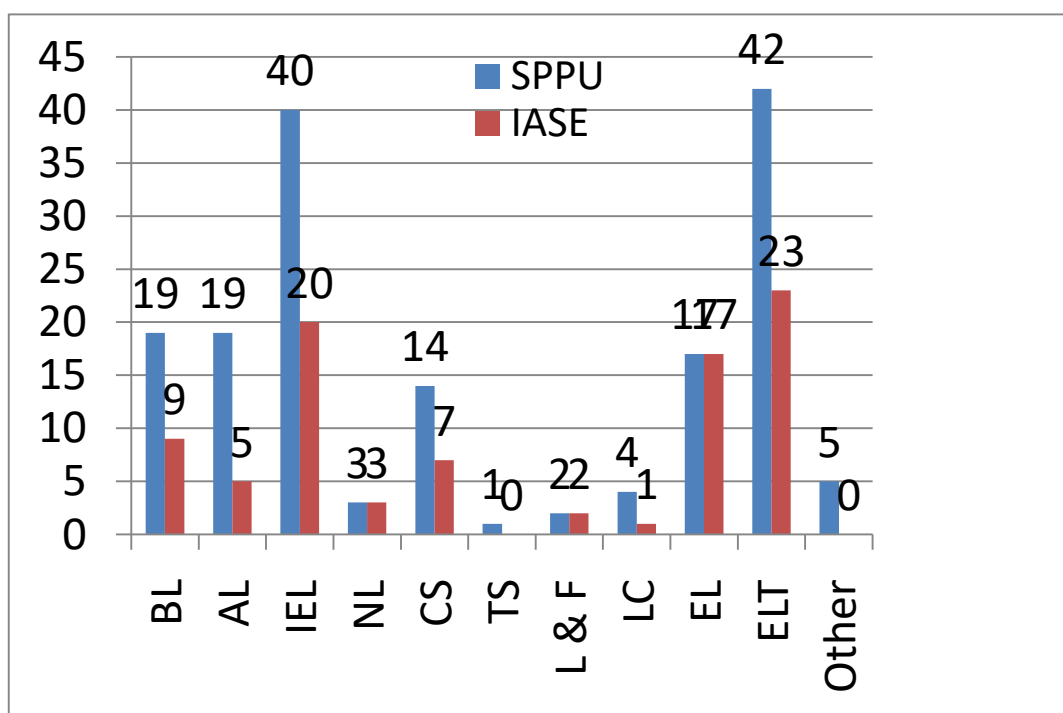


Fig. 2 Number of PhDs in English Studies at SPPU and IASE (2005 - 2013)

### Conclusion

In this representative example, we find glimpses of developments in doctoral research in English Studies in India. In this analysis of doctoral research at IASE, it is found that sixty-five (59.10%) theses are in literary studies and forty-five (40.90%) are in language studies. Most of the doctoral studies in IEL and CS are related to pragmatics and discourse analysis. In comparison with the previous studies [e.g. Damodar (1993)] one may find that the emphasis on research in AL has been reduced. The shift in the emphasis of research seems to be on EL and ELT. Studies in EL and ELT at IASE are mostly related to the countries like Iran, Iraq, Yemen, Indonesia and Thailand. One of the prominent features of doctoral research at IASE is the application of pragmatics to literary works as well as non-

literary texts. For example, Dr. Ashok Thorat has guided theses on Indian parliamentary debates and the speeches of Barak Obama.

Fiction, the most explored major form of literature in the studies by Damodar (1993) and Vyas and Joshi (2013), remains the most explored genre at IASE as well. Arundhati Roy, Mulk Raj Anand, Shobha De and Girish Karnad are the most popular authors for doctoral research at IASE. The poetry is the least explored major form of literature. Along with British and American poetry, there is scope to study poetry in New Literatures.

Thus, this study underscores the role of a research institute in the research productivity of its affiliating university.

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