CHAPTER – IV

METHODOLOGY

4.1. Introduction:

Meaningful and successful educational investigation stands on the suitability and opportunities of the method adopted and the specific technique employed for collecting the data. So, selection and implication of method, more broadly speaking 'methodology' is an important task of research. Methodology is a way to solve research problem systematically. In it, researcher studies the various steps are generally adopted in studying research problem along with the logic behind them. Methodology provides the researcher direction to plan, to solve the research problem under study. In adopting proper methodology for solving research problem, it is necessary to identify the research problem and to classify the problem in which category it falls. A good research always follows a sound methodology and procedure, which leads the investigator to the target. Selection of methodology and the specific design within that will depend upon the kind of data that problem entails. Methodology of a research involves consideration in the following aspect:-

Method of study

Population

Selection of sample

Data gathering instruments

Procedure of data collection

4.2. Method of study:

The present study employs descriptive survey method. This method includes surveys and enquires of different kinds. This method helps researcher to get detailed description about the existing conditions. It involves the description, recording, analysis and interpretation of condition that now exists. Descriptive research studies

are designed to obtain information concerning the current status of phenomena. The descriptive research method is the most popular and most widely used research method in education. Descriptive survey is the means through which opinion, attitudes, suggestions for improvement of educational practices and instructions and other data can be obtained. Survey data may be collected from different unit of population or from a representative sample. The information gathered may be concerning a large number of related factors or may be confined to few selected items. The design of survey studies focuses attention on the following aspects:

a) Formulating the objectives of the study.

b) Designing the method.

c) Selecting the samples.

d) Collecting the data.

e) Processing and analyzing the data.

f) Reporting the findings.

In this study a survey is conducted with 207 (two hundred seven) Nos. of teachers of secondary stage and 108 (one hundred eight) Nos. of teachers of higher secondary stage teaching in higher secondary schools of Barak valley in Assam where secondary and senior secondary (ix to xii) classes are taught. A self developed tool (questionnaire) is prepared by the investigator to collect the data from the thirty numbers of higher secondary schools of Barak valley in Assam.

4.3. Population of the study:

The identification of population and drawing a representative sample from the population is an utmost important task in any research work upon which the logical conclusion of the study and findings rest. Population refers to any collection of specified group of human beings or entities such as educational institutions, areas and so on. The whole group from which the sample has been drawn is known as population. As stated by Guilford (1981) the term includes all sets of individuals, objects that can be described by having a unique combination of qualities. Population is defined to be the totality of objectives under consideration.

The population in the present study comprises all the teachers teaching in secondary and senior secondary stages in Government and Provincialised higher secondary schools in Barak valley of Assam.

4.4. Sample of the study:

A sample is a small proportion of population selected for observation and analysis. The sample selected from population is a representative, adequate and free from bias so that data gathered can provide reliable estimates and inferences about the attributes of population. To get the real and true representation of the population, sample is systematically and scientifically selected after considering the different characteristics of population. Sampling is the process of obtaining information about the entire population. One of the important purposes of research is its universal application. To study a large size of population is not possible. In that case the representative group of people from that large population is selected.

In the present study, the researcher visited the three offices of Inspector of Schools of Cachar, Karimganj and Hailakandi districts and collected the list of higher secondary schools. After receiving the list, it has been found that there are altogether 60 number of higher secondary schools in Cachar, Karimganj and Hailakandi districts (Barak valley) in Assam where both secondary and senior secondary classes are taught. It is not possible to collect information from all the teachers of these higher secondary schools. So, 50% schools (30 numbers) and 50% of the teachers teaching in secondary stage and 50% of the teachers teaching in higher secondary stages of these 30 selected schools have been selected randomly through lottery method. The sample size is represented in the following table.

Table No. 2

Sample of the study

School	Total no. of schools	Sampled schools	Total no. of teachers	Sampled teachers
Higher secondary school	60	30	414 (Secondary stage)	207
			216 (Higher secondary stage)	108

4.5. Tools of the study:

The instruments which are employed for gathering new facts for exploring new fields are called tools. A research tool plays a major role in the research programme. It is the sole factor, which helps in colleting sound information and arriving at a perfect conclusion and helping in providing suitable remedial measure to the problem concerned. The success of a research depends upon the tools used. A researcher in the process of data collection requires various types of tools which vary in their complexity and interpretation. In this study, the investigator has developed a questionnaire consists of 45 items consulting with the supervisor keeping in view of the objectives of the study.

4.6. Data Collection:

The process of data collection are of two types viz, primary source and secondary source. The primary data are those which are collected afresh and for the first time, and thus happen to be original in character. On the other hand, the secondary data are those which have already been collected by someone else and which have already been passed through the statistical process (Kothari, 2004). In order to collect information about job satisfaction of secondary and higher secondary school teachers in Barak valley, Assam, the researcher has used one questionnaire consists of 45 items.

The researcher has started the collection of data from the month of March, 2014. It took near about eight months to collect the same. At the very outset, the respondents were identified and then they were explained the purpose of the study and made acquainted with the objectives of the present study so that they can realize the importance of their co-operation. During the process the researcher had to face lots of problems. Since the research is based mainly on the primary data (field survey) the researcher had to go to the teachers of secondary and senior secondary classes of higher secondary schools in order to collect the data. When the researcher visited the respondents, at first they were not interested to give the data. As most of the teachers belong to rural areas, they were not fully aware of such things, so they showed less interest and reluctant and were also fearing in giving the response to the researcher.

But in order to get valid and reliable information from the respondents, careful effort was made by creating a friendly atmosphere of trusts and confidence so that the respondent may feel at ease while talking to and discussing with the researcher. And the respondents were also assured that the information supplied by them would be kept strictly confidential and would not be used for any other purposes except for the present study. After explaining the purpose, they showed positive attitude towards the researcher and agreed to give the information. The investigator personally visited the higher secondary schools and distributed the questionnaires to the respective teachers of 30 (thirty) higher secondary schools. The researcher constantly pursued the respondents almost on a daily basis to get the entire questionnaire answered. In this way, it took about eight months to collect the information from the respondents.