#### **CHAPTER IV**

### PROFILE OF THE INSTITUTIONS

#### 4. 1 Cotton University

Cotton University is a premier institute of higher learning in Assam. It was originally named as Cotton College which was founded in 1901 by Sir Henry Stedman Cotton, the Chief Commissioner of the then British province of Assam. The college had been the centre of the freedom movement as well as numerous literary and cultural engagements of the state that cemented Assam's status as an integral component of India. The unwavering goal of the institution is to develop an inclusive campus community where students may acquire the skills necessary to emerge into elite citizens for a powerful country and to meet contemporary issues. To give its students the most comprehensive education possible and to foster the knowledge and creative solidarity necessary for a thriving academic community, the university will work to rank among the top HEIs in the nation that address global needs (Cotton University, n.d.).

In the beginning, the college had 39 students and five professors, among them Frederick William Sudmersen, who served as the first principal of the institution. It was affiliated with Calcutta University before incorporating Gauhati University as a constituent institution in 1948. After that the college was designated as a centre of excellence and converted to a post-graduate institution on October 16, 1992. Cotton College State University was established via an Act of the Act of the Government of (Act XIX of 2011). On September 3, 2011, the Governor of Assam gave his assent to the act, and Prof. Dhrubajyoti Saikia, a Professor at the National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA) and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), was nominated as the first Vice Chancellor of the university. Afterwards, on March 2, 2017, the Assam Legislative Assembly passed a measure as the Cotton University Act, 2017, which fully combined the University and the College (*Cotton University*, n.d.).

The university offers courses ranging from the HSSLC in the Science and Arts stream to PhD studies in every postgraduate field.

### 4.1.1 Dr. Suryya Kumar Bhuyan Library: Cotton University

One of the oldest libraries in the Northeast was founded in 1901, concurrently with the founding of Cotton University and known as the Dr. Suryya Kumar Bhuyan Library. In 1909–1910, the library held roughly two thousand volumes. It increased to more than 5,000

by 1915. In 2022, the library's collection includes around 1.2 lakh volumes, printed periodicals, and reference books, among other items.

The library was named after Dr. Suryya Kumar Bhuyan, a versatile genius who had served the college as a Professor of English and Principal for a few years. The new library building was formally inaugurated on May 29, 2001, by Sri Tarun Gogoi, the former chief minister of Assam and was named the Centenary building of the college.

### **4.1.1.1 Collection of the Library**

SL No.	Items	Quantity
1	Text Books	1,26,207
2	Reference books	3,299
3	Printed Journals	32
4	Periodicals	42
5	News Papers	14_
6	Reports	622
7	Bound volumes	3014
8	Maps	50

Millions of electronic resources, including academic journals, e-journals, eBooks, magazines, news papers, reports, reviews, biographies, primary source documents, non-print resources, trade publications, pamphlets, government documents, dissertations, and more, are also accessible through the library in addition to all the printed materials. (Cotton University, n.d.-c)

#### 4.1.1.2 Library Services

- OPAC via LAN: Access Library catalogue within the campus.
- Internet & E-mail
- Offline CD-ROM Databases
- E-Resource Centre
- Inter-Library loan
- Reprographic Facilities
- Monthly Book Display
- Display of Current Book List
- Career Literature
- Departmental Library Facility
- Suggestion Box
- User Orientation
- Library user guidebook
- Information Display Notice Board

- News Board
- Content list service
- Digital Display. (*Cotton University*, n.d.-c)

### 4.1.2 Cotton University Plagiarism Policy

The Cotton University has implemented different policies in pursuant to the Res. No EC/2023/29/2 of the Executive council in its 29<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 22 June, 2023. They have different set of guidelines for In-house Research Projects, Departmental projects and theses. They mentioned that in their website that it is mandatory to test for plagiarism by standard software available in the library. The guidelines of the UGC regarding plagiarism limit will also applicable to the research works. The Cotton University used Ouriginal (Urkund) software for plagiarism detection. They also offer services like online Google form request form for Access to Ouriginal (Urkund) -Web Based Plagiarism Detection Software (*Cotton University*, n.d.). The research policies of Cotton University are as follows:

#### **4.1.2.1 Preamble**

Cotton University is dedicated to encouraging staff, students, and professors to have a sustainable research culture. Any institution or university that wants to conduct high-quality research must have a comprehensive research policy that creates a supportive atmosphere for both academic staff and researchers. Universities, being seen as neutral and influential, are in an ideal position to promote and lead the cross-sectoral implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by offering an irreplaceable source of expertise in research and education. In the modern world, universities' roles are becoming more inclusive and embracing their ability to work with communities and governments to make a positive impact on society. With a long history, Cotton University began as a teaching-focused educational institution, took on the mission of knowledge creation (research), and more recently devoted itself to the third purpose of engaging with the political and social arena. o achieve the goals for a sustainable future, Cotton University therefore aspires to generate, translate, and disseminate knowledge as well as collaborate with policy-makers and other stakeholders to identify policy priorities and problems, evaluate policy options, set policies into practice, and assess policies. As part of its mission to promote opportunities for lifelong learning for all, the institution also supports equitable access to higher educational opportunities through outreach, innovation, and research initiatives. The goal of Cotton University's research policy is to support and encourage all of its students' aptitude for research and innovation while also serving as a vehicle for advancement and social outreach. The rules make sure that all research activities are guided by the University's Mission and Vision statements (*Cotton University*, n.d.).

## 4.1.2.2 Policy Statement of research activities:

The research policy statements of Cotton University are as follows:

- (i) Cotton University's research policy aims to establish the institution as a pioneer of comprehensive, multidisciplinary education in the area through research, innovation, and societal engagement. This will facilitate the creation of collaborative knowledge, also known as knowledge co-production or co-creation, which has the potential to increase the impact of research on society through flexible, locally adaptable partnerships.
- (ii) The policy also emphasizes the pursual of cutting-edge basic, targeted, and/or applied, multi and inter-disciplinary research in all domains of its studies.
- (iii) The policy aspires to promote interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary research by encouraging and undertaking such collaborative research projects among the University faculties, in line with the National Education Policy 2020, and to set up Interdisciplinary and Multi-disciplinary Research Centres, specialized for this purpose.
- (iv) The research policy fosters and supports partnerships with relevant national, international, and regional academic and research institutions as well as with stakeholders, communities, non-governmental organisations, and the private sector.
- (v) It also fosters industry-university interactions by means of its innovative research and social impact, both of which are extremely pertinent to the industry.
- (vi) It aims to conduct such advanced research in a transparent, accountable, and ethical manner (under the purview of the University's Institutional Human Ethical Committee, Institutional Bio-Safety Committee and Institutional Animal Ethics Committee as required and deem fit).
- (vii) By awarding study leave, special leave, sabbatical leave, duty leave, etc. and by offering seed money, best research award, incentives, funding for outreach

- activities, etc., it helps to promote a research culture among deserving members.
- (viii) The policy encourages the University to set up several advanced labs and instruments, including a Central Instrumentation Centre (CIF), in order to support high-caliber research outputs.
  - (ix) The research policy of the University facilitates the establishment of a dedicated Research and Development Cell (RDC), as mandated by UGC, which in turn is governed by the Research Advisory Council (RAC) for providing proper coordination and for facilitating all research activities of the University. (Notification No. CU/R&D/RDC/2022/08/01 dated 05.05.2022)
  - (x) It promotes the University's researchers to publish their successful studies in peer-reviewed academic publications and makes it easier for them to present their findings at conferences, seminars, and workshops, among other academic gatherings.
  - (xi) It also makes sure that the results of this kind of study are appropriately shared to impact audiences worldwide and be applied to improve society.
- (xii) The policy protects the information that has been created as well as developed procedures, technologies, and products through Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) to the inventor(s).
- (xiii) The policy is equally applicable to all university staff members and students who participate in any kind of university-sponsored research..
- (xiv) This research policy also gives individual university researchers total autonomy over how they choose and pursue their research, including interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research, and how they collaborate with other researchers within or outside the institution.
- (xv) The policy also allows researchers to freely express their opinions, theories, and conclusions regarding their findings in research reports; however, they must acknowledge and mention Cotton University as the source of these reports, which include books, research papers, articles, book chapters, technical reports, and any reports that are available online or offline.
- (xvi) The policy emphasises the importance of adhering to ethics in research and firmly prohibits any form of misconduct, falsification, plagiarism, and dishonesty in study by its researchers..

- (xvii) The policy offers a set of distinct rules for carrying out research, particularly as part of university-sponsored research projects and consulting assignments.

  (https://cottonuniversity.ac.in/storage/uploads/pdf/f6107815cf02e07182f9c68
  9 25c85aee.pdf).
- (xviii) The policy makes it easier to compile information from student and teacher research projects and work into a database so that their progress may be effectively tracked and analyses year after year.
  - (xix) The policy aims to establish an innovation ecosystem through an innovation and incubation centre and an entrepreneurship development centre for the production, transfer, and distribution of information.
  - (xx) The policy also guarantees the researchers the utmost safety in all aspects, particularly in the wet chemical, advanced instrumentation, and biological laboratories, following the standard chemical, biological, etc. standards. (*Cotton University*, n.d.)

### 4.2 Gauhati University

After being established by an Act of 1947, Gauhati University began processes on January 26, 1948, as a teaching, affiliated, and residential university in Guwahati with K. K. Handique as the first Vice-Chancellor and Phanidhar Dutta, Sailandhar Rajkhowa and Sarat Kumar Dutta as the Registrar, Treasurer and Secretary of University Classes respectively. The mission of the university is to improve the social, economic, cultural, moral, and spiritual well-being of the people of Assam. Gauhati University is an affiliated teaching-only university that oversees the whole state of Assam. It has 39 postgraduate departments along with its affiliation with 341 institutions offering programmes in the subjects of commerce, law, technology, engineering, medicine, and the arts and sciences and other professional fields. GU is a participant in both the Association of Commonwealth Universities and the Association of Indian Universities. The University Grants Commission provides development grants to it, and the Government of Assam provides annual financial grants. (*Gauhati University*, n.d.).

The university also has a vibrant group of learners that is home to a large number of groups, clubs, and organisations. It has functioned as the Think Tank for the advancement of the Assamese Society throughout the university's existence. Gauhati University has been ranked top in the state for six years in a row and is an NAAC A-Grade institution. It has been chosen

to receive the esteemed NSS Award for 2019–20. As the largest and oldest university in the Northeast, GU embodies the intellectual and cultural heritage of this region. It has produced several well-known intellectuals, researchers, and personnel who have had significant influence on the development of the field of research (*Gauhati University*, n.d.).

### 4.2.1 Krishna Kanta Handiqui Library: Gauhati University

The Krishna Kanta Handiqui Library is the central library of Gauhati University, serving as a hub for education, research, and information sharing for faculty members, researchers, and students. Being a valuable resource for the academic community in the area, the library boasts an extensive collection of books, periodicals, and other materials. In 1948, the library was established as the same year the University was established. It began as a little, tiny library, but it has since expanded in both size and significance. After the demise of Professor K. K. Handiqui, the first vice-chancellor, the university library was renamed the K. K. Handiqui Library. The library is fortunate to have as a priceless and unique treasure Prof. Handiqui's personal collection of 7,593 books which is an invaluable addition to the library. The collection contains books in 11 (eleven) different languages, such as English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Latin, Pali, Prakrit, Russian, Sanskrit and Spanish.

#### **4.2.1.1** Collection of the Library

The Gauhati University has the following holdings (*Gauhati University*, n.d.-a):

SL No.	Items	Quantity
1	Books	2,78,107
2	Bound Periodicals	34,495
3	PhD Theses	5,623
4	Report literature	4,276
5	Dissertations	7,601
6	Manuscripts	4,500
7	Digitized Manuscripts	1,50,000
8	Digitized Theses	9,52,524

# **4.2.1.2** Special collections of the library

- K.K. Handiqui Collection
- Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Corner
- Vivekananda Corner
- Gandhi Collection
- Dr. Maheswar Neog Collection
- Aurobindo Corner

- Nehru Corner
- Women's Corner
- Collection of Manuscripts on Sanchipat, Tulapat etc.
- Back Volumes of Journals and Selected Newspapers
- Textbook Corner
- NE Corner
- UN Corner
- Thailand Corner (*Gauhati University*, n.d.-a)

# 4.2.2 Gauhati University Plagiarism Policy

The Gauhati University library offers a variety of programmes and events in addition to its normal services to encourage its patrons' research endeavours and reading habits. The library hosts workshops, new student orientation programmes, and other academic events to enhance users' ability to conduct awareness on plagiarism as well as on IPR frequently. The library hosts Ouriginal (Urkund) software to detect plagiarism.

### 4.3 Dibrugarh University

The Dibrugarh University Act, 1965, which was passed by the Assam Legislative Assembly, led to the establishment of Dibrugarh University, the easternmost university in India, in 1965. his esteemed university, which is focused on innovation and research, serves as a spatial slot to shape the socio-cultural dynamics of north-eastern India. The University supports a wide range of endeavours centred upon theory, thought, and reflection. The University provides vibrant educational experiences that equip the next generation to lead, make a difference, and ultimately contribute to society at large owing to its strong global connections in teaching and research programmes. The University has 177 associated institutions and institutes scattered over nine districts of Assam. Dibrugarh University is a member of the Association of Indian Universities and is recognised by all the universities in India and abroad (*Dibrugarh University*, n.d.).

The University currently has seven faculties of studies. It was founded primarily as a research, teaching, affiliating, and examining body engaged in promoting the arts, sciences, commerce, engineering, and other fields of learning. The academic programmes are: Fculty of Humanities and Law, Faculty of Social Sciences, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Science and Engineering, Faculty of Commerce and Management Science, Faculty of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Earth Sciences and Energy (About Us- Dibrugarh University, 2020).

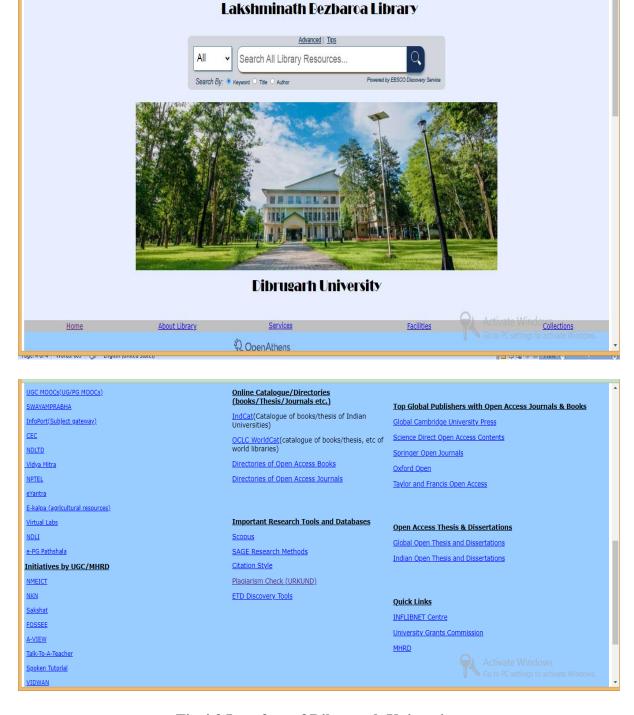


Fig 4.3 Interface of Dibrugarh University

### 4.3.1 Lakshminath Bezboroa Library: Dibrugarh University

The Dibrugarh University was founded in 1965, but the university library didn't exist until the month of April 1967. At that time, it was housed in a room in the D.H.S.K. Commerce College in Dibrugarh and had just 997 books. This tiny library was situated next to the Institute of Education, which was once known as the Department of Education. The library

was relocated from D.H.S.K. Commerce College to the new permanent university campus at Rajabheta between August and September of the same year, and is now situated in an old tea factory with other departments and administrative blocks. The library was steadily stepping up its services and offerings, and by the end of 1982, its total collection had surpassed 1,00000 books. Initially, two L. D. Assistants and recently recruited Deputy Librarian, Mr. Ramesh Phukan, served these small groups of users. Under the capable leadership of Mr. Ramesh Phukan, an M.A. with a Diploma in Library Science from BHU, the library at Dibrugarh University got off to a great start. Mr. Phukan had extensive experience working as the Senior Deputy Librarian of the State Central Library in Shillong, under the famous Assamese librarian Mr. Ram Goswami renowned in his stature as a library professional of Assam. (Dibrugarh University, n.d.)

# **4.3.1.1** Collection of the Library

The LNB Library currently holds:

SL No.	Items	Quantity
1	Books	1,94,340
2	Periodicals	143
3	Bound Journals	22,685
4	CD/DVD	750
5	Theses	5,000
6	Newspapers	21
7	E-journals	10,000+
8	E-books	7,000
9	Maps	53

### 4.3.1.2 Special Collections of the Library

- North East Collection
- Gandhian Collection
- Nobel Lauriat Collection
- Reference Collection
- Newspaper Collection
- Children's Book Collection (Proposed)
- Govt. of Assam's Statistical Reports
- NSS reports
- Commonwealth reports (*Dibrugarh University*, n.d.)

### 4.3.2 Dibrugarh University Plagiarism Policy

Dibrugarh University strives to be recognized as a leading institution in India and abroad by virtue of her ability to deliver qualitative research through all her faculties. They have mentioned that utmost integrity should be maintained by a researcher when the results of experimental and field works are analysed and reported. Plagiarism and data manipulation are some of the ethical issues related to the research activities of the university that need to be addressed with strict guidelines. It is to be reiterated to both students and the faculty that the university has to maintain the academic standard and integrity in research and for that it needs to follow vigilant and strict regulations. Further the university is abiding by the rules and with the standards of anti-plagiarism as prescribed by the INFLIBNET. The University follows Urkund as plagiarism detection software. (*Dibrugarh University*, n.d.).

#### **DU Guidelines for Check Plagiarism**

- (i) Dibrugarh University maintains the view that Plagiarism is unethical and illegal and considers 0% tolerance in all kinds of research output of the University except in the cases as mentioned below in the Clause No. 3 of their guideline.
- (ii) The thesis & dissertations of Dibrugarh University must undergo a Plagiarism Check by anti-plagiarism software URKUND or any other software approved by the UGC/INFLIBNET Centre.
- (iii) The exclusion at the time of performing the plagiarism check should be limited to the following which may constitute maximum of 20% of the thesis.
  - (a) Quotes with proper citations
  - (b) Bibliography/References
  - (c) Phrases with proper citations
  - (d) Small matches up to 10 words
  - (e) Mathematical Formula /Established & defined Laws
  - (f) Name of Institutions, Departments etc.
  - (g) Small similarity less than 1%
- (iv) In the case where a published work / article of the Scholar becomes a Part / chapter / block of the thesis and is detected as plagiarism in the check (Self-Plagiarism), a 'Self Plagiarism Exclusion Certificate' has to be issued by the Supervisor specifying that the work has been published by the Scholar from his thesis work and duly acknowledged in the thesis. At the same time, if the published work / article of the

Scholar have Co-Author(s), a 'Self Plagiarism Co-Authors Certificate' has to be issued by the Co-Authors. Only these articles would be excluded from the check. No other article of the Scholar would be excluded from the check. The copy of the published work / article should be attached with the CD for reference during the final plagiarism check in the LNB Library, DU. Even if a Self Plagiarism Exclusion Certificate is attached; the title, primary objective and the final result of the thesis shall not be the exact replica with that of the published work/article.

- (v) The Supervisor along with the Scholar will perform plagiarism check of the whole research work or part of the research work as many times as they feel need be by using Supervisor's User ID. But, the final Plagiarism check must be done from the Central Library using University Coordinator's (Librarian) account. The University Coordinator will certify the final plagiarism check report generated by the antiplagiarism software. This is essential so that the correct Plagiarism Check Report is submitted at the time of thesis submission.
- (vi) The LNB Library will issue a certificate called 'Plagiarism Verification Certificate' after final Plagiarism Check is done, authenticating the check performed by the Scholar. This certificate has to be submitted along with the software generated Plagiarism Check Report to the Examination Branch during submission of the thesis (Academic Regulations Dibrugarh University, 2023).

### 4.4 Assam Women's University

The university was established by the State Legislature of Assam's Act XXII of 2013 as a State University, as announced by Notification LGL. 149/2011/92 dated August 21, 2013. It has the authority to grant degrees in accordance with UGC regulations under section 22 of the UGC Act 1956 through its own departments. The mission of the university is to empowerment of young women in the state, nation, and region through education and skill-building by delivering value-based, intellectual education and preparing the female workforce for social and economic change via the integration of science, commerce, humanity, and other relevant knowledge channels and skills. At present, Assam Women's University has fifteen (15) departments under Five Schools viz, School of Human Sciences, School of Social Science & Humanities, School of Media, Technology and Information Sciences, School of Languages and Literature Studies and School of Management Sciences with 849 students in total. The literature and languages departments like Assamese and English is providing

excellent skills to the students in equipping them with critical language and analytical capacities (*Assam Women's University*, n.d.).



Fig 4.4 Interface of Assam Women's University

### 4.4.1 Central Library: Assam Women's University

The Assam Women's University Central Library has been in existence since the university's founding in 2014, but it only began operating in 2015. The Assam-styled library is housed within the University's current lush green surroundings. The library began its journey in 2015 with modest beginnings and has since expanded to become a wealth of knowledge. Over the years, the library has taken delight in fulfilling and continuing its intrinsic objective of women's education to the fullest. With the active involvement of university teachers and students, the library has been stepping up its programmes and services. The university is also a member of the National Digital Library Consortium (*AWU | Library*, n.d.).

### **4.4.1.1** Collection of the Library

SL No.	Items	Quantity
1	Books	3,849
2	Newspapers	10
3	CD/DVD	23
4	Report literature	157

### 4.4.2 Assam Women's University Plagiarism Policy

Assam Women's university is consistently working on the changing socio-economic realities and challenges in the contemporary era. It also has to come into collaborations with various

reputed institutions like Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University, Educational Multimedia Research Centre (EMRC), Dibrugarh University, National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology, Guwahati, Regional Institute of English-North-East, ISchool, Save the Children (Bal Raksha Bharat), and FIPRESCI-India, Kolkata etc. through MoUs to exchange knowledge and thus stay relevant in a rapidly evolving pedagogical and technological environment. Assam Women's University aims to always provide a safe, secure and a free environment to its students. (*Assam Women's University*, n.d.).

Assam Women's University has started to offer their PhD programmes in various departments from June, 2023 only. So there is no data available on their websites regarding the plagiarism policy under the university. But as they have mentioned procedures for the admission and award of PhD Degree shall be in accordance with WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS FOR THE RESEARCH COUNCIL AND FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (Ph.D.) 2022. In terms of plagiarism they are strictly abide by the UGC regulations. To build confidence the university has recently established different cells and committees for counselling from stakeholders and to address issues and grievances alike. They have developed an important Tripod comprising Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Cell, IPR Cell and Innovation and Incubation Cell. If any subsequent amendments in the University Ordinance/UGC guidelines shall be follow or when such changes are made will be notified (AWU | Act, Ordinances, Rules & Policies, n.d.)

### 4.5 Madhabdev University

Madhabdev University is a public state university located in Narayanpur, Assam. The university is established by an act of Madhabdev University Act 2017, which was passed by the Government of Assam on 7 September 2017. It was created by upgrading Madhabdev College, Lakhimpur as a University to constitute and established a teaching, research oriented, affiliating and partially-residential university at Lakhimpur. Sri Sri Madhavdev, a significant Ekasarana Dharma preceptor renowned for his devotion to his master, Srimanta Sankardev, is the reason it has that name. (*Madhabdev University*, 2023)



Fig 4.5 Interface of Madhabdev University

### 4.5.1 Central Library: Madhabdev University

The Madhabdev University Library was founded in 1964 concurrently with the founding of Madhabdev College. It is a fully automated library with excellent equipment that covers every area of study in the major disciplines of Science, Social sciences as well as literature. The library is located in front of the University's main gate having a Carpet Area of 6000 Sq ft (both Stack Area and Reading Room). It provides very strong support in terms of providing Library and Information Services to its user fraternity within the Campus as well as plans have been initiated to provide innovative services like Digital Reference Services and Electronic Document Delivery Services beyond the four walls of the library. IR (Institutional Repository) / Digital Library of Madhabdev University is now initiated.

# 4.5.1.1 Collection of the Library

SL No.	Items	Quantity
1	Books	25675
2	E-books	N-List
3	E-Journals	N-List
4	Dissertations	

### 4.5.1.2 Special collection of the Library

- Textbook corner
- Periodical corner
- Reference corner,

- Dissertation corner
- Sankardeva & Madhabdeva study corner
- Tribal study corner
- Competitive Examination Corner

## **4.5.1.3** General Services of the Library

- Orientation Programme for fresher
- Bar-coded ID card
- OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue) Service
- Automated Circulation: Issue/Return/Reservation/ Renewal
- Reference Service including Digital Reference
- Reprographic Services
- WiFi Library Campus.
- Display of New Arrivals (Books)
- Current Content Services (Content Page of the recent journals)
- E-journals & E-books through NLIST
- Institution Repository
- Plagiarism Detection Software (PDS)

### 4.5.2 Madhabdev University Plagiarism Policy

Madhabdev University using Urkund (Ouriginal) software for detect plagiarism. The University has started their PhD programmes in various disciplines of Science and Social Sciences from the year 2021. So there is no enough data available on their website. But as they have mentioned, they are abide by the regulations of UGC in plagiarism before submitting a theses/dissertation in the university.

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<a href="https://cottonuniversity.ac.in/index\_page\_details?page=d0cwZG9lZnhJQnBkVjJGbH">https://cottonuniversity.ac.in/index\_page\_details?page=d0cwZG9lZnhJQnBkVjJGbH</a>
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