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Meaning of Research and Its Objectives

In layman language research refers to a search for knowledge. Research can also be defined as scientific and systematic search for getting information on a specific topic. Research is a creative and systematic work undertaken to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of humans and society, and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications OR research is a process through which individual or the researcher helps to search the definite or useful information from the number of respondents to evaluate or solve the problem related questions.

According to Clifford Woody, research comprises defining and redefining problems, formulating hypothesis or suggested solutions; collecting, organizing and evaluating data; making deductions and reaching conclusions; and t last carefully testing the conclusions to determine whether they fit the formulating hypothesis.

At a general level, research has three steps:

- Pose a question
- Collect the data to answer the question
- Present an answer to the question

It is the pursuit of truth with help of study, observation, comparison and experiment. In short, the search for the knowledge through objective and systematic method of finding solution to a problem is research. The systematic approach concerning generalization 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, analyzing the facts and reaching certain conclusions either in the form of solutions towards the concerned problem or in certain generalizations for some theoretical formulation.

Characteristics of Research:

1. Research should be controlled- It should be controlled because of the relation between two or more variables are affected by each other. If the research is not controllable, then it will not be able to design a particular research report.
2. Research should be systematic- Research should be systematic because if a researcher wants to do a perfect research design or process then it will have to evaluate or obtained the necessary information from the market in a systematic manner. It involves various steps to perform systematic research and each step is interrelated to each other.
Research should be empirical- This means that any conclusion drawn is totally based upon ethical or hard evidence gathered information collected from the observations and real time experiences.
3. The foundation of knowledge- Research is the foundation of knowledge for the purpose of knowledge and an important source for providing guidelines or norms for solving different social and Governmental problems. It helps us to understand the new developments in one's field in an efficient way.

Objectives of the Research:

The purpose of the research is to discover answer to questions through the application of scientific procedure. The main aim of research is to find out the truth which is hidden and which has not been discovered as yet.

Here, are some general objectives of the research:

- i. To gain familiarity with a phenomenon or to achieve new insights into it.
- ii. To portray accurately the characteristics of a particular individual, situation or a group.
- iii. To determine the frequency with which something occurs or with which it is associated with something else.
- iv. To test a hypothesis of a causal relationship between variables.

