Chapter III

Problem and Hypotheses

Some researchers have suggested that institutional characteristics influence cognitive abilities of the children.

Thus after going through the pertinent literature related to the school background affecting the process of cognitive development of children, the present investigator decided to select the problem related to the process of cognitive development of the students. The following problem was formulated:

To study the effect of school background and educational level on the reasoning ability of the students.

On the basis of the classic findings of Coleman et al. (1981, 1982) that school background has an immense effect on the cognitive development of the children, the following hypotheses were formulated to investigate the effect of school background (i.e. Public v/s Non Public) and educational level on the reasoning ability of the students.

Hypotheses:
(1) The reasoning ability (Verbal and abstract) of students of public school will be more than the students of non-public school.

(ii) The reasoning ability (Verbal and abstract) of 10th graders will be more than the 8th graders.

We may now pass on to the next chapter dealing with the design and methodology.