3 HYPOTHESES

After reviewing the literature on the subject of punishments in the criminal law of our country the hypothesis formulated for study is that the present day law is in need of reform in the light of reform more so in view of changes in the socio economic conditions of the people and the new principles of criminal justice which have emerged in the form of international human rights norms. The basic law on this subject was enacted a century ago, but subsequent to the passing of the Penal Law in that form several changes have taken place in the spheres of social, economic, political and administrative matters which call for a study of the subject exhaustively. The Constitution of our country which was adopted after Independence was something unknown to our system of punishments. There is need for updating the system of punishment by tuning it to the new principles embodied in the Constitution.