

## Meaning of Research in Research Methodology

Research may be very broadly defined as systematic gathering of data and information and its analysis for advancement of knowledge in any subject. Research attempts to find answer intellectual and practical questions through application of systematic methods.

Webster's Collegiate Dictionary defines research as "studious inquiry or examination; esp. investigation or experimentation aimed at the discovery and interpretation of facts, revision of accepted theories or laws in the light of new facts, or practical application of such new or revised theories or laws". Some people consider research as a movement, a movement from the known to the unknown.

It is actually a voyage of discovery. We all possess the vital instinct of inquisitiveness for, when the unknown confronts us, we wonder and our inquisitiveness makes us probe and attain full and fuller understanding of the unknown. This inquisitiveness is the mother of all knowledge and the method, which man employs for obtaining the knowledge of whatever the unknown, can be termed as research.

## Objective of Research in Research Methodology

The purpose of research is to discover answers to questions through the application of scientific procedures. The main aim of research is

to find out the truth which is hidden and which has not been discovered as yet. Though each research study has its own specific purpose, we may think of research objectives as falling into a number of following broad groupings

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### Aims and Objectives of Research Methodology

To gain familiarity with a phenomenon or to achieve new insights into it (studies with this object in view are termed as exploratory or research studies);

To portray accurately the characteristics of a particular individual, situation or a group (studies with this object in view are known as descriptive research studies);

To determine the frequency with which something occurs or with which it is associated with something else (studies with this object in view are known as diagnostic research studies);

To test a hypothesis of a causal relationship between variables (such studies are known as hypothesis-testing research studies).