**System Run Chart**

The DFD shows a high level picture of the interaction between the data and the various processes. To show the logical inter-relationship between the data and the processes, a system run chart is used. The system run chart can be defined as the pictorial representation of the logical inter-relationship between the system procedures and their inputs, outputs and data stores. It intends to represent the system using the data processing concepts i.e. input, process and output. It shows for each process, the inputs required, the processes needed to be carried out and the outputs that are produced.

Standard symbols and notation: (see Figure 2-1)

**System Flow Chart**

¨ Describes in outline of the events in a system.

¨ Shows departments, function events and responsibility of each.

¨ Column format.

¨ Symbols are connected by lines/arrows.

¨ Plain language annotation.

**Data Flow Diagram (DFD)**

A DFD is a diagrammatic representation of the flow of data through a process/system or sub-system/sub-process. It shows what happens to the data as it goes through a process. Like a flowchart, a DFD also uses standard symbols and notations.



**Data Dictionary (DD)**

The DFD and the run chart define the relationship between the data flow, data store, processes and the various inputs and outputs. What they do not define are the details of the data flow, data store and the various processes. All the elements mentioned need to be recorded to make the system description complete. All the elements are documented in the data dictionary (DD). You may find that the definition of data dictionary varies among books. One such definition could be:

*“A data dictionary is a central depository of all the elements that are used in a system.”*