RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research is based on collecting qualitative data extracted from a survey which is then formulated into another quantitative survey. The explanation of both surveys and the research propositions and methodology is going to be presented.

Target Population

It is targeting IT professionals in banks who were involved in IT BC/DR process. Those people are the experts who can tell from their experience what are the factors in IT BC/DR process and how important they are. To go further step and measure, in real life, what experts say about the IT BC/DR factors, the research is also targeting the IT personnel who are in charge of IT in small and medium size banks in Maharashtra. This step can be thought of discovering how such factors are being practiced and considered in the IT BC/DR process.

Sample Size

The survey includes approximately four banks (both public and private sectors). I’ll include approximately 25 IT banking professionals and 25 IT experts from different organizations.

Sources for the data used

The study is based on both primary and secondary data.

Primary Data: Survey questionnaire was administered to empirically assess the level of adoption and strategy taken by the banks for the BCP/DR in Maharashtra. A survey questionnaire will be completed by the banks’ IT employees’ respective banks, IT experts of different IT organizations.

Secondary Data: The secondary data obtained through the Net, books and related journals. The four banks’ strategies with regard the BCP and DR will be retrieved from these banks’ annual reports, websites, and referred journals. These annual reports were obtained from the banks’ themselves through their Web sites.
Sampling Technique

The sampling technique used is called survey sampling and it involves a questionnaire used to measure the characteristics and/or attitudes of people. Different ways of contacting members of a sample once they have been selected is the subject of survey data collection. The purpose of sampling is to reduce the cost and/or the amount of work that it would take to survey the entire target population.

Research Design: Two-survey Approach

This research is exploratory research in nature since it attempts to find out the qualitative factors that affect decision making in Banking IT BC/DR process. To fulfill the research objectives, this research is based on two surveys: one targeted to IT experts and another is targeted to IT professionals who are responsible for the IT DR/BCP in banks in Maharashtra.

The objective of the first survey which will be targeting the IT experts will be to find out the qualitative factors that affect decision making in IT BC/DR in banks in Maharashtra. The survey will have mostly open ended questions as the nature of open ended questions will enable the IT experts to input their own feedback freely and provide more explanation to support their ideas.

The second survey will be developed and published after finalizing and coding the results from the IT expert survey. The survey questionnaires will be designed from the qualitative factors that will be collected from IT experts' survey. The target people in the second survey are IT personnel who are in charge of IT in different banks in Maharashtra.

To ease the measurement of the input provided by IT personnel, the survey questions will be designed using close-ended questions with different scales. Each question (or sub-question) is probing information around the following survey objectives:
1. To gather general information about the respondents, his/her bank and the use of IT in the bank.
2. To measure the applicability of some selected IT BC/DR factors and considerations in practice.
The questions will also be designed to gain some knowledge about the IT BC/DR in the banks in terms of the level of implementation, the value of the IT BC/DR for the bank and also the way IT BC/DR is being implemented.

The outcome of the second survey will be used to develop a model for IT BC/DR assessment.