

Assessment of research attitude of master of education students of Indore district of Madhya Pradesh State

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Abstract

This paper is devoted to assessment of research attitude of master of education students of Indore district of Madhya Pradesh state. Descriptive survey method was followed for the study. The purposive sampling technique was employed to select the sample. The sample comprised of all the M.Ed. students of University of DAVV Indore. Manasagangothri which included 51 male and 43 female students. Overall, 94 students were considered as the sample of the study. Personal data sheet by the investigator: It consisted of general information about the subject's age, gender (male/ female), marital status (Married/ Unmarried), and stream (Arts/ Science). All the teacher education programmes must emphasise to develop a research outlook among the teacher trainees irrespective of the level of the programmes. It may be in the form of action research in B.Ed. or a Dissertation in M.Ed. Programme. In future, it would help them in solving their classroom related problems in specific and in serving the society in general. One of the main objectives of these programmes must be to develop a favourable attitude towards research among them, so that they would soar the heights of excellence successfully in their future.

Keywords: Research Attitude

Introduction

In the fast moving world, research has become important intellectual equipment for the human beings to change their life style according to the needs and necessities of the society. It opens new frontiers in all the fields like medicine, agriculture, space, business, and also in Education. One of the important objectives of teacher education is to create awareness and understanding of importance of research in the classroom. Thus, action research became a part of the syllabus where in, the students are expected to prepare action plans and implement the same during their practice teaching sessions. This, in turn is strengthened in the Post Graduate programme of Education where in Dissertation was made a compulsory component by University of DAVV, Indore. The main aim of the M.Ed. course is to provide capabilities of serving community in general and developing research attitude and skills among the students in specific. These students in future have to promote interest towards research among the B.Ed. students when they take up their jobs as teacher educators.

Research is the systematic process of collecting and analyzing information to increase our understanding of the phenomenon under study. It is the function of the researcher to contribute to the understanding of the phenomenon and to communicate that understanding to others. It provides rewarding learning experiences for students, and producing graduates capable of high personal and professional achievement. The strategy underpinning the courses like M.Ed. is to provide a framework for the acquisition and progressive development of knowledge throughout the learning experience, to stimulate inquiry into subjects and to develop personal skills which will equip students for life-long learning. Educational research is often undertaken for the sake of Degree and not with a goal to make

a significant discovery. It is also commented that research has become imitative, repetitive; only oriented towards western culture and philosophy, instrument oriented rather than goal oriented; statistics dependent in place of mastery of knowledge domain; and lastly is not out of interest, aptitude of the students. Other factors that affect the quality of research conducted by the students are facilities available, mentors, departmental activities, attitude of both staff and students towards research, confidence etc. Attitude towards research of the staff enhances enthusiasm and credibility among the students. One's attitude influences mentally how a person mentally approaches research including all the work and human interactions related to the research. A positive attitude enables a person to solve the problem quickly where as, a negative attitude hampers the efforts in research both technical proficiency and in terms of interpersonal relationships that research entails.

Topic

Assessment of Research Attitude of Master of Education Students of Indore District of Madhya Pradesh State

Objectives

- To investigate M.Ed. students' attitude towards research.
- To study the attitudinal difference among M.Ed. students with respect to gender.
- To study the attitudinal difference among M.Ed. students with respect to marital status.
- To study the attitudinal difference in the attitude of M.Ed. students towards research with respect to their stream (Arts/ Science).

Hypothesis

1. M.Ed. students to possess a favourable attitude towards research.
2. There is no significant difference in the attitude of M.Ed. students towards research with respect to gender.
3. There is no significant difference in the attitude of M.Ed. Students towards research with respect to marital status.
4. There is no significant difference in the attitude of M.Ed. Students towards research with respect to their stream (Arts/ Science).

Method

Descriptive survey method was followed.

Sample

Purposive sampling technique was employed to select the sample. The sample comprised of all the M.Ed. students of University of DAVV Indore. Manasagangothri which included 51 male and 43 female students. Overall, 94 students were considered as the sample of the study.

Tools

Personal data sheet by the investigator

It consisted of general information about the subject's age, gender (male/ female), marital status (Married/ Unmarried), and stream (Arts/ Science).

Attitude towards research scale

It was developed by the investigator using Likert's Summative technique. The items were based on General aspects of research, utilitarian value of research, research process especially data collection procedures etc. Over all, the scale comprises 32 items including 16 positive and 16 negative items which are to be rated on five point rating scale.

Analysis and Interpretation

The scores obtained from the attitude scales were tabulated and analysed using SPSS 10 version. Statistical techniques like percentage, mean, standard deviation and t test were used to analyse the data. Frequencies and percentages of students falling under favourable, uncertain and unfavourable attitudes were tabulate. Out of 94 students 80 were found to have favourable attitude where as only two students have exhibited unfavourable attitude. In other words, majority of the students (92%) were found to have favourable attitude towards research. Hence the hypothesis 1 is accepted. Student 't' test was conducted to find the significance of mean difference in the attitudes of students with respect to gender, marital status and stream. Analysis revealed that there is no significant difference in the attitude of students with respect to gender as the 't' value (1.519) is not significant at 0.05 level. Hence, the hypothesis 2 is accepted. Both Male and female students do not differ in their attitudes. It was also revealed from the analysis that there is no difference in the attitude towards research among married and unmarried students, as the 't' value (0.507) was found not significant at 0.05 level. Hence, the null hypothesis 2 is accepted and retained. Interestingly, even irrespective of the subjects or streams to which they belong to, all the students possess similar favourable attitudes. In other words, there is no significant difference between science and arts students with respect their attitudes. The 't' value (0.217) supported the same, as it is not significant at

0.05 level. Thus, irrespective of the gender, stream, marital status, all the students have favourable attitude. The reasons for the above findings may be the institutional freedom, democratic atmosphere, dedicated and highly motivating staff; facilities provided to them like library; personal interest, awareness of future prospects etc.

Conclusion

All the teacher education programmes must emphasize to develop a research outlook among the teacher trainees irrespective of the level of the programmes. It may be in the form of action research in B.Ed. or a Dissertation in M.Ed. Programme. In future, it would help them in solving their classroom related problems in specific and in serving the society in general. One of the main objectives of these programmes must be to develop a favorable attitude towards research among them, so that they would soar the heights of excellence successfully in their future.

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