

Problems of Research Scholars and suggestion to over-come them

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Abstract

Research is an activity based on intellectual investigation and has the purpose of discovering interpreting and revising human knowledge and experience on various aspects of life. Research your personal journey. It will be challenging but also exciting. In the light of present era of global knowledge economy, researcher has analysed problems related to research entrepreneur in India. This paper focus to pointing out various hurdles Which comes in the path of researcher during research work. Majority of the problems are related to attitudinal problems besides role of governments, research agencies and institutional bureaucracy . In the last some suggestions have been put forward on in respect of observations made in the first half of the paper. These suggestions are not exhaustive by any mean, rather just a sensitization and humble effort to improve the gloomy situation.

Introduction

Research includes any gathering of data, information and facts for the advancement of knowledge.

Research is an art of scientific investigation. It is regarded as systematic efforts to gain new knowledge. Research is a “*careful investigation or enquiry especially through search for new facts in any branch of knowledge.*”

According to Creswell: “*Research is a process of steps used to collect and analyze information to increase our understanding of a topic or issue*”.

Research comprises defining and redefining problems, formulating hypothesis or suggested solutions; collecting, organizing and evaluating data; making deductions and reaching conclusions, and at last carefully testing the conclusions to determine whether they fit the formulating hypothesis. ---- ----
Clifford Woody

Research Quality :- A Ph.D. dissertation is the first indicator of a researcher’s ability to produce good quality research consideration of the quality of research involve understanding what quality is and what are its parameters. It is universally agreed that high quality research refers to process that covers all aspects of the object of study by raising pertinent question and arriving at reliable answers which significantly enhance the prevailing knowledge base and create new knowledge.

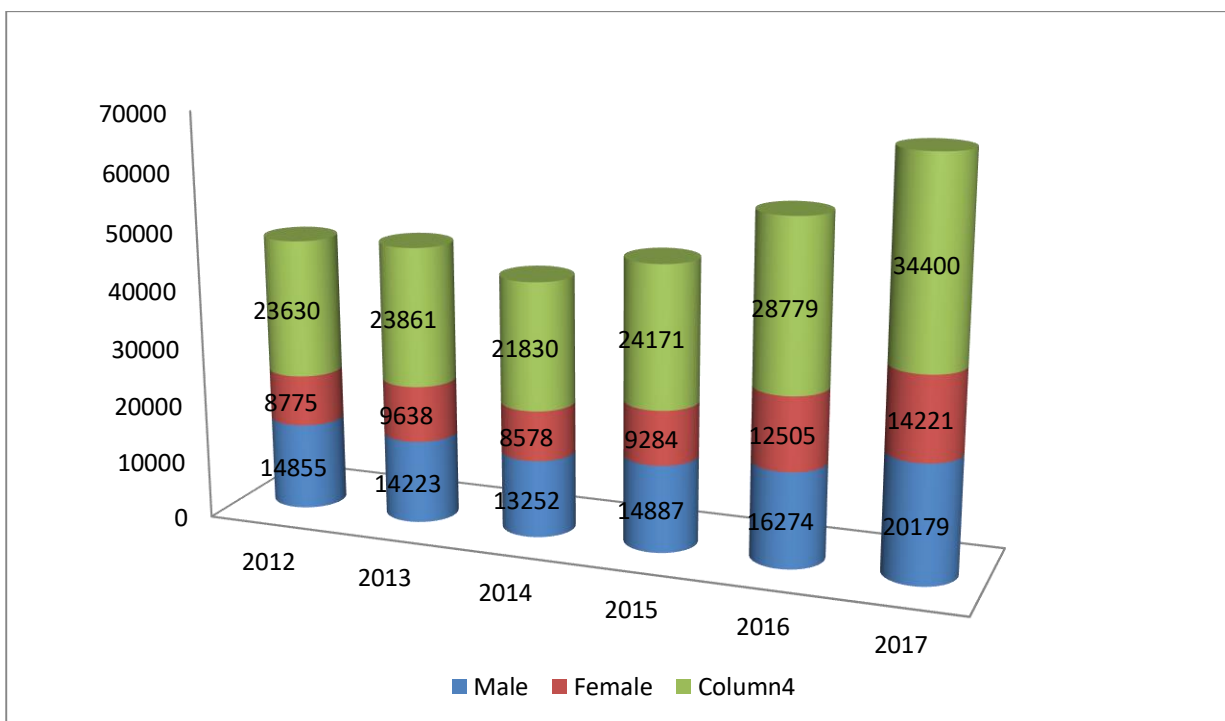
Research Quality in India: Background

Research in the field of Science, Engineering, Technology, Social Science, Commerce, Law, Management and Humanities is an important component in the domain of Higher Education. The main trends in enrolments to research degree (Ph.D. and M.Phil.) revealed by the data available from MHRD's All India Survey on Higher Education³ (AISHE) are as follows. Research in the field of Science, Engineering, Technology, Social Science, Commerce, Law, Management and Humanities is an important component in the domain of Higher Education. The main trends in enrolments to research degree (Ph.D. and M.Phil.) revealed by the data available from MHRD's All India Survey on Higher Education³ (AISHE) are as follows.

Ph.D. Degrees Awarded

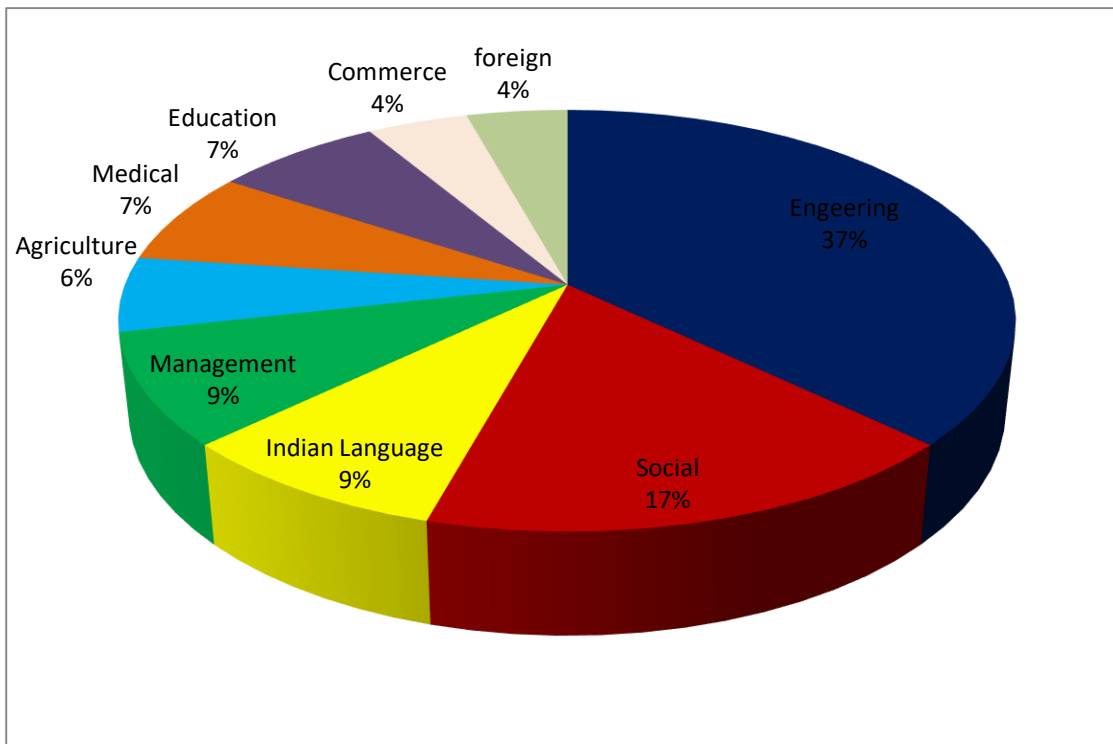
The Ph.D. degrees awarded (shown in figure 3) increased at 7.26 per cent per annum during 2012-13 to 2016-17 from the base level of 23630. The female Ph.D. awardees increased at a faster rate (9.35 per cent per annum) than male Ph.D. awardees (5.86 per cent per annum). This has reduced the gender gap in research at Ph.D. level.

Number Of Ph.D. Degrees Awarded



Source: Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development. Report of All India Survey on Higher Education for respective years (2010-11 to 2017-18).

Enrollment in P.h.D. across Top- 10 discipline (2010-11 to 2017-2018)



Source: Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development. Report of All India Survey on Higher Education for respective years (2010-11 to 2017-18).

Objectives of the study:

1. To study the problems faced by Research Scholars in their Research work.
2. To find out the solution for the problems of research scholars and strengthen their research work.

Problems Encountered by Researchers in India:

- Research Methodology is a study subject in some of the undergraduate course and most of the post graduate courses. Still, there is a lack of awareness of the purpose of research and the purpose of including research methodology in the curriculum. Many students hate this subject and the hatred is increased when they see the numerical in biostatistics when it is clubbed with research methodology.
- The problems faced by research scholars in India, particularly those engaged in empirical research, are facing several problems. Some of the problems are as follows :-
- **Lack of Scientific Training** :- The research methodology is not systematic. Many researchers undertake research work without having actual knowledge of the research methods. They just look for similar studies and copy the methodologies listed in it. Even the research guides

do not have a thorough knowledge of the various methodologies. The scenario warrants the need for some short-term training to be imparted to researchers prior to undertaking research activities.

- **Insufficient Data**:- There is proper interaction between researchers and the business establishments, government institutions etc. This leads to a great deal of data going untapped. Interaction programs should be organized between researchers and other institutions on a regular basis. This will highlight what issues need to be researched, What data is required for conducting research, and how the study will be useful.
- **Lack Of Confidence** :- Most of the people and business establishments are of the opinion that researchers can misuse the data provided by them. As such, they are reluctant to details of their company. This affects the research studies for which that particular data may be of utmost importance. Thus, confidence –building measures should be adopted, which will convince the business units that their data will be put to productive purposes and will not be misused in any manner by the researcher.
- **Improper Library Management**:- The libraries are not managed systematically. In our educational institution there is scarcity of standard books, journals, encyclopaedia, research surveys etc. much of the precious time of the researchers is not spent in looking for books, reports, newspapers etc rather than searching relevant information from them. Library management and functioning is not satisfactory in many Universities; A lot of time and energy is spent on tracing appropriate books, journals reports etc. Also, many of the libraries are not able to get copies of new reports and other publications on time.
- **High Cost of Publishing**:-Once their research is completed, the researchers have to look for a means to publish it. Publishing in international journals is highly expensive. This discourages most of the researchers from taking up research work.
- **Inadequate Assistance**:-Researchers in India have to cope with the non-availability of adequate and timely secretarial assistance, which affects the schedule of their research study. This causes unnecessary delays in the completion of research studies.
- **Lack of communication with the supervisor** : A university professor is a busy person. It is important to have guidance on a research project. Poor communication gets on the way of the progress of the research. It is important to communicate with the supervisor to clarify the doubts regarding the research topic, to know what the supervisor expects from you and to learn more about your research topic.
- **Not having a definite deadline**:- Deadlines are stressful. But not having a deadline can be troublesome during the Ph.D. journey. Deadlines help you get closer to your goals. Many times,

universities fail to implement a due date to submit the research paper , leading to confusion and improper time management among the scholars.

- **Lack of ICT culture** :- Although technology has now been all around in India , mostly for entertainment where as teaching learning and evaluation is grossly traditional in nature. Some can be said about research in most of the institutions, especially so in case of humanities research. Teachers are not sent to training programs involving training of statistical software and other such programs. In summation we can say that there is absence of attitude and culture of technology in academic institutions.
- **Mandatory Condition of course work for pursuing research degree** :-Recently introduction of six months mandatory course work also put candidates in a fix. In this regard although universities are planning to finish course work in phased manner but candidates face a lot of problem in pursuing coursework consequently unable to attain a research degree.
- **Almost no research facility for rural aspirants:-** Those who belong to rural and remote areas face a sea of problems in this regard. There is no facility for research in rural areas they have to travel to long distance for this purpose. They even hesitate to enroll for research projects due to their remoteness.
- **Lack of interest among students for research publications:-** most of the students pursuing higher education have no appeal for publications. They don't know ABC of research paper, dissertations, tools and techniques of research work. Marks for the research projects are being awarded without proper evaluation, which results in poor research ethics and reinventing the wheel again and again. Actually they are not being trained for knowledge creation ; rather they just consider research projects as formality. They study from a single book and don't consult reference books deeper understanding of the concepts, then how we can expect them to write a book i.e. a dissertation or hypothesis.
- **Lack of Code of Conduct:-** No specific code of conduct exists for the researcher, which leads to inter-departmental and inter-universities rivalries.
- **Research –a mere formality to fulfill course requirement-** Yes, of course research is a part of curriculum but most of the students find it as a mere formality to fulfill their course requirement. They just want to finish off the study. For this they search the shortcuts. but the fact is that once a study is done, it will be referred in future by other researchers They won't be aware if the study was sincerely done.
- **Manipulation of Data** -: Every researcher tries or does one or the other kinds of manipulation of data. May be multiplying the sample size or to make the result in the way they

want. Some researcher just wants to finish off their study by simply sitting in their homes ; they don't even interact with their subject or have any one

Some Suggestions for over-come the problem-: The promotion of research is a significant responsibility of the HEIs particularly for universities without which a research culture on campus can not be realised

- **Workshops of short duration to exchange ideas on** specific themes, issue or problems to arouse curiosity promoting the students to engage in research related inquiry .
- **Promote E-Library culture-:** Libraries are now playing an increasing role in educating researchers and building more effective procedures and approaches across the institution. In recent years, many libraries have demonstrated that they can seize opportunities to help institutions respond to changes in the research environment. An e-library or Digital library is a physical site and/ or website that provide around the clock online access to digitised audio, video, and written material. It provides free copies of books, journals etc. available to the users. Normally these materials are classics which have no copyright digital formats (as opposed to print, microform, or other media) and accessible by computers. The digital content may be stored locally, or accessed remotely via computer networks. A digital library is a type of information retrieval system. Digital Libraries are increasingly popular research area that encompasses more than traditional information retrieval or database methods and techniques.
- **Discourage Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is a major problem for research. Plagiarism is the 'Wrongful appropriation' and 'stealing and publication' of another author's 'language thoughts ideas or expressions' and the representation of them as one's own original work Research scholars usually plagiarize in absence of proper knowledge and training. Guides and students should really involve in real research work or not get in other activities. Give liberty to school.
- **More Economic support from government:** Government need to allocate more on the research & development from country's GDP accelerate the momentum for research and development. More Grants should be bestowed on educational institution from central and state government to create positive atmosphere for research scholars
- **Improving the quality and quantity of Seminars & workshops -:** It is very necessary to improve both quality and quantity of seminar and workshop. These are to be organized at all levels so as to popularize the need and importance of research in all discipline of study. The experience of various experts from national and International universities could be tapped in these seminars and workshops to guide the movement.

- **Promote ICT culture-:** The adoption and use of ICTs in education have a positive impact on teaching learning and research. The use of ICT in education lends itself to more student-centered learning settings. But with the world moving rapidly in to digital media and information the role of ICT in education and research areas is becoming more and more important and this importance will continue to grow and develop in the 21st century. ICT is a potentially powerful tool for offering educational opportunities. Teaching fraternity should be apprised of using ICT based methods and techniques to make learning content more interesting & easy to understand.
- **Concern for Publication :-** Once you already have conducted your research and came up with conclusions supported by facts, it is not only necessary but a virtuous action to publish it. The number of quality publications you have produced can prop you up the ladder of success. Universities give credit to meritorious research work that advance knowledge and bring about innovation. Publishing your work will also give you a better chance of getting a promotion
- **Fabricate research condition-:** Universities and colleges need to improve research condition in rural as well as urban areas. Basic infrastructure availability can definitely ensure enhancement of quality of research. It is no matter of subject, science, or arts it is about creating of attitude and culture or research which comes by making provisions available.
- **Resource Mobilisation for research -:** the institution provides support in terms of financial academic and human resources required and timely administrative decisions to enable faculty to submit project proposals and approach funding agencies for mobilizing resources for research. The institutional support to its faculty for submitting research projects and securing external funding through flexibility in administrative processes and infrastructure and academic support are crucial for any institution to excel in research. The faculties are empowered to take up research activities utilizing the existing facilities. The institution encourage its staff to engage in interdisciplinary and interdepartmental research activities and resource sharing.
- **Encouraged Apprenticeship culture-:** The culture of apprenticeship should be encouraged by training the beginners under senior research students about research skills, procedures and resources. In this way we can reduce the burden of Guides and research task can be accomplished more comprehensively.
- **Student and Faculty mobility-:** Culture of students and faculty exchange programme should be encouraged so that the various techniques and tools of doing research can be exchanged between institutions. In this way we can create a healthy competition and cooperation among institution for research work.

- **Travel Grants for faculty and students** -: Increase the number of grants for travel by Ph.D. scholars / faculty members to present their research work in reputed international conferences. This may promote a culture of research at the institution level.
- **Stringent measures:-** More strict measures to be adopted by agencies like state councils for research , NAAC CSIR, UGC ,University etc for improving the quality of research work Only those institutions should be accredited and given grants generously from these bodies will force educational institutions to go for quality research work.
- To conclude , excellent infrastructure favorable Research environment in higher education- especially university reforms – and increased funding with sustained investment are all needed to attract students to doctoral programs.

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