CHAPTER 4

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In any research endeavour, it is a challenging task to develop appropriate research design for resume the study. A well arranged strategy is required to look at the statement problem of the study. Here in this chapter an attempt has been made to set forth such a strategy for this research undertaking. This study has examined the relevancy of socio and economic thoughts of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in present scenario so in this context it requires a well defined research methodology in a true sense.

The first chapter is dealt with the Introduction and purpose of the research. It is very well explained here in the first chapter about the social and economic views of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar and the debates going on in the constituent assembly for the insertion of the word ‘Socialist’ in the Preamble. A light on the importance of socialism has been thrown in a much effective manner. It also gave a brief noting on how the economy can be made strong by inserting various principles. Further, a detailed view on the socio-economic rights which are included in the context of Constitution is also included within this chapter. Public Interest Litigation and Judicial Activism are the burning topics which are being covered especially because the concept of Locus Standi has been relaxed which has uplifted the status of the underprivileged and the downtrodden people by treating even their letters as petitions. The role of a State in a democratic society has various sub topics which are covered within this section.

Further this first chapter also discusses about the “Relevance on Dr. B. R. Ambedkar’s economic ideas” includes the rise and fall of Indian Economy, the role of agriculture, etc. The comparison between the economies of India present and past is made to know the lacuna in our growth of economy and what problems are faced by
the Indian currency. The subject being and topical with special reference to
globalization this problem have been tackled by developing explanatory research
design.

The second chapter discusses the reviews and studies on this particular subject by
various researchers so that a clear understanding can be created. Similarly, third
chapter deals with the noteworthy contribution in the same subject.

After the collection of research data, an analysis and interpretation of result is
necessary. The purpose of analysis is to build up a sort of empirical model where the
relationship involved is carefully brought out so that some meaningful inferences can
be drawn. Analysis of theoretical data is to be made with reference to the purpose and
objective of the study and its possible bearing on the facts that are to be revealed.

4.1 THE RESEARCH DESIGN

The present research is an Exploratory and as well as descriptive study.

EXPLORATORY RESEARCH DESIGN: Research design is one of the vital aspects
of any kind of research. Without an idea research design it is quite impossible to
pursue a successful research. Therefore, an effective and intelligent researcher must
put earnest effort of designing his research perfectly suiting to his goal. Here for the
study of Dr. Ambedkar’s state Socialism & Economic exploratory research design is
most suitable. Before a builder or architect can develop a work plan or order materials
they must establish the type of building required, its uses and the needs of the
occupants. The work plan flows from this, Similarly in social science research the
issues of sampling, method of data collection (e.g. questionnaire, observation,
document analysis), design of questions are all subsidiary to the matter of ‘what
evidence does he/she needs to collect.

76
In this chapter exploratory and descriptive research design as research strategy have been described and three stages in it have been aptly defined. The social science research today has been described as interdisciplinary. The present work is also covering different dimensions of economics, law and sociology. In this present research study the social and economic thoughts of Dr. B.R Ambedkar were explored. In this research, the relevancy of these thoughts in the present scenario were studied and an attempt would be made to identify the intensity of these thoughts. And also it is explanatory in nature that provides the insight and an understanding of thoughts in different perspectives. Study has proven its validity on the ground of available literatures.

In Exploratory research design, when the subject is new and unexplored this design is used here. The cause and effect relationship has to be explored this design is most suitable. The need for design and planning is most evident when errors and inaccuracies have to be eliminated. Contextually, research design is needed because it facilitates the smooth sailing of various research operations, thereby making research as efficient as possible yielding maximal information with minimal expenditure of efforts, time and money. All this benefits have drawn here by using explanatory research design. The exploration of new phenomena gives better understanding and new strategic use of research issues. The study is primarily based on secondary data that is collected from the various sources.

Karl Pearson has rightly observed that “There is no shortcut to the truth….no way to gain knowledge of the universe except through the gateway of scientific method.” In this work also different dimensions of the subjects have been explained. It is true that “The scientific method is one and same in all branches and that method is the method of all logically trained minds…the unity of all sciences consists alone in its method
not in its material.” The present work has different social and economic dimensions proposed by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. The sources regarding Dr. Ambedkar’s state socialism and economy are ample and they require a critical angle. In this chapter research design was explained properly. The use and application of this design can be justified on following grounds:

- The subject is comparatively new and more relevant to current situation.
- There is a cause and effect relationship regarding the socio economic conditions in India.
- Dr. Ambedkar developed state socialism suitable to Indian conditions. Due to social inequality, poverty, and economic disparity in India requires socialism.
- The state socialism envisaged by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar has been reflected in Indian constitution through Directive Principles of State Policy.
- The different verdicts given by Supreme Court of India and different benches of High courts also revealed progressive ideas of Dr. Ambedkar being verified in Indian constitution.

Hence the use and application of these designs can be most suitable and perfect for this research work.

4.2 RESEARCH APPROACH

The deductive approach is based on the formulation of hypothesis in which specific decision is to made and for testing the hypothesis a strategic approach has been formed. But when the problems of statements are open and the generalizations are made for reaching the conclusions, this research approach is called inductive. In this approach theory is developed on the basis of results. In this study the statements of problem are developed and on the basis of statements a number of question are framed for further analysis. In the present research work objectives are framed and on
the framework of the objectives testing of hypotheses are tested. This research study is purely deductive in nature. All the results of the hypotheses have come to an end and deal with some conclusions and implications. In this study, Qualitative approach has been adopted and associated with the well defined social and economic thoughts of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar. On the basis of this approach the hypotheses are tested conceptually.

The conceptual analysis depends on the kinds of problems or statements and relevant data have been taken by the researcher in this study. The attitude is to solve the problems and the findings would be understandable. In this approach nobody can throw the challenge as the data analysis is error free records.

4.3 RESEARCH STRATEGY

There are many strategies of research that can be used in the study in various disciplines. As Saunders et al. (2000) pointed out: experiment, survey through constructed questionnaire, case study, grounded theory, ethnography and action research. The researcher begins his or her study by posing the research questions on the basis of objectives. The first question that must come in the mind of the researcher that is why, when, where, what, whom and then for finding these pronouns the research starts. These questions are based on the existed variables or factors or some climatic variables.

In this chapter research strategy has been explained. Hence in this work a well defined methodology is evolved and developed. Gisbert has observed that “Sociology may be studied in relation with any other science, but as the social sciences are intrinsically related to it, a comparative study is made between it and the other social disciplines as political science, economics etc..” All this aspects have been properly explained in
this work. Research is simply an urge to explore into specific situations, events, activities or many be deeds and behaviour of common people to find some new and interesting facts. In the field of Social sciences, it is about observation, experimentation, and inferences. In other fields of knowledge/literature, going through some field and practical experiences of least possible event or activity culminating into some interesting and exciting findings.

4.4 THE INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

In a country like India where research issues are complex, varied and interwoven as well as intricate, it requires an interdisciplinary approach. The present work is related to three major social sciences such as Economics, sociology and law. The offensive belief that science has explained everything is a hopeless misunderstanding. Hence this study has required a multidisciplinary approach to look beyond a specific science. Further it has been observed that “It has to do with everything to which its methods can be applied. The subject like states socialism has political, economic, legal as well as social dimensions. This requires a more perfect and relevant interdisciplinary approach. Science at any time is a total result of all that source has been up-to-date In this interdisciplinary work every care has been taken to look at the research problem in a systematic interdisciplinary manner. In such a complex situation, scientific approach is highly required because it has been observed that science is a objective, logical and systematic method of analysis of phenomenon devised to permit the accumulation of reliable knowledge. It is a systematized form of analysis, not any particular body of knowledge.

Therefore, in this study Survey Strategy through collecting data from various secondary sources has been chosen. A survey allows for standardization of data sources which allows easy comparisons. In addition, since this method is easily
understood by the respondents, it is perceived as authoritative. Furthermore, the survey method gives more control over the research process.

4.5 SURVEY OF LITERATURE: plays a key role in the descriptive design. It helps to collect relevant data and to develop right frame work. It has been rightly observed that This study is concerned with an area of subject matter, which explicit hypotheses have not yet been formulated. The researcher’s task then is to review the available material with an eye on the possibilities of developing hypotheses from it. The ideas and vision of Dr. Ambedkar reflected in his works can be crystallized to understand his economic views and its various ramifications.

His major works were explained to highlight the distinct nature of his state socialism and economic upliftment in this research work. His works as well as other scholarly works related to the subject were also studied here. It has been observed that “Professional organizations, research groups and voluntary organizations are a constant source of information about unpublished works in their special fields.” Here the researcher has contacted these groups and up dated the information about Ambedkar’s thoughts and his works depicting the prevailing conditions in the then society thoughts. The most fruitful means of developing hypotheses is the attempt to apply to the area in which one is working, concepts and theories developed in quite different research contexts.

Dr. Ambedkar’s thoughts have been alive in India in the form of social and economic movements and his vision has been truly manifested in the areas like education, social work, as well as social and economic justice. Here the study of economic and social segments have been conducted here in this report. Sharp and effective questions were raised and data received is presented in this work.

The next level explains detail steps taken for hypotheses testing.
These are the following steps which have been taken in completing the research process:

- First, qualitative methods is usually used.
- Secondly, large secondary sources are generally used in order to formulate the findings.
- Thirdly, tested the hypotheses and on the basis of its results; rejection and acceptance have been justified.
- Next, through the specific data in the relevant area; the researcher has made an attempt to measure the data and reach conclusions.
- Fifth, locations and examining the problems are not generally conducted in the field.
- Sixth, to measure the repetitive results for reaching the reliability and obtaining the authentic results.
- Seventh, to find out the real situation is confirmed by the validity
- Lastly, generalizations have been extracted from the studied samples.

### 4.6 CONCEPTUAL FRAME

About the conceptual frame it has been observed that “The scientific procedure consists in evolving, defining and manipulating concepts or symbols with a view to contributing variously to the established corpus of systematic knowledge and/or to establish some new bit of knowledge. In his passage from concrete sense data to the higher and higher levels of abstraction the man of science is constantly shaping, formulating relaying on and using relevant concepts.” In this work following concepts have been defined:

- Social Condition
- Economic Condition
State socialism: This is a concept developed by Dr. Ambedkar to eradicate various problems related to Indian conditions. The purpose of Dr. Ambedkar was to bring equality in Indian society. He has reflected his goals in preamble and DPSP. According to Dr. Ambedkar was means to serve people. It has been pointed that “Ambedkar portrayed democratic socialism in his writings as an ultimate solution of the problems India is facing today.”

Indian constitution: Indian constitution is an ideal constitution having distinct provisions useful for Indian conditions. He had carefully informed spirit of enquiry in Indian social system. The social justice philosophy of Dr. Ambedkar has been reflected in various sections in our society. The ideas of Dr. Ambedkar are manifested in the nook and corner of Indian constitution. The social democracy he had evolved was based on new dimensions of socio cultural relations in India. He said that “What does social democracy mean? It means a way of life which recognizes liberty, equality and fraternity as the principles of life.

Economic Condition: Ambedkar’s economic philosophy focuses on the golden path of development. His philosophy maintains that balance in both the sectors public and private systematically.

The quality of research output principally depends upon Research design. While designing a specific research, the researcher has to very smartly abstract the whole thing that he is going to undertake during the research endeavor. All the hypothetical conceptions pertaining to the given research must be noted at the outset and some selected tentative hypotheses may be formulated to be tested at the end-this is the first and foremost criteria that the researcher follows during the designing phase.

4.7 SAMPLING PLAN

There are two basic sources of data collection in social research.
• Documentary sources

• Field sources

It has been observed that Data required for research can be made available from various sources. P.V. Young has classified them into two groups documentary and field sources. According to P.V. Young documentary sources include material already collected. In this work Dr. Ambedkar’s works as well as constituent assembly debates volumes will be used as documentary sources. Further Dr. Ambedkar’s correspondence, his speeches and writings have been published by Govt. of M.P.

As regards field sources P.V. Young has observed that “Field resources may include living persons, scholars, scientists, research workers, leaders, people who have worked with the social group or have studied the problem.” Thus about state socialism and economic contribution of Dr. Ambedkar ample books and articles are available. Further websites material is also prolific. Wikipedia has put forth Dr. Ambedkar’s profile and comments on various books. All this material is largely available today. What is more important is along with documentation, there is need of corroboration, correlation, examination and authentication as well as synthesis of sources. According to Arthur Schlesinger “No social scientist can wisely ignore the long arm of the past.” Hence in this work on one side the depth of review of literature has been undertaken and on the other side, critical analysis of web content has been made. In data collection about such a relevant issue three aspects were cared in this exploration. The available data published in books and volumes has been chronologically put together and the relevant content scanned properly have been used for understanding theoretical and practical aspects of Dr. Ambedkar’s thoughts on social and economic. The ideas developed through his writings were classified and they were tested to secondary sources.
**Purposive Sampling:** This sampling method is used for those research which have some purpose. This is limited to the specific type of selection. In this study the researcher is confident and firm on his subject. There are some parameters in this type of sampling technique established by the researcher is called as purposive sampling.

The secondary data for this particular study were collected through national and international journals, periodicals and other existing reports that were based on the subject. Secondary data helped the researcher to create better comprehension of Ambedkar’s social and economic thoughts. Thus the study conducted and analysed the significance of the secondary data.

**4.8 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

Development of any region not only depend upon its physical characteristics but also on social and economic characteristics. Human resources of any region greatly affect development process and every social group contributes in the development of a nation. In the past, Indian caste system did not give equal opportunities to all the sections of the society and hence some groups remained socio-economically backward. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar came with new thoughts in support of those oppressed social and economically backward groups and these views are still relevant in today’s economic environment. Hence, in lieu of relevancy the study has been undertaken with the following objectives:

- To make an analysis of the economic conditions prevailing in our country.
- To study the essence of Ambedkar’s foresighted vision in the economy of today.
- To study the thoughts of this great economist when he practiced economics professionally.
➢ To identify the changes in nation due to his economic policies.

4.9 HYPOTHESIS: In order to answer the research questions and achieve the objectives of the study, the following hypotheses were advanced and tested in the course of this study.

H₀₁: An analysis of the economic conditions prevailing in our country has a relevancy in lieu of the Ambedkar’s thoughts on economic spectrum.

H₀₂: There is a significant impact of Ambedkar’s foresighted vision on the economy of today.

TH₀₃: Changes in the development of Nation are positively correlated with the Ambedkar’s economic policies.

4.10 LIMITATIONS OF STUDY

Every social research has to explain limitations and delimitations of the research frame, because the vastness of the area can create many complications. The following has limitations of the present work.

➢ Among the numerous concepts Dr. Ambedkar has developed his idea of state socialism & economic conditions have been focused as prime research area of this research work.

➢ His views expressed on state socialism will be examined on the basis of his writings such as state and minorities and other books on economics.

➢ Constituent assembly debates have been used as important source material for this study.
 ➢ His state socialism enshrined in Indian constitution in the form of DPSP i.e. directive principles of state policy have been a major area of exploration.