CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The sources and methods of collecting data, information, problems and analysis are discussed in this chapter. For the purpose the previous research studies were reviewed and primary data was collected to enhance the understanding of the area and the development process. Actually, it was a process to make an assessment of the existing effectiveness of the Special Marriage Act for the intercaste marriages. Based on the understanding from literature review, the data needs were established and options for data gathering techniques were considered. Questionnaire survey was adopted to gather information regarding the problem of the study.

The present chapter is divided into two parts. In the first part, development of research model or plan of study, which highlights that why this study is planned or what is targeted to achieve and what need to be done. It represents the whole picture of the study. Second part is the application of research plain in the field. This is the main part of the chapter. It also represents the tools and techniques used in implementing the research model.

Intercaste marriages are increasing in India and with the youth liberalization ad the changing values of the society, with adoption of the western culture in India it is important to understand the legal framework available for such marriages along with the need to improvise the same. The topic was selected as this area is grossly under researched.

The research is confined to the Special Marriage Act 1954 and has been done with an Indian perspective. So the review of the available literature on different issues in Intercaste marriages is done thereby highlighting various problems faced by the couples and their families in such marriages.

It is clear that, in India still Intercaste marriages are not openly accepted by the parents of the couple as well as the societies, at time even in the metro cities. In India, the constitution has stated it to be a completely secular state with no bar to caste, but however the castesim is still
prevailing in the minds of the citizen, which bars them mentally and emotionally to accept Intercaste marriages.

**Objective of Research:**

1. Understanding the casteism and culture in India  
2. The need of intercaste marriages  
3. The problems faced in the intercaste marriages  
4. The law reforms required in the Special Marriage Act for intercaste marriages

**Hypothesis**

A hypothesis is an assumption about the relationship between variables or the level of influence of independent variables on the dependent variable.

- $H_a =$ there is a need for the amendment in the Special Marriage Act  
- $H_0 =$ there is no need for the amendment in the Special Marriage Act

**Research Design**

Descriptive method is being used up in this research design. The research method for a study has different stages and strategies to work on the issue. The ways by which the data is collected are called research tools. These are important though different in different studies. Based on the nature of the study the most appropriate methods are used that can answer the questions related to the objectives and hypotheses of the study. In this study, the research tools are a combination of different techniques; primary data and secondary data have been used and analyzed using statistical techniques.

**Sample Method**

The most frequently used approaches for statistical analysis of survey data and estimation of
input/output relationship using regression analysis are based on a simple random sample for data collection. Unfortunately simple random sampling is rarely practical in large scale surveys. A multi-stage procedure can greatly simplify construction of a sample frame, while ensuring that the survey population is adequately covered.

However, the conventional formulae yield biased population parameter estimates for samples that are not randomly selected. Alternative, and often far more complex formulae are required to reduce or eliminate biases.

Sample Size

The primary data for the study is collected from the pre-tested interview schedule. The samples are chosen by the method of simple random sampling without sample replacement. 110 samples have chosen from the study area and collected samples were scrutinized to check the validity and found 6 questionnaires as defective and they are removed finally 104 sample was taken for the purpose of the study.

The sampling procedure is narrated below;

The formula for sample size is as follows
\[ n = \frac{(ZS/E)^2}{n} \]

Where,
- \( Z \) = Expected confident level of 95 percentile 1.96
- \( S \) = Population Standard Deviation
- \( E \) = Acceptance level of sampling errors

\[ n = \frac{(1.96)(0.25)/0.04672)^2}{n} \]

Then,
\[ n* = \frac{(N-n/N)n}{(2017.209-109.9984)/2017.209) *109.9984} \]
\[ = 104.0002 \]

Sample Size = 104
The sampling framework developed for the current study is multi-stage sampling method. In the first stage, the study area is selected which are the culturally sensitive belts in thane city limits, second stage, the people who have been directly or indirectly related to Intercaste marriages.

**Research Area**

The research or Sample areas are within the TMC Limits. These areas are chosen generally based on accessibility and availability of the desirous participants to complete the questionnaire are within the Thane Municipal Corporation limits though comes under semi urban area have a wide business and educational surroundings. Thane in the TMC limits is a multi dimensional city with all types of sectors like industrial, service, residential, real estate, retail etc.

Thane is a very important city when it comes to the cultural development it is connecting hub of central suburbs and Mumbai. Thane has a variety of cultural mix and has a District Court and Family Court.

The participants include both male and female, belongs to different age groups, educational qualifications, occupations, levels of income, type of living place, purpose of business/industry, tenure of business, problems faced, market segmentation etc. All the participants belong to thane city and some way or the other related to Intercaste marriages.

**Collection of Data**

The collection of data consists of both primary and secondary data. The primary data shall be collected by floating a structured questionnaire. The discussions opinions and interactions with the people would provide a better understanding of the special marriage act in thane.
In course of preparation of the thesis, exploratory studies have been undertaken. In the ambit of exploratory research strategy, detailed search of the literature has been carried out. Literature review has been performed in order to get secondary data.

Apart from documentary sources viz.-books, journals, reports of various committees constituted to look into law reforms; multiple sources like area based sources viz.-government reports, budget documents, surveys and time-series based sources like statistical reports published by government have also been consulted. Tertiary literary sources called search tools have been used to locate relevant secondary literature.

The structured questionnaire consists of 15 No of questions.

**Statistical Methods:**

The classified data were subjected to the statistical method of analysis. Data collected from the survey is analysed using various statistical techniques by IBM SPSS Ver 20. The statistical methods adopted consisted of Simple Arithmetic mean, coefficient of contingency, and for testing Null hypothesis Chi-square test and One way Anova t-test were adopted.

The data and methods were classified in different tables and chi-sqaure tests of different null hypothesis are given in the technical analysis of the subject.

**Methods of Reporting**

The research reporting text consists of graphs, tables, bar diagrams, line diagrams, pie charts for effective understanding.