

Detailed Report on
Ten Day Research Methodology Workshop for Research Scholars
(15- 24, February, 2016)

Organised under Teaching Learning Centre, Department of Education
Tezpur University, Assam

Tezpur University, Department of Education has established a Teaching Learning Centre (TLC) under the scheme of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India. This TLC was formally inaugurated on January 28, 2016. Under TLC, the second workshop in a series of the Ten Day Research Methodology Workshop for Research Scholars was coordinated successfully by **Dr.Yeasmin Sultana** and **Mrs. R.D.Padmavathy**, Assistant Professor, Department of Education, Tezpur University from 15- 24, February, 2016.

The core objective of the workshop was to equip the research scholars with set of skills and potentiality to undertake the research very effectively in the disciplines of social science and to turn completed research into publishable material of high quality in the form of articles, journals and books. This workshop is designed to offer the practical guidelines and direct the researchers through all the stages of research from identifying a research problem to the submission of a dissertation, report writing and research article. The course intends to deal with variety of quantitative and qualitative research methods used in social science researches. It also gives exposure to data analysis with the help of software packages. The workshop consists of both theory and practical. By the end programme they are expected to develop conceptual clarity and practical knowledge to undertake quality research and writing good research papers field-reports and project proposals etc. The workshop commenced, after the registration of participants, introductions and Inaugural function.

Summary of Presentation
Day 1(15 February 2016)

The workshop opened with a formal Inaugural session at 10.00 am. The workshop was inaugurated by the gracious guests Honøble Prof. Manabendra Bhuyan, Pro-Vice Chancellor of Tezpur University. Prof. Pradip Jyoti Mahanta, Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tezpur University, Prof. K.Doraisamy, RIE, Mysore by lighting the lamp. It was more cordial being accompanied by Deans and Heads, Other Professors and teaching faculties of different schools and Departments of Tezpur University.



The workshop was attended by sixty three participants from across the country. This includes Tezpur University, Assam University, Guwahati University, NEHU, Rajiv Gandhi University, KKHSOU, University of Lucknow University, Osmania University, Assam Don Bosco University, EFL University, Shillong Campus, Viswa Bharati University, Sambalpur University, Pondicherry University, M. G. International Hindi University and NIT Warangal. All of the participants who attended this workshop were research scholars, faculty who were directly involved in research process.

The workshop continued between 9:30 am to 5:00 pm with tea and lunch breaks. The technical sessions of first day included three segments and the remaining days with four segments. Ms. Sashapra Chakrawarty Assistant Professor, Department of Education anchors the inaugural function of the workshop and introduced the expert to the forum.



Prof. Pradip Jyoti Mahanta, Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences



heartily welcomed all the guests, participants, faculty members and students for the ten day workshop. He delivered how knowledge and wisdom passed to generation after generation, stressed importance as well rigor of the research and concluded the welcome note with inspirational words. **Mrs.R.D.Padmavathy**,

Workshop Coordinator highlighted the overview of the workshop with core aims, objectives, design and areas. She has explained the design of the workshop to participants and assured them of a learning experience provided in this workshop through both theory and practical sessions surely equip the researchers to carry out successful research works and overcome potential challenges. She has explained the importance of this workshop for the research scholar and academic community.



Prof. K. Dorasamy who was the Guest of Honour on the occasion spoke about the importance of education and how education is understood from different



perspectives by scholars from different disciplines as well as importance of being a good researcher and While speaking on advised the participants how to remove gap between content and pedagogy by integration, collaboration of other departments and

with other programs also the linkage between the progress in society and research by conducting research from a long term career prospective. He also appreciated efforts of the team that organized workshop.

Prof. Manabendra Bhuyan, Pro-Vice Chancellor of Tezpur University, the

most honourable chief guest of the event addressed and emphasized the importance of research and the proper understanding of research, inclusion of research supervising methodology in Psychology, maximization of work minimization of weakness



with proper time management, ethics in research. He emphasised that knowledge exploration is possible only through scientific research.

The session concluded with a vote of thanks by **Dr. Anjali Sharma**, Head of the Department of Education. She extended her expression of gratitude to all



partners who contributed for the realization of the workshop. This gave an adjournment to the inauguration of ten days research methodology workshop and left the podium for the Workshop on Research Methodology at 11:15 am.

Summary of Sessions

Day 1 (15 February 2016)

The first technical session of the workshop was deliberated by **erstwhile Professor K. Dorasamy**, RIE, Mysore on "Quality of Doctoral Research in



Education: Issues and Concerns" who introduced the participants to the basic aspects of research, types of research on the basis of various parameters, importance and its characteristics. He also opened an insight about importance and

procedure of conducting Quality Doctoral Research in specific to Education. First of all, he pointed that the quest for understanding social reality and human behaviour is at the root of methodological concerns. He explained the importance of two key concepts such as "research" and "methodology" to enable participants to understand the basics of any research in social science. It was pointed that research is more than an understanding of set of skills; it is a way of thinking.

The second session was taken by Eminent **Professor M.A. Kalam**, Department of Social Work, Tezpur University on the topic Conceptual understanding of research who introduced the participants about conceptual clarity in the process of research and the steps to be undertaken while pursuing research. He



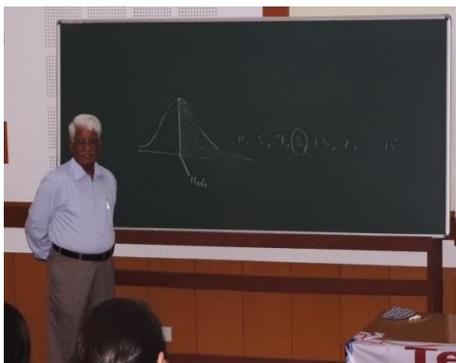
brought to notice of all presented in the workshop about the practical problems of research scholars in doing a research. The third technical session of the workshop was deliberated by **Professor K. Dorasamy**, RIE, Mysore on Nature of Variables in research by providing clarity about classifying variables into different kinds were discussed in brief. The session involved exercises of identifying the dependent and independent variables in various studies along with discussion.

**Summary of Presentation
Day 2 (16 February 2016)**

The morning sessions of day two was handled by **Prof. N. Pradhan, Head, and Department of Educational Administration from Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda** who gave an overview about Literature review/Problem Identification: Sources and Criteria. The session applied more focus on how to reviewing the literature and find the which is a critical part and gap in the research process. In continuation of the first session next lecture was also given by **Prof. N. Pradhan** on Research Objectives and Research Questions Formulation. It provides researchers how research questions formulate may precede conceptualization and will direct them what answers we are trying to seek and objectives of the study.



The pre- lunch sessions was continued by Professor **K. Dorasamy, RIE, Mysore** with clearing certain basic concepts and Technique used for collection, common concept and major steps involved in data analysis, classification and interpretation of data. The statistics concepts were explained to the participants.



In continuation to that briefing was done on descriptive statistics with summary calculations and graphical and tabular displays were explained. Before proceeding on this topic the participants were taught to understand the importance and the basis of distribution of variables. The speaker makes the participants to actively engage in the discussion and clarify the concepts. Participants were highly satisfied by having clarity in the concepts.

Summary of Presentation Day 3(17 February 2016)

The morning session of day three was by handled by **Prof. Mrinmoy Kumar Sarma**, Department of Business Administration who gave a brief overview about scales used in Research and data analysis as well as reliability and validity. He brought out the differences between types of research, different scales and explained. Prof. M.K. Sarma discussed Scaling, along with its divisions and subdivisions which included Nominal, Ordinal, Interval and Ratio Scales. Thereafter he gave broader overview of Comparative and Non-comparative scales. At last he concludes his lecture by saying the relationships among reliability and validity. He explained the complexities of testing the validity and reliability and cautioned the participants of the possible errors involved while collecting and validating the data simultaneously dealing with the other hurdles of doctoral research.



The session was handled by **Prof Gayatree Goswami**, Guwhati University on research proposal writing. The felicitator explains the Constraints faced in writing research proposals, Key components, Critical critiquing, elements that promote effective technical and ethical concerns in details. The session was followed by an activity. The participants were formed in a group and they discussed among the group members and framed a research proposal and it was discussed before the audience. This activity session helped the participants to understand the lacunas they have in the research proposal writing. The speaker explained the points to be carried out while writing research proposal were summarised once again to the participants.



The last session of day three was handled was taken by **Dr. Sumesh, S.S. Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Tezpur University** focuses on Philosophical foundation of social science research. The session applied more focus on philosophical basis needed for the resarch and how it is more important to conduct a effective selection of research problem were discussed which is the critical part of research process.



Summary of Presentation Day 4(18 February 2016)

The morning sessions of day four was handled by **Dr S. C. Subudhi**, Department of Education, NEHU deliberation on the Sampling process of research and the steps to be undertaken while pursuing research. The session applied more focus on sampling design which is a critical part in the research process. Conceptual facts related to sampling techniques and its classification into probability and non-probability sampling were clarified with videos examples. Biases associated with determining sample design were explained and discussed in detail. In continuation to that activity session was carried out by the resource persons to understand the concept of sampling by the participants.



The post lunch sessions of the workshop were taken by **Dr. Paul Pudussary**, Don Bosco University, Assam with a special focus on qualitative research. The speaker elaborated distinctive feature of qualitative research designs, important operational steps of doing a qualitative data collection methods in brief. He covered basic differences between the quantitative and qualitative two approaches on various



methodological parameters. He stressed the empirical and non-empirical are the two ways through which knowledge can be pursued.

The fourth session was handled by **Prof. Mrinmoy Kumar Sarma**, Department of Business Administration on citation and referencing. The speaker began with a technical aspect of writing Citations and referencing that every researcher needs to know. He clearly conveyed to the participants how to write the format that must be followed in citing a book, journal, article, websites, case studies, reports, international and national documents and periodicals, single author to many others through APA style. In addition to that confusion of when and where to use Greek abbreviations like Ibid, Id, and Supra, Infra etc are discussed among participants. This conceptual work was followed by the activity provided by the speaker. A simple exercise was given for the participants and active participation helped all the participants to have the clarification of using citation and referencing.



**Summary of Presentation
Day 5 (19 February 2016 - Friday)**

The morning session of the fifth day workshop was taken by Dr. **Paul Pudussary**, Don Bosco University, Assam with a special focus conceptualizing research design, and collecting information from target groups. The speaker



rightly raised a relevant question before the participants such as "How much they are well-versed with the required knowledge of research design involves?" The discussion evoked a lot of questions among participants. Having explained

what a research design is she further discussed its subdivisions in the form of Descriptive, Exploratory and Experimental Research Designs. The speaker explains research design with research based evidences. Participants were also provided with opportunities to respond to each other's queries. This question-answer session in fact enabled clarifying some of the misunderstandings of various methodological issues in designing a research, and the session was continued with activity for researchers.

The third session of the workshop was taken by **Dr. Sumesh, S.S.** Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Tezpur University focuses on Tools of research. The speaker deliberated about the tools and its types ranking, mapping, Visualization in Participatory Planning, various participatory tools, how to formulate in depth interviews, case studies, key informant interviews, participant observation in details. This session provide participants over all view about the tools used in research followed by an activity how to select tools for the felicitator provided situation.



The last session was handled by **Dr. Manoj Kumar**, Assistant Professor, Centre of Media and Governance, Jamia Milla Islamia, New Delhi. The speaker introduced participants to about the basic concepts used to handle SPSS software and briefed upon its utility along with a comparison with Ms Excel's Data. He also provided the conceptual knowledge about how to test hypothesis and parametric testing, Type I and Type II error in a brief. Speaker explains about a normal distribution curve and importance the x and y axis that it formed and invited examples from the participants and explained.



Summary of Presentation
Day 6 (20 February 2016 - Saturday)

The morning session on day six was once again by **Dr. Manoj Kumar**, Centre of Media and Governance, Jamia Milla Islamia, New Delhi continued as the



resource person for the first three session of sixth day was planned to provide practical hands on training of SPSS to the participants. All the sessions were conducted on the computer centre of by exercise in the practical based. The main objective of this session was to help a research scholar in doing

his research work with SPSS. The speaker provide training from the basic entry of data in excel to calculation of descriptive statistics, cross tabulation, checking normality, regression, correlation and to perform ANOVA in SPSS. Hands on experience on SPSS to calculate parametric and non parametric test gave the participants clarity and confidence. In the post lunch session the speaker exposed the participants to factor analysis and gave them hands on experience using example data provided.



The last session of day sixth day was dealt by **Prof L.R. Saikia**, Department of Education, Gauhati University on -Report writingø The speaker clearly exposed the purposeful writing targeted at a specific audience of a given academic field and constraints faced in report writing, key components in report writing to audience.



Summary of Presentation
Day 7 (21 February 2016 - Sunday)

The resource person **Prof Kaberi Saha**, Department of Education, Guwhati



University started the session by giving a comprehensive view about Research hypothesis, types, criteria, characteristics of hypothesis testing. It was followed by an activity session. Every participant were given an opportunity to

frame a null and alternative hypothesis based on the problem chosen on the spot and deliberate the hypothesis with proper understanding. Every participant was happy after the activity session that they have clarity how to formulate the working hypothesis and testing for their research.



The post lunch sessions was handled by **Dr. B.H.Sahu**, Head, DACE, NEHU, Shillong on Construction of Tools and validation. The facilitator



provide a detailed ideas about how to prepare a tool, theoretical bases to understand of tools preparation, validation and types of validation for tools. Participants were made to understand the differences between testing and scaling using examples and the

session ended with the discussion on the various tools or instruments used for data collection and understanding the tests they have to be put through to validate the research process. The session was followed by an activity. Participants were provided opportunity to prepare tool on their selected topics and it was discussed and the necessary correction were made on their prepared tools.



Summary of Presentation
Day 8 (22 February 2016 - Sunday)

The third session of the workshop was taken by **Dr. Amiya Kumar Das**, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Tezpur University focuses on focus group discussion . After a brief introduction of the concept and the basic protocol of focus group discussion, to be followed while going for research were discussed. He also conducted a model group discussion with selected participants and asked others



to express their comments. This session was carried out by **Dr. K.Kikhi**, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Tezpur University on Emerging Trends in Research Areas in North East India. He conducted the session in a participatory mode. Participants actively took part in the discussion conducted by the speaker and expressed their views.



The post lunch session was deliberated by **Dr.P.Anbarasan**, Associate Professor, Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, Tezpur University on the topic Critical Discourse Analysis. The felicitator provides back ground knowledge, major philosophical thought that added newer theoretical orientation, emergence, need and characteristic of Critical Discourse Analysis in detail. He also provides a practical example through videos and the presentation was debated among the participants. Participants expressed the feel of satisfaction about the new topic Critical Discourse Analysis after the session.



The session was followed by **Dr. Joya Chakroborthy**, Assistant Professor, Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, Tezpur



University Grounded Theory using analyzing Written and Spoken Data. The speaker provided background, emergence, overview, approaches to open coding, Axial Coding, Selective Coding memos and critical views about grounded theory in brief. The session was continued by a case

study practice provided by the speaker on selected participants.

Summary of Presentation
Day 9 (23 February 2016 - Sunday)

The first session of day nine was handled by **Prof. V. Sudhakar**, **Department of Education, EFL Hyderabad** on Rethinking Quantitative Research. This session provides insight to participants about how last centuries quantification has become immensely prevalent in the social sciences, Explanations for this growing use of quantitative measures, key characteristics of quantitative research, the growing dissatisfaction with Quantification, and Criticism of the quantitative research. It makes the researchers to think about research process and the significant need in the present research condition.



This following session was took by **Prof Irshad Ali** on Ethnographic Research. The speaker deliberates how ethnography provides a holistic picture of what is going on in the field and how researcher gets a feel of the situation. In this session modification of general ethnography to critical ethnography which



aims at creating equal opportunities were also discussed. In addition to that how ethnography involves collection of massive data and how the data is necessary so as to enable the researcher collaborate the data and come up with more concrete information was elaborated in detail.

The post lunch session was handled by **Prof. V. Sudhakar, Department of Education, EFL Hyderabad** on Post structural Reflections on Qualitative Research. The speaker provides the concept interestingly by having three parts in his lecture with Introduction of knowledge about poststructuralist concepts, post structuralist thinkers and philosophies, deconstruction, logocentrism, discourse and structuralism. It was followed by question answer session. Participants eagerly took active participation and made the session lively. Participants expressed that this topic provide a new sight of research to them.

The last session was handled by Prof. Sarkar on Ethics in research. The facilitator began by posing question what do you think about ethics in research? After the collection of respondents views speakers deliberates the unethical practices ongoing in research scenario. He also facilitate the ways how research can be to harmful by providing situation and live example. This session provides learners about psychological, economic, physical harm and ethical issues, three ethical principles, Safety, Privacy and confidentiality of participant's information how to protect themselves, their research work by adopting ethical code and procedures followed while conducting research.



Summary of Presentation
Day 10 (24 February 2016 - Wednesday)

The morning first session of tenth day was started as a team teaching by **Prof. V. Sudhakar, Department of Education, EFL Hyderabad** and **Mrs. R.D. Padmavathy, Assistant Professor, Department of Education, Tezpur University**.



Prof. V. Sudhakar deliberated how statistics is misused by researchers in the present research process. The speakers made the session interesting in the form of a quiz to clear the basic concepts of statistics to participants.

Participants eagerly participate and express their understanding about statistical concepts and how they have misconception about statistics. Then the session provide insight about the various tests to be adopted for qualitative and quantitative data and explained when and where to apply the exact statistical technique namely descriptive statistics, correlation, regression, chi square, t- test or Z- test. The speakers also explained the types of regression and illustrated situations where each would be used. The combination of independent and dependent variables as dichotomous, continuous, and categorical and the statistics to be used were explained by the speakers. And briefing was done what will happen when the statistics was misused with detailed practical examples.



The last session of the workshop was handled by **Dr. M.Goswami, Associate Professor, Centre of Women Studies, Tezpur University** who gave a brief overview about feminist perspective of research. The speaker deliberated feminism is a political project. The idea of feminism is social oppressed. Speaker raised a question before participant can we established a relationship between fertility and mortality in feminist perspective research and made participants to think on different views.



Summary of Valedictory Session

The last day of the workshop had its valedictory session. It began with a brief outline of the sessions of the workshop. Dr. Biren Das, Registrar, Tezpur University, Prof. V. Sudhakar, EFL University, Hyderabad, and Prof. C.K. Sharma, Department of Sociology, Tezpur University reiterated that the imperative of organizing such workshop lies in improving the overall quality of research works of the participants. Report of the workshop was presented by Dr. Yeasmin Sultana, coordinator of the workshop.



This was followed by a brief feedback session from the participants of the



workshop. All participants expressed their satisfaction about the workshop and overall coordination of the faculties of the department as well as the whole program.



The Certificates were presented to the participants by the esteemed dignitaries. The workshop was concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Ms. R.D.Padmavathy, workshop coordinator. The program was concluded with happy note from everyone.

