

# **SUBJECT: SOCIOLOGY**

## **Chapter # 01**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **Lecture no 04**

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

- **The stages/steps of social research**

## **STEPS/STAGES OF SOCIAL RESEARCH**

Whenever, a researcher is going to conduct any social research, he must go through the following steps/stages

### **1) Selection of the topic/problem**

There are many problems in each and every society of the world. None of the society in the world is there that may not have problems. However, the ratio of social problems may be different from society to society. So, in this context a researcher selects one problem for the purpose to a research on that one.

## **2) Review of relevant literature**

In this stage a researcher goes through the literature/past theories/research articles/books etc. which are relevant to the topic. Literature review provides information regarding the old research studies that how the research studies have been conducted on the same topic, what methodology was carried out, what were the sampling techniques, what tools of data collection were adopted and what were the findings of the research studies.

### **3) Theoretical framework**

In theoretical framework a researcher tries to find some related theories in order to support his research. Theories have outstanding position in research and in scientific community. They are more trusted, because they are based on truth.

(It is applied only if a researcher can find some related theories)

#### **4) Research design**

The fourth stage of social research. In this stage the researcher designs his research study. That how I will go forward, what will be the strategy, what will be the hypothesis, what research questions will be put, which method will be used, what sampling technique, and tools of data collection will be selection, how will the data be analyzed and formulate a report.

(research design is the strategy, which is evolved to conduct the research)

## 5) Data collection

After designing the research study a researcher moves towards the universe/field area and collect the data from the respondents through questionnaire/interview guide/focus group discussion regarding his research.

(Universe means over here the field area where a researcher conducts his research)

(Questionnaire is a set of questions to be filled in by the respondents, and interview guide is list of open questions which are asked and filled in by the researcher)

## **6) Data analysis**

After collecting the data/information the researcher analyses the data on the basis similar answers through statistical tests, tabulation, graphs, pie charts in quantitative research and on thematic basis in qualitative research.

## **7) Interpretation of data**

In this stage the researcher interprets the analyzed data in easy and understandable words, so that a lay man can understand it. Besides this a researcher gives conclusion, suggest remedies for the solution of the problem and for further researches.

## **8) Report writing**

It is the final stage of social research, where the researcher prepares his report of the complete research project, that how he started research work and pass through the different stages in different chapters and parts. It includes the summary of the research work, then publish it through internet and in the market.

Remember that there is no limitation for the size of report writing, however, it depends on the nature of the research study.



## Bibliography/References

At the end of the report of the study the researcher provides a list of the books, research articles, reports, websites, conference papers etc., which has gone through during his research study. This list of materials is called bibliography or references. It is usually in “APA” style.

(In bibliography those materials are listed which a researcher has studied during his research work but in references the researcher lists those materials only where from he has copied something)

(APA. American psychological association)

**THE END**