

# *CHAPTER # 02*

## *Selecting and formulating a research problem*

### *Lecture no: 08*

*In today's lecture we will go through the following points.*

- *Social problem*
- *Synopsis or research proposal*
- *How to formulate a research problem or synopsis or research proposal*

## *SOCIAL PROBLEM*

*The word problem has been derived from a Greek word "Proballein" which means any thing thrown forward. Or any obstacle in the path of progress.*

*Problem has always been an obstacle or hurdle in the path of progress. It has never been proved beneficial for the smooth running of a society.*

*Problem is the situation which bars the development of a society or any thing. It always influences negatively majority of the people of any society.*

*James M. Henslin defines social problem in such a way that  
"It is an aspect of society that people are concerned about and would  
like to change it"*

*K. Person views*

*"Social problem is essentially that aspect of a situation, which if  
modified will correct the difficulty".*

*Each and every society in the world has social problems, no any  
society is there which is free from social problems, however, the  
number and intensity of them may be different from one society to the  
other. Some societies will have less problems and others more, but no  
one without problems.*

# *SYNOPSIS OR RESEARCH PROPOSAL*

*A forerunner of research study synopsis is a pre-research plan or sketch which is formed to show that how a researcher is going to conduct a research.*

*Synopsis is a brief structure or strategy of the research which proves to be a guide line for the researcher. It usually consists of*

- Introduction of the topic*
- Research objectives*
- Relevant literature*
- Methodology*

# HOW TO FORMULATE A RESEARCH PROBLEM OR SYNOPSES OR RESEARCH PROPOSAL

## Selection of the topic/problem

No any research can be started without selecting a problem/topic. So, a researcher at first selects any problem or topic which he observed in the society.

## Introduction

After selecting the problem a researcher moves to introduce the problem or topic that what the topic is? Its domain and how the people define it?

## *Historical background of the research study*

*In this part the researcher traces the problem in the history, its origin, how much work has been done on this topic, who have worked upon it and where?*

## *Objectives of the research study*

*Objectives are one of the most important part of the research study, without objectives the research work is incomplete. In the objectives we usually portrait to find, to explore, to examine, to study, to evaluate, to understand the problem.*

## *Review of relevant literature*

*It is usually second chapter in the research study. In this part the researcher goes through the past research studies and old theories, so that to deepen his understanding about the topic and methods have been used by the predecessors about the same topic, what the findings and results are?*

## *Research methodology*

*In this part the researcher designs his study that how the research be conducted. This part consists of the following points.*

**i) Research method**

*It usually based upon the method which is used in the research in hand. The methods are exploratory research, descriptive, explanatory, survey, experimental, case study, historical research etc.*

**ii) Sampling technique**

*Which of the sampling technique is used in research study to carry on. The techniques are probability sampling non-probability sampling, random sampling, quota sampling, systematic sampling, snow ball sampling, cluster sampling, purposive sampling etc.*



### *iii) Sample size*

*The sample size depends upon the nature of the problem, whether is quantitative research or qualitative research. The researcher describes that how many respondents/key informants will be drawn from the universe to conduct the research.*

### *iv) Tool of data collection*

*Which tool of data collection will be used in the research in hand to collect the data. Most prominent tools are observation, questionnaire, interview, FGD, survey etc.*

v) **Data analysis**

*The researcher notes how the collected data be analyzed, what technique be adopted for analyzing and compiling the data.*

vi) **writing the report**

*Report writing is the final stage of any research. Without report writing no research can be complete. In synopsis a researcher describes how the report be formulate to conclude the research.*

**Expected outcomes**

*In this portion a researcher portraits how I expect about research, the data and social situation etc.*

***THE END***