CHAPTER-III

DESIGN

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DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH DESIGN

(A) 3.01 SELECTION OF THE PROBLEM:

The researcher discussed a lot with his guide in order to select the problem for study. The researcher told his own experiences that he experienced when he was a secondary teacher and was teaching English to standard X in some Highschools. As per the instructions of the guide, the researcher took a brief survey of the related Bulletins, Reports and Reference books to get the problem selected. After the consent of the guide, the topic i.e. A critical study of problems of Learning and Teaching English in Zilla Parishad High Schools of Osmanabad District with special reference to standard X was selected for the Ph.D. Thesis.

Regarding the selection of the problem Mr. Sukhia and Mehrotra say" One problem may be selected rather than the other (i) because of it's interest (ii) as a basis of further study,(iii) to improve educational conditions or (iv) for further personal ambitions". 1

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(B) OUTLINE OF THE RESEARCH WORK:

An outline of the present research work was prepared and it was submitted through the guide concerned to the University. The actual research work was undertaken after the topic was approved by the University.
(C) RESEARCH METHOD:

As the present research work relates to the problems of learning and teaching English with special reference to standard X, the researcher adopted the Survey Method.

Regarding research method Mr. Sukhia and Mehrotra say, "The decision about the method or methods to be employed, however, always depend upon the nature of the problem selected and the kind of data necessary for it's solution. Methods selected should always be appropriate to the problem under investigation, feasible, preplanned and well understood." 2.

The survey method helps to explain educational phenomenon in terms of the conditions or relationships that exist opinions that are held by the students, teachers, parents and experts,
processes that are going on, effects that are evident or trends that are developing. It is the only means through which opinions, attitudes, suggestions for improvement of educational practices and instructions and other data can be obtained.

Survey relates not to the individual and characteristics but to the characteristics of the group concerned. Owing to the above statements, the survey method suits to the present research work.
3.02 SAMPLING PROCEDURES:

SOURCES OF DATA

The Researcher selected two categories of population.

Mr. John W. Best says, "Choose respondents carefully. It is important that questionnaires be sent only to those who possess the desired information, those who are likely to be sufficiently interested to respond conscientiously and objectively. A preliminary card, asking whether the individual would be willing to participate in the proposed study, is recommended by some research authorities. This is not only a courteous approach, but a practical way of discovering those who will cooperate in furnishing the desired informations."
(A) EXPERTS

This category included the experts viz. Education Officers, Deputy Education Officers and the Head Masters of the High Schools concerned. They concerned with the administrative problems of learning and teaching English at the S.S.C. level.

(B) TEACHERS OF ENGLISH:

This category included the teachers of English teaching English to standard X. They actually faced the several problems of learning and teaching English at the S.S.C. level.
3.03 DATA-GATHERING INSTRUMENTS

A) TOOLS OF DATA COLLECTION: The researcher used the questionnaires in order to collect the data from the respective respondents. Two separate questionnaires i.e. one for the Experts and another for the teachers of English were prepared and used.

Mr. Lokesh Kaul says "A questionnaire is a device consisting of a series of questions dealing with some psychological, social, educational etc. topic(s) sent or given to an "individual or a group of individuals with the object of obtaining data with regard to some problems under investigation" 4.
(B) DESCRIPTION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRES:

Two separate questionnaires, one for the experts and another for the teachers of English were prepared.

In the beginning the rough outlines of both the questionnaires were prepared. The rough outlines of the questionnaires were then submitted to the guide to get his guidance and instructions there on. The questionnaire items were also submitted to the friends and colleagues for criticism. Later on the final drafts of both the questionnaires were prepared and got printed as per the instructions given by the guide.

Before actual filling the questionnaires the experts were requested to write the name, designation and name of office. Similarly, the teachers of English were requested to write the name of school, educational qualification, methods offered at B.Ed., Examination and experience of teaching English to standard X against the space provided for.
Both the questionnaires included two types of questions namely. The closed form and the open form.

The closed form type of questions included ‘yes’ or ‘No’ and multiple choice responses. On the other hand, in the open form type of questions no responses were provided with question items. The questions had no clues. The respondents had to find out and write down reasons for themselves.

In the questionnaires for the Experts the questions for collecting the data regarding the availability of the teachers of English, Text Books and teaching Adis, difficulties in taking extra periods and the supervised study were given in a proper sequence.

Similarly, the questions regarding the opportunities of inservice training for the teachers and norms regarding the appointments and transfers of the teachers of English were asked. In the questionnaires for the teachers of English, the questions for collecting the data regarding the
calibre of the pupils, vocabulary, attendance, text books, tuition, unfair means at the time of examinations were asked in a proper sequence.

Similarly, the questions regarding the acquisition of language skills such as Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing were asked in the proper sequence.

Again, the questions regarding the understanding of prose, poetry, grammar and composition were also asked.

In the same way the questions regarding the methods of teaching, teaching aids, extra periods, supervised study and the courses undergone conducted by the state institute of English, Maharashtra were also asked.
C) INFORMATION REGARDING POPULATION:

The researcher made the application to the Education officer (primary) Zilla Parishad, Osmanabad on 6th June 1994 for granting the permission for collecting the required data from the respondents concerned.

Later on the Education officer vide his letter No. 340/94 dated 11th July 1994 granted him the permission to collect the required data through the questionnaires.

On the same day i.e on 11-07-1994 the researcher, obtained Talukawise names of all the Zilla parished High Schools in Osmanabad District.

Then the researcher sent the postcards along with the Reply post cards to all the Head Masters of the respective High Schools making request to communicate him the names of English Teachers teaching English to standard ten in their schools.

Almost all the Head Masters communicated the information required by return of the Reply post cards.
Mr. Lokesh Kaul states, "Questionnaire is a popular means of collecting all kinds of data in research. It is widely used in educational research to obtain information about certain conditions and practices and to inquire into opinions and attitudes of an individual or a group. A questionnaire is either administered personally to a group of individuals or it is mailed to them to save a great deal of time and money in travel." 5

Most of the respondents sent the questionnaires back duly filled in. The remaining respondents were reminded in a mild manner. Yet a few did not send the questionnaires back.
3.04 STATISTICAL TREATMENT:

The data collected is studied from as many angles as possible to find out new and newer facts.

The data collected through the use of questionnaires is systematised and organised.

The organisation of data included editing i.e. the checking of gathered data for accuracy, utility and completeness.

The organisation also included the classification i.e dividing of the information into different categories or heads for use. Moreover, it included the tabulation i.e. recording of the classified material in accurate mathematical terms.

The researcher has used one method of analysing data statistically. The method that he used is calculating percentiles and percentile ranks.

REFERENCE:
1. S.P.Sukhia, P.V. Mehrotra and R.N. Mehrotra,

2. ........ Ibid P. 166 ..................


5. ..................Ibid .......................