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REC-101

RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAMME IN ECONOMICS

Term-End Examination

00695

June, 2019

REC-101 : RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Time : 3 hours *Maximum Marks : 100*

Note : *Attempt questions from each section as per instructions given.*

SECTION A

*Answer any **two** questions from this section in about 700 words each.* *2×20=40*

1. "The method which is common to all sciences, natural or human, is the method of induction." In the light of this statement, critically examine the central tenets of positivist philosophy.

2. How does Kuhn explain growth of knowledge ? How did Popper differ with Kuhn about essence of science ?

3. What is hypothesis ? What can be the sources to formulate the hypothesis ? Is it necessary to formulate hypothesis in all types of research studies ? Give reasons.

4. Distinguish between quantitative and qualitative research. Give an overview of various quantitative methods used in the analysis of quantitative data.

SECTION B

*Answer any **five** questions from this section in about 500 words each.* $5 \times 12 = 60$

5. What type of data is compiled by NSSO ? How is NSSO data useful to measure poverty rate among different social and religious categories of people ?

6. What is the difference between research design and research method ? Explain the different constituents of research design.

7. Do you agree that different methodological approaches are needed in Economics ? Give reasons in support of your answer.

8. How will you make a choice of an appropriate sampling method ? How will you determine the size of sample ?

9. Distinguish between any ***two*** of the following :
   (a) Research hypothesis and Statistical hypothesis
   (b) Confirmation and Verification
   (c) Parameter and Statistics
   (d) Sampling and Non-sampling errors

10. What is critical theory paradigm ? State the application of this paradigm in carrying out research in Economics.

11. Given the following wage determination equation for an economy for the period 1990 – 2009 :

$$\hat{W}_t = 8{\cdot}582 + 0{\cdot}364\,(PF)_t + 0{\cdot}004\,(PF)_{t-1}$$
$$(1{\cdot}129) \quad (0{\cdot}080) \qquad (0{\cdot}072)$$
$$- 2{\cdot}560\,U_t$$
$$(0{\cdot}658)$$
$$R^2 = 0{\cdot}873$$
$$df = 15$$

where

W = Wages and salaries per employee

PF = Prices of final output at factor cost

U = Unemployment as a percentage of the total number of employees in the concerned economy.

t = Time

How would you compute the elasticity of wages and salaries per employee with respect to unemployment rate U ?

12. What is systematic sampling ? Is the sample mean m always an unbiased estimator of population mean M in systematic sampling ?

13. Discuss the various tools used in collection of data in qualitative research.

14. What is scientific explanation ? Discuss the features of any one model of scientific explanation.