ANNEXURE

AN INVESTIGATION INTO
THE TEACHING OF GEOGRAPHY
T SECONDARY STAGE OF DEOGARH DISTRICT

THESIS SUBMITTED
FOR THE DEGREE OF
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
IN
EDUCATION

SAMBALPUR UNIVERSITY
2008

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Justify the rationale of the problem.

Ans. Geography is a science which describes the earth. In past, Geography described various features of the earth's surface particularly the physical features like mountains, hills, rivers, lakes etc. Subsequently, Geography studied men and animals. Later on, study of weather came into the orbit of Geography. Not only this, the study of various heavenly bodies like the sun, the moon and other planets became the areas of study under Geography. Thus, Geography is a vast area of study.

In reality, Geography deals with abstract things which can not be easily understood. In order to convert the abstract things into concrete terms and make them understandable, proper qualified and trained teachers are necessary. But such teachers are not available in the secondary schools of Orissa. In the absence of such teachers, any body and every body is teaching this subject. Even the PETs, Hindi teachers and Sanskrit teachers are teaching this subject. This had fascinated the researcher to conduct this study.

How far the related research review helps him to strengthen his study?

Ans: Review of related literature avoids replication and duplication in research. A review of the Indian studies as well as studies in Orissa revealed that no researcher had conducted study on
teaching of Geography in the secondary schools of Deogarh District. Hence, this topic was chosen for the study.

(iii) **What are the bases to formulate the objectives of the study?**

**Ans:** A research problem has many dimensions and it is sure that all dimensions cannot be studied at a time. Hence, the researcher decides what dimensions he will study. This helps in formulating the objectives.

(iv) **How will his research findings contribute to strengthen the discipline Education?**

**Ans:**

**Finding:** No teacher teaching Geography had studied Geography at +2/+3/M.A. stage.

**Solution:** Geography, as a subject, is available in few colleges of Orissa. Hence, students are deprived of Geography subject at +2/+3/M.A. level even if they have a desire for it. Thus, Govt. should take steps to open this subject in many colleges at +2 and +3 levels.

**Finding:** No teacher teaching Geography had studied Geography method at B.Ed. level.

**Solution:** Some seats at B.Ed. level should be kept reserved for Geography students.

**Finding:** Even PETs, Hindi teachers and Sanskrit teachers teach Geography.

**Solution:** Geography will be taught only by branded teachers.
Finding: No Geography teacher participated in Seminar/workshop/conference.

Solution: Seminar/Workshop/Conference should be organised regularly on Geography and every Geography teacher should attend these programmes.

Finding: The sophisticated aids like OHP, Slide, Filmstrips etc. are not available in schools.

Solution: Government should provide funds or the materials to each secondary school.

Finding: In no school, reference books on Geography and Geography method books are available.

Solution: Each school should be equipped with Geography reference books and Geography method books and for this, funds should be provided by the Govt.

Finding: No school organises Geography excursion.

Solution: Circular should be issued to every school for organization of Geography excursion. For this, Government should place funds to each school.

(v) What kind of viable applications the researcher is expecting in the field of Education from the findings of his research?

Ans: Majority boys and girls are not interested to study Geography. They study it because it is a compulsory subject. A sea-change should be brought about in the attitude of the students. The students should be motivated to study Geography. They should enjoy the study of Geography. Attempts should be made by the
Geography teachers to create interest in the minds of the students for study of Geography. Geography room with all necessary teaching aids should be opened in each school.

**Educational Implications**

Geography is one of the most ancient sciences. In ancient times, man described and mapped the part of the world known to him and then made estimates about the rest. The geographers of the past felt satisfied when they divided the earth’s surface into a number of units either on the basis of physical configuration or cultural development or combination of both these elements. But modern geography is not merely a description or interpretation of the regions of the world. It is more concerned with man than the earth alone.

Geography is a science of sciences. It is sometimes called the mother of all sciences. Whereas all the sciences are restricted to their own fields, Geography accepts the data from all of those and tries to explain the inter-relation between the facts. Like a bee, it sucks honey from many flowers. It is an enquiry to study the causes and attempts to find out 'why' and 'how' of all these factors.

Geography is a vital and dynamic study. It is a co-ordinating discipline between natural and social sciences. Its subject matter consequently lends to and borrows interest from both scientists and students of social sciences. On the one hand, it includes physical sciences like Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Astronomy and on the other hand, it
includes humanistic studies like Botany, Zoology, Anthropology, Sociology and History. Geography is acting like a bridge between natural and social sciences. It is, in fact, the cream of a number of sciences carefully blended.

At the secondary stage, the beginnings of scientific thoughts are seen. The secondary school student is much more concerned with the reality of the present day. During this stage also, the power of abstract reasoning develops very slowly. As Geography is a compulsory subject at secondary stage of Orissa and it deals with abstract concepts, the method of teaching Geography should be inductive. The teacher should present the facts and then attempt to explain them. Field study, map work, use of pictorial materials are used in primary as well as secondary stages.

At the secondary stage, the objectives of teaching Geography should be:

- Development of mental discipline.
- Development of thought and action
- To broaden outlook
- International understanding
- Development of co-operation and sympathetic outlook.
- To utilize natural resources
- To develop cultural sense
- To acquire economic efficiency
- To create love for the country
- To develop democratic thinking
As Geography deals with abstract concepts, the Geography teacher should be very careful to transact them. For this, there are many methods viz., Observation method, Discussion method, Project method etc. The Geography teacher should meticulously judge the appropriateness of each method for a particular class and topic. Then only the complex ideas in the text books at secondary stage will be clear and meaningful.

For clarity of a concept, the Geography teacher can use audio-visual aids while teaching. These aids will make teaching and learning simpler, easier and quicker.

In every secondary school, Geography room should be created which will contain necessary teaching-learning materials. The school can also procure sophisticated aids like OHP, Projector, Filmstrips etc.

The Geography teacher should create interest in the minds of the students for study of Geography. For this, excursion to geographical places should be arranged.

Above all, the head of the secondary school will inspire the students to create genuine love for the study of Geography. He can motivate the Geography teacher to grow professionally and to transact the subject in the most befitting manner. Then only, Geography teaching will be successful.

Countersigned
Guide