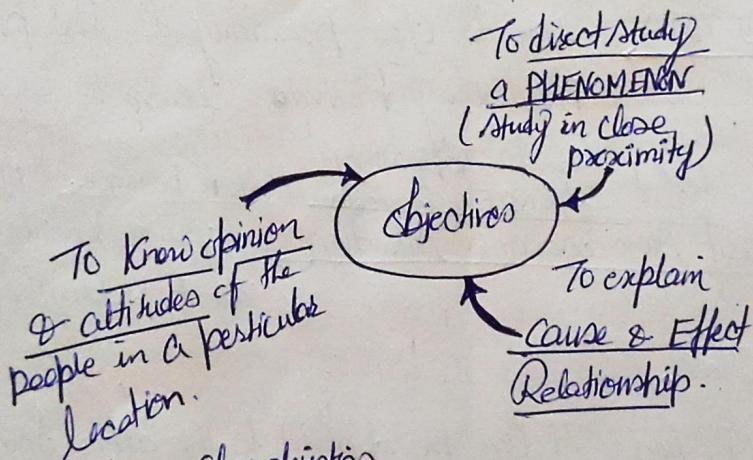


Field Survey & Techniques

The field survey is an important tool to gather evidences relating to certain social-economic & Geographical problems. It is concerned with the current state of phenomena & determines the future vision of that particular phenomena in the specific region ~~in~~ ^{for} specific time period.

Objectives of Field Survey & Techniques



Characteristics of the field survey & Techniques

- Field survey is confined to the study of specific current problems in a "PARTICULAR LOCATION".
- It is concerned with a large & "widely dispersed group of people" in contrast to the lab experiments.
- It is "PROGRESSIVE" in nature because it provides necessary information, Plans for improvement, helpful formulating strategies for development and may be helpful for the Government in decision making.

It is a "planned Collection of data" for predicting relationship between the variables. So, it enables to interpret, synthesise & integrate data & points out of their implications.

It is the only method through which the investigator (student/Researcher) can obtain the opinions, attitudes & suggestions for improvement.

MERITS

- ① High Representativeness → passes a better description of the relative characteristics of the general popⁿ.
Due to close contact with locals they (Researchers) studies more about the phenomena @ the problem.
- ② CLOSE CONTACT →
- ③ GREATER OBJECTIVITY → Due to close proximity to the phenomena Field survey method leads to Greater objectivity.
- ④ Survey is Ideal for SCIENTIFIC Research → provide all the participants with a standardized stimulus thus it eliminates Researcher's own BIAS.
Greater Knowledge about problem & its potential solutions.
- ⑤ Knowledge about Socio-economic Situation →
- ⑥ Universal Application → It can be applied to the other similar geographical areas of the world where the popⁿ have similar characteristics.
+ Multiple variables can also be effectively analyzed using surveys.
- ⑦ Useful for Administrators & policy makers → on the basis of Socio-economic survey legislation, schemes, policy is made in Rational & Targeted manner.

Demerits

① Specific Training → a layman cannot conduct survey because specific training is required for him to study the situation deeply.

② Time Consuming → Researcher has to travel to the locations & wait right time to conduct surveys. Many time respondents are not ready to answer because they have no time.

③ More Costly → Without money/grant/financial support it is not possible.
 because it is impossible to control external variables which alters the nature of the response.
 The higher expenditure of the researcher is a factor for limited no. of surveys.

④ Inflexible Design → Survey conducted by the researcher from the very beginning, it cannot be changed throughout the process of data gathering.
 (iii) Fairness

⑤ Not ideal for Controversial issues → Questions that bears controversies may not be precisely answered by the participants because of the probably difficulty of recalling the information related to them.
 willing to not to share the sensitive issues.

⑥ No application to Historical problem → Field survey method is used for the IN-SITU/current problems & have no applications for the past & historical events.

⑦

Inappropriateness of data

The researchers create data collection methods/sample

area/questions to accommodate general popⁿ. However these general questions may not be as appropriate for all the participants as they should be.

Despite these demerits, Field Research is defined as a qualitative methods of data collection that aim to observe, interact & understand people while they are in natural environment.

→ Different Techniques of Field Survey →

- Database in Geographical Studies
- Sampling techniques in Geographical Studies
- observation
- Questionnaires
- Interview with special focus on

→ Focused group discussions.

• Space Survey

→ Transects

→ Quadrats

→ Constructing a sketch

→ 