



B.Ed. I CC E-104 Teacher, Teaching and Technology
By **Dr. S. K. Singh**

Topic: Action Research

Action research is the term which describes the integration of action i.e. implementing a plan with research. The original concept is sometimes attributed to Kurt Lewin (1890–1947). As distinct from academic research, those involved in action research participate in an ongoing testing and monitoring of improvements in their practice. They work in a collaborative way to identify issues in their organisation and develop processes for improvement. In education, action research is also known as teacher research. It is one method that teachers use for improvement in both their practice and their students' learning outcomes. The central goal of action research is positive educational change. This change impacts significantly on the teachers involved and how they teach. In a school setting, participants could include teachers, students, parents and community members.

Action research is characterised as being:

Integrated: *conducted as part of a teacher's normal daily practice.*

Reflective: *a process which alternates between plan implementation and critical reflection*

Flexible: *methods, data and interpretation are refined in the light of the understanding gained during the research process.*

Active: *a process designed to generate change in small steps.*

Relevant: *meets the needs of teachers and/or their students.*

Cyclical: *involving a number of cycles with each clarifying issue leading to a deeper understanding and more meaningful outcomes.*

Focused: *on a single issue of school improvement.*

Collaborative: *teachers and leaders working together to improve student outcomes.*

Planned: *an organised approach to answering a question.*

Learning: *simultaneous construction of new knowledge by teachers about their practice.*



B.Ed. I CC E-104 Teacher, Teaching and Technology
By **Dr. S. K. Singh**

Action Research as "FIVE Cs" By Borgia and Schuler:

Commitment: *Time commitment should be carefully considered by participants of action research since it takes them time to get acquainted with other participants, think about change, try new approach, collect data, and interpret results.*

Collaboration: *In an action research all participants are at par with each others in all respects, such as, giving ideas, suggestions, feelings, and actions which lead to success.*

Concern: *In the research process, participants build up a group of intimates who trust each other and value the project.*

Consideration: *A reflective practice is a mindful review of a professional research like action research. It demands concentration and careful consideration as one seeks patterns and relationships that will create meaning within the investigation.*

Change: *For humans, especially teachers, change is a continuous process and it is a significant element in remaining academically & naturally alive.*

Examples of action research:

In a class room, some students are not doing their home work continuously in a subject. Another situation, some students come to school late, daily. That time there is a need of action research for improvement in students' habit.

The basic steps of Action Research:

*There are many educationist gave different steps of action research. Like **Hilda Taba** suggested following steps.*

Identifying problems

Analysis of Problems.

Formulating ideas or hypothesis

Implementation/action

Collecting data

Evaluating the results



B.Ed. I CC E-104 Teacher, Teaching and Technology
By **Dr. S. K. Singh**

Some educationist suggested following step:

Step 1 - Problem Identification:

Why do you want to do study this topic?

Is the problem broad enough to allow for a range of insights and findings?

Is it narrow enough to be manageable?

Step 2 - Plan of Action:

Will you develop and implement a new strategy or approach to address your question?

What data do you need to learn about your question?

Step 3 - Data Collection:

What, why, when, where, and how will you collect your data?

How will you ensure that you have multiple perspectives?

Step 4 - Analysis of Data:

What can you learn from the data?

What patterns, insights, and new understandings can you find?

Step 5 – Evaluation and Plan for Future Action:

What will you do differently in your classroom as a result of this study?

How will you write about what you have learned so that the findings will be useful to you and to others?

Action Research different from other Research Methods

Action research is a form of applied research whose primary purpose is the improvement of an educational professional's own practice. Action research is equivalent to practitioner research, teacher research, insider research and self-study research when it is undertaken by teacher educators on their own practice. Action research may use any of the methods used in formal educational research. Action researchers can collaborate with colleagues, clients, or professional researchers usually university professors. It may also have other purposes



B.Ed. I CC E-104 Teacher, Teaching and Technology
By **Dr. S. K. Singh**

besides improving one's personal practice. Action research differs from formal research in many aspects. Formal research is a form of generalize knowledge published in academic journals. However some action research having some characteristics of formal research can be published in academic journals. Action research is published in online action research journal and websites of various action research networks. Other practitioners benefit from the knowledge generated by these reports.
