CHAPTER – II :

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter is devoted to the methodology of research adopted for this research work.

Research is endless quest for knowledge or unending search for truth. It brings to light new knowledge or corrects previous errors and misconceptions and adds in an orderly way to the existing body of knowledge. The knowledge obtained by research is scientific and objective and is a matter of rational understanding common verification and experience.

While undertaking any study, it is necessary to set certain targets in the form of objectives for arriving at certain conclusions. The main objectives of this study were as follows:

1. Find out financial position of Pune Zilla Parishad.

2. Analysis of the problems of the Budget provision or Finance of Pune Zilla Parishad.

3. To test the progress of Pune Zilla Parishad.

4. To trace and analyze the financial trend and development in Pune Zilla Parishad during 1994 to 2004.

5. To know the effect of Budgetary Control on Zilla Parishad.

6. To analyse the change and growth in the pattern of revenue and expenditure of Zilla Parishad.
7. To test the awareness of the authorities regarding budgetary control.

8. To evaluate the physical environment of Pune Zilla Parishad and its functioning in respect of Agriculture, Animal husbandry, Irrigation, Education, Health & Welfare, etc.

9. To instill the transparency in financial budget.

10. To suggest measures on the basis of findings of the study for removing the deficiencies and improving the finances of this particular Zilla Parishad.

2.2 Hypothesis:

Financial Budgets of Zilla Parishad are transparent enough and they are projected without window dressing.

2.3 Sampling:

W.G. Cochran has said – “In every branch of science we lack the resources to study more than a fragment of the phenomena that might advance our knowledge”. For studying any problem, it is difficult to study the whole population or universe. Studying the entire universe is not viable in many ways. It is therefore convenient to pick up a sample out of the universe proposed to be covered by the study. But sampling needs much care.

Bloomers and Lindquist – “A large majority of the research studies in Education and Psychology, or for that matter, in many other fields, are of a type known as sampling
studies. In such studies, measurements or observation are made of a limited number or sample of individuals or objects in order that generalizations or inferences may be drawn about still larger groups or populations of the individuals or objects that these samples are supposed to represent.

2.4 Methodology of Study:

Without data there is no ground for investigation. Data are the core of the science of statistics. Data was collected from two types of sources: (i) Primary and (ii) Secondary.

(i) Primary Data:

Primary data refers to the data collected from primary sources. Primary data is also collected as original data. Since it is collected for the first time by a person who is going to use them.

Primary data are always collected by the investigator, in the field and from the original sources. Primary data collection is more expensive and exhaustive. There are five methods of collecting primary data and these are mentioned below:

1) Direct personal investigation.

2) Indirect oral investigation.

3) Information through local sources.

4) Schedules to be filled in by informants.
5) Schedules to be filled in by enumerators, etc.

For the purpose of this study, sample respondents from Pune District selected at random. A total of 200 beneficiaries were chosen.

The primary data was collected from these beneficiaries by canvassing questionnaire. Total number of beneficiaries canvassed with questionnaire were 200.

(ii) Secondary Data:

The facts and figures that have already been collected are called secondary data. The secondary data exists before the investigation starts.

There are following sources of data collection in secondary methods:

1) Books: Books contain the idea, theories of different thinkers in the books written by them.

2) Reports of surveys: Several Surveys relating to social problems are conducted from time to time by Government and Non-Government agencies.

3) Memories: Many social subjects of a particular nature find their description in memories, autobiographies, life histories letters, etc.
4) Official published data: A large quality of data of various types on social problems are published by government, the data are very much valued for research work.

5) Other published needs: There is a tremendous amount of unpublished material that lies buried in the official fields or personal records, etc.

For the purpose of this research the secondary data was collected from Government reports, and other authentic literature, Z.P. reports, Z.P. Budgets of Pune District.

2.5 Analysis and Interpretation of Data:

According to Wolfe, "The discovery of order in the phenomena of nature notwithstanding their complexity and apparent confusion is rendered possible by the processes of analysis and synthesis which are the foundation stone of all scientific methods.

2.6 Various Steps in Analysis and Interpretation:

The process of analysis, interpretation and generalization will involve a number of steps:

Organization:

The mass of data collected through the use of various reliable and valid tools, is yet but raw. It needs to be systematized and organized, i.e. edited, classified, and tabulated before it can serve any worthwhile purpose. Editing implies the checking of gathered data for accuracy, utility and completeness.
Classifying refers to the dividing up of the data into different categories, classifications, or subheadings for use. Tabulating denotes the recording of the classified material in accurate mathematical terms, e.g. marketing and counting frequency tallies for different items on which information is gathered. Tabulation is a tedious and painstaking process, and must be done accurately. The entirely raw data should be tested on the basis of the purpose for which they are gathered and only the useful and usable, data should be tabulated. Tabulating machines and other mechanical aids to tabulating are coming into use. They are quick and precise but are very expensive or beyond the means of individuals researchers.

Analysis:

Analysis of data means studying the tabulated material in order to determine inherent facts or meanings. It involves breaking down existing complex factors into simpler parts and putting the parts together in new arrangements for purposes of interpretation. A plan of analysis can and should be prepared in advance before the actual collection of material. A preliminary analysis on the skeleton plan should, as the investigation proceeds, develop into a complete, final analysis enlarged and reworked as and when necessary. This process requires an alert, flexible and open mind. No similarities, differences, trends and outstanding factors should go unnoticed. Larger divisions of material should be broken down into smaller units and rearranged in new combinations to discover new factors and relationships. Data should be studied from as many angles as possible to find out new and newer facts.
2.7 Interpretation:

The interpretation of research data cannot be considered in the abstract. In view of the diversity of the research methods used in education, and the corresponding diversity of the data they seek, the interpretation of such data is best considered within context of each of the methods. The analysis and interpretation of historical data, for example, is best viewed in the light of the historical method, its objectives and its limitations. It is important to note in all circumstances that data do not interpret themselves, and that it is the investigator who must pass judgment on their meaning from the standpoint of the problem under investigation.

The process of interpretation is essentially one of stating what the results (findings) show. What do they mean? What is their significance? What is the answer to that original problem?

Interpretation is by no means a mechanical process. It calls for a critical examination of the results of one's analysis in the light of all the limitations of his data-gathering. It is a very important step in the total procedure of research.

2.8 Tabulation, analysis and presentation:

The data collected from primary and secondary sources for this research work was tabulated and analysed
according to the objectives of the study. The whole study has been presented in a systematic chapterization scheme.