

UNIT-I

Research Methodology Course Material

Compiled By;

Dr. Rajesh K. Kesharwani,

Dr. Rudra P. Ojha

Dr. Indal Kumar

Nehru Gram Bharati (Deemed to be University), Prayagraj

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Fundamental of Research



Re – Search

Search Again

Seek Again

- It is defined as systematic evaluation of a general thought to find the truth through scientific method in social interest.
- It means to search again. So research means a systematic investigation or activity to gain new knowledge of the already existing facts.
- It is characterized by a research question.

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- According to John W. Best “The secret of our cultural development has been research, pushing back the areas of ignorance by discovering new truths, which, in turn, lead to better ways of doing things and better products.”
- Scientific research leads to progress in new products, new facts, new concepts and new ways of doing things.
- It is defined as systematic evaluation of a general thought to find the truth through scientific method in social interest.
- It is characterized by a research question.

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- Research today is no longer confined to the science laboratory.
- Nowadays ever-increasing significant research in the physical, the biological, the social and the psychological fields.
- Research is also considered as the application of scientific method in solving the problems.
- It is a systematic, formal and intensive process of carrying on the scientific method of analysis.
- There are many ways of obtaining knowledge.

Definitions of research

➤ “Research may be defined as a method of studying problems whose solutions are to be derived partly or wholly from facts.”

--- By **P.M. Cook**

➤ “Research is considered to be the more formal, systematic intensive process of carrying on the scientific method of analysis. It involves a more systematic structure of investigation, usually resulting in some sort of formal record of procedures and a report of results or conclusion.”

---BY **W.S. Monroes**

Cont..

➤ “Research is an honest, exhaustive, intelligent searching for facts and their meanings or implications with reference to a given problem. The product or findings of a given piece of research should be an authentic, verifiable contribution to knowledge in the field studied.”

---By **J. Francis Rummel**

➤ “Social research may be defined as a scientific undertaking which by means of logical and systematized techniques aims to discover new facts or verify and test old facts , analyse their sequences , inter- relationships and casual explanation which were derived within an appropriate theoretical frame of reference , develop new scientific tools , concepts and theories which would facilitate reliable and valid study of human behavior.”

---By **P.V. Younge**

Scope of Research

- It determines the specific field of study or subject matter that something deals with or to which it is relevant.
- It narrows the research down to a given problem.
- The scope also highlights the parameters of the study.
- Also, the scope of research refers to the specific topics discussed in the paper.

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- Work and scope are directly proportional, because with the increase of scope of research amount of work also increased to justify scope.
- If scope of the research too narrow then the applicability of work will have limitation.
- Within the scope of research, the following points should be discussed:
 - ❖ **Purpose of the research**
 - ❖ **Sample or population**
 - ❖ **Duration**
 - ❖ **Area or location**

Purpose of Research

- The main purpose of research is to search the truth which is hidden and which has not been discovered as yet.
- Each research is based on its own specific purpose or aim of study.

Purpose of Research

Find a answers for a
Specific Question

Through the Application
of Systematic Scientific
Procedure.

Types of Research

There are many different ways to classify the research. Broadly research can be divided into two types:

- **Qualitative Research:** Research dealing with phenomena that are difficult or impossible to quantify mathematically, such as beliefs, meanings, attributes, and symbols.
- **Quantitative Research:** Research refers to the systematic empirical investigation of any phenomena via statistical, mathematical or computational techniques.

Other than broad classification of research it can be divided on specific and focused area as follows:

- **Applied Research**
- **Basic Research**
- **Causal Research**
- **Action Research**
- **Classification Research**
- **Comparative Research**
- **Descriptive Research**
- **Historical Research**
- **Longitudinal Research**
- **Theory-Building Research**
- **Ethnographic Research**
- **Theory-Testing Research**
- **Experimental Research**
- **Phenomenological Research**
- **Explanatory Research**
- **Grounded Theory Research**
- **Survey Research**
- **Case-Study Research**

Sources of Research Problems

- The problems are present in everywhere and near to us.
- Human nature is so complicated, that a problem solved for one individual may still exist for another individual.
- A problem solved by one person is remains problem for another person.
- Identification of a research problem is the first and most important step in research process.
- It delimit or narrow down to specific title or one sentence statement of the problem

Some of the definition of research problem

“Problem is the obstacle in the path of satisfying our needs.”

--By John Geoffery

“A situation for which we have no ready and successful response by instinct or by previous acquired habit. We must find out what to do ‘
i.e. the solution can be found out only after an investigation.”

--By R. S. Woodworth

“Problem is a question which is to be solved.”

--By John. G. Tornsand

“A problem is an interrogative sentence or statement that asks what relation exist between two or more variables. The answer to questions will provide what is having sought in the research.”

--BY F. N. Kerlinger

“To define a problem means to put a fence around it, to separate it by careful distinctions from like questions found in related situations of need.” –

-By Whitney

“A problem is a question proposed for a solution generally speaking a problem exists when there is a no available answer to same question.”

--By J. C. Townsend

Sources of Research Problems

- Literature search
- Curiosity
- Person experience
- Existing theories
- Consumer feedback:
- Performance improvement activities
- Social issues
- Intuition
- Exposure to field situations
- Consultations with experts
- Practical experience
- Previous research
- Folklores

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