

Purpose of Research: An Introduction

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Abstract:

The purpose of research can be seen in the fact that nearly all current developments depend largely on research. Now a day, research is seen as the principal agency by which our knowledge of the universe can be enlarged. Without research, the countless educational problems cannot be resolved and progress would therefore be slow. Research may be undertaken for many reasons. It may be carried out with the aim of developing new exciting theories and pushing back the frontiers of knowledge. Research is born of problems and of man determination to solve them. The term research has been defined in various ways such as “An attitude of mind, Systematic scholarly application of scientific methods.” Systematic solution of problem; “Honest, Intelligence and exhaustive search for facts” and “The quest for the unknown and for more about the known facts to reveal the secrets of the universe.” Definitions of research are more than we can imagine. Best (1993) called research as “The formal, systematic, intensive process of carrying on the scientific method of analysis.”

Introduction:

Research has become of immense value to the development of human knowledge. Its importance can be seen in the fact that nearly all current developments depend largely on research. Even though some advancement of knowledge have occurred by mere accident, trial and error or even by sheer screwed reasoning, intuition and imagination, experience through the ages has shown clearly that none of these has proved effective as research. Today, research is seen as the principal agency by which our knowledge of the universe can be enlarged. Without research, the countless educational problems cannot be resolved and progress would therefore be slow. Research may be undertaken for many reasons. It may be carried out with the aim. of developing new exciting theories and pushing back the frontiers of knowledge. It has the task of searching for the undiscovered facts and principles about education and of taking existing knowledge and finding ways of applying it to the many problems of life. This fact must be recognized and made possible, because it means adding something new and important to the total body of educational information. Thus, research is born of problems and of man determination to solve them. Research is composed of two words Re and Search. Re means again and Search means verifying facts. So, the meaning of research is referred to again verifying old facts. Research means search of Truth. The term research has been defined in various ways such as “An attitude of mind, Systematic scholarly application of scientific methods.” Systematic solution of problem; “Honest, Intelligence and exhaustive search for facts” and “The quest for the unknown and for more about the known facts to reveal the secrets of the universe.” Definitions of research are more than we can imagine.

Best (1993) called research as “The formal, systematic, intensive process of carrying on the scientific method of analysis.” It involves a more systematic structure of investigation,

usually resulting in some sort of formal record of procedures and a report of results or conclusions.

Purpose of Research:

Some of the purposes of research are enumerated below:-

Research Provides Essential Tools and Technique for Generating Knowledge:

The incredible speed which is vitally important in medicine, engineering, cybernetics, technology etc. has developed in recent times would have been impossible if there were no research. Thanks to research that knowledge is doubling itself in one decade.

Research Helps in Solving Critical Problem:

Research addresses itself to all sports problem confronting humanity, no matter whether these problems are man made or god made. It is not secret that research is doing a great service to the humanity in helping to fight diseases, poverty, malnutrition, ill-health, illiteracy and the like.

Research Enhances the Competency of the Professionals Community:

Research makes the individuals in various professions- medicine, engineering, teaching sports etc. hold their head high by giving them necessary strength and confidence to justify their policies, practices and to combat the unwanted criticism against their practices.

Research Helps in Testing Theories:

Theories are developed verified, explained and interpreted in the light of facts and figures in physical sciences or behavioral sciences, theories are put to test with more refined tools and techniques of research. For instance, with the invention of computer, scientist has been able to probe further into the well-established. Theory of evolution, Theory of relativity, theory of information processing and scorers of others, and give them a new meaning and interpretation in the light of new facts, thereby confirming various hypotheses underlying them.

Research Provides Explanatory Data Base:

In almost all fields of knowledge, there is so much factual data available that it needs no further proof for understanding and explaining nature of things and the

principles underlying them as well as to forecast the future course of events such as weather, business, trade, fashion, information technology and space travel etc.

Research Satisfies Human Curiosity:

In Rothstein's (1985) view "Research is life. It is curiosity which satisfies itself by following the untraded paths of knowledge. It is no use of looking at the cosmos with simply awe and wonder but to consider it as a primary source of knowledge and to find out answers to the questions that often boggle human mind. By observing, recording, organizing and analyzing facts, we satisfy our curiosity and queries that arise. The only way to understand exist is to engage in some sort of research.

Research Enables Scientists to Replicate Studies and Extended Previous Results:

All good research, as said earlier must be replicable i.e. it should be subjected to a process of duplication and repetition with refined tools and techniques in order to scrambling to procedures and strengthen base of the universal knowledge.

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