CHAPTER II

OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

Any research in economics calls for a clear statement of the objectives on the basis of which the entire research process is sought to be undertaken. It is in fact these objectives which give a sense of direction to the investigator. The researcher can understand for herself where she is, where she is going and when she will get there from the objectives and methods of studies chosen. Hence, an attempt is made in this chapter to spell out in detail the basic objectives of the study and the methods by which they are sought to be attained.

Objectives

As it has been alluded to earlier it is basically a descriptive study and it is based on five important objectives.

1) To undertake a statistical study of the industrial scenario of Kanyakumari district.
2) To carry out an empirical study of the potentials for rural industrial growth in Kanyakumari district.

3) To study the structure and functioning of the District Industries Centre with special reference to Kanyakumari district.

4) To examine in detail the impact of rural industrial growth in Kanyakumari district over the years.

5) To examine in detail the problems and prospects of District Industrial Centres with special reference to Kanyakumari district.

**Hypotheses**

Testing of hypotheses occupies a place of predominant significance in economic studies. They lend a hand to the researcher in his attempt to bring out the basic concepts and theories which underlie certain economic phenomena and problems. In the present study, the investigator is eager to verify the following two hypotheses. They are:

1. Kanyakumari district has plenty of scope for the development of rural industries.

2. The District Industries Centre contributes significantly towards the elimination of the technological and financial bottlenecks which have dwarfed the interest of entrepreneurs, small industrialists and small businessmen.
Materials and Methods

This study, though basically descriptive in nature requires a mountain of primary and secondary data for analytical purposes. Further, it also requires a lot of research materials which could be collected from secondary sources, for the evolution of a conceptual framework for the study.

The primary data required will be collected by means of a sample survey in the district. In choosing samples the investigator intends following the stratified random sampling method. As a prelude for the study, the small scale industries will be divided into five strata on the basis of their capital investment. From each stratum, 20 samples will be selected at random. This process will ultimately yield a total of 100 samples. These samples will be carefully investigated by means of a carefully prepared questionnaire. These questionnaires will be edited, processed and reduced to the form of a master table. As many sub-tables as may be required for the study will be prepared from the master table. The secondary data needed for the study will be collected from the official records of the District Statistical Office, District Collectorate and the DIC. Every year the District Industries Centre is bringing out an Action Plan. This is the basic document from which reliable statistical details regarding the functioning of the DIC could be obtained. Besides these, efforts will be also made to collect statistical details about the impact of District Industries Centre on industrial growth, from research articles, and
research monographs published from time to time in economic journals. Most of such research articles have been reviewed in Chapter III. The data obtained from secondary sources will be used mostly for designing linear trend models.

Methods

The methods of data processing and data analysis which the investigator seeks to employ in the course of her study deserve a special mention and a detailed discussion at this stage. To facilitate the process involved in data processing, the investigator proposes to prepare a sufficiently informative master table and numerous sub tables out of it. These tables will be mostly self-explanatory in nature. On the basis of the tables investigator wishes to construct a number of trend models. These trend models will render the task of prognostication easy.

Trend Models

Trend models are proposed to be used wherever necessary in the course of the present study. Besides these the investigator also intends using bar diagrams and pie diagrams to render certain table values quite clear to any casual reader of the thesis.

Uses of the Study

This study on the District Industries Centre and their role in accelerating the pace of growth of small scale industries with special reference to Kanyakumari district, though simple and descriptive in nature, has a
number of uses for researchers in the years ahead. The most important among them would include:

1. to explore the possibilities of ushering in organizations like the DIC which facilitate the growth of entrepreneurs in small ventures,
2. the study will facilitate the introduction of better technology and cheap credit facilities for the rapid growth industries in the district, and
3. the study will also spark off researches on the ways and means by which the District Industries Centre could be linked with world bank programmes.

Limitations of the Study

In spite of these advantages the investigator is afraid that the following problems will have to be encountered in the course of the present study. They are:

1. Paucity of adequate and reliable primary and secondary data.
2. Problems of sampling errors

Plan of the Study

The investigator intends adhering to the following study plan.

1. First chapter embodies a comprehensive introduction to the study.
2. The objectives of the study are discussed in the second chapter.
3. Chapter three will cover a comprehensive review of all available related studies.

4. Chapter four will provide a comprehensive account about the industrial background of the district.

5. Chapter five will embody a profile of the rural industries in Kanyakumari district.

6. In chapter six an attempt is made to delineate the structure and functioning of the district industries centre and the schemes launched by them to promote rural industries since 1978.

7. Chapter seven will contain an analytical study of the various categories of industries started under the direction of the district industries centre with a special allusion to their productivity, profitability and employment generation potentials.

8. The problems encountered by District Industries Centres will be discussed in chapter eight

9. A summary of the discussions held and the conclusions arrived at will be given in the ninth chapter.