ABSTRACT

The present three-stage investigation attempted to demonstrate that personality tests developed following the projective inventory (P-I) approach (Puhan, 1982) are relatively less affected by social desirability factor. In the first study, following the formats of P-I approach, eight stories with 297 related statements (items) were written to measure health, home, social, and emotional adjustment with a purpose to develop a composite test battery for the trait of adjustment. These stories and statements along with a criterion measure (i.e., Vyaktitva-Parakh-Prashnavali: V. P. P.; Saxena, 1962) were then administered to 200 post-graduate students of Gorakhpur University in two consecutive sessions. The statements with bi-serial correlation ($r_{bis}$) of .15 or more with the corresponding criterion scores were retained for the final Adjustment Projective-Inventory (AdP-I).

In the second study, the AdP-I and Asthana Adjustment Inventory (Asthana, 1950) were administered twice with an interval of 25-30 days to 200 graduate students of D. A. V. Degree College, Gorakhpur, in two separate sessions. Fifty students were selected randomly from the same sample who were rated by their parents and friends on a five point Likert-type rating scale for their adjustments in the mentioned areas. The results revealed satisfactory test-retest (i.e., .69, .70, .61, .74, & .87) and Kuder...
Richardson (i.e., .61, .65, .71, .69, & .60) reliabilities and criterion validity (i.e., .69, .81, .75, .82, & .85) for different subscales and total Adjustment Projective-Inventory.

In the third study, Adjustment Projective-Inventory, Vyaktitva-Parakh-Prashnavali, and Marlowe-Crowne Social Desirability Scale (Crowne & Marlowe, 1960) were given to 192 graduate-students of D. A. V. Degree College, Gorakhpur, in three separate sessions. Correlations of the Social Desirability Scale separately with the AdP-I and the V.P.P. self-report (S-R) inventory were found to be .08, .00, -.05, -.01, & -.05 and .34, .33, .35, .38, & .33, respectively, for measuring health, home, social, emotional, and total adjustment. The differences in these correlations across the assessment methods were all found to be significant at .01 level. The low correlations of Social Desirability Scale with AdP-I compared to corresponding S-R inventory were interpreted in the light of existing theories of projective methods.

The implications and difficulties of the projective-inventory approach to personality assessment were discussed. Further researches particularly on the critical aspects of the projective-inventory approach were outlined.