ATTITUDE OF POST-GRADUATE STUDENTS TOWARDS RESEARCH

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study is to determine the attitude of post graduate students towards research. The sample consisted of 120 post graduate students of North Orissa University by adopting simple random technique. It was hypothesized that students hold positive attitudes toward different aspects of research. The major findings of this study were there is no significant difference between male and female PG student attitudes towards research. But, there is a significant difference in attitude between PG students belonging to Arts and Science stream. Again there is no significant difference between professional and general course PG students on attitude towards research.

Key words: attitude, post graduate students, research

Introduction

Research is a fundamental approach to gain better understanding as well as to solve numerous problems of day to day life. In this way the Post Graduate level students also required a good understanding over it and needed to develop positive attitude towards it. So with this point of view there is a need to study attitude towards the important subject like research. Study done by Siemen (2010) revealed that medical students felt useful of doing research for their career development. Research is a detailed and organized effort in finding the truth. The main mission of any investigation is creating suitable circumstances for the production of knowledge in order to solve problem. Before, implementing this important subject at post graduate level, it is also essential to know the students attitudes towards that subject. As study done by Shirbagi (2011), it revealed that students belonged to technical field had positive attitude and humanities students had greater level of anxiety to do research as it is very useful for their life.

The relevance of the study is to gain a greater understanding about attitudes of post graduate students towards research. Research is important areas of any post graduate level to know and discover the academic problem. So all student should be involved in research activities to update their new knowledge for solving problem. The present study is trying to create awareness among post graduate students to do research to solve their personal and social problem. Therefore, it is justifiable to conduct a brief study to know their basic idea to research. So the investigator, have undertaken this study to understand perception of PG students towards research. The main purpose of the study is to determine the attitude of post graduate students...
towards research.

**Design of the study**

The study is based on descriptive survey research. The sample of the study is 120 post graduate students studying in different course of North Orissa University, Baripada, Odisha. The sample is selected purposively across the university. The investigator developed 3 point Attitude towards Research Scale (ARS) as Agree, Undecided, Disagree. The reliability of the tool is 0.75. The validity of the test has been reported on the basis of a factor-analysis of the inter element scores, which gave a pattern of five dimensions.

**Analysis and Interpretation**

**Table. No.- 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>t-ratio</th>
<th>Level of significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>73.63</td>
<td>5.86</td>
<td>0.74</td>
<td>N.S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>73.98</td>
<td>6.09</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table Value at 0.1 level=2.58 and at 0.5 level=1.96

It is revealed from the Table No. 1, that the mean scores of male and female post graduate students attitudes towards research are 73.63 and 73.98 with SDs 5.86 and 6.09 respectively. The t-ratio come out from above two groups is 0.74, which is not significant at both level of significant. That means there is no significant difference between male and female post graduate students attitudes towards research.

Further the mean score of male and female post graduate students’ attitude towards research in general is depicted in the figure-1.

**Table. No.- 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>t-ratio</th>
<th>Level of significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>71.6</td>
<td>4.74</td>
<td>2.88</td>
<td>Significant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>76.01</td>
<td>6.27</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In this Table No.4.3 the mean scores of Science and Arts post graduate students attitudes towards research are 71.6 and 76.01 with SDs 4.74 and 6.27 respectively. The result of t-ratio 2.88 come out from the above two groups, which is significant at
both level of significance. That means there is significant difference between science and arts post graduate student attitude towards research.

Further the mean score of science and arts post graduate students’ attitude towards research in general is depicted in the figure-2.

**Fig.No.-2**

![Mean of science and arts postgraduate students attitudes to conduct research](image)

**Table. No.- 3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>t-ratio</th>
<th>Level of significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>73.31</td>
<td>5.52</td>
<td>0.36</td>
<td>N.S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>74.3</td>
<td>6.37</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is revealed from the Table No.3, the mean scores of professional and general Post graduate students attitudes towards research are 73.31 and 74.3 with SDs 5.52 and 6.37 respectively. The t-ratio come out from above two groups is 0.36, which is not significant at any level of significance. That means there is no significant difference between professional and general post graduate students attitudes towards research.

Further the mean score of professional and general post graduate students’ attitude towards research in general is depicted in the figure-3.

**Fig.No.-3**

![Mean score of professional and general post graduate students](image)

**Discussion and Conclusion**

Research has the usefulness in all fields of education. The research work is done by all age groups, whether the students or the teachers in order to understand the society and solve the problem. Students benefit tremendously from involvement in hands-on
research experiences and develop valuable practical and analytical skills from their participation. Faculty who conduct research share up-to-date information with students and give them the opportunity to explore fields of interest in greater depth. As the finding of the study revealed that there is a significant difference in attitude between arts and science post graduate students towards research. More ever science students had less interest to conduct research. So it is suggested that teacher should encourage and provide scope to involve science students to do research.

In concluding words, the attitude towards research among the postgraduate students is a double edged sword. The majority of students in this study were convinced of the value of research in their personal lives and professional practice. This type of study helps teachers to develop more positive attitudes towards research. We conclude that more elements of best practice need to be incorporated into teaching and practice of research to encourage and transfer of knowledge to their everyday life activities.

References