CHAPTER – III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research is often described as an active, diligent, and systematic process of inquiry aimed at discovering, interpreting, and revising facts. This intellectual investigation produces a greater knowledge of events, behaviours, theories, and laws and makes practical applications possible. The term research is also used to describe an entire collection of information about a particular subject, and is usually associated with the output of science and the scientific method.

In order to carry out a research, it is imperative to formulate a design. This design is called Research Design. A research design is the logical and systematic planning and directing piece of research. The design results from translating a general scientific model into varied research procedures. A research design is indispensable for a research project. It is not a precise and specific plan but a tentative plan which undergoes modifications, as circumstances demand. When the study progresses, new aspects, new condition and new relationship come to light and insight into the study deepens. The process of working out a research design involves making decisions, the techniques to be employed for collecting the data, the safeguards to be employed in the interest of validity, reliability and precision of the instrument of data collection, the mode of drawing the sample from the universe and the size of the sample that would serve as a basis for drawing references about the population of which the sample is a part, analyzing the data, interpreting the results of analysis. With the completion of the designing phase, the investigator turns to the implementation part of it. The choice of techniques to be used for the collection of data depends on such consideration as: who are to be the respondents, what is sought to be known from them, when, where and how. Alongside with the formulation of measuring
instrument, the investigator defines the “population” or “universe” of the study that is the total number of items / objects / people of a specified class which is directly related to or covered by the research problem. Once the population has been defined clearly it makes the selection of representative samples. Such sample are used to infer characteristics of the part (sample) to the whole (population).

FOCUS OF THE STUDY

In the literature on unmet needs in family planning the focus has been on currently married women in the reproductive ages i.e. 15-49 years or in some areas even on 13-49 years. It has generally been assumed that the unmet need for use of contraception is specifically with reference to avoiding conception during the marital life. However, segment of sexually active women having exposure to the risk of conception but not using contraception have remained outside the perview of people having unmet needs. Moreover, use of contraception among the sexually active people is also desirable for preventing oneself from the risk of HIV and STDs (Sexually Transmitted Diseases). In recent years under the reproductive health approach to health and family welfare programme in India, avoiding the risks of HIV and STD is important, thereby providing contraceptive services to the sexually active people. In this study the concept of unmet need will cover all sexually active females in the reproductive age group, married and unmarried, who have not been using contraception but wish to avoid conception or risks, from STD and STIs (Sexually Transmitted Infections).

OBJECTIVES

The study will have the following objectives:

1. To estimate the rate of unmet needs in contraceptive use among active women in the age group of 13-45 years for family planning and for other purposes.
2. To explore the reasons for unmet needs from the points of view of infrastructure development in health and family welfare and service delivery systems.

3. To study systematically the socio-cultural and economic causes for the unmet needs by the socio-economic status of the women.

4. To provide a framework for converting the unmet needs into the met needs from community.

SAMPLE SELECTION

First of all, villages with PHC/sub-centres was located in Dharampur. Then two non-subcentres village and two sub-centres were selected. A survey was carried out in the four village – Gularhi, Rauri, Nahun and Kanda including adjoining villages, Shangli Khurd, Shangli Kalam, Kadon, Hurang. The study relating to unmet needs were obtained by the investigator. And the data relating to small size family norm were obtained from Dher Ki Bhed, Sihardi Musalmana and Sihardi Chamara. From these villages, 10 households each were taken.

Sampling method was carried out for the present study. Since the village are far from Dharampur, the investigator boarded the bus every day to reach the village and come back the same evening after collecting the data. The informants were contracted about the research work to be carried out from Gularhi, there are a total of 33 households. At times, some houses were found to be locked. Hence only 20 households were selected. Households of adjoining village were also selected. Shangli Khurd (3 out of 7 households) and Shangli Kalam (10 out of 22 households). Thus, the total number of households selected are 33 and a total population of 150, out of which 74 are males and 76 are females.

From Nahun village 32 households were selected out of 37 as five households were found to be locked. In Rauri village, 30 house holds were selected from 35 households. And another 5 out of 9 households from the
adjoining village Kadon, were selected giving a total of 35 households and with a population of 141 out of which 79 are males and 62 are females. From Kanda village 25 out of 34 households were selected and 9 out of 19 households from the adjoining village Hurang. The total population of the village is 149, out of which 77 are males and 72 are females.

For the present study in selecting the households of the village it was selected at random. Because a random sample is more suitable in more and homogeneous large group. The method used for drawing the random sample is by the lottery method. In this method number of every unit (households) of universe are written on chits. They are put in a container and thoroughly mixed. Then the required number of chits are drawn from the container.

SOURCES OF INFORMATIONS

In a broader sense, data may be put into two categories: (i) Primary data and (ii) Secondary data. Both primary as well as secondary sources have been used for the present study.

Primary sources are original sources from which the investigator directly collects data that have not been previously collected. Primary data are first hand information collected through various methods like observations, interviewing, mailed survey, simulation and projective techniques. A primary source is a document or other source of information that was created at or near the time being studied, often by the people being studied. A primary source is an original document containing firsthand information about a topic. Common examples of a primary source are: diaries, interviews, letters, original works of art, photograph, works of literature.

These are contemporary accounts of an event, written by someone who experienced or witnessed the event in question. These original documents (i.e., they are not about another document or account) are often diaries, letters, memoirs, journals, speeches, manuscripts, interviews and other such
unpublished works. They may also include published pieces such as newspaper or magazine articles (as long as they are written soon after the fact and not as historical accounts), photographs, audio or video recordings, research reports in the natural or social sciences, or original literary or theatrical works.

Secondary sources are sources containing data which have been collected and compiled for another purpose. The secondary sources consist of readily available compendia and already compiled statistical statements and reports whose data may be used by researchers for their studies. The advantage of secondary sources are: they can be secured quickly and cheaply, wider geographical area and longer reference period may be covered without much cost, it broadens the data base from which scientific generalizations can be made, it enables a researcher to verify the findings based on primary data. A secondary source contains commentary on or discussion about a primary source. The most important feature of secondary sources is that they offer an interpretation of information gathered from primary sources. Common examples of a secondary source are biographies, dissertations, indexes, abstracts, bibliographies, journal articles, monographs.

The function of these is to interpret primary sources, and so can be described as at least one step removed from the event or phenomenon under review. Secondary source materials, then, interpret, assign values to, conjecture upon, and draw conclusions about the events reported in primary sources. These are usually in the form of published works such as journal articles or books, but may include radio or television documentaries, or conference proceedings.

COLLECTION OF DATA

For the present study, a detailed interview schedule was devised in order to collect the information needed. A schedule is a list of questions,
which assists in the collection of data or requisite firsthand information. Under this method, the researcher or investigator himself presents the questionnaire to the respondents. In real life, a schedule is an important tool for the study of different problems, and is used frequently by educationists, social scientists and other behaviourists, for it helps in the collection of informations on a variety of subjects. It consists of two parts: (i) **household schedule** and (ii) **individual questionnaire** for eliciting information from the ever married women in the age group 13-49. The schedule was pre-tested. The questionnaire was designed to elicit data on socio-economic and demographic variables such as age, educational attainment, occupation, religion, caste, income, household composition, wife’s age at consummation of marriage, number of living children, age at marriage, marital status, awareness, knowledge and practice of family planning and different types of contraceptive methods, exposure to various family planning communication media.

TECHNIQUES OF INTERVIEW

The interview is perhaps the most ubiquitous verbal method of obtaining information from people. The interview is a face-to-face interpersonal role situation in which one person, the interviewer, asks the person who is interviewed, the respondent, questions designed to obtain answers pertinent to the research problem. The interviewers try to unveil the various areas of the subject of investigation by imaginatively motivating the respondents to speak out, without substantial bias, in the process of interview. It is a type of probing conversation, which is a very powerful instrument for obtaining information. The interviewer is expected to show a considerable amount of skill and imagination in conducting the interview, and he should be able to motivate and encourage the interviewer, so that the accuracy of information he elicits may be maximized.
The technique of interview was done by first making an assessment as when the respondents will be free from their household chores or any other works. Most of the interview took in the house of the respondents. The duration of the interview lasted for 45 minutes to 1 hour. The difficulties faced by the investigator in the beginning was that they were not ready in giving the information. After assuring them that it is for the research purposes they were at ease. A Non-participant observation method was also used during the field study. The data collection phase was followed by the task of analyzing them.

CASE STUDY

A case study is a particular method of qualitative research. Rather than using large samples and following a rigid protocol to examine a limited number of variables, case study methods involve an in-depth, longitudinal examination of a single instance or event: a case. They provide a systematic way of looking at events, collecting data, analyzing information, and reporting the results. As a result the researcher may gain a sharpened understanding of why the instance happened as it did, and what might become important to look at more extensively in future research. Case studies lend themselves to both generating and testing hypotheses. (Flyvbjerg 2006).

The case study technique as a tool, of data collection for social research is the oldest techniques. The method of investigating and analysing the life of a social unit, be it a person, a household, an institution etc may be referred to as the case study method. The purpose of case study method is to find out the determinants of behavioural patterns of a given unit and its relationship with the environment for tracing the natural historical developmental process of that unit in different social settings. It helps in understanding the real nature of the social unit or social structure or institution.
Plate 1: View of the Village
in its historical, developmental and casual perspective. P.V. Young writes: “A case study is a method of exploring and analysing the life of a social unit, be it that of a person, a family, an institution, a cultural group or even entire community. Its aim is to determine the factors that account for the complex behaviour patterns of the unit and the relationships of the unit and the relationships of the unit to its surrounding milieu.”

A few case studies has been made on the respondents on the research theme.

**UNIVERSE OF THE STUDY**

The universe or population consists of the total collection of items and elements that fall within the scope of a statistical investigation. In statistical usage, the term population does not necessarily refer to people but is a technical term used to describe the complete group of persons or objects for which the results are to apply. In brief, the aggregate of the items which come under the definition of investigation unit is called the universe. The boundaries of a population or universe are determined by the problem under investigation, and the circumstance, object and availability of resources.

The most important aspect of any piece of research is to fine out and select the specific area from which enough information could be collected about the field of study. First of all the investigator made a pilot survey of the villages which falls under the C.D. Block Dharampur. The villages selected for the present study are Gularhi, Kanda, Rauri, Nahun and adjoining villages, Shangli Khurd, Shangli Kalam, Kadon, Hurang, Dher Ki Bhed, Sihardi Musalmana and Sihardi Chamara.