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CHAPTER III

PLAN AND PROCEDURE

Research in common parlance refers to a search of knowledge. One can also define research as a scientific and systematic search for pertinent information on a specific topic. The *Advanced Learners Dictionary of Current English* lays down the meaning of research as "a careful investigation or inquiry specially through search for new facts in any branch of knowledge." (Redman & Mory, *The Reference of Research* 1923)

Research is an academic activity and as such the term should be used in a technical sense. According to Clifford Woody research comprises defining and redefining problems, formulating hypothesis or suggesting solutions, collecting, organizing, and evaluating data making deductions and reaching conclusions, and at last carefully testing the conclusion to determine whether they fit the formulated hypothesis.

Research has proved to be an essential and powerful tool to leading man towards progress. There would have seen research pushing back the areas of ignorance by discovering new truths, which in turn leads to better ways of doing things and better products.

Research is devoted to find the conditions under which a certain phenomenon occurs and those under which it does not occur the term Research consists of two words Re and Search Re means again and again, Search means to find out something new. Thus, research in a process observes the phenomenon again and

again collects the data and draws some conclusions on the basis of data.

Research is oriented towards the discovery of knowledge. One can also define research as a scientific and systematic search for a pertinent information on a specific topic. Some people consider research as a movement, a movement from known to unknown. It is actually a voyage at discovery, we all possess the vital instinct of inquisitiveness for, when the unknown confronts us we wonder and our inquisitiveness makes us probe and attain full and fuller understanding of the unknown. This inquisitiveness is the mother of all knowledge and method which man employs can be termed as research.

D. Slesinger and M. Stephenson in *The Encyclopedia of Social Sciences* (1930) define research as "The manipulation of things, concepts or symbols for the purpose of generalizing to extend, correct or rectify knowledge whether that knowledge aids in construction of theory or in the practice of an art", research is thus an original contribution to existing stock of knowledge making for its advancement. It is the pursuit of truth with the help of study, observation, comparison and experiment in short the relationship that exists among different phenomenon of the world. It is based on the fundamental assumption that invariant relationships exist between certain antecedent and certain consequent so that under specific set of condition certain consequent can be expected to follow the introduction of given antecedent.

The systematic approach concerning generalisation and the formulation of a theory is also research.

As such the term 'research' refers to the systematic method consisting of enunciating the problems formulating a hypothesis, collecting the facts or data, analysing the facts and reaching certain conclusions either in the form of solution towards the concerned problem or is certain generalisation's for some theoretical formulation.

"Research a systematic attempt to provide answers to questions."

Tuckman 1978

"Research is the systematic objective and accurate search for new facts in the solution a well defined problem."

Maully 1970

"Research may be defined as the systematic and objective analysis and recording of controlled observation that may lead to the development of generalisation, principles or theories resulting in prediction and possible control of event."

Best, J. W. 2005

The main aim of research is to find out the truth which is hidden and which has not been discovered yet. The purpose of research is progress and good life. Good education has been recognized as the basis of individual and social development. Therefore, the need of research in educational practices and policies is being realised increasing. Educationalists are constantly searching for more effective methods of instruction. Efforts are being made to find out more satisfactory techniques at evaluation, richer learning materials, better physical facilities, more effective systems of administrative organization and so on. Thus research is

becoming more important due to the very rapid expansion and democratization of education during the last few decades.

According to the article 26(i) of the Universal declaration of Human Rights, "Everyone has the right of education. Education shall be free at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit." To realize the goal the nations of the world will have generally to expand their educational efforts, more facilities must be provide more teachers must be trained, new curriculum must be developed; and new teaching material must be provided. It is unconceivable that this can be done at all, without detailed guidance from the facts collected and the principles established through educational research. The systematic approach concerning generalisation and the formulation of a theory is research. The systematic approach concerning generalisation and the formulation of a theory is research. As such the term 'research' refers to the systematic method consisting of defining the problem, formulating a hypothesis, collecting the facts or data, analysing the facts and reaching certain conclusions either in the form of solution towards the concentrated problem or in certain general section for some theoretical formulations.

RESEARCH PLAN AND PROCEDURE

The 'Plan and Procedure' describe the actual steps carried out in conducting the study. This includes the measurement devices, if not the experimental treatments, the assignment of subject to conditions, the order of assessment, the time period, and the

design, tools and technique to be used. After identifying and defining the problem, as also accomplishing the relating task, researcher must arrange his ideas in order to write them in the form of an experimental plan or what can be described as 'Research Plan'. This is essential especially for new researcher because of the following.

- (a) It helps him to reorganise his idea in a form whereby it will be possible for him to task for flows and inadequacies, if any.
- (b) It provides an inventory of what must be done and which materials have to be collected as a primary step.
- (c) It is a document that can be given to others for comment.

The search procedure used should be described in sufficient detail to permit other researchers to repeat the research for further advancement. Keeping the continuity of what has already been attained. The procedural design of the research is carefully planned to yield results that are as objective as possible.

Many studies have been carried out to evaluate textbooks from a value perspective. These researches have been carried out with various subjects and on various educational levels as lower primary school level, upper primary school level, secondary and higher secondary school level etc.

As far as the researchers' knowledge goes there is no direct research on 'Gender Representation' a study based on text book analysis from the above value perspective. The upper primary school level stage is most important stage of age in life when

values can be routed easily. From this point of view what percentage of Gender Representation included in textbook should need to be checked. Today, in our society status of women is not satisfactory. Still they face problems like illiteracy, family harassment, demand for dowry, sexual harassment, opportunities of education is also very much limited. Education promotes positive thinking and helps in the development of the society.

R. Shrinivas Rao has mentioned in the 'Third Survey of Research in Education (1978-83) by Buch M. B. 'Curriculum methods and Textbooks', "There are few studies conducted in our country in their area. In short school textbooks are important to route values in students. Education is the investment for the future and so the teacher which gives education are of the utmost importance but study in this area is ignored."

The role of education in schools education cannot be undermined. Robert Abels 'Encyclopedia of Educational Research' related to the current topics. Arnest Hilton in his write up in encyclopedia stated that, "School textbooks have commanded a great deal of attention in the years just past, on the part of the general public and Governmental agencies as well as educators. All that attention to the text books has been natural indeed inevitable because during years education became one of the great national concern."

The new emphasis on language learning places another responsibility on the teacher of integrating for the student the values that may accrue from an early and intensive experience with literature that reflects the classical tradition."

Arnest Histon further point down that "Whatever work had been done regarding textbooks was scattered and inconclusive." This criticism is true and realistic. He also said it is scattered as well not so decisive too.

When text books of upper primary stage was getting analysed. It is assumed 'Gender Representation' reflected in the textbooks of this stage is not equal, present no satisfactory image of women in the books.

Having the above assumption in mind, this descriptive survey study had been conducted.

DESIGNING OF THE STUDY

Design is the blue print of the procedure that enables the researcher to test hypotheses and reaching valid conclusions. The research problem having the formulated in clear cut terms, the researcher will be required to prepare a research design i.e. he will have to state the conceptual structure within which the research would be conducted. The preparation of such a design facilities research to be as efficient as possibly yielding maximal information. In other words, the function of research design is to provide for the collection of relevant evidence with minimal expenditure of effort, time and money. But has all these can be achieved depends mainly on the research purpose.

Research purpose may be grouped into four categories viz.(i) Exploration (ii) Description (iii) Diagnosis (iv) experimentation. A flexible research design which provides opportunity for considering many different aspect of a problem is considered appropriate.

Decisions regarding what, where, when, who much, by what means concerning on inquiry or a research study constitute a research design.

"A research design is the arrangement of conditions for collection and analysis of data in a manner that aims to combine relevance to the research purpose with economy in procedure."

(Claire Selltiz and others, Research Methods in Social Science, 1962)

In fact, the research design is the conceptual structure within which research is conducted; it constitutes the blueprint for the collection, measurement and analysis of data.

Research design must contain

- (a) A clear statement of the research problem.
- (b) Procedures and techniques to be used for gathering information;
- (c) The population to be studied.
- (d) Methods to be used in processing and analysing data.

NEED FOR RESEARCH DESIGN

1. It facilitate the smooth sailing of the various research operation thereby making research as efficient as possible yield material information with minimal expenditure of effort, time and money.
2. Research design stands for advance planning of the methods to be adopted for collecting the relevant data and the technique to be used in their analysis, keeping in view the objective of the research, availability of time and money.

3. Research design has a great bearing on the reliability of the results arrived at and as such constitutes the firm foundation of the entire edifice of the research work.
4. The design helps the researcher to organise its ideas in a form whereby it will be possible for him to look for flows and adequacies.

RESEARCH DESIGN OF THE PRESENT STUDY

The present research is mainly descriptive research. Descriptive research studies are those studies which are concerned with describing the characteristics of a particular thing, individual or a group. So in the present research analysis of textbook through 'Gender Representation' perspective is the main aspect.

The studies concerned with specific predictions, with narration of facts and characteristics concerning individual are all examples of descriptive research studies. Most of the social research comes under this category.

Kothari. D. S. 2007.

The descriptive design can approximately be referred as survey design since it takes into account all the steps involved in a survey concerning a phenomena to be studied. Descriptive research includes survey, fact finding inquiries of different kinds. The major purpose of descriptive research is description of the state of affairs as it exists at present. Researcher only reports what has happened or what is happening.

The methods of research utilized in descriptive research are survey of all kinds. The survey gathers data from a relatively number of cases at a particular time. It is concerned with statistics

that result when data are obstructed from a number of individual cases.

In analyzing political, social, or economic conditions, one of the first steps is to get the facts about the situation or a picture of conditions that prevail or that are developing, these data may be gathered from surveys of the entire population. Others are inferred from a study of a sample group carefully selected from the total population. At times the survey may describe a limited population that's only group under consideration.

The survey is an important type of study. It must not be confused with the more clerical routine of gathering and tabulating figures. It involves clearly defined problem and definite objectives. It requires expert and imaginative planning, careful analysis and interpretation of the data gathered, and logical and skillful reporting of the findings.

(Best, J. W. & Khan, J. V. 2006)

A subtype of survey is documentary frequency studies.

A definitely quantitative type of normative research. Documentary frequency studies are undertaken to identify and cannot certain characteristics found in documents under considerations. They deal with a systematic examination of current records or documents or may also evaluate the content according to some established criteria.

A study of this type involves problems;

- (a) of ascertaining the purpose of the study.
- (b) of determining what characteristics to count and of defining them, and

- (c) of selecting documentary specimens for investigation.
Documentary studies may serve following purposes.
- (i) They may describe prevailing practices or conditions.
 - (ii) They may discover the relative importance or interest in certain topics or problems.
 - (iii) They may discover levels of difficulty of presentation in textbooks or other publications.
 - (iv) They may evaluate elements of bias; prejudices or propaganda in text book presentation.
 - (v) They may analyse type of errors in student's work.

More documentary frequency study selected for the present researcher to analyse the textbook from 'Gender Representation prospective.'

Here the content, example / illustration, questions in the exercises, pictures, photos graphs will be analysed from Gender Representation point of view.

From the collected information of interpretation conclusions percentage of Gender Representation reflected in the textbook will be determined.

A researcher required many data gathering tools or techniques. These may vary in their complexity, design, administration and interpretation. Each tool is suitable for the collection of certain type of information. One has to select from the available tools. If tool do not suit his purpose in some situations she may modify them or construct her own. For this she should familiarize herself with the nature, merits and limitations of the

existing research tools, she should also develop skill in construction and use of these research tools.

For the present study the researcher prepared questionnaire.

VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY

For achieving the content validity of the objective type questions following means were followed:

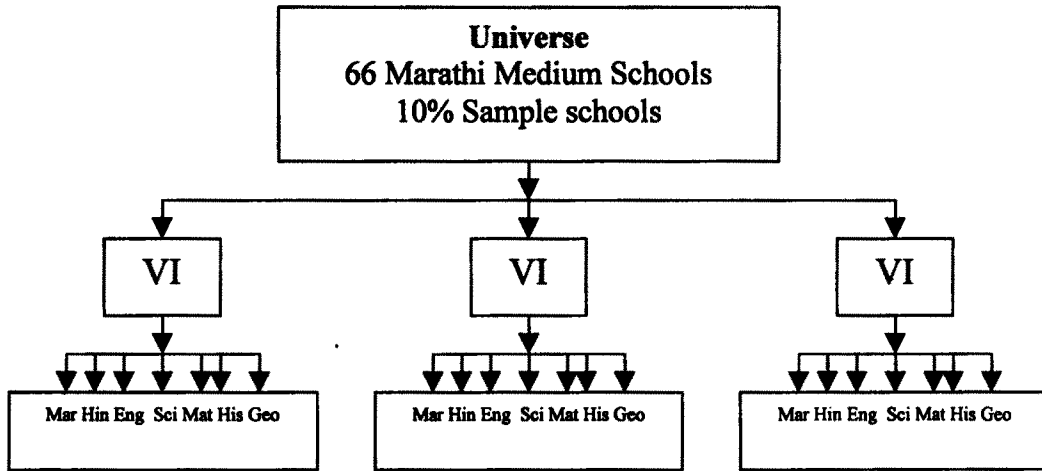
- i) A content validity was achieved by a careful analysis of the objectives and specific areas of the textbook of upper primary school level.
- ii) The question items in the questionnaire also referred to experts with specialisation in content analyses. A few items were modified and a few others were deleted in the light of their comments. The opinions of some outstanding teacher educators and teachers were also taken into account in the development of questionnaire.

The purpose of the questionnaire to collect data according to the objectives of the research.

In the research three objectives related to questionnaire. These objectives are as follows.

1. To find out whether the guaranteed gender representation ensured by the constitution is reflected in the upper primary school level textbooks.
2. To suggest measures to bring about gender representation in the textbooks so as to make the student gender sensitive.
3. To suggest appropriate measures based in the result of study to the textbook framers to give equal representation in the textbooks that will be prepared in future.

To achieve these objective 40 closed questions included in questionnaire.



This method involves the selection of the sample on purely random basis. This method is free from the researcher bias. This can be conducted using with and without replacement schemes. The researcher used simple random sampling without replacement; in which once selected school is not replaced back in the universe.

STATISTICAL TOOL

For the analysis interpretation of the obtained data percentage is used. Interpretation and analysis given in the next chapter.

As described in this chapter, the plan for this research was prepared and executed and data collected and analysed. In the next chapter data will be presented in tabular form, interpreted and results drawn enumerated.