

## Types of Research

Research has been defined by many scholars in different words and ways. Similarly, researchers and scholars identify many types of research on the basis of purpose, method and approach. Considering the purpose of research as dividing criteria, research could be classified as basic/pure research, applied research, evaluation research, research and development (R&D) and action research. Historical research, descriptive research, correlation research, experimental research, etc. are classifications of research by the method. If we talk about types of research by approaches, there are qualitative and quantitative researches. As far as types of research by purpose are concerned, basic and applied researches are discussed mostly.

### Basic Research

Basic (*pure*) research is driven (started or done) by a scientist's *curiosity* (interest) in a question. The main motivation of this interest and work is not mainly to create or invent something but is to expand man's knowledge. There is no particular commercial value to the discoveries that result from basic research.

For example, basic research seeks for answers to questions such as:

- How did the universe begin?
- What are protons, neutrons, and electrons composed of?
- What is poverty?
- What is child labour?

Most scientists believe that a basic, fundamental understanding of all subjects (sciences) is necessary for progress in those fields. In other words, basic research provides the foundation for the applied science for further development. If basic work is done first, then application of knowledge or results is easy to process further.

### Applied Research

Applied research refers to scientific study and research that seeks to solve practical problems. Applied research is used to find solutions to everyday problems, cure (treat) illness and develop innovative technologies and it is not only to get knowledge about anything. We can say that the goal of the applied research is to improve the human condition.

- For example, applied researchers may investigate ways to:

- improve agricultural crop production
- treat or cure a specific disease
- To find out ways to control poverty
- To deal with child labour problem

It is very difficult to discuss basic and applied research separately. Basic research, directly or indirectly involves the development of theory and applied research is concerned with the application of theory to the solution of problems. Basic research is concerned with establishing general principles of community development and applied research is concerned with their utility in the community. For example, basic research has been conducted with community to know the principles for better development results. Applied Research has tested these principles to show their effectiveness in the development process. Basic research provides the theory that produces ways or suggestions for solving problems and applied research provides data to support the theory, guide theory revision, or suggest development of new theory.