M.R.D. (R.D.)

(SEM. II) EXAMINATION. 2006-07

RESEARCH METHODS & APPLICATIONS

Time : 3 Hours] [Total Marks : 100

Note : (i) Attempt all the questions.
(ii) All questions carry equal marks.

1. Attempt any four of the following :  4×5

(a) What are the objectives of Research? Briefly explain the importance of research in solving managerial problems.

(b) “Model-building is a universal method of scientific researches”. How far do you agree with this statement?

(c) Explain the characteristic features of ‘Experimental Research’ and ‘Action Research’.

(d) What is a Case Study method of research? Point out its uses and limitations.

(e) Give the importance of ‘Measurement’ in research studies. What, according to you, should be the basic characteristics of a good measurement?

(f) What is ‘Sampling’ and what purpose does it serve in research studies? Explain the difference between ‘Probability’ sampling and ‘Non-probability’ sampling.

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2  Answer any two of the following questions: 10+10

(a) Explain the various steps involved in the formulation of a research Hypothesis? How is a Null Hypothesis tested?

(b) Distinguish between Likert – Scale and Thurstone – Scale. How is a Likert – Scale designed?

(c) What is a ‘Questionnaire’ and what purpose does it serve in the collection of field data? Outline the characteristic features of a good Questionnaire.

(d) Outline the main features of the Experimental and Quasi – Experimental research designs. What are their uses and applications?

3  Answer any two of the following: 10+10

(a) What is ‘Stratified Random Sampling’ and what are its merits and limitations? How is Stratified Random Sampling different from ‘Cluster Sampling’.

(b) Enumerate the various sources of ‘Secondary Data’. What precautions should be taken while using secondary data for research studies?

(c) What are the distinctive features of a ‘Mail Survey’? Bring out its advantages and disadvantages.

(d) “The quality of the field data is no better than the quality of the field organisation”. Comment. How should the field investigators be selected and trained so that they could produce the desired output?
4  Answer any two of the following questions: 10+10

(a) Discuss the various problems and issues involved in the collection of field data. How can they be dealt with properly to improve the quality of research findings?

(b) What do you understand by a ‘Focus Group’? Explain the various precautions that should be taken while analyzing and moderating the focus group data.

(c) Enumerate the various advantages and disadvantages of the Experimental and Laboratory types of research studies.

(d) Outline the various steps involved in the processing of research data. What should be the quality of a good Research Report?

5  Write notes on any two of the following: 10+10

(a) Characteristics of the Scientific Method

(b) Techniques for reducing the errors of measurement

(c) Observation Method of Research

(d) Collection and Analysis of Narratives

(e) Features of a good Project Report.