Methodology of the present study

RESEARCH METHODS

A social research is the systematic method of discovering the new facts or verifying the facts, their sequences, interrelationship, casual explanations and the natural laws which govern them.

According to Clifford Moody, Research comprises defining and redefining problems, formulating hypotheses or suggested solutions, collecting organizing and evaluating data making deduction and making conclusions and at last carefully testing the determine whether they fit the formulated hypothesis”.

As per Webster’s dictionary. Research has been defined as, “a careful and critical enquiry or examination in seeking facts or principles, diligent investigation in order to ascertain something”.

Thus the above definitions focus on the point namely that social research aims at adding to knowledge of human being the problems which face the society.

METHODOLOGY :

The steps in the methodology include :

a) Data Collection
b) Data Analysis
c) Interpretation

Data Collection :

Present study was done with the help survey method plays significant role in research as can seen from the statement. “The survey method is one of the most effective and sensitive instrument of research ….. survey can produce much needed knowledge”.

The Researcher prepared a questionnaires for the School librarian of the concerned schools.
For collecting the data for the present study, the researcher visited the following Institutions (Secondary sources) and collected primary data on School Libraries in North Maharashtra.

i) Zillah Parishad, in North Maharashtra regions.

ii) Annual reports of concerned schools

iii) Govt. college of Teacher Education, Jalgaon.

iv) Directorate of Secondary Education, Maharashtra State, Pune.

Data was also collection from Annual Reports of secondary Education and official records of concern school libraries.

Population Sample:

In the context of North Maharashtra region, of the total 1223 school there were 327 schools where appointed full time librarian & 185 part time librarian is appointed on 31st Mar.2007. All are Private – Aided schools. Questionnaire was administered to all the school in the North Maharashtra region. In other works, all the School Libraries formed the sample population.

Design of Questionnaire:

A questionnaire is used when factual information is desired. When opinions rather than facts are desired, an opinionative or attitude scale is used.

Questionnaires administered personally to groups of individuals have a number of advantages. The person administering the instrument has an opportunity to establish rapport, explain the purpose of study, and explain the meaning of items that may not be clear. That availability of a number of respondents in one place makes possible an economy of time and expense and provides a high proportion of usable responses. It is likely that a principal would get completely usable responses from teachers in the building, or a teacher from students in the classroom. However, individuals who have the desire information cannot always be contacted personally without the expenditure of a great deal of time and money in f travel. It is in such situations that the mailed questionnaire may be useful. The mailed questionnaire is one of the most used and probably criticized data – gathering device. It has been referred to as the lazy
person’s way of gaining information, although the careful preparation of a good questionnaire takes a great deal of time, ingenuity, and hard work. There is little doubt that the poorly constructed questionnaires that flood mails have created a certain amount of contempt. This is particularly true when the accompanying letter pleads that the sender needs the information to complete the requirements for a graduate course, thesis, and dissertation. The recipient’s reaction may be, “Why should I go to all trouble to help this person get a degree?”

Filling out lengthy questionnaires takes a great deal of time effort, a favor that few senders have any right to expect of strangers. The unfavorable reaction is intensified when the questionnaire is long, trivial, the items vaguely worded, and the form poorly organized. The poor quality of so many mailed questionnaires helps to explain so small a proportion is returned. As a result of low response rates, often less 40 percent, the data obtained are often of limited validity; information in the unreturned questionnaires might have changed results of the investigation materially. The fact of no response might imply certain types of reactions, reactions that can never be include the summary of data.

Unless one is dealing with a group of respondents who have genuine interest in the problem under investigation, know the sender, or have some common bond of loyalty to a sponsoring institution or organization, the rate of returns is frequently disappointing and provides a flimsy basis for generalization.

Although the foregoing discussion may to discussion may seem to discredit the questionnaire as a respectable research technique, we have tried to consider the abuse or misuse of the device. Actually the questionnaire has unique advantages, and properly constructed and administered, it may as a appropriate and useful data gathering device in a research project.

On the basis of survey of questionnaire designed earlier, a structured questionnaire was designed for librarians. Since this is a region wide study, the questionnaire was administered to all libraries with the hope of getting responses from a representative sample for detailed analysis. Broad details regarding both the questionnaire are give below.
Questionnaire for Librarian:

The questionnaire (Appendix - 1) consisted of ten sections detailed here as under:

Section I preliminaries consists of five questions on basic information about the schools i.e. nature of school, staff intake capacity of school, name of the librarian pay scale etc.

Another Sections i.e. Budget, processing and organization, care & Maintenance and library automation consist two questions each.

Acquisition Sections contains five however, library building and furniture section contain question each.

Of the 222 private aided schools responses was received good for a study of this nature. Of the 180 schools, all are Private Aided schools.

Data Analysis:

Collected data has been analyzed and presented in tabular as well as in graphical form. In graphical form, bar chart, pie charts, line graph are used for presentation.

A) Operational definition of sample

Education- Education means training of love of nation liberation, manifestation of the divine perfection, development of child, man, mind, body and soul, to cultivate truthfulness and which is the instrument for solution of all problems. (Humayun Kabir)

Library-

In a traditional sense, a library is a large collection of books, and can refer to the place in which the collection is housed. Today, the term can refer to any collection, including digital sources, resources, and services. The collections can be of print, audio, and visual materials in numerous formats,
including maps, prints, documents, microform (microfilm/microfiche), CDs, cassette tapes, DVDs, video games, e-books, audio books and many other electronic resources

**School Library -**

A library in a public or private elementary or secondary school that serves the information needs of its students and the curriculum needs of its teachers and staff, usually managed by a school librarian or media specialist. A school library collection usually contains books, periodicals and educational media suitable for the grade levels served. (Amjad Ali, 2004).

The School library is soul, the core, the pivot around which academic life in the school revolves- B.R. Deshpande (educatonist)

**B) Research Design**

i) **Scope of Study & Limitations :**

The following are the limitations:

a) This study is limited to such type of school in the North Maharashtra where librarian is appointed. There were 512 schools where librarian (Full time &Part time) is appointed.

b) This study is also undertaken for the period 2010-11 only.

c) Present study doesn’t consist Zilla Parisha schools, Non-granted, Military Schools and Navodaya Vidyalayas.

ii) **Utility of the study :**

The survey analysis would project the strength and weakness of the functioning of School library.

iii) **Discussion**

Discussion will be drowned with the help of results and findings.