

SES'S L.S.RAHEJA COLLEGE OF ARTS AND COMMERCE

Course: SYBA-SOCIOLOGY PAPER II
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Unit: II- MEASURING DEVELOPMENT

2a) Indicators of Development- Human development Index

- Focus on Health, Education and Standard of living.
- The various dimensions of Human Development led to the definitions and formulation of Human Development index (HDI) by the United Nations development program in its human development report published in 1990.

1~The HDI measures education and health and is a multi-dimensional concept.

2~it focuses the attention of the policy makers on various aspects of development.

3~any upward movement in HDI is regarded as improvement.

4~Human development in terms of improving health and education benefits the entire society unlike income that can cause relative deprivation for some.

- **Principles that have guided HDI :-**

1~HDI would measure the basic concepts of Human Development that includes life expectancy, education and standard of living.

2~It included limited number of variables which includes life expectancy at birth, adult literacy rate and purchasing power (2009).

3~It was decided to cover both economic and social choices in HDI.

UNIT 2-B

SURVEY AND CASE STUDY AS METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

SURVEY

Survey is a fact-finding study. It is a method of research involving collection of data directly from a population or a sample. It requires expert and imaginative planning, careful analysis and rational interpretation of the findings.

Characteristics of survey method:-

~It is conducted in natural settings.

~It is field study.

~It directly asks questions and seeks answers from respondents.

~It can cover large populations.

~It may involve extensive study- i.e it covers a wider sample or intensive study- i.e covers few samples

~It cover a definite geographical area: a city, district or a state.

Steps involved in a survey

1-Selection of the problem and its formulation.

2-Preparation of a research design.

3-Operationalisation of the concept.

- 4-Sampling.
- 5-Construction of tools for data collection.
- 6-Field work and collection of data.
- 7-Processing of data.
- 8-Analysis of data.
- 9-Reporting.

Types of Surveys

- Social surveys (to study demographic characteristics of people, social environment, people's opinions and attitude, people's behaviour and activities)
- Economic surveys (to study economic conditions of people, working of economic units, economic systems etc.)

Advantage/merit of survey research

- 1-It is the only practical way to collect many kinds of information.
- 2-It can draw generations based on representative sample.
- 3-It is flexible.
- 4-It sensitises the researches to unknown problems.
- 5-It is a useful instrument to verify theories.

Limitations/Demerits of survey method

- 1-Since survey method is a field study its feasibility depends on willingness and co-operations of respondents.
- 2-It is subjected to sampling error.
- 3-It is subjected to response error where the respondent may give misleading answers.
- 4-It is subjected to errors of measurement.
- 5-There is a limit on the numbers of items that can be collected in a single survey.
- 6-It is inadequate to analyse the complex fabric of social organisation.
- 7-It is very expensive and time consuming.

CASE STUDY METHOD

A case study is a comprehensive study of a person, a social group, a process, a situation, a programme, a community, an institution or any other social unit.

CASE STUDY/ SURVEY

The main distinction between survey and case study is the intensity and depth of investigation and its coverage.

- 1-While a survey is broad based investigation case study is intensive investigation.
- 2-A survey covers a large number of units whereas case study covers a single unit/group.
- 3-Findings of the survey study can be generalized when it is based on representative sample, whereas findings of a case study cannot be generalized.

FUNCTIONS OF CASE STUDY METHOD

- 1-It describes a case in terms of its peculiarities. It gives us detail not possible through statistical analyses.
- 2-It helps secure wealth of information providing for a intensive analysis
- 3-It examines complex factors involved in a given situation.
- 4-It aims at studying everything about something rather than something about everything.

MERITS OF CASE STUDY METHOD

- 1-Case studies are flexible with respect to data collection methods.
- 2-A case study can extend to any dimension of the topic studied all aspects may be studied or specific aspects maybe emphasised.
- 3-It can be conducted in any social setting.
- 4-It is very useful for purpose of group or process analysis.

5-It gives the researches under range of insights into human life which cannot be obtained through general survey.

LIMITATIONS/DISADVANTAGES

1-It is not sufficient to make generalizations to large social aggregates.

2-They are more time consuming than surveys.

3-It is inadequate for analysis of macro problems.

4-The danger of investigations over confidence is more in case study. This could lead to various biases such as errors of perception, judgement and over emphasis with sweeping generalizations.

2c) Questionnaire as technique of data collection

Questionnaires can be classified as both, quantitative and qualitative method depending on the nature of questions.

Answers obtained through closed-ended questions with multiple choice answer options are analysed using quantitative methods and use pie-charts, bar-charts and percentages.

Answers obtained to open-ended questionnaire questions are analysed using qualitative methods and they involve discussions and critical analyses without use of numbers and calculations.

There are following types of questionnaires:

- **Computer questionnaire.**
- **Telephone questionnaire.**
- **In-house survey.**
- **Mail Questionnaire.**

Questionnaires can include the following types of questions:

- **Open question questionnaires.**
- **Multiple choice questions.**
- **Dichotomous Questions.**

Advantages of Questionnaire:

- (1) Economical:
- (2) Wide Coverage:
- (3) Rapidity:
- (4) Suitable in Special Type of Response:
- (5) Repetitive Information:
- (6) An Easier Method:
- (7) It Puts Less Pressure on the Respondents:
- 8) Useful Preliminary Tool:
- (9) Greater Validity:
- (10) Anonymity:
- (11) Most Flexible Tool for Data Collection:

Disadvantages of Questionnaire:

- (1) Limited Response
- (2) Lack of Personal Contact
- (3) Poor Response
- (4) Unreliability

- (5) Illegibility
- (6) Incomplete Entries
- (7) Useless in Depth-Studies
- (8) Response from Improper Representative Section of People
- (9) Not Suitable for Delicate Issues

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