

Characteristics of Research

- ❖ Research is directed towards the **solution of a problem.**
- ❖ Research is based upon **observable experience or empirical evidence.**
- ❖ Research demands **accurate observation and description.**
- ❖ Research involves **gathering new data** from primary sources or **using existing data** for a new purpose.
- ❖ Research activities are characterized by **carefully designed procedures.**
- ❖ Research requires **expertise** i.e., skill necessary to carryout investigation, search the related literature and to understand and analyze the data gathered.
- ❖ Research is **objective and logical** – applying every possible test to validate the data collected and conclusions reached.
- ❖ Research involves the **quest for answers to unsolved problems.**
- ❖ Research requires **courage.**
- ❖ Research is characterized by **patient and unhurried activity.**
- ❖ Research is carefully **recorded and reported.**

SCIENTIFIC METHOD

- **‘Science’ refers to the body of systematic and organized knowledge which makes use of scientific method to acquire knowledge in a particular field of enquiry.**
- **Scientific method is the systematic collection of data (facts) and their theoretical treatment through proper observation, experimentation and interpretation.**
- **Scientific method attempts to achieve a systematic interrelation of facts by experimentation, observation, and logical arguments from accepted postulates and a combination of these three in varying proportions.**

BASIC POSTULATES **IN SCIENTIFIC METHOD**

- 👉 It relies on empirical evidence.**
- 👉 It utilizes relevant concepts.**
- 👉 It is committed to only objective considerations.**
- 👉 It presupposes ethical neutrality.**
- 👉 It results into probabilistic predictions.**
- 👉 The methodology is made known.**
- 👉 Aims at formulating scientific theories.**

CRITERIA OF A GOOD RESEARCH

- ✦ **Purpose clearly defined.**
- ✦ **Research process detailed.**
- ✦ **Research design thoroughly planned.**
- ✦ **High ethical standards applied.**
- ✦ **Limitations frankly revealed.**
- ✦ **Adequate analysis for decision maker's needs.**
- ✦ **Findings presented unambiguously.**
- ✦ **Conclusions justified.**
- ✦ **Researcher's experience reflected.**

QUALITIES OF A GOOD RESEARCH

- **Systematic**
- **Logical**
- **Empirical**
- **Replicable**
- **Creative**
- **Use of multiple methods**