



INSTITUTE OF TAI STUDIES AND RESEARCH

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ICHR Sponsored Seven day Workshop on: **Research Methodology and Training Programme in Social Science Research**

January 3 - 9, 2023

Concept Note of the Workshop

Research is an art of scientific investigation and a systematic effort to gain new knowledge. It is undertaken to discover answer to questions by applying scientific methods. As such research may be defined as a careful investigation and enquiry in search of new facts. With the discovery of new facts, old conclusions or theories may either be rejected or modified. Therefore research is necessary to examine the extent of validity of the old conclusions. It purports to give a new direction and a new insight into the existing problems. It may establish new empirical generalization and falsify the old one, leading to the construction of new theories. Research is thus an original contribution to the existing stock of knowledge making scope for its development. It is the pursuit of truth with the help of observation and experiment. In short, the search for knowledge through objective and systematic method of finding solution to a problem is research. It therefore refers to the method consisting of enunciating the problem, formulating a hypothesis, collecting data, analyzing the facts and reaching certain conclusion either in form of solution towards the concerned problems or in certain generalization for some theoretical formulation. Thus research inculcates scientific and inductive thinking and it promote the development of logical habit of reasoning.

Research is important for social scientists in studying social relationship and in seeking answers to various social problems. As such the purpose of research is to unfold the truth by systematic methods. In view of this, the researcher need to follow research methodology in order to find out social reality. Research methodology is a way of systematic solution of research problem. It may be understood as a science of studying how research is done scientifically. The study of research methodology provides the scholars the necessary training for collecting materials and interpreting them. A fruitful research is not possible without proper understanding of research methodology. Therefore, it is necessary to have knowledge of research methodology in order to understand social problems in a scientific manner through which the scholar can understand the problems in their proper perspectives. Methodologically sound and a research oriented mind can appreciate and inculcate

objectivity to a considerable extent. A dispassionate lover of truth must be acquainted with the research methodology.

The phenomenal growth of research in social science necessitates the understanding of their research methodologies and techniques. Social science research has been playing a vital role in the development of the society. During last couple of decades, the contribution of social science research is widely recognized. Since the onset of the processes of globalization, the opportunities for social science research have been widened up. The current form of globalization and its concomitants liberalization and privatization have fast transformed the world into a market place. There has been a tremendous impact of such process on the social science research. But the lack of scientific training in methodology is an impediment for the researchers. There is paucity of competent research scholars. Many of them take a leap in the dark without knowing research methodology. Most of the works which are done in the name of research is not methodologically sound. Research to many researchers and even to their guides has been a fashion without any insight on the problem. Consequently, the research result, often do not reflect the realities. Therefore, a systematic training of research methodology is an urgent necessity. Before undertaking research project, researchers should be well equipped with all the methodological aspects. In view of this, efforts should be made to provide intensive research methodology course to the young scholars to meet this requirement. As a part of this effort, this workshop is organized with the following objectives.

Objectives of the Workshop:

- i. To provide the young researchers with a ground work of knowledge about the methodology of social science research.
- ii. To present a synoptic view of the entire body of Scientific Method in Social Science Research.
- iii. To critically expose and analyse the Research Methods and techniques applied in Social Science Research.
- iv. To acquaint the researchers with certain problems which are often encountered by them.
- v. To understand the Research Methodology relevant to the study of Northeast Problems.

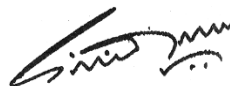
Sub-themes of the Workshop:

On the basis of the objectives noted above, the following sub-themes to be covered in this workshop are formulated as follows:

1. Theoretical perspectives of Research Methodology.
2. Marxist - Liberal - Feminist - approaches to Social Science Research.
3. Scope of Research and Interdisciplinary approach to Research Methodology.
4. Nature of Scientific Methods and its application to Social phenomenon.
5. Types of Research: Historical, Analytical, Participative and Action Research.
6. Formulation and planning of Research proposal- selection and formulation of statement of problem in Social Science Research.

7. Types of Research design - Experimental diagnostic, Exploratory; How to frame a Research design.
8. Concepts in Research: Variable Attributes.
9. Hypothesis - Concepts and Types, Formulation and Testing.
10. Sampling techniques in Social Science Research - Types -Random, sampling, purposive Sampling, Accidental sampling.
11. Methods of Data Collection and Data Analysis-Primary and Secondary; Preparation of Questionnaires and Interview Schedule.
12. Observation, Case Study Method, Content Analysis.
13. Scaling Technique, Rating Scale.
14. Participatory Research, Quantitative and qualitative Research Design.
15. Ethnographical and ethno-methodological Perspectives, Analysis, Classification, Statistical Method.
16. Grounded theory, Case Study.
17. Preparation of Research Report, Report writing, Field Report presentation.
18. Computer application and practical activities.
19. International Law and Human Right approach in Social Science Research.
20. References in Report writing; and preparation of Bibliography. How to write an academic Research paper? Art of writing a Research Article and dissertation.
21. Contemporary Trends and Problem of Social Science Research in Northeast India.

Target groups of the workshop would be Research Scholars, Faculty members of Colleges, Universities and Research Institutions. It is hoped that the proposed workshop would benefit nearly fifty participants.



(Girin Phukon)

Course Director of the Workshop