



Research Proposal for the CAPS Research Fellowship

Submitted to

Centre for Air Power Studies (CAPS),

P-284, Arjan Path, Subroto Park, New Delhi-110010

Title of the Tentative Research

Submitted by:

Name:

Details

Date



Points to be kept in mind:

- Researcher is expected to have a good comprehension of the existing literature in her/his chosen field of research before writing a research proposal.
- Style sheet: Times New Roman Font 12 and 1.5 line spacing.
- Chicago manual to be followed for citations

The researcher is expected to adhere to the format given below:

Section 1: Background

The researcher must briefly posit the broad context of her/his research problem.

Section 2: Review of the Literature

The literature should be organised in a thematic structure and not as a listing of summaries of important references. Try to structure the literature review in a manner, which highlights the issues relevant to your thesis, and identify the gaps therein. Note that more than one corpus of literature might be of relevance to your study.

Section 3: Definition, Rationale and Scope of the Study

Based on the above critical survey of the relevant literature, you should clearly define the research puzzle that is being addressed and explain the rationale and scope of the study in this section.

Section 4: Research Problem/Question and Hypothesis

Present a clear statement of your research problem in this section. Formulate your research questions bearing in mind a clear response to the “so-what?” question. This should be followed by a crisp and cogent statement of your research hypothesis posed in the form of a falsifiable proposition.¹

¹ A proposition or theory is falsifiable if it is hypothetically possible for a test or observation to prove it false, regardless of the accuracy of the proposition. A proposal or theory that can never be shown to be false with any hypothetical form of data is not falsifiable.



Section 5: Theoretical Framework

This section will detail the theory that is guiding the proposed study. From this theory, the researcher is able to inform the statement of the problem, the purpose of the study, the questions and hypothesis, the choice of instruments, and methodology of the study. In this section, explain the major tenets of the theory as well as how the theory relates to the proposed study.

Section 6: Research Methods

This section should contain a clear description of how the researcher intends to answer her/his research question(s). We expect a rigorous exposition of the research methods to be employed. Statements like “the study is descriptive/ analytical” will not suffice. In this section the researcher must also mention the sources of data and information required for the study.

Section 7: Tentative Chapters

The researcher must give a list of tentative chapter headings with a brief description (not exceeding 2-3 lines) of the content of each chapter. The first and the last chapter must be called Introduction and Conclusion respectively.

Bibliography: The list of the sources the researcher used to get information for the research proposal.
