

CHAPTER - III

METHODOLOGY

3.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains all the details regarding the methodology adopted for the present study. The present study entitled "A study of Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Caste students in Medical Colleges of Gujarat State" is a survey type of study. The study aimed at collecting the information regarding family background, academic problems, utilisation of various facilities and stagnation among Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Caste students and further in order to get the comparative picture, the data were also collected from general category students. The study was restricted only to Baroda Medical College, Baroda.

3.1 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

"A study of Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Caste students in Medical Colleges of Gujarat State"

3.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- (i) To study the family background of Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe & Other Backward Caste vis a vis General category students from first, second & third M.B.B.S. of Baroda Medical College, Baroda studying in the academic year 1992-93.

- (ii) To study the academic problems of Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe & Other Backward Caste vis a vis General Category students from first, second & third M.B.B.S of Baroda Medical College, Baroda studying in the academic year 1992-93, in terms of,
- a) Library
 - b) Home
 - c) Hostel
 - d) Classroom Learning
 - e) Practicals
- (iii) To study the extent of utilisation of facilities by Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe & Other Backward Caste students from first, second & third M.B.B.S of Baroda Medical College, Baroda studying in the academic year 1992-93.
- (iv) To measure the stagnation among five consecutive batches (1990-93) of final M.B.B.S. Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe & Other Backward Caste vis a vis General Category students.

3.3 POPULATION AND SAMPLE OF THE STUDY

The present study aimed at studying the family background and academic problems faced by SC, ST & OBC vis a vis general category students of Baroda Medical College, Baroda of the academic year 1992-93, studying in first, second & third M.B.B.S.. It was also aimed at studying the extent of utilisation of facilities by SC, ST & OBC students.

The study also had an objective to study the stagnation among SC, ST & OBC vis a vis general category students. Thus, all the students of first, second & third year M.B.B.S of Gujarat state were taken as population of the study and the sample was restricted to all the students of M.B.B.S course at Baroda Medical College, Baroda of the academic year 1992-93. The sample was taken purposively. Following types of data were collected from different sources.

3.4 TYPES OF DATA

Following types of data were collected in this study.

Family Background of Students :

In this study, the investigator collected data regarding the family background of all the first, second and third M.B.B.S students of Baroda Medical College, Baroda. The data included information such as, age, sex and number of siblings of the students, occupation, educational level, place of residence and type of residence of their parents.

Academic Problems of the Students :

The data regarding the academic problems of first, second and third M.B.B.S students of Baroda Medical College, Baroda, included information regarding the aspects such as Library, Home, Hostel, Classroom Learning, Practicals. Each of these aspects contained following points.

Library :

- (a) Adequacy of the timing
- (b) Availability of books
- (c) Types of the libraries used
- (d) Services offered by the library staff
- (e) Suggestions given by the students for improvement of library facilities.

Home :

- (a) Types of the vehicles used by students to cover the distance between college and home.
- (b) Whether, time spared for domestic work, affected their study adversely.
- (c) Availability of separate room at home.
- (d) Whether, the distance between college and home affected their study adversely.

Hostel :

- (a) Difficulties faced at the time of admission.
- (b) Difficulties with regard to food and sharing of common facilities in the hostel.
- (c) Whether, distance between college and hostel affected their study adversely.
- (d) Persons approached by the students to solve their problems.

Classroom-Learning :

- (a) Medium of instruction at school level and its impact.

- (b) Types of the instructional methods used in the classrooms.
- (c) Suitability of instructional methods to the learners and reasons for the same.
- (d) Co-operation of teachers.
- (e) Learners' participation in the classroom discussion.

Practicals :

- (a) Difficulties faced during practicals.
- (b) Persons approached by the students to solve their problems.
- (c) Co-operation given by teachers and peer-group during practicals.
- (d) Adequacy of instructions received prior to practicals.
- (e) Satisfaction with regard to evaluation.

Extent of utilisation of available facilities :

The data in this regard was collected only from the SC, ST & OBC first, second and third M.B.B.S students of Baroda Medical College, Baroda. It included information on aspects such as :

- (a) Availability of scholarship.
- (b) Reasons for non-availability.
- (c) Sufficiency of the amount of scholarship.
- (d) Regularity of the payment of scholarship.

The data regarding the stagnation among SC, ST, OBC and general category final M.B.B.S students of five consecutive batches (1990-93) from Baroda Medical College, Baroda, were also collected.

3.5 SOURCES OF DATA

The data were collected from the following sources :

1. Students :

In order to collect the data regarding family background and academic problems, the first, second and third M.B.B.S students of Baroda Medical College, Baroda of the academic year 1992-93 were the source, while with respect to the data regarding utilisation of facilities, only SC, ST & OBC students of first, second and third M.B.B.S from Baroda Medical College, Baroda of academic year 1992-93 were the source of data.

2. Office Records :

In order to collect the data regarding the stagnation among final M.B.B.S students, office records containing results of Baroda Medical College, Baroda were the source of data.

3.6 TOOL

A questionnaire was prepared by the investigator to collect the above mentioned data. The following steps were followed.

1. Survey of related literature :

In order to get an insight in this area, investigator surveyed the available literature in the area of sociology of education as well as higher education. While reviewing the literature, investigator got some ideas about the progress in the field of higher education and further how the development has reached to the different sections of society. The statistics showed that still the fruits of higher education are largely reaped by better-off section of the society. Therefore, the investigator further made review of related studies i.e. studies conducted on those sections which are lagging behind in this regard and reasons responsible for the existing situation in different parts of the country. In this regard, the investigator could hardly find any study in the area of professional education with regard to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and other Backward Caste students and especially in Gujarat where most of the studies were conducted at school level. Therefore, the investigator decided to undertake a study with regard to one of the branches of professional education viz. Medicine and further it was confined to only one Medical college viz. Baroda Medical college, Baroda with adopting comparative perspective where by students of weaker sections - SC, ST and OBC as well as general category formed the sample of the study. The investigator collected different areas of problems faced by the students of weaker sections of the society, which helped the investigator to prepare the questionnaire.

2. Further, in order to get flair of the problems faced by the Medical students, the investigator made frequent visits to the Baroda Medical college, Baroda and had discussions with some teachers and students of that college regarding various aspects of the academic programmes of the college and thus the investigator could further consolidate his ideas in this regard before preparation of first version of tool.

3. The investigator prepared a questionnaire to collect data for the objectives no. 1,2 and 3.

Investigator prepared first draft of the questionnaire based on theoretical knowledge, survey of related literature and discussions with students & teachers. This questionnaire had three sections. Section-I contained items regarding family background such as sex, place of residence, number of siblings etc.. Section-II contained items regarding academic problems faced by students with reference to following aspects.

- a) Library
- b) Home
- c) Hostel
- d) Classroom-Learning
- e) Practicals

Section-III contained items regarding utilisation of facilities by SC, ST & OBC students and in this regard here the items were framed with regard to the scholarship facility where the items were framed with reference to availability, adequacy and regularity in disbursement of it.

The questionnaire, contained open-ended as well as closed items. Closed items were of Yes/No type as well as multiple choice type. In case of open-ended items, space was provided in the questionnaire for the students to provide their answers. Moreover, in each aspect those items were included which had some bearing on their academic life & academic performance.

After preparation of first draft, it was given to five experts in the field to assess it's content validity and language clarity. After receiving their comments, the tool was modified and then it was tried out on 10 students of M.B.B.S. course at Baroda Medical College. (They were not included in the final sample) After collecting their responses, once again the necessary changes were made in the tool. Thus, the final version of the tool was ready for administration.

3.7 PROCESS OF DATA COLLECTION

The final version of the questionnaire was administered on the first, second and third year M.B.B.S. students in different batches on different days. It was administered in the presence of the investigator to clarify any doubts/confusion on part of the respondents. The data regarding stagnation was collected by the investigator from office records.

3.8 ANALYSIS OF THE DATA

The data collected through closed items in the questionnaire regarding family background, academic problems, and utilisation of facilities were quantified and analysed with the help of percentage, while data collected through open ended items was analysed qualitatively. The data collected to study the stagnation were analysed quantitatively.