CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research methodology adopted for this doctoral research study is briefly described in this chapter. It mainly covers the research gap and research questions (end of the previous chapter), research objectives, sources of data collection, instrument for conducting interviews with the stakeholders, sampling plan, plan for data analysis, and the scope and limitations of the study.

Malhotra (2008) describes research process in six steps. A brief description of these six steps has been presented here.

Step 1: Problem Definition

The research study begins with definition of the research problem. Usually, the research problem may be defined using several research questions.

Step 2: Development of Research Approach

This includes formulation of research objective or theoretical framework, analytical models, research questions and hypotheses and identifying the information needed.

Step 3: Research Design

Research design generally includes the following:

1. Defining the information needed
2. Analysis of Secondary Data
3. Methods of collecting quantitative data
4. Deciding on measurement and scaling
5. Designing questionnaire for data collection
6. Sampling plan including sampling procedure and sample size
7. Plan of data analysis

Step 4: Data Collection

Data collection involves procedure for collecting data from primary source using personal interviewing, telephonic interviewing, through mail / email or some other techniques.
**Step 5: Data preparation and Analysis**

Data collected as per step-4 are edited, coded, and prepared properly to carry out a meaningful analysis using an appropriate analytical technique.

**Step 6: Documentation and Report Writing**

This is the last step of the research process, analyzed data are presented properly.

**3.1. Research Questions**

Based on the literature review, several research questions arise as listed below:

1. The past study showed that there was an increase in AD activities post 1995. Is it still continued? Is this true in case of India being a developing nation? Which countries of the world make maximum use of AD initiations? Which countries of the world face maximum AD initiations?

2. The studies have revealed that chemical industry and steel industry are the two major users of AD mechanism globally. Which industries / sectors are most affected and major users of AD initiation in Indian context?

3. What is the success ratio of initiations and measures in India

4. Is there any relationship between AD cases initiated by a country, AD cases faced by a country, country’s merchandise imports and country’s merchandise exports?

5. What are the views, perceptions and understanding of various stakeholders regarding dumping, antidumping, antidumping initiations and prevalent regulatory framework in India?

**3.2 Research Objectives**

In order to address the research questions as mentioned above, the several research objectives have been formulated. They are as follows:

1. To understand pattern of AD initiations and to identify the country(ies) that has initiated maximum AD cases and the country(ies) that has faced maximum AD cases

2. To identify the industry sector that might be heavily affected by dumping and the major user(s) of AD initiations in Indian context, and compare with world average.
3. To find out the success ratio of investigations resulting in imposition of Antidumping Duty and to compare the same with that of other countries
4. To understand the relationship, if any, between the number of AD cases faced, number of AD cases initiated, country’s merchandise exports, and country’s merchandise imports, in Indian context
5. To understand the views, opinions and perceptions of various stakeholders regarding dumping, ways of tackling it, antidumping, antidumping initiations and prevalent regulatory framework and possible improvement in India

3.3 Research Design

The literature on research design describes 3 different types of research designs. They are:
1. Exploratory Research Design
2. Descriptive Research
3. Causal Research

This study follows an **exploratory research design**. It begins with the exploration of literature and collection of secondary data in order to find out the trends of AD initiations across the major countries of the world. Subsequently, in-depth interviews were conducted of the stakeholders to know their opinions and perceptions about dumping, antidumping, and prevalent regulatory framework in India.

3.4 Data Collection

3.4.1. Primary Sources of Data:

Primary data is the first-hand data collected from the horse’s mouth. For the purpose of this study, stakeholders have been considered as sources of primary data.

3.4.2. Secondary Sources of Data:

Research papers, Reports, and websites of the World Trade Organization (WTO) are some of the very important sources of secondary data used for collection of data.
3.4.3. The Research Instrument

In order to elicit responses from the stakeholders, an open-ended questionnaire was developed. The questionnaire designing inputs largely came from the literature review and also the past experience of the researcher. The open-ended questionnaire is presented below:

Questions for Interview of Experts

1. What are your views regarding dumping of products by foreign companies/ countries?
2. What are reasons of high dumping of the products in our country?
3. Why certain industries are more affected by such dumping?
4. What is the effect of dumping on such industry?
5. What are the ways of tackling dumping?
6. Are you familiar with anti dumping cases?
7. Have you come across any of such cases?
8. What problems are faced while handling such cases?
9. What are the factors which are in favor of such cases?
10. What are the factors which go against such cases?
11. Do you feel that the present system/ mechanism of filing and handling cases for antidumping measures, is satisfactory?
12. What are your suggestions to improve the same?

The content of this question was validated through the expert’s opinions. The questionnaire also got some refinement during the process of interviewing the experts.

3.4.4 Data Collection Period (June 2017 to February 2019)

The data for the study was collected from the experts from various parts of Gujarat state and Mumbai. This was the most difficult phase of the research study due to difficulty of finding and locating a qualified respondents and secondly the willingness of the respondents to respond and be ready for the interview.

3.5 Sampling Design

The industry experts and stakeholders formed the universe for this study. A definite sampling frame was not available. Moreover, it was also difficult to find out an industry expert who might
have either faced or initiated an AD initiation. In another words, it was necessary to find out an industry / businessperson or any other stakeholder who might be affected by dumping and /or has been a close witness or party to dumping / antidumping initiations. Due to the difficulty of locating respondents, a snowball sampling method was used to find out the respondents. In all, 18 valid responses could be collected with a great difficulty.

3.6 Data Preparation & Analysis

Data collected from the secondary sources were tabulated for further analysis and graphical presentation. The data collected from the experts were arranged according to the questions and then content analyzed to derive meaningful inferences. An attempt was also made to analyze the responses using Word Cloud technique. For the purpose of data analysis, SPSS v16 was used to carry out linear regression analysis. Orange software was used to generate Word Cloud of the responses.

3.7 Need and Scope of the Study:

The phenomenon of dumping is widespread across the world and sometimes causes material injury to the domestic industry. The trend of AD initiations by various countries of the world clearly shows that China has been facing highest number of AD initiations and thus involved in dumping across the world. On the other side, India has filed highest numbers of AD initiations and thus is the most affected nations by the dumping activities. Antidumping initiation process has been very complex and requires a very well laid down regulatory mechanism to define dumping and enforce safeguard mechanism through antidumping duty. In view of this, it was felt that an in-depth study may be instituted to understand the trend in dumping activities, countries that are engaged in dumping, countries and industry sectors affected by dumping and views and opinions of the experts about dumping, antidumping duty, and prevalent regulatory mechanism.

The scope of this study is limited to understand the trend in dumping and antidumping activities based on the number of AD initiations made by different countries, affected industries / sectors, understand the predictors of AD cases faced by India and experts views and opinion.
3.8 Limitations of the study

For the purpose of regression analysis, 3 predictor variables were considered. There is a possibility that some other macro-economic variables may be affecting the number of AD cases faced.

The number of responses is limited due to difficulty in getting hold of the qualified respondents.

3.9 Chapterisation of the Thesis

The thesis contains following chapters:

- **Chapter-1**  Introduction
- **Chapter 2:**  Review of Literature
- **Chapter 3:**  Research Methodology
- **Chapter 4:**  Analysis and Findings
- **Chapter 5:**  Conclusion & Recommendations