Abstract

Government websites provide a platform for efficient communication and access to public information. They are a useful tool to transparency and democracy because they enable stakeholders to easily interact with their service providers. The paper proposes to evaluate the websites of Universities in Karnataka State in terms of their compliance to the W3C guidelines, Guidelines for Government of India, and Proactive Disclosures according to Section IV of the Right to Information Act, 2005 of Government of India. Student-centric metrics are also introduced for evaluation. International guidelines, Government of India and RTI guidelines are essential guidelines for information dissemination to stakeholders of the Universities in Karnataka and hence are considered. For the purpose of investigation, the Universities in Karnataka are classified into five categories: Central Government Institutions, Traditional State Universities which are more than ten years old, Traditional State Universities which are less than ten years old, State Mono discipline Universities, and Private Universities. The classification is based on the scope, geographical area spanned, and the age of the University. The State of Karnataka is chosen for analysis as most of the classifications suggested are available in the State. It was found that Central Institutes and Private Universities adhere more to these guidelines than State Universities.
- Indian Institute of Science website (2012), viewed on 28th December 2012.
- National Law School of India University website (2012), viewed on 27th December 2012.
- Bangalore University website (2012), viewed on 26th December 2012.
- University of Mysore website (2012), viewed on 26th December 2012.
- Mangalore university website (2012), viewed on 26th December 2012.
- Gulbarga University website (2012), viewed on 25th December 2012.
- Tumkur University website (2012), viewed on 25th December 2012.
- Karnataka State Women’s University website (2012), viewed on 24th December 2012.
- Visvesvaraya Technological University website (2012), viewed on 24th December 2012.
- Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences website (2012), viewed on 24th December 2012.
- University of Agricultural Sciences website (2012), viewed on 24th December 2012.
- Christ University website (2012), viewed on 23rd December 2012.
- Manipal University website (2012), viewed on 23rd December 2012.

**Index Terms**

Computer Science Information Systems

**Keywords**

W3C RTI operability Government of India guidelines