CHAPTER II
OBJECTIVES AND HYPOTHESES

In the preceding chapter, the investigator clearly split out the basic concept, theories, and the relevant review of literature. In this chapter, Aim, Objectives and Hypotheses constructed for the study will be discussed.

Epidemiological surveys of various populations have found IBS to be quite common. IBS is the seventh leading diagnosis among gastroenterologists. The cost in terms of both the medical expenses and indirect costs, such as work absenteeism, is considerable (Everhart and Renault, 1991).

Even healthy people often report that psychological stressors produce gastrointestinal symptoms. Such stress effects like stress-induced abdominal pain and bowel habit change were more common in subjects with IBS and increased in prevalence as the severity of IBS increased (Longstreth and Wolde-Tsadik, 1993).

The surge of scientific interest in IBS during the past two decades has brought increased awareness that both the traditional biomedical model of disease and a purely psychiatric explanation are inadequate keys to understanding and treating IBS (Drossman and Working Team Committee Chairmen, 1994). This point of view regards IBS as a multifactorial disease in which biologically determined symptoms may be influenced by cultural, social, interpersonal and psychological factors.
So there is an ample scope to conduct a research to investigate and study the psychological aspects of IBS. It is also observed that very few research work has been done in this area in India and whatever explained by these researches, mainly focused more or less on anxiety, depression and stress. For the better understanding of these people with IBS, it is very much needed to fill the gap by carrying out a research in this particular field. In the present study efforts have been made to identify some psychosocial factors as the causes of IBS.

**Objectives**

Objective is a mission, purpose, or standard that can be reasonably achieved within the expected time frame and with the available resources. In general, an objective is broader in scope than a goal and may comprise of several different goals. Objectives means Program activities seek to identify, develop, evaluate and prove the feasibility of new solutions. A well-worded objective will be **Specific**, **Measurable**, **Attainable/Achievable**, **Realistic** and **Time bound** (SMART). Objectives of the present research were:

1. To find out the contribution of emotional maturity in the development of IBS among adolescents.

2. To find out the contribution of parenting style in the development of IBS among adolescents.

3. To find out the contribution of socio-economic status in the development of IBS among adolescents.

4. To study and compare IBS and Non– IBS adolescents with regard to some psychological variables such as emotional maturity,
parenting styles of mother and father and marital conflict or adjustment of their parents.

5. To study and compare IBS and Non – IBS adolescents with regard to an important social variable i.e. socio-economic status.

In order to achieve the objectives and to carry out the research in a scientific manner investigator have postulated certain hypotheses. Hypotheses draw inferences beyond the data. A hypothesis is a tentative explanation for an observation, phenomenon, or scientific problems that can be tested by further investigation, specific, testable prediction about what is expected to happen in the study. A research hypothesis is the statement created by a researcher to speculate upon the outcome of a research or experiment.

Hypotheses

On the basis of previous research findings in this area, expert’s opinion and personal experiences, the following hypotheses were formulated for empirical testing:

1. Emotional maturity will significantly contribute in the development of IBS among adolescents.

2. Parenting style will significantly contribute in the development of IBS among adolescents.

3. Socio-economic status will significantly contribute in the development of IBS among adolescents.

4. IBS and Non IBS groups will differ significantly with regard to their emotional maturity, in terms of:
   a. Emotional instability/ stability
b. Emotional regression/ progression  
c. Social maladjustment/ adjustment  
d. Personality disintegration/ integration  
e. Emotional dependence / independence  

5. IBS and Non IBS groups will differ significantly with regard to their perception of parenting style of mother, in terms of:  
   a. Rejection Vs. Acceptance  
   b. Carelessness Vs. Protection  
   c. Neglect Vs. Indulgence  
   d. Utopian expectation Vs. Realism  
   e. Lenient standards Vs. Moralism  
   f. Freedom Vs. Discipline  
   g. Faulty role expectation vs. Realistic role expectation  

6. IBS and Non IBS groups will differ significantly with regard to their perception of parenting style of father, in terms of:  
   a. Rejection Vs. Acceptance  
   b. Carelessness Vs. Protection  
   c. Neglect Vs. Indulgence  
   d. Utopian expectation Vs. Realism  
   e. Lenient standards Vs. Moralism  
   f. Freedom Vs. Discipline  
   g. Faulty role expectation vs. Realistic role expectation  
   h. Marital conflict Vs. Marital adjustment of parents.  

7. IBS and Non IBS groups will differ significantly with regard to their socio-economic status.