RESEARCH PRopOSAL

1. **Summary**

Write a summary/abstract of your research proposal listing the background, problem statement, objectives, project plan and expected outcomes. The summary should be a maximum of two paragraphs and 300-400 words long.

1. **Introduction**

Should be brief and to the point introduction of the research area. Give a brief contextual background to your study. Set the stage for your study. Briefly tell us why this study should be done. Use the proper referencing techniques preferably using EndNote or any other available referencing software. In the introduction, you should use evidence (facts, figures, and works by other authors) to convince us that your chosen research topic is:

Relevant

Not already over-researched

Feasible (in terms of scope, resources and a time frame))

1. **The Problem Statement**

Clearly state the problem, arising from your background given above, which you have to solve in the proposed research. The problem statement is a concise description of the research question that needs to be addressed. The research problem is your compass for the rest of the steps to follow.

1. **Aim and Objectives**

Aims and objectives are the foundation on which the entire project is constructed, so they need to be sturdy and durable. No paragraphs are generally required. Write aims and objectives using brief and crisp bullet (or numbered) statements. Make sure to include how the proposed research will be validated.

1. **Scope/Significance of the study**

Explain the benefits of the research in terms of novel contribution to the repository of knowledge that can be disseminated to the academic community and more broadly to address an important problem and its possible solution for a particular section of the community, such as industry. Answer the following questions: Why is this study being undertaken? What is the possible contribution of this study: scientific, policy, a program, practical contribution?

1. **Literature Review**

A literature review is an account of what has been published on a topic by accredited scholars and researchers in peer reviewed Journal papers, books and may be from well-reputed conferences organized by renowned societies in the respective discipline of study. The purpose of the literature review is to identify what past research has been carried out and how it links to your research problem. For this purpose, search the relevant cutting-edge research papers through a proper database. The literature review also introduces the theoretical or experimental framework for the study. You will need to:

* Identify theoretical/background literature relevant to the proposed area of research.
* Analyze critically the major literature items you have identified.
* Indicate any gap(s) within the literature, in the knowledge or approaches to the field.
* Indicate how your research relates to and extends the existing literature, showing that your research topic has not been undertaken. Be specific in selection of your research literature.

All the references are required to be cited in literature review section in square brackets e.g. Ali [1], for single author where Ali is his last name. Ajmal and Afzal [2] for two authors with their last names separated by ‘and’. Similarly, if the number of authors are more than three, then use Gul et. al. [3] where Gul is the last name of the first author. Follow the rule of Cite While You Write (CWYW) and do not let it to be completed at the end. All citations must be accompanied by their relevant completed references list at the end of the proposal. Use of any citation manager software will automatically accomplish the above formatting and autogenerated references list. Finish this section with a one-paragraph summary of the “knowledge” gap you have identified.

Please keep in mind that literature review is **NOT** a list of articles followed by a short summary of what they are about

1. **Research Methodology**

The research methodology covers the methodology for collecting and analyzing information, and the experimental part of the research. The methodology section should identify what data is intended to be collected, how it is to be gathered and how it is to be analyzed. The proposed method(s) to be used for the study should be explained and justified. That is, you need to explain how and why the method is appropriate for the study, and how it is feasible. Any sampling techniques and justification of sample size should be described and justified where appropriate.

This section should include the following:

* Any theoretical Studies: Write about the theoretical studies required.
* Experimental Set Up: Describe about the experimental setup for the proposal.
* Method of Analysis: Discuss the method of analysis to be used for the proposed research.
* Flow chart of how the methodology will be carried out. If possible, outline different phases of your study and how the completion of one phase leads logically into the next. This should match with your timeline defined in the Gantt Chart.
1. **For Tables use the following format:**

The Tables captions/titles should be above the table as shown below. The data in tables may not be a repetition of the Figures.

**Table 3:** SPI values for drought classification (Reference if any)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **S. No.** | **Classification** | **SPI value** |
| 1 | Extreme wet | ≥ 2.00 |
| 2 | Severe wet | 1.50 to 1.99 |
| 3 | Moderate wet | 1.00 to 1.49 |
| 4 | Mild wet | 0.50 to 0.99 |
| 5 | Normal | 0.49 to −0.49 |
| 6 | Mild drought | −0.50 to −0.99 |
| 7 | Moderate drought | −1.00 to −1.49 |
| 8 | Severe drought | −1.50 to −1.99 |
| 9 | Extreme drought | ≤ −2.00 |

1. **Expected Results and their Utilization:**

# Include the following in this section:

* Result Expected: Write down the expected outcome from your research here
* Utilization of Research Results: Write about the expected utilization of result results.
* Indicate how your study will address the aims and objectives of the project that you have identified in the previous sections. Express how your findings can be generalized.
1. **Experimental Setup/Equipment Required:**

In this section mention how the equipment/software/experimental setup required will be arranged. For example, the required experimental setup is present in our university or some other organization’s setup will be used or funding is required for acquiring equipment for the execution of the proposed research.

# Budget:

Write about the expected costs of the proposed research. You may budget up to Rs. 30,000 for funding the research project from BOASAR.

Expenditure on only those items which become the property of the Department will be met by the University. To name some of them:-

1. Books. Journals, photocopying charges from a book which is not available in our libraries (the book will be registered in the library stock and then issued to the scholar).
2. Equipment, material and other such things which the supervisor/Chairman/Secretary BOASAR, deem fit to be purchased by the University.
3. Expenses on preparation/printing of thesis will not be paid by the university.
4. Labor charges and any travelling allowance is are not permissible.
5. Chairman/Postgraduate Advisor will ensure that the materials/equipment bought for the project shall be retained in the department.