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Social Experiment Research Project

Introduction:

The Social Experiment Development Project is an initiative under the Learning and Research Grants to create a social experiment research project which investigates the relevant effect of intervention or policy on behavioural, emotional and psychological aspects of human behaviour for testing people's reactions to certain situations or events. The experiment depends solely on a particular social approach where the main source of information is people with their knowledge and point of view.

Need:

The aim of this project is to test how people behave in certain situations or how they respond to particular policies or programs. An experiment or a procedure is carried out to support or refute a hypothesis, or determine the efficacy or likelihood of something previously untried. Properly designed and executed experiments can provide the strongest evidence that certain programs or policy actions cause or if implemented would cause certain outcomes.

Scope:

Social Experiments provide insight into cause-and-effect by demonstrating what outcome occurs when a particular factor is manipulated. How the thoughts, feelings and behaviours of individuals are influenced by the actual, imagined, or implied presence of other(s) which includes social perception, social interaction, and the many kinds of social influence (like trust, power, and persuasion. Social experiments can help

Duration of the Project

1 year - 2 years

The **Social Experiment Research Project** requires action on many fronts including **greater allocation** of funds to work out how to fast-track decision-making, and information sharing, and allow **researchers more flexibility** in utilizing the funds. This can be the desired path to **inculcate and sustain** a culture of **curiosity and inquisitiveness** as well as create a more dynamic system in the country.

Call for Support

Introduction:

According to UNESCO, the **expenditure on Research and Development (R&D)** is more than **\$1.7 trillion** across the globe. This signifies the importance of R&D in the modern world where countries are placing **extensive focus** on their R&D programs to gain a **competitive** edge in the **fast-changing development-driven world**.

India is a low spender (only **0.66%** of the GDP) in comparison to developed countries. The Gross Domestic Expenditure on R&D (GERD) as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) is around **0.7%** which shows a downward trend in the last couple of years.

Impediments

Low Funding: The funding is less than **1%** of the GDP.

High Dependence on Grants: Many universities/institutes depend on an **extramural support** system which creates a dependency situation where the **quality of research** at the doctoral level gets **hampered** when less funding is provided to these institutions.

Lack of Skilled Personnel: There is a **lack of adequate expertise** in many emerging research areas. Further, the **talents** of our country **migrate** abroad as they don't receive the **requisite** for doing good quality research.

Steps that can be taken

Collaborations between public institutions and start-ups/industries can be **supported** to **mentor and train** students/scientists to pursue the doctoral and postdoctoral levels. Simultaneously, **postdoctoral** work in India should be **encouraged** by providing better **remuneration** and opportunities to **young scientists and researchers**.

Appeal

Up to 75,000 INR (196 USD) p.a to support the Social Experiment Development Project focusing on developing experiments for testing and validating hypotheses to understand the impact between the treatment and control groups due to the intervention and not some other factor.

Call for Research Applicants

Eligibility for application to be a part of this Project:

Applicants must:

- Be a post-graduate in Social Psychology/Sociology or hold a doctoral-level degree (no more than 10 years).
- Have a demonstrated knowledge of Sociology and Social psychology.
- Have demonstrated competence and capacity to execute the proposed work.
- Have a published research paper or be in the process of publishing.

How to Apply:

- Interested Applicants may submit the following to office@ijngp.com
- Abbreviated CV (not to exceed five pages)
- Research Project for initial screening
- Certificate of Publication or Published Research Paper with DOI for proof of work.



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