



MULTI-DIMENSIONAL ASPECTS OF

MANAGEMENT



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Emerging Factors on Workload Stress

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Abstract

Occupational stress (Job stress/Work stress) relates to one's job. The objective of this paper is to present an exploratory study on occupational stress, to bring out its causative factors and impacts. Occupational stress has been viewed as a strong work hazard. It is found to be a multivariate phenomenon. Work related stress emerges to be a pattern of emotional, cognitive, behavioural and physiological reactions to adverse and noxious aspects of work content, work organization and work environment.

Key Words: occupational stress, job stress, work stress, role stress, distress, eustress

Stress initially was recognized a wide field for enquiry

Earlier literature shows that Lazarus (1971) had observed that stress referred to broad class of problems such as: "any demands which tax the system, whatever it is, a physiological system, a social system or a psychological system, and the response of that system." Stress clearly was then recognized as a wide field for enquiry, to the extent that many researchers in the field even "concluded that the concept of stress is no longer useful as a scientific construct" - Schuler and Jackson, (1986). Kasl (1987) also supported the view point and observed: "It has been impossible to identify and agree upon a criterion, or more appropriately a set of criteria, for identifying the presence of a state of stress and then calibrating its intensity and duration." If it was found difficult to determine stress, then in this scenario how can one attempt to measure it.

Development of Consensus on the Meaning of Stress

Around 1980 there started emerging polarization of views about the ambit of stress and development of a greater consensus on its meaning. Job stress is generally defined as the person-environment misfit. When there is misfit of an individual's skills and abilities or needs in the environment, it threatens the individual's "well-being". Strain and tension occur and stress is the natural result - French, Rogers, and Cobb, (1974). It is believed

that, "The responsibility load creates severe stress among workers and managers. If an individual manager or employee cannot cope with the increased level of responsibilities, it may lead to them, several psychological and physical disorders." McGrath (1976), suggested six sources of stress: (a) Task-based stress; (b) Role-based stress; (c) Stress intrinsic to the behavior setting; (d) Stress arising from the physical environment itself; (e) Stress arising from the social environment in the sense of interpersonal disagreement; and (f) Stress within the person-system which the focal person "brings with him" to the situation. Cooper and Marshall (1976), proposed seven sources of managerial stress: (a) Intrinsic job; (b) Career development; (c) Role in the organization; (d) Organizational structure and climate; (e) Relationships within the organization; (f) Extra organizational sources: Company vs. family demand, company vs. own interest etc.; and (g) The individual himself. They also found that occupational stress is negative environmental factors associated with the job. Research on job stress has long emphasized the importance of recognizing the performance implications of stress causative decision. The interpersonal relationships inside and among the departments, create qualitative difficulties inside the workplace to a large extent. Miles and Perreault, (1976), have identified four different types of role conflict: Inter sender role conflict, Intra-sender role conflict, Role overload, and Person- role conflicts. Kahn et al. (1964), Role ambiguity exists when an individual has inadequate information about his work role, that is, where there is lack of clarity about the work objectives associated with the role, about work colleagues' expectation of the work role and about the scope and responsibilities of the job. Ivancevich and Matteson (1980). It signify that, "Lack of group cohesiveness may explain various behavioural and physiological outcomes in an employ desiring such sticks (bonding) together." Negative interpersonal relations and workplace interpersonal conflicts are prevalent sources of stress and are existed with symptoms of ill health and negative mood depressions. Lack of effective consultation, lack of participation in the decision making process and communication, unjustified restrictions on behaviour, no sense of belonging and office politics are identified as potential sources of stressors. Lack of participation in work activity is associated with negative behavioural responses and psychological mood, including escapist drinking and heavy smoking. A stress arises when an individual feels he is not competent enough to undertake the role assigned to him effectively and efficiently. The person feels that he lacks skill, knowledge and training on performing the role. A job stressed person is probably to have greater job dissatisfaction, increased absenteeism, increase in negative psychological symptoms, increased frequency of drinking and smoking and reduced aspirations and self-esteem, -

Jick and Payne, (1980). Work related stress (produced by such factors as role ambiguity, role overload and career frustration) can produce such strain symptoms as irritability, fatigue, preoccupation, depression, and anxiety - Brief, Schuler & Van Sell, (1981) More often, Stress is developed when an individual employee is assigned a key responsibility without proper authority and delegation of power. Interpersonal factors such as group functional dependence, cohesiveness, communication frequency, relative authority and organisational distance between the focal persons and the role sender are important topics in organisational behavior - Vansell, Brief, and Schuler, (1981). Occupational stress is increasingly a significant source of economic loss and an important occupational health problem. Occupational stress may produce both physiologic and overt psychological disabilities. Nevertheless it may also cause subtle manifestation of morbidity that can affect productivity and personal well-being of an employee - Quick, Murphy, Hurrell and Orman, (1992).

Eustress and Distress

Selye Hans, (1956), the father of stress research expressed that "Stress is not necessarily something bad - it all depends on how you take it. The stress of exhilarating, creative successful work is beneficial, while that of failure, humiliation or infection is detrimental." Stress in the form of a challenge energizes us psychologically and physically, and it motivates us to learn new skills and master our work. When a challenge is met, we feel relaxed and satisfied. This is good stress or eustress. However, sometimes a challenge is turned into job demands that cannot be met. This is negative stress, or distress, which sets the stage for illness, injury, and job failure. Selye (1974), coined the term "Eustress, to mean good stress. He created this term as a sub-group of stress to differentiate the wide variety of stressors and manifestations of stress. Eustress, is positively correlated with life satisfaction and well-being. Selye Hans, further explained "Distress (meaning bad stress) is the most commonly referred type of stress, having negative implications, whereas eustress is usually related to desirable events in a person's life. Persistent stress that is not resolved through coping or adaptation should be known as distress, and may lead to anxiety, withdrawal, and depressive behavior." Eustress, is thus a positive cognitive response to stress that is healthy, or gives one a feeling of fulfillment or other positive feelings. Selye further argued that the biochemical effects of stress would be experienced irrespective of whether the situation was positive or negative. The stress that enhances one's functioning may be considered eustress (good stress). But, both eustress and distress can be equally taxing on the body, and are

cumulative in nature, depending on a person's way of adapting to the stressor that caused it. As the body itself cannot physically discern between distress or eustress. Differentiation between the two is dependent on one's perception of the stress, but it is believed that the same stressor may cause both eustress and distress. Schwarzer, (2009) explained that "Stress cannot result from any opportunity/challenge/constraint/demand, whatsoever; unless its outcome is perceived to be both important and uncertain at the same time" Moderate level of stress is in fact necessary for an individual to stay alert and active. Stress is also additive.

Job Stress vs. Job Challenge?

The concept of Job stress is often confused with challenge. But both are different. Challenge energizes us psychologically and physically. It motivates to learn new skills and master jobs. After the challenge has been met, the person feels relaxed and satisfied. In this way the challenge acts as an important element for a healthy and productive work. Challenge, in this manner acts as an important ingredient for a healthy and productive work. The importance of challenge in our work lives is emphasized when people glorify the stress and claim that a little bit of stress is good for employees. But the situation is different when the challenge turns into job demands that are hard or cannot be met. At this point relaxation turns into exhaustion, and a sense of satisfaction into feelings of stress. In short, the stage then gets set up for illness, injury, and job failure.

Groupification of Work Organization Stressors

Stressor is the cause or source of stress. Stressors are conditions or events that evoke strain. Work organization related common stressors can be grouped in two types. (i) Physical stressors: Consist of: Constant and long sitting, less mobility, repetitive tasks, fast-paced work, rotating-shifts, insufficient breaks, poor light air humidity ventilation and temperature control, excessive noise. (ii) Psychosocial stressors: May comprise of: Unrealistic deadlines, sustained excessive workload, excessive overtime, responsibility without authority, job skills not used, lack of recognition, poor communication, inflexible rules, lack of input in decisions, conflicting demands, poor supervision, poor relations with coworkers, lack of respect, dead end jobs (no promotions) job insecurity, favoritism. discrimination, racial/sexual harassment. In stress manifestation there is an importance of individual differences. However, scientific evidence suggests that certain working conditions are found stressful to most of the people. For example the excessive workload demands and conflicting expectations. Stress can be caused by a physical or emotional

change, or a change in environment that impinges one to adjust or respond. Occupational stress often germinates from unexpected or unrealistic responsibilities and work pressures that do not align with a person's knowledge, skills, or expectations, thereby reducing a person's ability to cope. Occupational stress can also increase when workers do not feel supported by supervisors or colleagues, or feel the lack of control over work processes.

Occupational Stress Impacts

Job stress affects job satisfaction negatively and there is a significant relation between these two concepts. Occupational stress results in decreased performance, absenteeism, turnover and employee misalignment with the organization. However, some pressure and challenge at work may be considered necessary to keep a person motivated. But when pressures on the person are extreme and demands placed on him are beyond his ability to cope, stress originates. Occupational stress is a physical or psychological disorder associated with an occupational environment and manifested in symptoms such as extreme anxiety, tension, cramps, headaches, or digestion problems.

Three-Prong Stress

According to conservative estimates in medical books, 50-80 percent of all physical diseases are stress-related in origin. Stress is believed to be the principal cause in cardiovascular diseases. Stress can place one at higher risk for diabetes, ulcers, asthma, migraine headaches, skin disorders, epilepsy, and sexual dysfunction. Each of these diseases, and host of others, is psychosomatic (i.e., either caused or exaggerated by mental conditions such as stress) in nature. Stress has three prong effects:

- Subjective effects of stress include feelings of anxiety, aggression, frustration, guilt, or shame. Individuals are also apt to feel irritable, moody, tired, tense, nervous, or lonely.
- Behavioral effects of stress represent readily visible changes in a person's behavior. Exhibiting such things as increased accidents, use of drugs or alcohol, outlandish or argumentative behavior, laughter out of context, very excitable moods, and/or eating or drinking to excess.
- Cognitive effects of stress refer to diminished mental ability, and may include such effects as impaired judgment, rash decisions, forgetfulness and/or hypersensitivity to criticism. 6.2

Psycho-Physiological Impacts of Stress

The AFT's Health & Safety Program, NW Washington, DC (2000),[47] explained stress implications on physical and psychological aspects as: "Stress is really the body's normal response to stressors. Under stress the body "gears up" and reacts to the situation to protect itself. Once the stressor is removed, the body returns to its normal state." Here are some early stress symptoms: Some short term signs and symptoms of job stress may be manifestations such as: headache, fatigue, short temper, low morale, difficulty in concentrating, pains, muscle aches, chronic mild illness, anxiety, irritability, depression, over and under eating, upset stomach, gastrointestinal problems, accidents, narcotic substance use, isolation from co-workers, job-dissatisfaction, low morale, marital, and family problems, sleep disturbances. Many studies suggest that psychologically demanding jobs that allow employees little control over the work process increase the risk of cardiovascular disease. It is widely believed that job stress increases the risk for development of back and upper-extremity musculoskeletal disorders

Long-Term Stress Related Health Problems

Stress becomes a problem when the human body is constantly under the influence of stressors, and doesn't get a chance to return to normal. The brain and its coordinating assistants get overwhelmed and worn out. The person is constantly in a state of arousal or alertness. Long-term Stress related health problems Physical problem Psychological problem such as: cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, weak immune system, high blood pressure, musculoskeletal disorders, narcotic substance use, depression and anxiety. Psychological disorders, mental health problems such as depression and burnout. There is a growing concern that stressful working conditions interfere with safe work practices and set the stage for injuries at work. Suicide, cancer, ulcers, and impaired immune function.

Conclusion

The exploration on occupational-stress/work-stress/Job-stress has been relatively a neglected area of research among industrial/organizational psychologists. Occupational stress (Job stress/Work stress) relates to one's job. Occupational stress often stems from unexpected responsibilities and pressures that do not align with a person's knowledge, skills, or expectations, inhibiting one's ability to cope. The literature review projects the idea that too much stress at work place has a toxic effect whereas too little stress may result in boredom and apathy and low performance. Job stress and job satisfaction are

inversely (negatively) correlated. Occupational stress is a manifestation of environmental, organizational and individual variables. It is concluded and suggested that an empirical research in the domain of occupational stress and employee health should consider and map the impact and influences of these factors viz., 1. environmental, 2. personal, 3. process, 4. human consequences, 5. organizational consequences, 6. role dynamics, 7. time of stress and 8. adaptive responses. Stress is found to be additive and there is also a positive relationship between role stressors and job stress. Occupational stress (Job stress/Work stress) need to be kept harnessed and minimised to provide conducive work environment in the organization.

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Event Marketing and Indian Premier League: Special reference to Indian Premier League

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Abstract

The Indian Premier League (IPL) was launched by the apex body, the Board of Control for Cricket in India, (BCCI), on 14th September 2007, on the lines of the other worldwide renowned leagues such as English Premier League in U.K and the National Basketball Association (NBA) in the USA. IPL was a professional league of twenty-20 cricket, which was launched and advertised by the BCCI and backed by the governing body of cricket in the world level ICC. The BCCI set up a governing council for the smooth run of the IPL as a virtual company. The governing council of the IPL had a term of five years for the run, operate, and manage of the league independently of the BCCI.

Introduction

In 2008, IPL becomes the first cricketing league, where the players were bought through auctions. All the players around the world registered themselves in the auction pool by setting /or not setting their base price. The base price was set by the BCCI. Any franchise and the owner of the team cannot bid below the base price of the player. For every franchise a common limit was estimated to spend in the IPL auction, so that rich owner could not influence the auction policy and purchase all the best players in their own team. Every franchise could spend between \$3.5million (minimum) to US\$5million (maximum) to purchase their respective teams. Franchise can bid according to the requirement of the batsman, bowler or the all-rounder in their team. The rules are also existed in the league to purchase the players from different franchises. The expected income which will be brought by the IPL in BCCI coffer was \$ 1.6 billion from a period of five to ten years. All the revenue of the IPL was collected in the central pool, which was divided into the IPL itself (40%), franchise (54%), and the prize money. This share of the money will be

accepted till 2017 and after that, the share of IPL becomes 50% and franchise will get 45% and the prize money will become 5% (BCCI Annual Report 2007-08).

According to a report released in April 2010 by sport intelligence.com about the global salaries published in their annual review, the IPL got the second position in the world in terms of team salaries after the National Basketball Association (NBA), which was calculated on a pro-rata basis. Within a period of three years of its starting, IPL became the second topmost rewarded league in the world. In the fifth season of the IPL, Brand finance (A Brand Valuation Consultancy) estimated its brand value around \$3.03 billion (Brand-Finance, 2013). The board of control for cricket in India in its annual report in 2015-2016, has claimed the brand value of IPL worth \$4.5 billion or INR27000 crore, which was calculated by valuation appraisal firm Duff and Phelps (BCCI, 2015-16).

Team Ownership and Corporate Houses in the IPL

In the IPL, teams were bought by the national and multi-national corporate houses of India. The name of the teams was given in the name of the city (e.g., Royal Challenger Bangalore; Mumbai Indian). At the start of the tournament in 2007, the BCCI had identified 12 cities (Mohali, Mumbai, Kanpur, Bangalore, Cuttack, Chennai, Hyderabad, Gwalior, Kanpur, Ahmadabad, and Jaipur) for the selection of the teams on the basis of the bid price. Out of the 12 cities, eight teams were selected by the BCCI, on the basis of the highest bid price by the corporate houses. In the fourth season of the IPL, two more teams (Pune and Kochi) were added in the tournament. In the fifth season, a team of Kochi was terminated from the IPL. In the sixth season of IPL nine teams had participated. In this season, the Deccan Chargers franchise had been terminated by the IPL governing council. Their spot was taken by The Sunrises Hyderabad. At the beginning of the IPL, 90 companies bought the bid documents of the team franchise. Among all the companies, some were the leading private entrepreneur of India like Reliance, Airtel, Kingfisher, GMR, and Sun TV network. In the bid process, some private equity firms and celebrities from national and international level like Russel Crowe and Shah Rukh Khan had also participated. BCCI sets the limit of \$50 million for the corporations or individuals, those who want to buy the IPL team. The auction was started in January, 24, 2008 for the franchise, with a total base price of US\$ 400 million. But the auction had reached to \$723.59 million for the ownership rights for the IPL teams. The owner of the reliance industry, Mukesh Ambani had owned the Mumbai team franchise for \$111.9 million and Vijay Mallya, the owner of United Breweries, bought the Bangalore team franchise for \$111.6 million. Sun TV Network won the Hyderabad franchise for

\$107.01 million, while India cements owned Chennai franchise for \$91 million. The two biggest stars of the bollywood, the combined owner of Red Chilies Entertainment (Shah Rukh Khan and Juhi Chawla) bought the Kolkata team's franchise for \$75.09 million. While Preity Zinta and Ness Wadia bought the Mohali team for \$76 million. GMR, the infrastructure development group bagged the ownership of the Delhi team for \$84 million and the Emerging Media, won the rights for the Jaipur franchise for \$67 million. In July 2015, a panel appointed by the supreme court of India has suspended the two teams (Chennai Super King and Rajasthan Royal) from Indian Premier League for two years because of their involvement in the illegal betting and the match fixing. In December 2015, two new teams (Rising Pune Supergiant and Gujrat Lions) with two new cities, Pune and Rajkot were added in the Indian Premier League. Rising Pune Supergiant was bought by the New Rising Company led by Sanjiv Goenka and Gujarat Lions was bought by Intex Technology (BCCI Annual Report 2007-08, 2015-16).

Money Offered by National and Multinational Companies in the IPL

With the start of the IPL in India, the era of the commercialized form of cricket has started, where the money has rolled from everywhere for the organizers, teams and the players. Real Estate Developer DLF Ltd. was the first event sponsor of the IPL for five years from 2007-2012 (sponsorship amount \$50 million). In the sixth season of IPL, Pepsi replaced DLF as a title sponsor. Pepsi had won the title sponsorship over Airtel with a bid of \$72million (Business Standard, 2012). Sony entertainment television was a media partner paying \$1.026billion for 10 years; two-wheeler company Hero Honda Motors Ltd. was the sponsor of the event paying \$22.5million for three years, PepsiCo India holding Ltd. was beverage partners paying \$12.5million and the kingfisher was the umpire and airline partner paying \$26.5million. In 2008, the IPL gained \$87.5 million profit for BCCI, which was more than the entire earnings of BCCI in 2007 \$58.75 million (BCCI Annual Report 2007-08).

Sony Pictures Network India (SPNI) had signed the agreement with so many national and multi-national sponsors like Citibank, Coca-Cola, Vodafone, and Hyundai etc. for the access of on-air category exclusively. The ad rate of SPNI had started from \$5000 per second for the ongoing games and it touched to \$25000 per second for the final games. This price of ad rate was more than the Twenty-20 world cup finals match \$2000 per second. During the period of ten years, SPNI had earned the lot of profit by covering the live process of IPL matches. The share of SPNI had reached about 5.7% to 28.5% during the event.

In the IPL, many companies had attached directly with the IPL as an event sponsor (e.g. DLF and Pepsi) and some organizations (e.g. Nokia and Aircel) was attached with the teams (e.g. Kolkata Knight Riders and Chennai Super King) as a sponsor of the team.

All the revenue, the owner of the team had collected from the sponsors was kept by the franchise only. The franchise of the team had gained the multiple sponsors for their team in the event, e.g. Kings Eleven Punjab (KXIP) had 26 sponsors in the year 2015. Coca-Cola was also one of the sponsors of the team KXIP. The KXIP franchise in their dealings with the Coca-Cola had given them the rights on T-Shirts and Helmets of the team and side by side, they had also given the ground sponsorship rights of the PCA stadium Mohali to the sponsors.

From the sponsor's point of view, IPL is a combination of sport and event entertainment. The BCCI, the governing council of IPL, has categorized the sponsors into five types. These five types of sponsors are the title sponsor, broadcast partners, telecommunication partners, e-commerce partner, and associate sponsors. VIVO is the title sponsor of the IPL for the year 2016 and 2017. Sony pictures network India (SPNI) has been broadcasting partner of IPL for 10 years, from the start of the IPL in 2008 to till 2017. In 2017, Vodafone is the communications partner of IPL. Amazon has attached as an e-commerce partner in 2017. In 2017, there were numbers of sponsors attached with the brand IPL as an associate sponsor. The associate sponsors for 2017 IPL were Ceat Tyres, Polycab Wires, Vimal Pan Masala, Parle Frooti, Yes Bank, Make My Trip and Voltas (ET Bureau, 2017).

Sony Pictures Network India (SPNI) is the broadcasting partner of Indian Premier League (IPL). SPNI spent \$1.026 billion or 8200 crores for ten years to become the broadcasting partner of IPL. SPNI sells ad inventories to different sponsors of the IPL that may be the title sponsor, telecommunication partner or associate sponsor of the IPL. In the last ten years, there is a tremendous increase in viewership and revenue of SPNI. In the first season of the IPL, the total viewership of SPNI was 102million and they had generated INR3050million revenue in that season. The SPNI's viewership and revenue have increased year by year. In 2009 the viewership of SPNI has increased to 123million, in 2010, it was 144million, in 2011, it was 161million, in 2012, the popularity of the IPL has decreased so its viewership was little increased, to 162million, in 2013, IPL regained its popularity and the viewership of SPNI increased to 175million, in 2014, it was 191million, in 2015, the viewership of SPNI has decreased from 191million to 190million, but at 2016, the SPNI total viewership has reached to 361million. Similar to its viewership

SPNI's revenue has also increased in the last ten years. The revenue of SPNI was 3050million in 2008, which has increased to 4000million in 2009, 6500million in 2010, and 8000million in 2011. In 2012, its revenue decreased from 8000million to 6000million, but in 2013 again its revenue reached to 9000million, in 2014, it was decreased to 8000million, in 2015, it was 10000million, and in 2016 its revenue has crossed 11000million. The viewership of SPNI in 2016, the 9th season of the IPL has witnessed a 254 percent increase as compared to the first season and 88 percent increase over the last season (Duff and Phelps, 2016).

SPNI earned more than 11000million in 2016 from their advertising revenue and in 2017 they have targeted to reach at 12000million. According to business insider, the total ad inventory of IPL 2017 was 2300 seconds per match. Out of the 2300 seconds, the Vivo (title sponsor of the IPL) got 300 seconds, Vodafone (telecommunication partner) got 210 seconds, Amazon (e-commerce partner) got 210 seconds and they have to pay INR5.2 lack per 10 seconds. The associate sponsors of IPL like Ceat, Yamaha Motors, Vimal Pan Masala, Parle Agro's Frooti, Yes Bank, Polycab Wires, got 120 seconds each and they have to pay INR5.75 lack per 10 seconds. Spot buyers have to pay INR6 lack per 10 seconds and HD channel has to pay INR2 lack per 10 seconds (ET Bureau, 2017).

In 2017, STAR India won the global media rights of Indian Premier League (IPL) at the cost of INR16, 347.50crore or \$2.55 billion for the period of five years from 2018-2022. The BCCI will get INR55crore per game and INR3270crore per year in the coming five years from the IPL. BCCI got INR8200crore from the SPNI from the last ten years from 2008-2017 and now BCCI will get the double amount of money INR16, 347.50crore in five years 2018-2022 from STAR India.

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Problems & Prospects of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in India

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Abstract

For developing economies like India, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) have emerged as a boon and have become an integral part of socio-economic growth and development. MSME is not only a resource house for large production units, but also strengthens the economy by creating large employment opportunities and effectively utilizing skills and capital that were not otherwise available. It also stimulates the growth of industrial entrepreneurs and encourages the birth of in-house business tycoons. Like India, the concept of MSME is not new to the country. Prior to independence, India's basic industry and the establishment of the East India Company were small industries. Later, the post-independence era, liberalization, deregulation and economic globalization marked another chapter in the growth and outlook of small industries. This paper seeks to highlight the growth of MSME from the pre-independence era to the post-globalization era. This paper describes the historical perspective of MSME in India. It also touches on new trends in small industries and the role of government policy in promoting and developing small industries. It also discusses the role and contribution of micro and small industries to economic growth, as well as the challenges for sustainable development and growth of micro and small industries. The paper concludes with specific steps to be taken by the government to encourage and support small industries.

Keywords: MSMEs, Globalization, Privatization, Liberalization, Development.

Introduction

Development of any economy depends upon the economic resources and how efficiently these resources, living (manpower) and non-living (input) are utilized. The history

reveals that industrial development completely metamorphosis socio-economic and cultural environment of the country. The emergence of infrastructural development, foreign collaboration, export promotion, favorable governmental policies leads the way to industrial development which further opens the door to economic growth. With respect to growth of industries in India, the role of MSMEs has to be talked about with paramount importance. The Liberal Government policies and the initiatives taken by the entrepreneurs to set up MSMEs introduced the sustainable and consistent economic development by generating employment for masses.

MSMEs represent one of the fastest growing sectors in world and are significantly contributing to the socio-economic growth of country. They play a vital role in the balanced and sustainable economic growth of India and that how the attempt made by government of India towards the development of MSMEs had laid a milestone in the Industrial growth of nation. The significance of MSMEs could be well understood from that fact that 95% of Industrial units in India are SSI and account for 34% of National Income. It is estimated that in terms of value, the sector accounts for about 39% of the manufacturing output and around 33% of the total export of the country. Further, in recent years the MSMEs sector has consistently registered higher growth rate compared to the overall industrial sector. The major advantage of the sector is its employment potential at low capital cost. As per available statistics, this sector employs an estimated 31 million persons spread over 12.8 million enterprises and the labour intensity in the MSME sector is estimated to be almost 4 times higher than the large enterprises.

Before focusing the further study on small scale Industries and Micro Industries, it has become important to discuss the concept of different industrial undertakings.

Small Scale Industries are identified as Industrial undertaking in which the investment in fixed assets in plant and machinery excluding land and building whether held on ownership terms or on lease or on hire- purchase does not exceed Rs. 1 crore.

Medium-scale industries are those with investment in plant and machinery of Rs. 2 crores to Rs 10 crore with service enterprises having investment upto 5 crores and manufacturing enterprises having investment upto 10 crores.

Ancillary units i.e., those engaged in manufacture or production of parts, components, subassemblies or proposes to supply or render not more than 50% of its production or services, as the case may be, to one or more industrial undertakings and whose

investment in fixed assets in plant and machinery, whether held on ownership terms or on lease or on hire- purchase does not exceed **Rs. 1 crore**.

Industrial units with an investment of up to Rs. 25 lakhs belong to the **Tiny industries** and **Export oriented units** are those which exports more than 50% of their output.

As per this classification all industries with capital investment higher than specified for small-scale units are large-scale industries.

According to the recent policy initiative, enterprises have been defined on the terms of investment in the following manner.

Categories	Manufacturing Enterprise	Service Enterprise
Micro	Upto 25 lakhs	Upto 10 Lakhs
Small	More than 25 lakhs upto 5 crore	More than 10 lakhs upto 2 crore
Medium	More than 5 crore upto 10 crore	More than 2 crore upto 5 crore

Source: Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise

http://dcmsme.gov.in/ssiindia/defination_msme.htm

Pre Independence Era

During the Pre Independence-Era agriculture was the main stay of the people of India. Beside agriculture a class of businessman specialized in manufacturing of handicraft, stone carving, jewelry designing etc. dominated the industrial sector in rural areas. Those communities, known as banias, parsis, gujratis etc. actually laid down the stone of entrepreneurship by carrying out trade and commerce at the initial stage and later establishing cottage and village industries. Till **1850s** the growth of small scale industries meant only growth of British private companies like plantation, coal mines, banking and insurance. In the second half of the **19th century** the important industries developed were cotton, jute, steel, iron, tea etc. In **1905**, Indian leaders adopted the concept of swadeshi and boycotted to the discriminatory policy of British government. It is basically to promote cottage and handicraft sector and to promote employment opportunities. The

movement acted as fuel to the fire against the British policies and thus begun the new chapter of different industries as Jemshedji Tata established his first Iron & Steel industry (TISCO) in Bengal, Mysore. Hence due to this movement, the type of small companies grew up. However the Industrial development in India was very slow and erratic during British period. Post war period, the introduction of Managing agency system initiated the formation of Joint stock companies and new methods of production, new products and new markets. Still there was long way to go for Indian businesses like responding to technological issues, shortage of manpower, lack of managerial skills and technical know-how. During Independence era, Nehru directed India to the path of economic growth that was then visualized as best for the future. India chose a middle path and the philosophy of mixed economy was accepted as the guiding principle of economic policies. Dr S.P. Mukherjee, then minister for Industrial Issues announced the first Industrial policy of India on April, **1948**. This had given a rise to the establishment of Heavy Industries and expansion of Public Sector and Cooperative Enterprise.

Post Independence Era

India started a path of Industrialization to achieve economic prosperity. By providing incentives, subsidies and other inputs at subsidized rates, government induced the entrepreneur to set up small scale industries. The so initiated development of small scale industries lead to decentralized industrial expansion, even distribution of wealth and enhancement of managerial skills. The family businesses such as **Tatas, Birlas, Dalmias, Kirloskars, Ambanis** established new wave of growth in the Indian economy. The first five year plan emphasized on the development of agriculture, industry, infrastructure while the second five year plan stressed upon the revival of cottage and village industries. Rural industrial projects were also initiated in the third five year plan in selected **49** areas. Similarly, many such efforts emphasized on the sustained development of industries. During the sixth five year plan the main focus of government was on the development strategies for small scale industries and on improving the status of micro and small-scale industries.

In the context of Globalization, Liberalization, Small scale industries confront competition in each sphere. It implies management of human resources, plant, machinery, competitors, and the society as a whole. Government intervention through policies like New small enterprise policy (**1991**) has facilitated the small-scale industries in consistent development and has reemphasized boost to industrial undertakings.

Impact of MSMEs on the development of India

- **Generation of Employment:** Small scale industries are identified as labour-intensive units and therefore they have potential to provide high rate of employment per unit of capital. It is the second most popular occupation in India next to Agriculture. As per 4th All India Census of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), around 594.61 lakh persons are employed in the MSME sector, including agro, rural, cottage and small-scale industries. It provides employment to not only educated, skilled and professional class but also to the agriculturist who stay idle during a part of a year.
- **Promotion of Entrepreneurship:** Because of low capital requirement, SSI provides opportunity to large number of people to emerge as an entrepreneur. Most of the indigenous industries in India including Handloom, cotton, matchstick, artisan industries are entrepreneurship firms which have been generated with little capital but flashing ambitions to be self-dependent. Various self-help groups in the country have also come up as Entrepreneurship firms.
- **Decentralized Development:** SSI being located in rural and semi urban cities as well reduce the concentration of industries in particular areas. Also, they generate employment in rural areas and therefore check migration and overcrowding in urban areas. Decentralized development of small scale industries raise the standard of living in rural areas and therefore bring evenness in economic growth.
- **Generates Self Sufficiency:** By providing inputs to the large manufacturing houses, SSI reduces the dependence on Imports for inputs. Also, it helps in meeting domestic need for restricted products. Therefore, it enhances the self-sufficiency within the nation.
- **Feed Large Industries:** SSI are basically involved in manufacturing of various types of components, spare parts, accessories, and tools which are required by large scale manufacturing houses. They are the domestic resource house and therefore are complimentary to the large organizations.
- **Utilization of latent resources:** Many of the resources which are available locally and would otherwise have remained unused are effectively utilized by small-scale industries. These resources include the hoarded wealth, family-labour, artisan's skills, native entrepreneurship, etc. These resources are thinly spread throughout the country and cannot be used by large-scale industries which need them in big amounts

and at a few specified places. Besides this, the small-scale industries provide an environment for the development of forces of economic growth.

- **Optimum Capital Utilization:** The rate of capital formation in India is very low and SSI has been proved as a support to this feature of Indian market. Greater output can be obtained from small scale firms as they require less capital per unit of output.
- **Develop Exchange Earnings:** As SSI do not require import of sophisticated machinery and earn valuable foreign exchange through export of output of large number of products, they help in reducing balance of payment. SSI accounts for 25% of country's total export.
- **Equitable distribution of wealth:** By generating employment for large number of people and homogeneous growth throughout the nation, SSI reduces concentration of economic power in few hands. It reduces monopolies and plays an important role in equitable distribution of national income and wealth.

Despite of the fact that Small Scale Industries represent one of the fastest growing sectors in world and is significantly contributing to the socio-economic growth of country, the sector is struggling hard with problems like finance, infrastructure, and knowledge-based manpower and many more.

Hindrances of MSMEs in India

- **Finances & Repayment of loan:** Finance is considered as the lifeline for any industry. Arranging of funds is becoming the major problem for small scale industries. Scarcity of capital, delay in getting loan, and absence of collateral securities are few of the common problems faced by all small-scale enterprises. Only 20 per cent of small-scale industries get bank finance, rest 80 per cent arrange from private sources. Rate of interest charged by banks is about 8 per cent higher than charged to large scale. Also because of irregular sale of output and undisciplined marketing, entrepreneurs fail to repay the loan which is further reducing their credit worthiness.
- **Higher cost of Raw Material:** Procurement of raw material is another significant problem faced by small scale industries. Small Scale Industries generally purchase their raw material in smaller lots and sometimes even in the open market at much higher prices. Also, they fail to get the benefits of quantity discounts often enjoyed by large scale industries.

- **Diseconomies of Scale:** Small Scale Industries generally operate at small batch sizes which results in proportionately higher expenses on production, salaries, wages, procurements, sales, and distribution per unit of output.
- **Under - Utilization of Capacity:** Because of Irregular power supply and limited resources, small scale industries generally operate at under - capacity with almost 50% of the capacities remaining unutilized. It further adds to the cost of small-scale industries and reduces their profitability.
- **Higher Cost of Marketing:** Lack of marketing expertise and absence of any marketing unit or agency accelerate the problems of small-scale industries. Also because of operating at small scale they fail to meet the demand of large batch sizes. Other than that many government and public sector undertakings purchase only branded products in order to ensure quality and regular supply.
- **Technology up - gradation:** Lack of Finances and technical support from government prohibits the technology up - gradation in small scale industries. Uncertainty of use of new technology in untested market and successfully adopting the change in production process also restricts them to invest in new technology.
- **Inadequate Infrastructure:** An important factor for underutilization of capacity in small scale sector is insufficient quality and quantity of transportation, communication facilities, and production and retail houses. All these restrict the growth of small-scale industries.
- **Reduced Restriction on Imports:** The gradual reduction in the rate of Import duty and removal of quantity restrictions on import of large number of items has opened the flood gates of imports. This has added to the problem of small-scale industries already struggling with the competition from Multinational companies introduced after globalization of economy.

Conclusion

Adequate finances should be made available to the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises with or without minimum collateral security and Bank charges on loan may also be avoided. The financial support shall be offered to MSMEs industries for technical up - gradation and educational and training programmes for the same shall be held. To facilitate production, raw material should be made available to these industries at the

same rate as offered to large scale industries. Government shall also start making the purchases from small scale industries. The lump sum royalty paid by MSMEs to technical collaborators may also be subsidized. Income tax rate to MSMEs should be reduced for the same slab. For excise benefits, there should be no eligibility sealing of turnover and all who qualify as MSMEs, should get all excise benefits. Additional financial support shall be offered to sick industries to recover and rehabilitate. Banks may also continue with providing operational facilities to such units. R.B.I should offer a liberal amnesty scheme for the sick or closed units to enable them to settle their old out - standings. Government may also compensate the expenses incurred in taking ISO 9000 and charge only token amount for taking ISI marking. Besides that National Test House shall reduce the normal testing charges to half and to encourage research only a token lump sum royalty and 1 per cent on sales turnover shall be charged.

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Smart Watch Technology: Consumer Adoption Behaviour

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Abstract

The technological advancements in the recent years have changed the functionality of electronic products. The traditional mobile phones have become smartphones and similarly watches have become smartwatches. A smartwatch is a wearable device with features like smartphone in addition to its basic functionality like a watch. The smartwatch is synchronized with smartphone so that it can be used to attend mobile calls, access notification alerts and used to store health records etc. As the marketing world tries to reach mobile users, a wearable technology market has emerged. This market would lead the digital marketing world to major innovation investments and entail companies to develop and improve marketing strategies in the area. The great breakthrough and development in the wearable technology industry allows marketing professionals to conduct more research on the subject.

Keywords: Smart Watch, Internet, Technology, Consumer Behaviour, Mobile, Smartphones.

Introduction

Adoption of smartwatches has seen a huge growth in recent years in India. Consumer's expectations are also changing with newer features and the ways these technology products are being used. With a plethora of smart watch offerings across price, features, brands, it becomes important to understand what consumers are looking for.

The technological advancements in the recent years have changed the functionality of electronic products. The traditional mobile phones have become smartphones and similarly watches have become smartwatches. A smartwatch is a wearable device with

features like smartphone in addition to its basic functionality like a watch. The smartwatch is synchronized with smartphone so that it can be used to attend mobile calls, access notification alerts and used to store health records etc.

In the modern world, smartwatch is one of the high technology products. By 2021 the smartwatch shipments grow at an annual rate of 18 percent and may reach 70 million units (Beaver, 2016). It is also anticipated that Apple will continue to drive a large portion of the overall market, however, Android wearable devices will quickly catch up as emerging markets begin to adopt the technology. The top five vendors of smartwatches are Apple, Samsung, Lenovo, LG Electronics and Garmin etc (IDC, 2016). The research about consumer perception and behaviour about smartwatches is in beginning stage and the present study is an attempt to fulfil the research gap. The primary aim of this study is to provide knowledge for marketers of smartwatches, academicians, and researchers.

Literature Review

Smartwatches are in early stage of diffusion and perceived usefulness and visibility are important factors for adoption of smartwatches (Chuah, Rauschnabel, Krey, Nguyen, Ramayah, & Lade, 2016). The ease of use is more important factor for enhancing consumers' attitude and adoption intention towards smartwatches. Further gender does not play a vital role in adoption intention of smartwatches (Wu, Wu, & Chang, 2016). According to Choi and Kim (2016) smartwatch is fashion product and consumers who need uniqueness are more interested to use smartwatch. (Choi & Kim, 2016). Consumers give more importance to features of smartwatches than brand image and price of the product (Jung, Kim, & Choi, 2016). The behavioral intention of smartwatch users is negatively influenced by privacy risk because smartwatches collect a lot of physical activity data during usage. The smartwatch has also been used for helping consumers from the perspective of health and medical related applications (Kalantarian & Sarrafzadeh, 2015). Many researchers have developed their research models based on technology acceptance model (TAM), unified theory of acceptance and use of technology (UTAUT), theory of planned behavior (TPB) and innovation diffusion theory (IDT) etc. Smartwatch is often referred as wearable technology product and also high technology product in the present era. According to Kim (2016) among round screen and square screen of smartwatches, the users prefer round screen smartwatches. At the same time controlling features are more convenient on square screen smartwatches (Kim, 2016). According to Kim and Shin (2015) the cost and sub-cultural appeal have an impact on consumers' attitude and intention to use regarding smartwatches. (Kim & Shin, 2015).

Smart Watch Consumer Adoption

Smartwatches can connect with smartphones and receive a lot of information, such as time, text messages, schedules, and GPS data. While it can perform basic data and communications tasks, it is also capable of running mobile applications. Users can download and install the various applications they need via the smartwatch's operating system. Two of the most popular operating systems are Google's Android Wear and Apple's watch OS. The users of Google's and Apple's operating systems have been shown to be different. According to a survey by American business magazine Forbes (2014), Apple device users are typically businesspersons and have a higher level of education and income than the users of the Android system. Therefore, the factors that influence the users to adopt one of these two operating systems are expected to be different. Smart device manufacturers have a strong interest in understanding these factors and exploring ways to increase users' intention to adopt smartwatches.

Smartwatches are perceived as 'want' and consumers are likely to have smartwatches for notification alerts. Since smartwatches can be synched with smartphones the email, messages from social networking sites can be accessed through it. The internet had created lot of awareness about smartwatches than other media. It is also found from this study that consumers have opined that smartwatches can be used to complete personal and professional tasks very conveniently. The consumers are thinking that smartwatches are reasonably priced based on its features. From this study it can be concluded that consumers are likely own a smartwatch in future to perform variety of tasks. The results of this research are consistent with previous studies regard smartwatches.

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Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity

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Understanding cultural differences and similarities without placing a value on them – positive or negative, better or worse, right or wrong – is known as cultural sensitivity. being conscious of the existence of, and the impact of, cultural contrasts and similarities on values, education, and behavior.

A collection of abilities that enables you to comprehend and gain knowledge from individuals whose cultural background differs from your own. In order to comprehend the many stages of cultural sensitivity (or, as he prefers to call it, "intercultural sensitivity") that a person may experience, Milton Bennett created a sound framework. The "Bennett Scale," also known as the Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity, describes the typical ways that individuals encounter, comprehend, and engage with cultural differences.

He contends that when cultural sensitivity increases, people shift from having an ethnocentric perspective to a more ethnorelative viewpoint.

Bennett writes, "In general, the more ethnocentric orientations might be regarded as means of avoiding cultural difference, either by denying its existence, by establishing defences against it, or by downplaying its significance. The most ethnorelative worldviews seek out cultural diversity by acknowledging its significance, changing one's perspective to consider it, or incorporating the entire idea into one's notion of identity.

This hypothesis states that those who are genuinely engaged in adopting cultural sensitivity move from ethnocentric to ethnorelative stage:

Ethnocentric approach	Denial
	Defense
	Minimisation
Ethnorelative approach	Acceptance
	Adaptation
	Integration

Each step of intercultural sensitivity is defined. Let's examine what each of these steps means individually.

Stages of ethnocentric cultural sensitivity:

Denial, Defense, and Minimization

Denial:

Denial of cultural difference occurs when people fail to acknowledge cultural differences or regard them as irrelevant; when they deny the existence of cultural differences or the possibility that they may be significant and consequential; or when they have a stereotypical, undifferentiated, and frequently self-serving perception of people from other cultures. People in the denial stage, for instance, will classify members of other cultures as "foreigners," "immigrants," or "Asians."

People are not yet culturally sensitive enough to understand cultural experiences and distinctions. They communicate in monolithic groups and tend to caricature others since they think their culture is the only "genuine" one.

People who assert that "We are all the same and I don't understand why we need to learn about the various groups in the firm" are an example of this. Why don't they simply learn how things are done in America?

Defense:

When people exalt their own culture above that of others (such as in white nationalism), when they feel victimised or attacked in discussions about bias, bigotry, or racism, or when they perceive other cultures in polarised, competitive, zero-sum, or us-against-

them terms, defence against cultural difference can take place (e.g., they withdraw, leave the room, break down in tears, become defensive or hostile, etc.). Defense can also take the form of actions that restrict access or opportunities for persons from other cultures, such as opposing affirmative action laws or diversity hiring programmes.

People who are defensive about cultural differences acknowledge some distinctions but interpret them negatively because they believe their culture to be the most advanced and superior. People who assert that it is impossible to conduct business directly in Latin America. They wish to share their life story with you. Why they can't just learn to be more direct and save everyone time, I don't understand.

Minimization:

People minimise cultural differences when they believe that others share their unique cultural worldview, when they believe that their culture's values are basic or universal human values that apply to everyone, or when they conceal, downplay, or ignore the significance of cultural differences. (For instance, when faced with instances of racial, ethnic, or gender bias in the workplace, organisational leaders may answer with phrases like "We endeavour to treat everyone equally" or "I don't see colour"). Minimization can also appear in remarks that "deep down, humans are all same" or in assertions that cultural similarities are less significant than human similarities (implying that cultural differences are inconsequential or can be ignored).

Minimization can also appear in remarks that "deep down, humans are all same" or in assertions that cultural similarities are less significant than human similarities (implying that cultural differences are inconsequential or can be ignored).

At this point in their development, people are still ignorant that they are reflecting their own cultural ideals. They think their own principles are better. They believe that simply being aware of cultural differences is sufficient.

These individuals believe that we are all the same because our similarities outweigh our differences and because we all share the same physical, biological, psychological, and other requirements.

They believe they are great because they treat everyone as an individual, but in reality, they are disregarding the impact of culture on every person's experience. For instance, "We are all people," or "In the end, we all want to be liked."

Stages of ethnorelative intercultural sensitivity

The three stages of intercultural sensitivity that are related to an ethnic group are acceptance, adaptation, and integration. Let's examine their appearance.

Acceptance:

When people understand how culture shapes their views and values, how diverse cultural patterns of behaviour exist, and how other cultures have valid and desirable perspectives that should be respected and treasured, they can accept cultural differences. People may start to seek out cross-cultural partnerships and social engagements that they may have previously avoided during the acceptance stage. This behaviour can also take the form of increased curiosity or interest in different cultures.

The ability to change viewpoints and recognise that the same "regular" conduct might have various meanings in different cultures is a sign of cultural sensitivity at this stage. They can recognise how a person's culture affects their experiences.

They might not like or even agree with the differences they see, but they are curious to learn more about other cultures.

An illustration might be someone who approaches another person with genuine curiosity in how they encounter similar circumstances. They inquire as to how Dominicans handle certain situations or what your family would do in a similar circumstance.

Adaptation:

People can adapt to cultural diversity when they can take the perspective of another culture, when they can intellectually and emotionally understand the experiences of others, or when they can engage with people from different cultures in a calm, genuine, and appropriate manner.

The adaptation stage can also be seen when individuals from various cultural backgrounds are able to converse about their cultural experiences and perspectives in a way that is cognizant of and sensitive to the other culture (Bennett has referred to this process as "mutual adaptation"), or when organisations adopt inclusive policies and practises that foster respectful and fruitful cross-cultural interaction and employee teamwork. People who have reached this level of cultural sensitivity improve their proficiency in intercultural communication.

They are able to judge other people's actions based on their own frame of reference and modify their own actions to conform to the customs of another culture. People who engage with people from different cultures in a natural way by adhering to their cultural conventions as an example. They believe they may uphold their own principles while assimilating those of the different civilizations they engage with. They skillfully employ empathy.

For example, people who bow appropriately when speaking with Japanese clients or who naturally anticipate their Mexican guests 45 minutes after the party's scheduled start time.

Integration:

When someone's identity or sense of self develops to appropriately and authentically absorb the values, beliefs, views, and behaviours of different cultures, there has been successful integration of cultural difference. People are able to experience themselves as multicultural beings who are constantly selecting the most appropriate cultural context for their behaviour, according to Bennett, who states that "Integration of cultural difference is the state in which one's experience of self is expanded to include the movement in and out of different cultural worldviews."

People who have reached this level of cultural sensitivity can readily change their frame of reference from one culture to another. They grow to understand various cultures. individuals who are equally at home in either culture.

Example: This level is easiest to discern with properly bilingual/bicultural persons who nearly change their demeanour when they interact with one group (their family, for instance) or another (their Anglo co-workers, for instance) yet they are equally genuine in both settings.

Research on the Political Climate in Global Business

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Abstract:

An organization's capacity to conduct business in a foreign market can be helped or hampered by a variety of political circumstances and governmental actions that make up the political environment in international business. The commercial strategies used in the current political climate will be the main topic of this article. The political danger and political difficulties in the global political and economic system will be covered. It will outline the many political risks, how to recognise them, and the necessary ideas for developing plans of action to deal with these political shifts. Additionally, it will concentrate on international alliances, political issues surrounding these alliances, and its business. Additionally, some appropriate instances will be included to further clarify the political climate.

Keywords: Political Risk, Globalization, Investment, Trade Relations

Introduction

The effects of political risks as well as the forces and processes of globalisation have an impact on business operations and practises in the context of international politics. Political risks are the possible implications that a change in government could have on a company. The term "globalisation" describes the increasingly unrestricted movement of capital, ideas, people, goods, and services that is resulting in the fusion of economies and cultures. Businesses have reacted to the shifting political landscape by assessing the political risks associated with overseas business ventures and investments before making any commitments. The workings and policies of multinational business are significantly impacted by the political climate on a global scale.

Global Political Environment

Regulations, local views of corporate governance, responses to global competition, and labour regulations all help to define a political environment. The forces of globalisation are transforming the political climate all around the world. Traditional borders between nations, cultures, and economic marketplaces are permeable under globalisation. According to Thruow (1995), the primary economic factors and developments that have an impact on globalisation and political unrest worldwide include:

- The transition from an economy based on natural resources to one focused on knowledge industries.
- The fall of communism Changes in the population and the emergence of a world economy.
- An period without a dominant economic, political, or military power; increased trade liberalisation; improvements in communication technology;
- An increase in the threat of international terrorism.

A chaotic global socio-political environment brought on by globalisation is characterised by conflicting political players, shifting power dynamics, and changes in national economies that are motivated by politics. Businesses search for areas of opportunity and financial gain in changing political and economic conditions. A decentralised global economy has emerged as a result of the political unrest and turmoil, along with several new markets. The capital markets of developing nations that have liberalised their financial systems to encourage capital flows with non-residents and have made themselves widely accessible to foreign investors are referred to as emerging markets.

Trade agreements like the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) between the United States, Canada, and Mexico, the Mercosur trade agreement between Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, and Paraguay, and the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) trade zone are becoming more and more important for business opportunities in the global economy, including international investments and joint ventures. Additionally, global privatisation is creating commercial prospects. Many state-owned sectors are being privatised, and countries are allowing international investors to buy shares through joint ventures or allowing local businesses to take part in these projects.

Businesses engaged in the new global economy will continue to look for new production and sales opportunities as well as new risks as emerging markets, frequently found in nations suffering political turmoil, continue to grow. One of the biggest issues and things to think about for businesses in the current political climate is political risk. In the emerging global economy, opportunities and responsibilities are expanding accordingly. The impact of political risk on corporate operations is discussed in the section that follows.

Political Risk

Political risk is typically understood to be the danger that arises from political instability or political change to corporate interests. Political risk exists in every nation on the planet and varies in intensity and nature from one nation to the next. Government policy adjustments to alter controls imposed on exchange rates and interest rates may result in political dangers. Additionally, lawful government acts like limitations on pricing, outputs, activities, and currency and remittance restrictions might result in political risk. Events that are not beyond the authority of the government, such as war, revolution, terrorism, labour strikes, and extortion, can likewise pose a political danger.

Political risk can have a negative impact on many facets of international trade, including the freedom to export or import goods as well as the freedom to own or run a firm. As an illustration, it divides risk into categories based on economic, exchange transfer, strike, riot, or civil unrest, war, terrorism, sovereign non-payment, legal and regulatory, political interference, and supply chain vulnerability.

Evaluation of Level of Political Risk

Forms of Investment and Risk

There are three main types of international business for a company thinking about entering a new overseas market: trade, international licencing of technology and intellectual property, and foreign direct investment. Depending on the sort of product or service, a corporation preparing a business plan may include different components from each of the three categories.

The decision to enter a market is influenced by the firm's experience, the nature of its goods or services, its financial resources, and the level of risk it is ready to take (Schaffer et al, 2005). The risk associated with each of these three market entry options varies

greatly, with trading being the least dangerous if the company does not have any offices or inventories abroad. Direct foreign investment is the other end of the spectrum and often poses the most risk to the company because it has the biggest economic exposure.

Protection from Political Risk

By carefully preparing and keeping an eye on political changes, businesses can lower their exposure to political risk. The business should be well-versed in both domestic and foreign issues of the nation they are considering entering. The business should be aware of the country's political stability, institutional strength, existence of any political or religious conflicts, ethnic makeup, and minority rights. The nation's standing internationally, including its interactions with neighbours, boundary disputes, membership in international organisations, and acceptance of international law, should also be taken into account. If the business lacks the resources for such research and analysis, it may be able to find this information via their foreign embassies, international chambers of commerce, political risk consulting businesses, insurance companies, and from foreign businessmen who are knowledgeable with a specific area. Governments in some nations will set up organisations to aid in the expansion of private companies abroad. Governments may also provide insurance against political risk in order to encourage exports or economic growth. Private enterprises may also get political risk insurance from international business-focused insurance providers. Most often, insurance firms that offer coverage for political risk include coverage against inconvertibility, expropriation, and political violence, including civil unrest (US Small Business Administration). Any business should prepare for expanding internationally by carefully planning and remaining vigilant.

Government Policy Changes and Trade Relations

A government makes adjustments to its policies that affect global commerce. Governments may alter their policies regarding foreign companies for a variety of reasons. Numerous factors, including high unemployment, widespread poverty, nationalistic pressure, and political turmoil, might influence policy changes. More restrictions on foreign companies' ability to operate or a reduction in their access to funding and trade could result from changes in policy. Changes in policy may occasionally benefit international companies as well.

Governments frequently turn to trade relations to address internal issues. An international company could become involved in a trade war or an embargo as a result of using trade as a political tool (Schaffer et al, 2005). As a result, regulations may change often for foreign commerce and regulations, which might raise the price of conducting business abroad.

Example:

The current example of political risk is the policy of Donald Trump, President of United States of America. After only four days of taking his oath, his political initiatives are already having a significant impact on international trade. His opening remarks include the phrase "buy American, employ American," which urges listeners to purchase solely American-made goods and use American businesses for their hiring needs. The worst effects have been felt by Indian businesses, particularly in the IT sector. Our IT company depends on exports for 75% of its revenue, with 60% of that coming from America. These IT firms have had to reduce their hiring from B-schools as a result. This year's recruitment has decreased by 30% as a result. At one business school, Infosys hired 13 individuals as opposed to 40 the year before, Dell hired three as opposed to five, and Wipro hired 5 as opposed to 9 the year before. Another declaration about "border taxes" will likewise have an effect on international trade. As a "border tax," this will be imposed on American businesses who attempt to sell goods made abroad in the US. It may have a negative impact on commerce in emerging nations.

Conclusion

The assessment of political risk is now of utmost relevance for the global investor. Political risk used to be frequently understood in terms of hostile action by host country governments, but with the rapid pace of globalisation, its nature and sources have significantly changed, piquing the interest of scholars from a variety of disciplines, including international relations, psychology, and decision theory. Intelligence and risk management have grown to be a key cause of concern in a time when the global equilibrium has changed and divisions between "developing" and "developed" countries, for example, are no longer as clear-cut. Given the present political situation, the subject of the connection between politics and the behaviour of foreign investors has become even more important. Economic and financial crisis, at least some of the reasons of which can be attributed to poor policy decisions.

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ARIMA Models – Manufacturing Case Study (Sugar Cane Juice)

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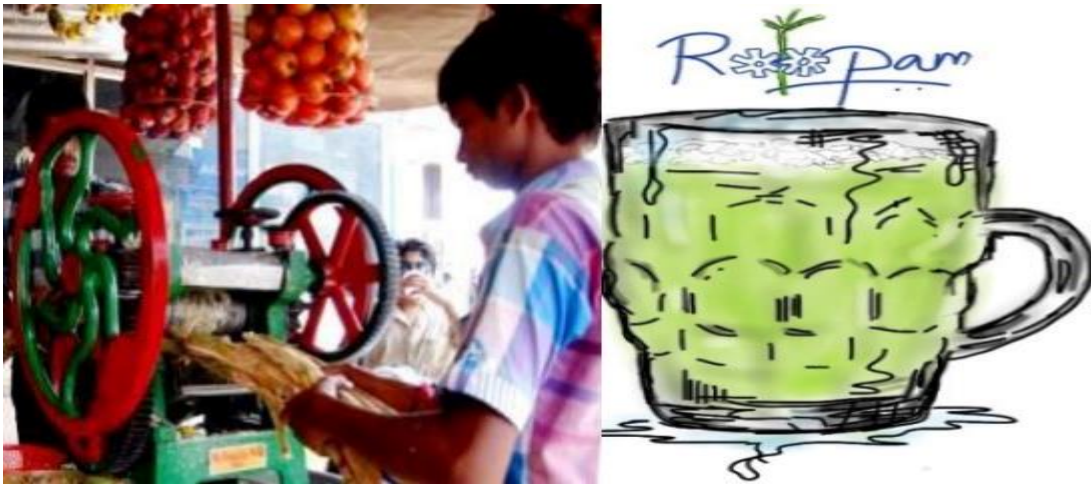
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What Is ARIMA Modeling?

ARIMA is an acronym for “**autoregressive integrated moving average.**” It’s a model used in statistics and econometrics to measure events that happen over a period of time. The model is used to understand past data or predict future data in a series. It’s used when a metric is recorded in regular intervals, from fractions of a second to daily, weekly or monthly periods. ARIMA is a type of model known as a **Box-Jenkins method.**[1]

ARIMA and Sugar Cane Juice

May and June are the peak summer months in India. Indian summers are extremely hot and draining. Summers are followed by monsoon rains. It’s no wonder that during summers everyone in India has the habit of looking up towards the sky in the hope to see clouds as an indicator of the arrival of monsoons. While waiting for the monsoons, Indians have a few drinks that keep them hydrated. Sugar cane juice, or *ganne-ka-ras*, is by far my favorite drink to beat the heat. The process of making sugar cane juice is fascinating and has similarities with ARIMA modeling.[2]



Sugar cane juice is prepared by crushing a long piece of sugar cane through the juicer with two large cylindrical rollers as shown in the adjacent picture. However, it is difficult to extract all the juice from a tough sugar cane in one go hence the process is repeated multiple times. In the first go, a fresh sugar cane is passed through the juicer and then the residual of the sugar cane that still contains juice is again passed through the juicer many times till there is no more juice left in the residual. This is precisely how ARIMA models work.

Consider your time series data as a sugar cane and ARIMA models as sugar cane juicers. The idea with ARIMA models is that the final residual should look like white noise otherwise, there is juice or information available in the data to extract.

We will come back to white noise (juice-less residual) in the latter sections of this article. However, before that let's explore more about ARIMA modeling.[2]

ARIMA Modeling

ARIMA is a combination of 3 parts i.e., AR (*AutoRegressive*), I (*Integrated*), and MA (*Moving Average*). A convenient notation for ARIMA model is ARIMA(p,d,q). Here p,d, and q are the levels for each of the AR, I, and MA parts. Each of these three parts is an effort to make the final residuals display a white noise pattern (or no pattern at all). In each step of ARIMA modeling, time series data is passed through these 3 parts like a sugar cane through a sugar cane juicer to produce juice-less residual. The sequence of three passes for ARIMA analysis is as follows:

1st Pass of ARIMA to Extract Juice / Information

Integrated (I) – subtract time series with its lagged series to extract trends from the data

In this pass of ARIMA juicer, we extract trend(s) from the original time series data. Differencing is one of the most commonly used mechanisms for extraction of trends. Here, the original series is subtracted from its lagged series e.g. November's sales values are subtracted from October's values to produce trend-less residual series. The formulae for different orders of differencing are as follow:

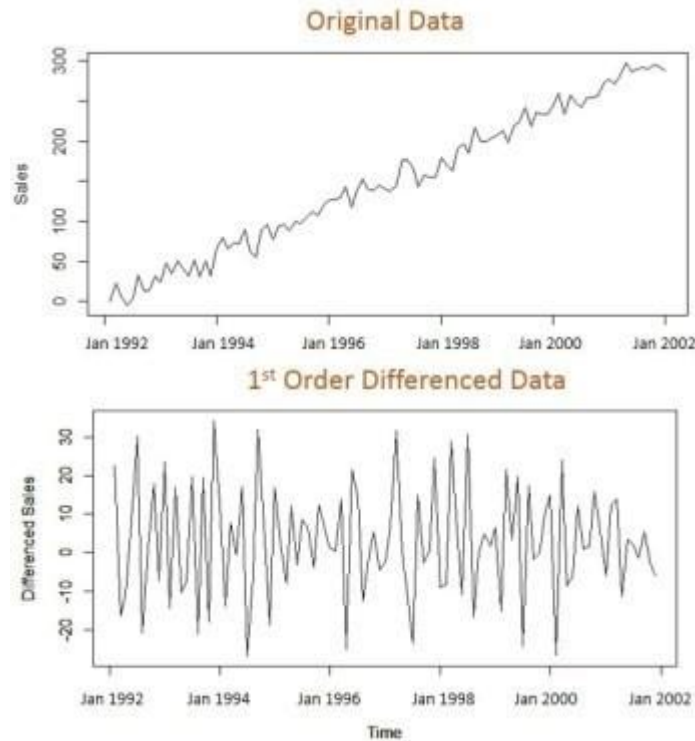
No Differencing (d=0) $Y_t^{\wedge} = Y_t$

1st Differencing (d=1) $Y_t^{\wedge} = Y_t - Y_{t-1}$

2nd Differencing (d=2) $Y_t^{\wedge} = Y_t - Y_{t-1} - (Y_{t-1} - Y_{t-2}) = Y_t - 2Y_{t-1} + Y_{t-2}$

For example, in the adjacent plot, a time series data with a linearly upward trend is displayed. Just below this plot is the 1st order differenced plot for the same data. As you can notice after 1st order differencing, trend part of the series is extracted and the difference data (residual) does not display any trend.

The residual data of most time series usually become trend-less after the first order differencing which is represented as ARIMA(0,1,0). Notice, AR (p), and MA (q) values in this notation are 0 and the *integrated (I)* value has order one. If the residual series still has a trend it is further differenced and is called 2nd order differencing. This trend-less series is called stationary on mean series i.e. mean or average value for series does not change over time. We will come back to stationarity and discuss it in detail when we will create an ARIMA model .[2]



2nd Pass of ARIMA to Extract Juice / Information

AutoRegressive (AR) – extract the influence of the previous periods' values on the current period. After the time series data is made stationary through the *integrated (I)* pass, the AR part of the ARIMA juicer gets activated. As the name auto-regression suggests, here we try to extract the influence of the values of previous periods on the current period e.g. the influence of the September and October's sales value on the November's sales. This is done through developing a regression model with the time-lagged period values as independent or predictor variables. The general form of the equation for this regression model is shown below. You may want to read the following articles on regression modeling Article 1 and Article 2.

$$Y_t = c + \phi_1 Y_{t-1} + \phi_2 Y_{t-2} + \dots + \phi_p Y_{t-p} + e_t$$

AR model of order 1 i.e. $p=1$ or ARIMA(1,0,0) is represented by the following regression equation

$$Y_t = c + \phi_1 Y_{t-1} + e_t$$

3rd Pass of ARIMA to Extract Juice / Information

Moving Average (MA) – extract the influence of the previous period's error terms on the current period's error

Finally, the last component of ARIMA juicer i.e. MA involves finding relationships between the previous periods' error terms on the current period's error term. Keep in mind, this *moving average* (MA) has nothing to do with moving average we learned about in the previous article on time series decomposition. *Moving Average* (MA) part of ARIMA is developed with the following simple multiple linear regression values with the lagged error values as independent or predictor variables.

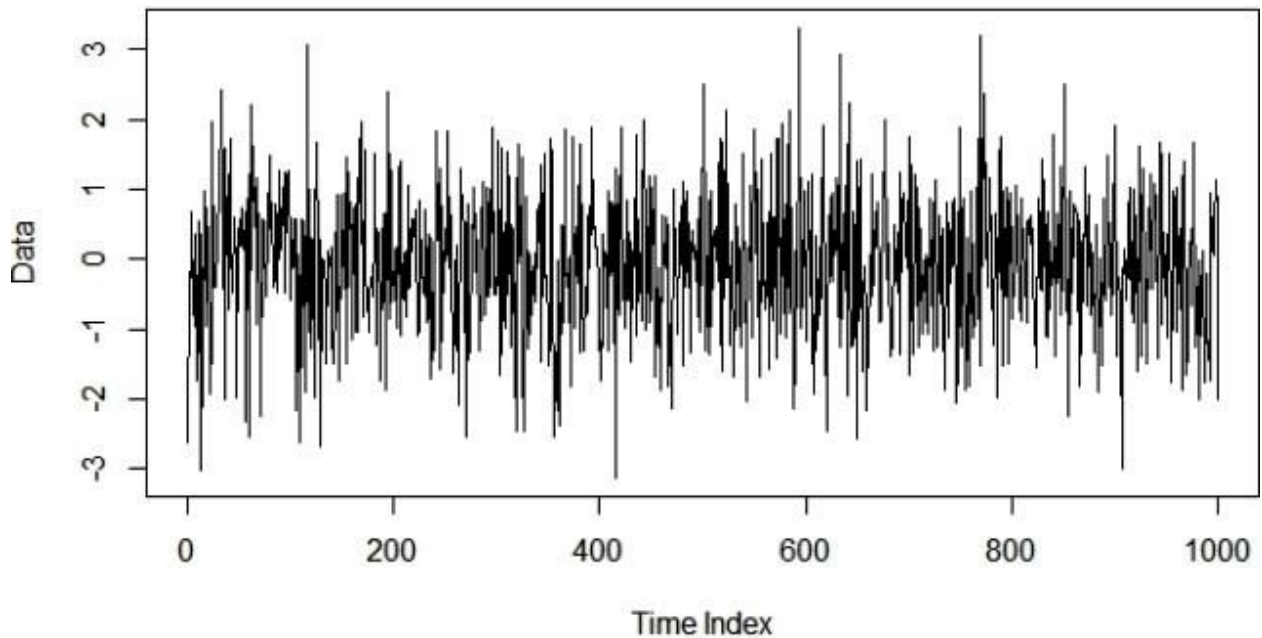
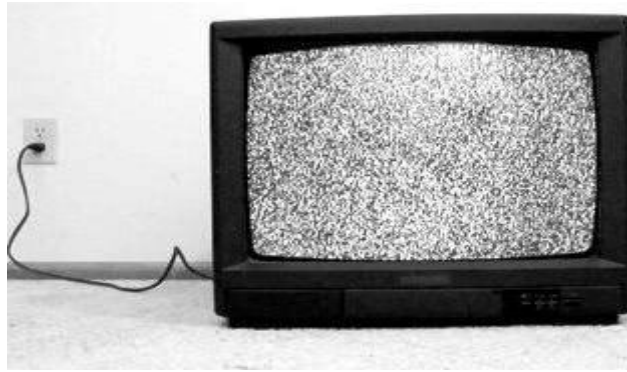
$$Y_t = c + e_t + \theta_1 e_{t-1} + \theta_2 e_{t-2} + \dots + \theta_q e_{t-q}$$

MA model of order 1 i.e. q=1 or ARIMA(0,0,1) is represented by the following regression equation

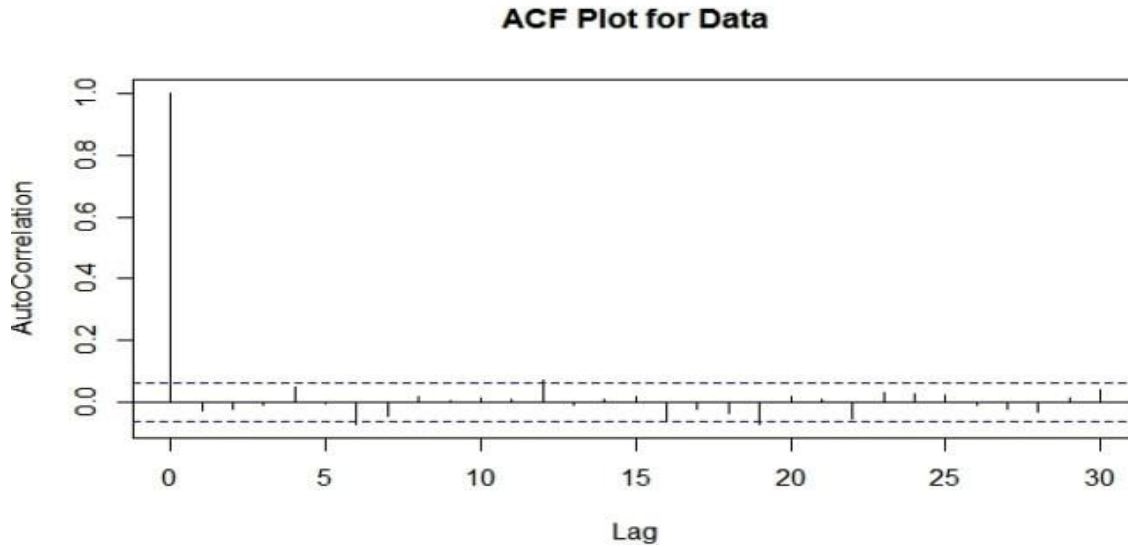
$$Y_t = c + e_t + \theta_1 e_{t-1}$$

White Noise & ARIMA

For the good part of the day the TV used to look like the one shown in the picture – no signals just plain white noise. As a kid, it was a good pass time for my friends and me to keep looking at the TV with no signal to find patterns. White noise is a funny thing, if you look at it for long you will start seeing some false patterns. This is because the human brain is wired to find patterns, and at times confuses noises with signals. The biggest proof of this is how people lose money every day on the stock market. This is precisely the reason why we need a mathematical or logical process to distinguish between a white noise and a signal (juice/information). For example, consider the following simulated white noise:



If you stare at the above graph for a reasonably long time you may start seeing some false patterns. A good way to distinguish between signal and noise is ACF (*AutoCorrelation Function*). This is developed by finding the correlation between a series of its lagged values. In the following ACF plot, you could see that for lag = 0 the ACF plot has the perfect correlation i.e. $\rho=1$. This makes sense because any data with itself will always have the perfect correlation. However as expected, our white noise doesn't have a significant correlation with its historic values ($\text{lag} \geq 1$). The dotted horizontal lines in the plot show the threshold for the insignificant region i.e. for a significant correlation the vertical bars should fall outside the horizontal dotted lines.



There is another measure *Partial AutoCorrelation Function* (PACF) that plays a crucial role in ARIMA modeling.

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A Study on The Derivatives Market in India

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Abstract:

The derivatives market has a tremendous impact on a nation's economic growth. Financial derivatives are currently used in the world of finance more frequently than ever before. This has spread so quickly over the world that it is now referred to as the derivatives revolution. The derivatives market has developed and grown more rapidly in India than in other countries. Financial derivatives are now the most widely utilised and rapidly popular in the world of finance. This has spread so quickly over the world that it is now referred to as the derivatives revolution. This study's findings support the notion that options are traded more frequently than futures due to low transaction cost and less initial amount required to enter in contract.

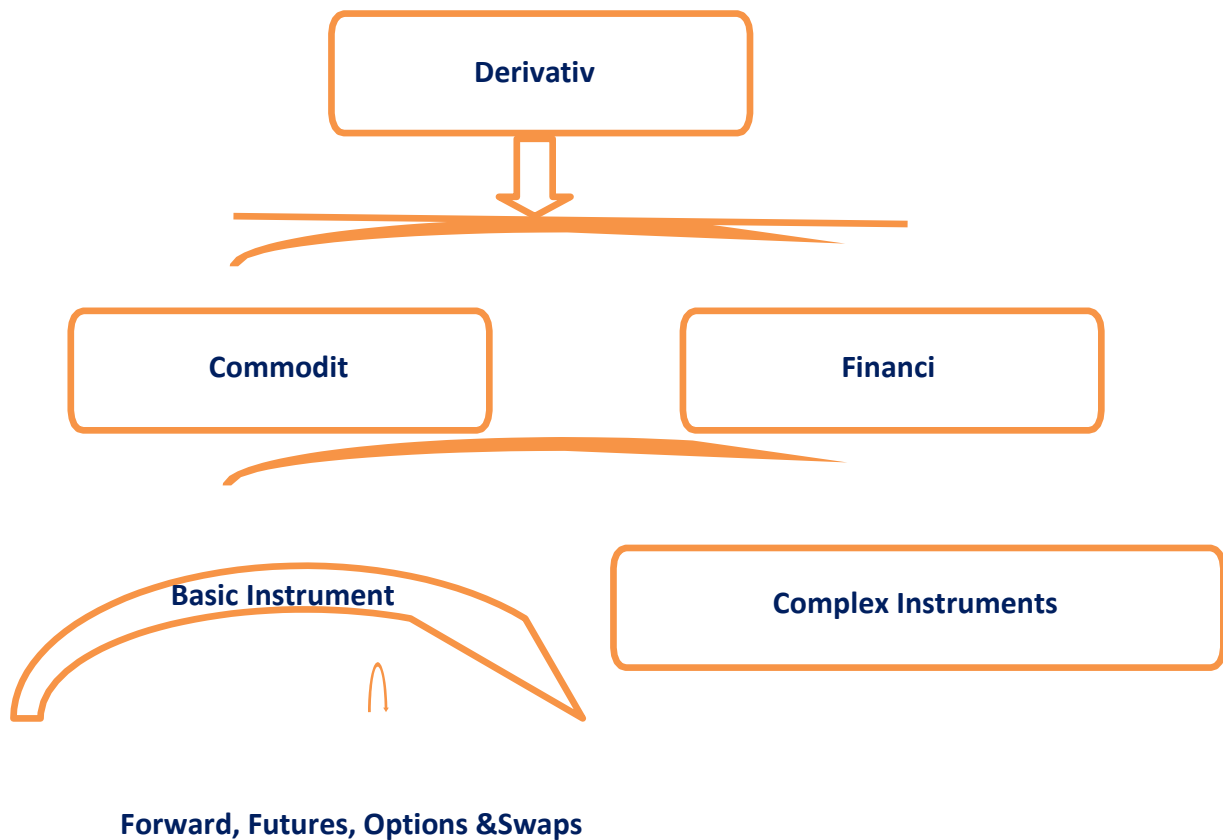
Keywords: Financial Market, Derivatives, Futures, Options

Introduction:

The derivatives market has a tremendous impact on a nation's economic growth. The study's goal is to determine how financial derivatives affect the underlying market's volatility (futures and options). Financial derivatives are currently used in the world of finance more frequently than ever before. This has spread so quickly over the world that it is now referred to as the derivatives revolution. The derivatives market has developed and grown more rapidly in India than in other countries. Derivative. In order to examine futures and options, this essay will take into account a firm derivative from the Indian stock market. This essay tries to offer investors the finest strategies for increasing their earnings in the derivatives markets. The spot or cash market price of the underlying asset, in this case gold, determines the pricing in the derivatives market. These products' primary function is to guarantee prices for future dates in order to protect investors against unfavourable changes in future prices and minimise their exposure to risk.

Indian Derivative Market:

On November 18, 1996, SEBI established a 24-member committee with Dr. L. C. Gupta as its head to create a suitable regulatory framework for derivatives trading in India as the first step toward the adoption of the practice. On March 17, 1998, the committee turned in its report, which recommended that derivatives be classified as securities so that the same regulatory framework that governs the trading of securities can also apply to the trading of derivatives. Later, SEBI established a group in June 1998, headed by professor J.R. Verma, to recommend submitting its findings in October 1998. It figured out the margining system's operational specifics, a way for charging initial margins, membership information and net-worth requirements, deposit requirements, and specifications for real-time position monitoring. With SEBI's approval, BSE and NSE launched the equity derivative segment in June 2000, marking the beginning of exchange-traded derivatives in India. The trade of index futures contracts based on the Nifty and Senses indexes was initially allowed by SEBI, and trading in these products began in June 2000. Later, in June 2001, trading in index options started, and in July 2001, trading in options on specific stocks started. In November 2001, futures contracts for specific stocks were introduced. In February 2013, Metropolitan Stock Exchange of India Limited (MESI) began conducting derivatives trading. The Indian derivatives market has existed since 1875. This year saw the launch of futures trading by the Bombay Cotton Trading Association. According to history, India's futures trading market grew considerably by 1900. However, the Indian government formally outlawed cash settlement and option trading in 1952, the year the country attained independence. The year 2000 saw an increase in the trading prohibition on commodities futures. It was made possible by the establishment of the National Electronics Commodity Exchange. The National Stock Platform, a trading exchange based on electronics, was founded in 1993. The Bombay Stock Exchange had been operating effectively for more than a century at that point. Forward trading was available on the BSE under the Badla trading name, but derivatives trading officially began in its current form only in 2001. On June 12, 2000, the NSE began trading CNX Nifty index futures based on the CNX Nifty 50 index. Derivatives are categorized as:



Commodity derivatives: With the help of financial mechanisms called commodity derivatives, investors can profit from specific commodities without really owning them. A derivatives contract's buyer purchases the right to exchange a commodity for a specified price at a later time. The commodity may be purchased or sold by the buyer.

Financial derivative: A contract between two or more parties that bases its value on an accepted underlying financial asset (such as a security) or collection of assets is referred to as a financial derivative (like an index). Bonds, commodities, currencies, interest rates, market indices, and stocks are typical underlying instruments.

Forwards: Forwards are over the counter (OTC) derivatives that allow for the purchase or sale of an underlying at a predetermined price at a future date. Forward contracts have terms that have been agreed upon by the counterparties.

Futures: Futures are forwards that are exchange traded. A future is a contract entered into formally on an exchange for the purchase or sale of a specific underlying on a future date at a price determined today. The exchange specifies the contract's conditions.

Options:

An option is a contract that grants the right – but not the obligation – to purchase or sell the underlying at a specified price and on or before a certain date. While the option's buyer pays the premium and purchases the right, the option writer's or seller's obligation is to sell or buy the underlying asset if the option's buyer exercises that right.

Swaps: A swap is a pact struck between two parties to exchange future cash flows based on a predetermined formula. In general, swaps are collections of forward contracts. Swaps aid traders in controlling the risk brought on by erratic interest rates, currency exchange rates, and commodity prices.

Exotic Derivatives: Exotic derivatives are typically more intricate, exotic, and specialised derivative contracts that are based on the value of an underlying asset or specified group of assets.

LEAPS: Options with longer maturities than more typical options are called LEAPS (Long Term Equity Anticipation Security). The two types of LEAPS found in conventional short-term options are calls and puts.

Historical Development of Derivative Market In India:

Derivatives have their roots in farmers' need to safeguard themselves from changes in the price of their product. Farmers would confront price uncertainty from the moment it was sowed until it was ready for harvest. By locking in asset values through the use of straightforward derivative contracts, the farmer was able to transfer price risks in part or in full. These straightforward agreements, which were created to satisfy farmers' demands, served primarily as a way to lower risk.

In India, derivative markets have existed in some capacity for a long time. The Bombay Cotton Trade Association began futures trading in the commodities market back in 1875. The initial organised futures market was this one. After that, the futures market was established in 1893 by Bombay Cotton Exchange Ltd., 1900 by Gujarat Vyapari Mandall, and 1919 by Calcutta Hesstan Exchange Ltd. After the nation gained its independence, the derivatives market completed a full circle, going from the outright ban on all

derivative trades to their most recent return. After the Indian government outlawed cash settlement and option trading in 1952, the trade of derivatives moved to unofficial forwarding markets. Government policy has changed recently to favour a bigger role for market-based pricing and less dubious derivatives trading. The Securities Laws (Amendment) Ordinance of 1995 was the first step in the introduction of financial derivatives trading in India. It allowed for withdrawal of securities option contracts upon prohibition. The ban on trading in numerous commodities' futures was lifted throughout the past ten years, starting in the year 2000.

Growth of Indian Derivatives Market:

The NSE and BSE are two major Indian markets have shown a remarkable growth both in terms of volumes and numbers of traded contracts. Introduction of derivatives trading in 2000, in Indian markets was the starting of equity derivative market which has registered on explosive growth and is expected to continue the same in the years to come. NSE alone accounts 99% of the derivatives trading in Indian markets. Introduction of derivatives has been well received by stock market players. Derivatives trading gained popularity after its introduction in very short time.

If we compare the business growth of Options and Futures in terms of number of contracts traded and volumes in all product categories with the help of table no.1, Options traded 8338648853 total contracts whose total turnover is Rs. 2572504.75 cr in the year 2022-23 and Futures segment 33776109 total contracts have traded whose total turnover is Rs. 2850895.73 cr in same year. On the otherhand no. of contracts traded are more incase4 of Index as compare to particular Stock

Year	Index Futures		Stock Futures		Index Options		Stock Options		Total	
	No. of contracts	Turnover (cr.)	No. of contracts	Turnover (cr.)	No. of contracts	Premium Turnover** (cr.)	No. of contracts	Premium Turnover** (cr.)	No. of contracts	Turnover* (cr.)
2022-23	33776109	2850895.73	81382006	5216933.99	8338648853	2572504.75	216206863	250067.85	8670013831	733668892.4
2021-22	93662982	8429378.27	265609687	21038937.56	17623355691	5842329.82	677512461	1038830.27	18660140821	1695233134
2020-21	127599626	9047645.65	252830922	18098365.39	7824035680	2629426.05	330394648	579351.62	8534860876	643618108.3
2019-20	94777881	6701072.45	257380338	14919550.78	4586692584	1082514.05	198377569	229034.28	5137228372	345391355.5
2018-19	69824522	5568914.47	255533869	16147010.86	2652457487	654099.95	186986542	200010.31	3167183212	237590973.7
2017-18	57674584	4810454.34	214758366	15597519.71	1515034222	460653.71	126411376	148217.5	1913878548	164984859.1
2016-17	66535070	4335940.78	173860130	11129587.14	1067244916	350021.53	92106012	95570.09	1399746129	94370301.61
2015-16	140538674	4557113.64	234243967	7828606	1623528486	351221.01	100299174	61118.39	2098610395	64825834.3
2014-15	129303044	4107215.2	237604741	8291766.27	1378642863	265315.63	91479209	61732.59	1837041131	55606453.39
2013-14	105252983	3083103.23	170414186	4949281.72	928565175	244090.71	80174431	46428.41	1284424321	38211408.05
2012-13	96100385	2527130.76	147711691	4223872.02	820877149	184383.24	66778193	34288.56	1131467418	31533003.96
2011-12	146188740	3577998.41	158344617	4074670.73	864017736	253068.22	36494371	19612.93	1205045464	31349731.74
2010-11	165023653	4356754.53	186041459	5495756.7	650638557	192637.87	32508393	20474.97	1034212062	29248221.09
2009-10	178306889	3934388.67	145591240	5195246.64	341379523	124416.58	14016270	15272.89	679293922	17663664.57
2008-09	210428103	3570111.4	221577980	3479642.12	212088444	91715.58	13295970	8250.53	657390497	11010482.2
2007-08	156598579	3820667.27	203587952	7548563.23	55366038	29286.09	9460631	13581.77	425013200	13090477.75
2006-07	81487424	2539574	104955401	3830967	25157438	17650.87	5283310	5904.31	216883573	7356242
2005-06	58537886	1513755	80905493	2791697	12935116	5770.52	5240776	4895.23	157619271	4824174
2004-05	21635449	772147	47043066	1484056	3293558	2356.98	5045112	4948.95	77017185	2546982
2003-04	17191668	554446	32368842	1305939	1732414	991.48	5583071	8054.86	56886776	2130610
2002-03	2126763	43952	10676843	286533	442241	112.7	3523062	3033.97	16768909	439862
2001-02	1025588	21483	1957856	51515	175900	1299	1037529	1305.23	4196873	101926
2000-01	90580	2365	-	-	-	-	-	-	90580	2365

Source: Compiled from NSE website.

Conclusion:

Due to innovation and the landscape revolution, financial derivatives have acquired a well-deserved very significant place among all financial instruments (products). A tool for managing risk is a derivative. Risk transfer from one party to another is possible using derivatives. The introduction of equity derivatives to the Indian market has been tremendously successful and encouraging. Derivatives' rise in recent years has outpaced its counterpart's expansion on a global scale. In terms of a thriving market for exchange-traded derivatives, India is one of the most successful developing nations. The market for equity derivatives is significantly influencing how prices are discovered. Financial asset price volatility, global financial market interconnection, highly developed risk management tools, advancements in financial engineering, and options for risk management methods have all been factors in the expansion of financial derivatives globally, including in India. Finally, we may state that derivatives play a significant role in the financial system. This study's findings support the notion that options are traded more frequently than futures due to low transaction cost and less initial amount required to enter in contract.

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Impact of Marketing Strategy on Working of a Business

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Abstract

Showcasing procedure is a develop that lies at the calculated heart of the field of key promoting and is integral to the act of promoting. It is likewise the region inside which a large number of the most squeezing current difficulties distinguished by advertisers and CMOs emerge. We foster another conceptualization of the space and sub-areas of showcasing system and utilize this focal point to survey the current condition of advertising procedure research by analyzing the papers in the six most persuasive showcasing diaries over the period 1999 through 2017. We uncover significant difficulties to showcasing system research – not least the undeniably set number and focal point of studies, and the declining utilization of both hypothesis and essential examination plans. Be that as it may, we additionally reveal various open doors for creating significant and profoundly pertinent new showcasing procedure information – the number and significance of unanswered advertising procedure questions and potential chances to affect practice has ostensibly never been more noteworthy. To guide such research, we foster another examination plan that gives open doors to analysts to foster new hypothesis, lay out clear significance, and add to further developing practice.

Introduction

Creating and executing promoting procedure is integral to the practice of showcasing. Ongoing reports with respect to the top difficulties confronting advertisers (Table 1) uncover various inquiries inside the space of showcasing system including: (1) how to make hierarchical designs that better empower improvement of promoting procedures

that help explore and adjust to changing client and firm requirements; (2) how to pick the ideal set of showcasing systems to drive results given contending needs and heap inward and outer partners; and (3) how to lead endeavor wide chiefs in creating and executing methodologies that make more noteworthy client centrality furthermore, commitment. Because of its centrality to work on, promoting methodology is likewise a critical area of business college teaching method, significant in promoting hypothesis clarifications of firm execution, furthermore, a focal point of request among scholarly scientists. Nonetheless, while there has been a developing examination interest in the general field of vital promoting (i.e., showcasing related peculiarities and choices that are mean a lot to understanding the drawn out exhibition of item/brands, SBUs, and firms), it is muddled the amount of this examination connects with advertising system – the focal develop inside the field of key marketing.¹ Since creating and executing showcasing technique is vital to what advertisers do practically speaking, research apropos to understanding these exercises is vital to laying out the relevance of the scholastic discipline of advertising. Better comprehension the condition of advertising methodology information is moreover significant for creating hypothetical grasping in advertising. For instance, understanding what hypotheses have been drawn on in past exploration and which parts of advertising technique have gotten little consideration is a pre-cursor to any endeavor to foster native showcasing hypothesis. Precise examinations of the utilization of various exploration approaches and techniques in a specific space, and how these have changed over the long haul can likewise uncover experiences for the advancement of new methodologies and strategies. Therefore, occasional surveys of examination in a space are valuable in combining information and empowering total information advancement. Obviously, much has occurred in the realms of both practice and examination in the beyond twenty years, making the current review required and opportune. This concentrate thusly embraces a thorough survey of the essential showcasing writing beginning around 1999, with three explicit goals: (1) to foster a system through which to evaluate the present status of examination led inside promoting methodology; (2) to enlighten and represent the condition of knowledge[^] in center sub-spaces of promoting methodology improvement and execution; and (3) to foster an examination plan recognizing parts of advertising procedure that require more noteworthy. In tending to these goals, this study makes a number of commitments to key promoting information. To begin with, we show that promoting procedure research distributed in the major diaries throughout recent years (1999-2017) has fundamentally zeroed in on either promoting strategies or advertising related inputs (assets and

abilities) to showcasing system and their exhibition results (both straightforwardly and under various outside and inner ecological circumstances), with generally little exploration in the center area of advertising technique. If how we might interpret advertising technique before 1999 had been complete – and no tremendous changes had happened since that time – this may not be a huge issue. Be that as it may, obviously neither of these circumstances is valid. The general absence of thoughtfulness regarding advertising technique during this period ought to be seen as an especially critical hole in promoting information since showcasing methodology is the focal build in the field of key advertising and practically speaking advertisers burn through the majority of their time participated in promoting technique related exercises. Second, we foster another conceptualization of showcasing methodology, recognizing four key sub-areas (i.e., detailing content, plan process, execution content, execution process). This gives another system that can be utilized to survey the condition of the field, recognize basic information holes, and direct future examination. In this study, we use it as a focal point with which to survey and adjust which promoting methodology sub-areas – and issues inside every area – certainly stand out. For model, we show that while advertising system execution gives off an impression of being an area of moderately solid examination inclusion, most examinations in this sub-space are promoting blend models looking at linkages between at least one showcasing program components and execution results while controlling for the leftover components of a brand or company's showcasing program. On the other hand, we find that not very many advertising technique studies have zeroed in on the cycles by which showcasing technique is created.

Table 1 Key marketing strategy challenges identified by CMOs

	Strategy formulation (figuring out what to do)	Strategy implementation (doing it)
Strategy content (strategy decisions)	<p>What is (or should be) the impact of shifting from a consumer-centric to a multi-stakeholder and data-driven model of marketing on marketing's strategic goals?</p> <p>What is the best way to evaluate and make decisions about the trade-off between strategies that deliver short- vs. long-term marketing impact?</p> <p>What does the changing nature of CMO/marketing's role (e.g., digital, analytics, omni-channel) mean for what marketing strategy decisions are viable?</p>	<p>What should we insource vs. outsource (e.g., digital, analytics, CRM, creative content development, etc.) to best accomplish different marketing strategy goals?</p> <p>What is the right allocation of resources (budgets and people) across traditional vs. new channels?</p> <p>What new marketing communication options open up as communication shifts from a 30-second ad world to a limitless content world</p>
Strategy process (strategy making and strategy realization)	<p>How should marketing work with other functions and C-suite leaders (especially COO, CFO, CIO, Chief Digital Officer) to figure out what marketing strategy options are possible?</p> <p>What new approaches to developing brand strategy are required in a multi-stakeholder (vs. consumer centric) world?</p> <p>When and how should marketing "manage upwards" (the CEO) to drive alignment to marketing strategy goals and strategy choices?</p> <p>How can multi-touch attribution modeling be used to assess the ROI outcomes of past marketing strategy implementations to make better future marketing strategy decisions?</p>	<p>How can CMOs identify required talent for new marketing responsibility areas to enable strategy implementation (e.g., digital, analytics, technology, etc.)?</p> <p>How can marketing effectively lead culture change to force company adaptation to new consumer realities and technology?</p> <p>What are the most effective mechanisms to monitor and communicate implementation results to drive cross-functional alignment, support, influence, and credibility?</p> <p>How should CMOs measure, review, and hold accountable managers in new areas of marketing responsibility to drive effective strategy implementation?</p>

Table-2 Concept of Marketing Strategy



Review of Literature

Varadarajan (2010) - strategy marketing alludes to the general field of study, while advertising strategy alludes to the authoritative methodology develop that is the chief focal point of the field. Along these lines, while all promoting technique centered papers

are inside the field of vital showcasing, not all essential promoting research concerns advertising system.

Lewis (2004) - Dedication programs urge buyers to move from single-period decision pursuing to dynamic or various period choice making. Through reenactment and strategy tests, it is feasible to assess and analyze the drawn out impacts of the unwaveringness program and other promoting instruments (e.g., email coupons, satisfaction rates, delivering expenses) on client maintenance. Observational outcomes and strategy tests propose that the staple/pharmacy devotion program considered is effective in expanding yearly buying for a significant extent of clients.

Bolton et al. (2004) - Fosters the CUSAMS system, which determines the client ways of behaving that mirror the expansiveness of the client care association relationship. This system lays out a bunch of suggestions in regards to how promoting instruments impact client conduct inside the relationship, subsequently impacting the worth of the client resource. The paper further characterizes an examination plan that recognizes basic issues in client resource the executives.

Hauser and Shugan (2008) - Shows that for the benefit boosting firm even with a cutthroat new item contestant it is ideal to:

- 1) Decline mindfulness publicizing.
- 2) Decline the circulation spending plan except if the new item can be kept out of the market; and
- 3) Consider a cost increment. Be that as it may, significantly under the ideal procedure, benefits decline because of the serious new item. Gives viable direction to appraise the dissemination of customer tastes, the place of the new item in perceptual space, also, foster serious diagnostics to help the chief guarding against the serious assault.

Content Analysis

To give understanding into the sorts of examination and information yields that have been run of the mill in the different sub-areas of showcasing technique, we next distinguish the most generally concentrated on points and examine model examinations in every one of the four promoting sub-spaces as well as some hybrid^ concentrates on that catch more than one sub-space. We likewise give some significant level combination outline of by and large information in each region.

Conclusion

Promoting methodology lies at the calculated heart of the vital promoting field. It is likewise key to showcasing practice and the region inside which a large number of the most squeezing difficulties for advertisers emerge. Utilizing another conceptualization of the space of the promoting methodology develop as a focal point, we evaluate the present status of promoting methodology research. We uncover significant difficulties to showcasing methodology research yet additionally various open doors for creating significant and exceptionally pertinent new advertising technique information. The exploration plan we create gives potential open doors to analysts to foster new hypothesis, lay out clear pertinence, and add to further developing practice. Since large numbers of these can't be enough tended to with ebb and flow freely accessible optional information, scientists need to turn out to be more diverse and imaginative in their research plans, including arising new innovations for information catch and examination. Correspondingly, Editors, Partner Editors, and commentators should turn out to be more open, diverse, and talented in assessing such exploration plans. While there might be institutional impediments in doing as such, our research recommends the settlements can be colossal – the number also, significance of unanswered advertising system questions also, chances to influence practice has apparently never been more prominent.

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Annexure

Table 1 Key marketing strategy challenges identified by CMOs

Table-2 Concept of Marketing Strategy

Perspective on Training & Development

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Abstract

Personnel management is that part of management concerned with the people at work and with their relationships within the organization. Training is the process of increasing the knowledge and skill for doing a particular job. It is an organized procedure by which people learn knowledge and skill for a definite purpose. The purpose of training is basically to bridge the gap between job requirements and present competency of an employee. Hence practical training has been made integral part of the management education in India.

Introduction

Human Resource Management (HRM), a relatively new term, that emerged during the 1930s. Many people used to refer it before by its traditional titles, such as Personnel Administration or Personnel Management. But now, the trend is changing. It is now termed as Human Resource Management (HRM). Human Resource Management is a management function that helps an organization select, recruit, train and develops.

Scope of HRM without a doubt is vast. All the activities of employee, from the time of his entry into an organization until he leaves, come under the horizon of HRM. The divisions included in HRM are Recruitment, Payroll, Performance Management, Training and Development, Retention, Industrial Relation, etc. Out of all these divisions, one such important division is training and development.

Training is activity leading to skilled behavior.

- It's not what you want in life, but it knows how to reach it
- It's not where you want to go, but it knows how to get there
- It's not how high you want to rise, but it knows how to take off

- It may not be quite the outcome you were aiming for, but it will be an outcome
- It's not what you dream of doing, but it's having the knowledge to do it
- It's not a set of goals, but it's more like a vision
- It's not the goal you set, but it's what you need to achieve it

Training is about knowing where you stand (no matter how good or bad the current situation looks) at present, and where you will be after some point of time. Training is about the acquisition of knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSA) through professional development.

Training and Development

Is a subsystem of an organization. It ensures that randomness is reduced and learning or behavioral change takes place in structured format.

Traditional Approach - Most of the organizations before never used to believe in training. They were holding the traditional view that managers are born and not made. There were also some views that training is a very costly affair and not worth. Organizations used to believe more in executive pinching. But now the scenario seems to be changing.

The *Modern approach* of training and development is that Indian Organizations have realized the importance of corporate training. Training is now considered as more of retention tool than a cost. The training system in Indian Industry has been changed to create a smarter workforce and yield the best results.

Importance Of Training and Development

- **Optimum Utilization of Human Resources** - Training and Development helps in optimizing the utilization of human resource that further helps the employee to achieve the organizational goals as well as their individual goals.
- **Development of Human Resources** - Training and Development helps to provide an opportunity and broad structure for the development of human resources' technical and behavioral skills in an organization. It also helps the employees in attaining personal growth.

- **Development of skills of employees** – Training and Development helps in increasing the job knowledge and skills of employees at each level. It helps to expand the horizons of human intellect and an overall personality of the employees.
- **Productivity** – Training and Development helps in increasing the productivity of the employees that helps the organization further to achieve its long-term goal.
- **Team spirit** – Training and Development helps in inculcating the sense of team work, team spirit, and inter-team collaborations. It helps in inculcating the zeal to learn within the employees.
- **Organization Culture** – Training and Development helps to develop and improve the organizational health culture and effectiveness. It helps in creating the learning culture within the organization.
- **Organization Climate** – Training and Development helps building the positive perception and feeling about the organization. The employees get these feelings from leaders, subordinates, and peers.
- **Quality** – Training and Development helps in improving upon the quality of work and work-life.
- **Healthy work-environment** – Training and Development helps in creating the healthy working environment. It helps to build good employee, relationship so that individual goals aligns with organizational goal.
- **Health and Safety** – Training and Development helps in improving the health and safety of the organization thus preventing obsolescence.
- **Morale** – Training and Development helps in improving the morale of the work force.
- **Image** – Training and Development helps in creating a better corporate image.
- **Profitability** – Training and Development leads to improved profitability and more positive attitudes towards profit orientation.
- **Training and Development aids in organizational development** i.e., Organization gets more effective decision making and problem solving. It helps in understanding and carrying out organizational policies.

- **Training and Development helps in developing leadership skills**, motivation, loyalty, better attitudes, and other aspects that successful workers and managers usually display.

Methods of Training

There are various methods of training, which can be divided into cognitive and behavioral methods. Trainers need to understand the pros and cons of each method, also its impact on trainees keeping their background and skills in mind before giving training.

Cognitive methods are more of giving theoretical training to the trainees. The various methods under Cognitive approach provide the rules for how to do something, written or verbal information, demonstrate relationships among concepts, etc. These methods are associated with changes in knowledge and attitude by stimulating learning.

The various methods that come under Cognitive approach are:

- Lectures
- Demonstrations
- Discussions
- Computer Based Training (Cbt)
- Programmed Instruction (Pi)
- Virtual Reality

Behavioral methods are more of giving practical training to the trainees. The various methods under Behavioral approach allow the trainee to behave in a real fashion. These methods are best used for skill development.

The various methods that come under Behavioral approach are:

- Games And Simulations
- Behavior-Modeling
- Business Games
- Case Studies
- Equipment Stimulators

- In-Basket Technique
- Role Plays

Both the methods can be used effectively to change attitudes, but through different means. Another Method is MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT METHOD.

Management Development

The more future oriented method and more concerned with education of the employees. To become a better performer by education implies that management development activities attempt to instill sound reasoning processes.

Management development method is further divided into two parts:

- On the Job Training
- Off the Job Training

On The Job Training

The most frequently used method in smaller organizations that is on-the-job training. This method of training uses more knowledgeable, experienced and skilled employees, such as managers, supervisors to give training to less knowledgeable, skilled, and experienced employees. OJT can be delivered in classrooms as well. This type of training often takes place at the workplace in informal manner.

Some key points on On-the-Job Training

On-the-Job Training is characterized by following points:

- It is done on ad-hoc manner with no formal procedure, or content.
- At the start of training, or during the training, no specific goals or objectives are developed.
- Trainers usually have no formal qualification or training experience for training.
- Training is not carefully planned or prepared.
- The trainers are selected on the basis of technical expertise or area knowledge Formal OJT programs are quite different from informal OJT. These programs are carried out

by identifying the employees who are having superior technical knowledge and can effectively use one-to-one interaction technique.

The procedure of formal on-the-job training program is:

1. The participant observes a more experienced, knowledgeable, and skilled trainer (employee)
2. The method, process, and techniques are well discussed before, during and after trainer has explained about performing the tasks.
3. When the trainee is prepared, the trainee starts performing on the workplace.
4. The trainer provides continuing direction of work and feedback.
5. The trainee is given more and more work so that he accomplishes the job flawlessly.

The four techniques for on-the job development are:

- Coaching
- Mentoring
- Job Rotation
- Job Instruction Technique (Jit)

Off The Job Training

There are many management development techniques that an employee can take in off the job. The few popular methods are:

- Sensitivity Training
- Transactional Analysis
- Straight Lectures/ Lectures
- Simulation Exercises

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A Study of Impact of Capital Structure on Profitability of Selected Companies

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Abstract

Capital structure of a firm is represented as the mix of securities that a company has to sell in order to finance its assets (fixed assets). This financial decision is significant as it affects the shareholders risk and return therefore the market values of shares. This review article focuses on the interrelation between capital structure and profitability. After analysis It has been concluded that financial leverage does not have impact on the profitability of the firm.

Introduction

Companies have been struggling with capital structures for more than four decades. During credit expansions, companies have been unable to build enough liquidity to survive the contractions, especially those enterprises with unpredictable cash flow streams which end up with excess debt during business slowdowns. Debt vs. equity financing is one of the most important decisions facing managers who need capital to fund their business operations. Debt and equity are the two main sources of capital available to businesses, and each offers both advantages and disadvantages. "Absolutely nothing is more important to a new business than raising capital. This paper tends to answer how capital structure affects profitability. After Modigliani and Miller had set the basis of the capital structure theory in their seminal paper from 1958, extensive research in this field emerged, aimed at supplementing their findings. In the beginning, this research was mostly focused on recommending a so-called optimal capital structure as a targeted debt-to-equity ratio that would minimize the overall costs of financing. Any decision to increase or reduce leverage depends on market conditions and investors' acceptance of debt. The period between the late-1970s and the mid-1980s favoured debt

financing. Subsequently, for the first time in 15 years, in the late '80s, equity market values rose above the replacement costs of book value of assets such as plants and equipment. It was a signal to deleverage. Access to capital markets is not as difficult as it used to be over a decade ago. Businesses are not depending on banks, which now own less than a third of the loans they originate. Quarter one of 2009 saw many corporations taking advantage of low interest rates to raise funds in the global bond market. The financial scenario seems to be where it was in early 1975, when financial statements started showing signs of improvement and organizations with strong capital structures started acquiring other companies. The research question to be investigated is: Is there any impact of profitability and financial leverage on capital structure

Review of Literature

The debate on determining the ideal capital structure and value of firms can be traced back to Modigliani and Miller (1958) who in their research concluded that the value of the firm is self-determining of capital structure and that the value of an unlevered firm is equal to that of a levered firm. The research was based on the assumption of absence of taxes. This assumption was considered unrealistic and in their subsequent research Modigliani and Miller (1963) took tax into consideration and concluded that because of tax shield on debt as a factor, the value of a levered firm was more than the value of an unlevered firm and that this value was equal to the value of the tax shield. Modigliani and Miller (1977) later modified their earlier research of 1963 and incorporated the effect of personal taxes. Personal taxes were classified into two categories, tax on income from holdings shares and tax on income from debt securities. In this research (1977), Modigliani and Miller identified certain special cases where gain from leverage became zero, giving the original (1958) result. Thus, their results signify the existence of an optimal capital structure at the macro level but not at the micro level.

According to Jensen and Meckling (1976), the optimal capital structure is obtained by trading off the agency cost of debt against the benefit of debt. Here, Jensen and Meckling first identified disputes between shareholders and managers because of management's ownership being less than 100% of the equity. Jensen (1986) proposed that this problem could be reduced by increasing the percentage of shares owned by the manager or by increasing debt in the capital structure. This would result in the reduction of the amount of unused cash available to managers (Jensen, 1986; Stulz, 1990). This would eventually benefit debt financing. Few studies focus on international samples to test capital structure models. Rajan and Zingales (1995) and Booth, Aivazian, Demirgüç-Kunt, and

Maksimovic (2001) are two noticeable exceptions. Rajan and Zingales (1995) find similar levels of leverage across the G7 countries, thus refuting the idea that firms in bank-oriented countries are more leveraged than those in market-oriented ones. However, they recognize that this distinction is useful in analyzing the various sources of financing.

Objectives

The paper tries to find out the impact of profitability and financial leverage on the capital structure of the firm.

Research Methodology

Regression Model:

It is a statistical method for correlating different variables. This study uses Panel regression analysis which is applicable in epidemiology, econometrics and social science which deals with two and “n”- dimensional cross sectional/times series data. We have used the pooled regression type of panel data analysis in which both intercepts and slopes are kept constant. The time series data and cross sectional company data are pooled together in a single column assuming that there is no significant inter temporal effect or cross-section. In panel data combination of features of time series and cross section takes place which provides information on ‘n’ number of statistical units for ‘n’ number of years. Panel data generally provides the researcher large number of data points, reduces the co-linearity among explanatory variables, increases the degrees of freedom, hence improves the efficiency of econometric estimates.

Correlation coefficient:

Pearson’s coefficient is one of the most common methods of “correlation” which is used in the present study. The correlation coefficient is symbolised by ‘r’ which can have a value in the range of -1 and +1. The larger the value of r, ignoring sign, the stronger is the association between the two variables, which makes it more accurate to predict one variable from the knowledge of another variable. At extreme, a correlation of -1 and +1 shows that the two variables are perfectly correlated, which means that you can predict the values of one variable from the values of other variable accurately. At the other extreme, an r of zero implies an absence of correlation which shows no relationship between the two variables. This shows that the knowledge of one variable gives absolutely no information about the values of other variable. The sign of correlation

implies “direction” of association. A positive correlation means that relatively high scores on the other variable are relatively high score on the other variable, and low scores are paired with relatively low scores. In contrast, a negative correlation means that relatively high scores on one variable are paired with relatively low scores on another variable.

Analysis and Interpretation:

This section presents the descriptive statistics, regression analysis results and correlation coefficient and interpretation of empirical.

Descriptive Statistics:

Descriptive statistics are being presented in the form of table. (Table 1). The table consists of the information at the level of variables.

Table 1:

	Capital structure	Profitability	Financial leverage
Mean	143.1424	0.084099	1.007774
Median	123.0000	0.123546	0.995563
Maximum	365.7000	0.40445	3.376117
Minimum	0.00000	-346779	0.155778
Std. Dev	115.6834	0.14666	0.657577
Skewness	1.234547	-761287	2.156306
Kurtosis	4.33304	3.990145	9.083162
Jarque bera	15.45308	7.133330	123.737
Probablity	0.000667	0.027756	0.000000

Correlation coefficient:

In order to find the multi-co-linearity among the independent variables, Pearson’s coefficient of correlation is calculated for independent variables. Table 2 represents the results of correlation coefficient and also explains that the multi- co- linearity problem is not too severe among the selected independent variables. It is observed from the analysis

that capital structure and profitability are negatively correlated. A firm's profitability decreases as debt to equity ratio increases.

Table 2: Estimated correlation between variables

	Capital structure	Profitability	Financial leverage
Capital structure	1		
Profitability	-121195087	1	
Financial leverage	0.12433456	-0.26033627	1

It is seen that in the next session the capital structure and the degree of financial leverage are positively correlated. Henceforth as the debt in capital structure increases, so does financial payable burden on company's assets. Profitability and financial leverage are negatively correlated. So, Profitability is in negative relation with both degree of financial leverage and capital structure.

Regression Analysis:

We ran the regression of the capital structure on the degree of financial leverage and profitability of firm using the pooled regression technique, with the aim to study whether these two variables have significant explanatory power. Table 3 represents the explanatory results.

Table 3: Regression results

Variable	Coefficient	Std. error	t-Statistic	Probability
Profitability	-108.7699	114.0920	-0.980617	0.3344
Financial leverage	1.54404	27.55040	0.056894	0.9667
c	164.8647	35.70173	4.660846	0.0000

R-Squared	0.034277	Mean dependent variable	154.2433
Adjusted R-Squared	-0.018871	S.D dependent variable	106.6734
S.E of regression	107.6330	Akaike info criterion	12.24150
Sum squared residual	579512.7	Schwarz criterion	12.34299
Log likelihood	-341.13320	F-statistic	0.553866
Durbin-Watson stat	1.222178	Prob(F-Statistic)	0.563855

From the above table it can be observed that the estimated value of R square is 0.03 approximately. This shows that the capital structure of the firm is very negligibly determined by the two jointly said variables. It shows that only 3% of the variations are dependent variables (CS) are explained by the given two independent variables.

The validity of the model is shown by the value of F-statistic(0.55), which is below its probability (F-statistic) value of 0.56. Thus, this is not good as overall model.

The Durbin-Watson statistic (1.22) is close to 2, which shows the successive values of estimated residuals are not dependent on each other which means there is evidence to accept the null hypothesis that there is no autocorrelation problem in the estimated model. Regarding the significance of individual variables, the empirical results show that firm's capital structure is very significantly negatively associated with profitability. The P-value is 0.33 as seen in the table. This implies that the null hypothesis is accepted at 1 percent level of significance. Thus empirically, profitability does not affect capital structure and we do not find much evidence about this relationship being statistically significant. The table also shows a positive relationship between capital structure and financial burden of firm, as indicated by coefficient value (1.54). But taking the significance level of probability to be 0.1, the p-value of DFL is found to be 0.96 which shows highly insignificant results, the second null hypothesis is accepted which states that degree of financial leverage has no significant impact on capital structure.

Conclusion

From the study, it can be concluded that though firm's profitability is strongly negatively related to capital structure and financial leverage positively, as was established earlier through Pearson's correlation coefficient, but statistically considering p-value, both these findings were of little value to establish any valid relationship of the two said independent variables with the dependent variables of capital structure. Therefore, it can be stated that in FMCG sector of India, financial leverage and profitability of firms are not significant in causing any changes in their capital structure.

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Approaches of Cross-Cultural Training

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Introduction:

Managers from the home country office of multinational corporations frequently work in foreign subsidiaries. This is occasionally done for the manager's professional advancement so they can get knowledge of the company's international operations. Another reason could be to give the parent business more influence over the subsidiary. The manager's family might also be sent if the job is long-term. The corporation does not want the manager to fail and leave early because this is a substantial investment for it.

Companies employ a range of techniques to teach cross-cultural skills to expats to facilitate interactions with a foreign culture. The primary methods, their objectives, delivery schedules, and activities used to deliver the training are described in this section. Table 1 lists the various training techniques and their characteristics in a concise manner. The training techniques mentioned in the summary are those found in the many scholarly sources included in this section.

Although certain approaches are more frequently utilized than others, all of them have been presented to provide a thorough review of the topic.

Training	Focus	Timing	Activity
Didactic	Factual information, culture general and/or culture specific	Pre-departure and/or post-arrival	Lectures, informal briefings
Experiential	Practical learning, culture general and/or culture specific	Pre-departure and/or post-arrival	Look-see trips, workshops, simulations
Attribution	Learning to think and act as a host national, culture specific	Pre-departure	Cultural assimilator
Language	Facilitating specific intercultural communication	Pre-departure and/or post-arrival	Traditional teaching
Cultural Awareness	Understanding culture as a concept, culture general	Pre-departure	Role-plays, self-assessment exercises
Interaction	Learning from previous expatriates, culture specific	Pre-departure and/or post-arrival	Overlaps, on-the-job training
Cognitive Behaviour Modification	Learning to focus on rewarding activities, culture general	Pre-departure	Counselling

Table 1.0 Classification of various types of training

Didactic Training

Didactic training is most frequently done in informal briefings, which may be conducted in the traditional lecture format or through less formal techniques including casual chats with specialists. It may also be given fact sheets about the host nation in the form of booklets. The most prevalent type of CCT is didactic training, which is provided to expatriates prior to deployment abroad by more than two thirds of all multinational firms. This kind of training gives participants accurate information about the economic, social, and cultural aspects of the host nation.

However, the content of the cultural aspect focuses primarily on practical matters, such shopping and dress norms in the host nation. It stands for the conventional method of education employed in schools and universities, which involves the transmission of information utilising one-way communication.

It contains information that helps expatriates establish a framework for understanding and adjusting to a new culture once they arrive in their host country and facilitate lifestyle adjustments. Didactic training's content is frequently hard facts, such as job requirements, policies, travel arrangements, etc. It may also provide information about repatriation in addition to pre-departure concerns. The didactic instruction may focus on knowing a particular culture or may have a more general cultural focus.

The foundation of fact-focused didactic instruction is the idea that information will improve cross-cultural interactions. Some scholars, according to Tung (1981a), dispute this idea since they believe there is insufficient evidence to back up a beneficial effect. Tung (1981a) also makes the case that didactic training should not attempt to impart all of the knowledge that an expatriate will require throughout his or her stay because there are so many cultural differences between two nations. As a result, preparing expatriates for a foreign assignment shouldn't solely rely on didactic training; rather, it should be complemented with more experiential techniques (Caligiuri et al., 2001). (Gertsen, 1990).

According to Grove and Torbiörn (1985), fact-oriented instruction is insufficient to adequately prepare an expatriate on its own. Practical instruction Practical exercises, workshops, and simulations are just a few of the ways that experiential training is delivered. Other, more realistic ideas like look-see trips to the host country are also used (Caligiuri et al., 2001).

Look-see tours can give the foreigner and perhaps his or her family their first truly authentic taste of the nation. They offer the chance to make new friends and gain a feel for the local culture and working world. They must be well organized in order for them to be successful, which can be expensive.

Another issue is that, while they are intended to present an optimistic image of the host nation to the expatriate, they might not accurately depict it (Brewster, 1995, p. 63). Predeparture workshops, according to Bennett et al. (2000), are most effective if they are held following a look-see trip to the host country since this allows the expatriate to get many of their basic questions answered and acquire a sense of the host site before beginning the training programme.

Attribution Training

The goal of attribution training is to equip foreigners with the abilities to think and behave like their host countrymen. It aims to provide the expatriate with a glimpse into the cultural perspective of the host nation. The expatriate can then explain and comprehend the actions of the host nation. The goal of teaching these abilities is to make the expat's characteristics more isomorphic (comparable) to the new culture. Attribution training is closely related to the teaching strategy known as "cultural assimilator".

This approach entails a sequence of brief intercultural events that have been determined to be essential for cross-cultural relationships. The episodes employ interactions between

people from two distinct cultures as a way to learn how to interact with a new culture (Tung, 1981a).

Language Training

Language instruction comprises teaching the expat the local tongue and/or the official business tongue of the host nation. Although achieving fluency can take months or even years, there are still advantages to employing this training approach (Tung, 1981a). The approach is frequently employed in CCT and is a useful strategy to get an expat ready because language barriers can make the adjustment process more difficult.

The capacity to participate in informal conversations, utilise common courtesy, and demonstrate cultural empathy might aid to facilitate assimilation to the host culture even if native language proficiency is not obtained (Brewster, 1995, pp. 64-65). Forster (2000) also draws the conclusion that it's crucial to have a basic command of the local tongue in order to show respect and have a deeper understanding of the culture of the host nation. Language limitations may make it difficult for an expat to understand information shared in the local tongue on a personal and professional level, which hinders integration (Brewster, 1995, pp. 64-65)

Cultural Sensitivity Training

By teaching knowledge of the home culture, cultural awareness training aims to provide the expat with insight into the concept of culture and cultural differences. Self-awareness exercises and value ranking charts are examples of training activities, although more cross-cultural methods, including simulation games and perceptual exercises, can also be used to achieve the objectives (Grove & Torbiörn, 1985). Role-playing and self-assessments are further techniques that can be effective for increasing self-awareness, which translates into acceptance of oneself and the capacity to fit in with the host culture (London, 2003, p. 212).

Interaction Training

Interactions between new expatriates and expatriates with greater cultural experience form the foundation of the interaction training methodology. Before leaving with prior expatriates or upon arrival in the host nation, it can happen. Sometimes utilised as a training tool, overlaps in expat assignments can be quite helpful for the expat's adjustment process. The ability to clarify tasks, introduce contacts, and otherwise coach

in workplace management and operation is one of the advantages of overlaps. Interactions with the departing family might assist families in a similar way (Brewster, 1995, p. 64)

Altering Cognitive Behaviour

This approach is one of the less common ones utilised while training an expat. What actions the expatriates deem gratifying or penalising in the context of their own culture is up to them to decide. By understanding these distinctions, the expatriate can presumably apply the same procedure in the host country, allowing him or her to pinpoint rewarding activities, feel confident about overcoming cultural difficulties, and identify and concentrate on rewarding activities.

Issues with cross-cultural training

- The following are a few difficulties HR has encountered when training foreign managers:
- Determining the best time for training
- Establishing a comfortable training rate or speed for the trainee
- Helping and assisting them to make sure they can adapt to the new system in the nation.
- Determining whether the expatriate's family needs instruction to integrate into the new culture and traditions of the host nation.
- A fact-based assessment of whether the expat's family has adapted to the nation's new culture. If not, provide a structure that would enable them to quickly adapt to it.
- Fostering the students' motivation in learning a new language and evaluating their language-learning potential.
- Comprehending and internalizing knowledge of the manager's language learning progress.
- Conducting a gap analysis to see how the learner responded to the training programme.

Employee Motivation

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Introduction

Employee motivation plays a crucial role in the success and productivity of any organization. Motivated employees are more engaged, committed, and satisfied with their work, leading to higher levels of performance and organizational effectiveness. In today's dynamic and competitive business environment, understanding and enhancing employee motivation is essential for companies to attract and retain top talent, foster a positive work culture, and achieve their goals. This chapter explores the concept of employee motivation, its significance, and various theories and factors that influence motivation in the workplace.

Abstract

This chapter aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of employee motivation and its impact on organizational performance. It reviews key theories, such as Maslow's hierarchy of needs, Herzberg's two-factor theory, and Vroom's expectancy theory, to explain the underlying drivers of motivation. The chapter also analyzes empirical studies and surveys conducted in different industries to highlight the factors that positively affect employee motivation. Additionally, it examines the limitations and challenges faced in motivating employees and offers suggestions for organizations to enhance motivation levels. The findings of this chapter contribute to the existing body of knowledge on employee motivation and provide practical insights for managers and leaders.

Data Analysis

To analyze employee motivation, a variety of research studies and surveys were reviewed. These studies examined different industries, organizational sizes, and employee demographics. The data collected from these sources were analyzed using qualitative and quantitative methods to identify common themes and trends in employee motivation. The analysis revealed several key factors that influence employee motivation, including recognition and rewards, opportunities for growth and development, supportive work environment, meaningful work, and fair compensation.

Objectives

The objectives of this chapter are as follows:

1. To explore various theories of employee motivation and their applicability in the workplace.
2. To identify key factors that influence employee motivation.
3. To analyze empirical studies and surveys on employee motivation.
4. To understand the limitations and challenges in motivating employees.
5. To provide recommendations and suggestions for enhancing employee motivation.
6. To emphasize the benefits of employee motivation for organizations and employees.

Findings

Based on the analysis of various studies and surveys, the findings indicate that employee motivation is influenced by a combination of intrinsic and extrinsic factors. Intrinsic factors, such as the nature of work, autonomy, and opportunities for growth, play a significant role in driving motivation. Extrinsic factors, such as recognition, rewards, and a supportive work environment, also contribute to employee motivation. The findings suggest that a holistic approach to motivation, addressing both intrinsic and extrinsic factors, yields the best results. Furthermore, the findings highlight the importance of aligning organizational goals with individual goals to enhance motivation and engagement.

Limitations

While the research conducted for this chapter provides valuable insights into employee motivation, it is important to acknowledge certain limitations. Firstly, the studies and surveys analyzed may have been conducted in specific contexts and industries, limiting the generalizability of the findings. Secondly, self-reporting biases and subjective interpretations of motivation could have influenced the data collected. Lastly, the dynamic and evolving nature of the workplace may render some findings less applicable in the future. These limitations should be considered when interpreting the results.

Benefits

Enhancing employee motivation can yield numerous benefits for both organizations and employees. From an organizational perspective, motivated employees are more likely to demonstrate higher levels of job performance, productivity, and creativity. They are also more engaged and committed to achieving the organization's goals, leading to increased profitability and competitive advantage. For employees, motivation contributes to job satisfaction, career growth, and personal development. It fosters a positive work environment, improves work-life balance, and enhances overall well-being.

Suggestions

To enhance employee motivation, organizations should consider implementing the following suggestions:

1. Provide opportunities for skill development and career advancement.
2. Foster a supportive work environment that encourages open communication and collaboration.
3. Recognize and reward employees' achievements and efforts.
4. Design jobs that provide autonomy, meaning, and opportunities for creativity.
5. Offer competitive and fair compensation packages.
6. Provide regular feedback and performance evaluations.
7. Promote work-life balance and employee well-being.
8. Foster a positive organizational culture that values employee contributions.

Conclusion

Employee motivation is a critical factor in organizational success and productivity. This chapter has explored the concept of employee motivation, various theories that explain motivation, and factors that influence employee motivation. The findings emphasize the importance of addressing both intrinsic and extrinsic factors to enhance motivation levels. While there are limitations to the research conducted, the benefits of employee motivation for organizations and employees are substantial. By implementing the suggested strategies, organizations can create a motivated workforce that drives innovation, productivity, and long-term success.

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A Study on “Employee Motivation”

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Abstract

This chapter explores the concept of employee motivation and its crucial role in driving performance and engagement in the workplace. It provides an introduction to employee motivation, defines key terms, and outlines the objectives of the chapter. The chapter delves into data analysis, research methodology, findings, limitations, benefits, suggestions, and concludes with insights on effectively motivating employees for enhanced organizational success.

Introduction

Employee motivation plays a pivotal role in shaping employee behavior, performance, and job satisfaction. This chapter introduces the concept of employee motivation, highlighting its importance in creating a positive work environment and maximizing employee productivity. It discusses different theories of motivation and their practical implications for organizational success.

Objective

The objective of this chapter is to explore the factors that influence employee motivation, understand the impact of motivation on employee performance and engagement, and provide insights into effective strategies for motivating employees in the workplace. It aims to analyze data, theories, and empirical evidence to shed light on the significance of employee motivation in organizational settings.

Data Analysis

Data analysis in this context involves reviewing relevant literature, empirical studies, and case studies on employee motivation. It includes examining survey data, performance metrics, and employee feedback to gain insights into the factors that influence motivation and their impact on individual and organizational outcomes. Quantitative analysis may involve statistical techniques to analyze survey data, while qualitative analysis may involve thematic analysis of interview or open-ended survey responses.

Research Methodology

The research methodology for this chapter may involve a combination of literature review and empirical research. The literature review provides a comprehensive understanding of the theories and models of employee motivation, while empirical research may involve surveys, interviews, or experiments to gather data on employee motivation and its impact on performance and engagement.

Findings

The findings of this research highlight the key factors that influence employee motivation, such as intrinsic and extrinsic motivators, leadership styles, recognition and rewards, job design, and organizational culture. The chapter presents empirical evidence, case studies, and examples that demonstrate the impact of motivation on employee performance, job satisfaction, and organizational outcomes.

Limitations

Limitations of the research may include the complexity of employee motivation, individual differences in motivational factors, and the influence of external factors beyond the scope of the study. The chapter acknowledges these limitations and discusses their potential impact on the generalizability and applicability of the findings.

Benefits

Effective employee motivation offers several benefits to organizations, including increased productivity, improved employee engagement, enhanced job satisfaction, reduced turnover, and a positive work culture. The chapter discusses these benefits and their implications for organizational performance and employee well-being.

Suggestions

Based on the findings, the chapter provides suggestions for organizations to enhance employee motivation. It covers areas such as fostering a supportive work environment, aligning individual and organizational goals, providing meaningful recognition and rewards, promoting career development opportunities, and fostering open communication and employee involvement.

Conclusion

Employee motivation is a critical driver of performance and engagement in the workplace. This chapter concludes by emphasizing the importance of understanding and addressing employee motivation to achieve organizational success. It highlights the need for organizations to adopt a comprehensive approach to motivate employees, considering both intrinsic and extrinsic factors, to create a positive work environment and drive high levels of performance and engagement.

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Pluses and minuses of investment management

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Abstract

Investment management involves the strategic allocation of capital to generate returns and manage risks. This abstract provides an overview of the pluses and minuses associated with investment management, highlighting the potential benefits and challenges faced by investors and investment managers. The abstract begins by discussing the advantages of investment management. It highlights the potential for achieving attractive returns through active management and skilled decision-making. Investment managers have access to research, analysis, and market insights that can enhance investment selection and timing. Additionally, investment management allows for diversification across asset classes, reducing exposure to individual investment risks and enhancing the potential for risk-adjusted returns. Moreover, professional investment management services provide convenience and expertise, enabling investors to focus on their core activities while delegating investment decisions to professionals. However, the abstract also acknowledges the challenges and potential drawbacks of investment management. It emphasizes the risks inherent in investing, including market volatility, economic uncertainties, and the potential for losses. Investment managers must navigate these risks and make informed decisions to protect and grow investors' wealth. Furthermore, investment management fees and expenses can impact overall investment returns, and subpar investment decisions or lack of skill may result in underperformance compared to market benchmarks. Investors also face the challenge of selecting capable and trustworthy investment managers, ensuring their interests are aligned with those of the investors. The abstract further explores the importance of investor education and awareness in evaluating investment management options. It highlights the need for investors to understand their financial goals, risk tolerance, and time horizon in order to make informed decisions. Investors must carefully weigh the potential benefits of active management against the associated costs and risks. Moreover, the abstract discusses emerging trends in investment management, such as the growth of passive investment strategies and the increasing focus on sustainable and socially responsible investing. These trends have their own set of advantages and considerations that investors and investment managers need to evaluate. In conclusion, investment management offers the potential for attractive returns and risk management. However, it is not without its challenges and potential downsides. This abstract provides a balanced overview of the pluses and minuses of investment management, emphasizing the importance of investor education and due diligence in making informed investment decisions.

Research Methodology

The secondary research methodology employed in this study on internal controls within accounting firms aims to gather and analyze existing information, data, and scholarly works related to the topic. The primary objective is to gain a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter by synthesizing and interpreting the findings of previous research, industry reports, academic literature, and relevant publications. When using secondary sources, ensure that the information comes from reputable and reliable sources. Evaluate the credibility of the authors, the rigor of the research methodology employed, and the relevance of the findings to your research topic.

Findings

The findings regarding the pluses and minuses of investment management can vary based on the specific research conducted and the methodologies employed. However, here are some common findings that have emerged from studies in this area:

Pluses of Investment Management:

Potential for Higher Returns: Investment management, when executed effectively, can provide the potential for higher investment returns compared to passive investment strategies.

Expertise and Knowledge: Professional investment managers bring expertise, market knowledge, and access to research and analysis, which can aid in identifying investment opportunities and managing portfolios.

Diversification: Investment management allows for diversification across asset classes, reducing the exposure to individual investment risks and potentially enhancing risk-adjusted returns.

Convenience and Time-saving: Outsourcing investment management to professionals can save time and effort for individual investors who may not have the necessary expertise or resources to manage their investments effectively.

Minuses of Investment Management:

Costs and Fees: Investment management services often come with costs and fees, including management fees, performance fees, and other expenses, which can erode overall investment returns.

Potential Underperformance: Not all investment managers outperform their benchmarks consistently. Some managers may underperform due to a variety of factors, including market conditions, investment style, or lack of skill.

Behavioral Biases: Investment managers, like all individuals, can be subject to behavioral biases that may impact their investment decisions. These biases can lead to suboptimal investment choices and potential underperformance.

Lack of Control: Entrusting investments to an investment manager means ceding control over decision-making, potentially leading to conflicts of interest or divergence from individual investment objectives.

Regulatory and Compliance Risks: Investment managers must comply with regulatory requirements and adhere to legal and ethical standards, which can create additional complexities and potential risks.

It is important to note that these findings are not exhaustive, and the pluses and minuses of investment management can vary depending on factors such as investment strategies, market conditions, investor goals, and individual manager performance. Further research and analysis may provide additional insights into the specific challenges and benefits associated with investment management.

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A Study of Digital Marketing

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Introduction

Digital marketing has emerged as a crucial component of modern business strategies, enabling organizations to connect with their target audience in a more personalized and interactive manner. With the rapid growth of the internet and the increasing reliance on digital platforms, understanding the intricacies of digital marketing has become imperative for businesses to stay competitive in today's digital landscape. This chapter aims to explore the various aspects of digital marketing, including its methodologies, effectiveness, and limitations.

Abstract

This chapter presents a comprehensive study of digital marketing, focusing on its importance, methods, and impact on business performance. The research explores the objectives and findings of digital marketing campaigns, analyzing the data collected from various sources. The study also highlights the limitations and benefits associated with digital marketing, providing valuable insights and suggestions for businesses looking to enhance their marketing strategies in the digital era.

Data Analysis

To conduct this study, data was collected from diverse sources, including industry reports, case studies, and academic research papers. The data was analyzed using both quantitative and qualitative methods, enabling a comprehensive understanding of the effectiveness of digital marketing strategies. Key performance indicators such as website traffic, conversion rates, customer engagement, and return on investment were considered in the analysis.

Objectives

- To examine the effectiveness of digital marketing strategies in reaching the target audience.
- To evaluate the impact of digital marketing on business performance metrics.
- To identify the limitations and challenges faced by businesses in implementing digital marketing campaigns.
- To provide suggestions for optimizing digital marketing strategies for improved results.

Findings

Digital marketing offers a cost-effective approach to reach a wider audience compared to traditional marketing methods. Social media marketing and search engine optimization were identified as the most effective digital marketing channels. Personalized and targeted content significantly improves customer engagement and conversion rates. Continuous monitoring and optimization of digital marketing campaigns are essential for maximizing results. Measurement and analysis of key performance indicators play a crucial role in evaluating the success of digital marketing efforts.

Limitations

The rapidly evolving digital landscape necessitates continuous adaptation to stay relevant. Privacy concerns and data protection regulations pose challenges in targeting and rationalization. Limited internet access and digital literacy in certain regions can restrict the reach of digital marketing campaigns.

Benefits

Digital marketing offers several benefits for businesses, including: Increased brand awareness and visibility in the online space.

Improved customer targeting and segmentation for higher conversion rates.

Enhanced customer engagement through personalized and interactive content.

Real-time data analysis and insights for informed decision-making.

Cost-effectiveness and measurable results compared to traditional marketing methods.

Suggestions

Invest in continuous training and development programs to stay updated with the latest digital marketing trends and tools. Conduct thorough market research and customer profiling to create targeted and relevant content. Regularly analyze key performance indicators to identify areas for improvement and optimize campaigns accordingly. Ensure compliance with privacy regulations and build trust through transparent data handling practices.

Conclusion

This chapter presented a comprehensive study of digital marketing, highlighting its methodologies, effectiveness, limitations, and benefits. The findings indicate that digital marketing offers significant opportunities for businesses to connect with their target audience and improve their overall performance. However, it is crucial to overcome the challenges and continuously adapt to the evolving digital landscape. By implementing the suggested strategies and recommendations, businesses can harness the full potential of digital marketing to achieve their marketing objectives and gain a competitive edge.

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Unlocking the Power of Working Capital: Maximizing Efficiency for Financial Success

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Abstract:

This chapter, titled "Unlocking the Power of Working Capital: Maximizing Efficiency for Financial Success," explores the vital role of working capital management in organizations. It highlights the significance of managing short-term assets and liabilities effectively to ensure smooth operations, liquidity, and resource optimization. The chapter discusses the components of working capital, including current assets and current liabilities, and their management strategies. Key working capital ratios are introduced as important tools for assessing a company's liquidity and operational efficiency. The chapter further presents a range of strategies for effective working capital management, such as cash flow forecasting, inventory management, accounts receivable and payable management, working capital financing, and leveraging technology and automation. Best practices for establishing a culture of disciplined working capital management within organizations are also emphasized. By implementing these strategies and practices, businesses can enhance their financial performance, mitigate risks, and gain a competitive advantage in the market.

Key words: - Working Capital Management, Efficiency, Financial Success, Liquidity, Optimization

Introduction

Working capital management plays a crucial role in the financial success of any organization. It encompasses the management of a company's short-term assets and liabilities to ensure smooth operations, sufficient liquidity, and optimal use of resources. In this chapter, we will delve into the various aspects of working capital management, including its importance, key components, and effective strategies for maximizing working capital efficiency.

The Importance of Working Capital Management:

Effective working capital management is essential for businesses of all sizes and across industries. It directly impacts a company's ability to meet its short-term obligations, sustain operations, and seize growth opportunities. By managing working capital efficiently, organizations can enhance their liquidity position, reduce financial risks, improve profitability, and maintain a competitive edge in the market.

Components of Working Capital:

Working capital is typically divided into two primary components: current assets and current liabilities. Understanding and managing these components are fundamental to effective working capital management.

Current Assets:

Current assets include cash, accounts receivable, inventory, and short-term investments. They represent resources that can be converted into cash or utilized within a year. Effective management of current assets involves striking a balance between maintaining sufficient liquidity and maximizing the utilization of these assets to generate revenue.

Current Liabilities:

Current liabilities encompass short-term obligations such as accounts payable, accrued expenses, and short-term debt. Managing current liabilities involves optimizing payment terms, negotiating favorable terms with suppliers, and effectively utilizing trade credit to finance operations.

Working Capital Ratios:

Working capital ratios provide valuable insights into an organization's liquidity and operational efficiency. They help assess the overall health of the company and identify areas that require attention. Some commonly used working capital ratios include the current ratio, quick ratio, and inventory turnover ratio.

Strategies for Effective Working Capital Management:

To optimize working capital, organizations need to implement sound strategies tailored to their specific circumstances. Here are some key strategies to consider:

Cash Flow Forecasting:

Accurate cash flow forecasting enables organizations to anticipate future working capital needs and take proactive measures to manage cash effectively. It involves projecting cash inflows and outflows, monitoring payment cycles, and adjusting operational activities accordingly.

Inventory Management:

Effective inventory management is crucial to strike a balance between meeting customer demand and minimizing excess stock. Adopting techniques such as just-in-time (JIT) inventory, ABC analysis, and implementing robust inventory control systems can help reduce carrying costs and enhance working capital efficiency.

Accounts Receivable and Payable Management:

Managing accounts receivable involves setting credit policies, monitoring payment terms, and implementing efficient collection procedures. On the other hand, effective accounts payable management entails optimizing payment terms, negotiating discounts, and streamlining the procurement process.

Working Capital Financing:

Exploring various financing options can help bridge any working capital gaps. These may include short-term loans, lines of credit, factoring, or supply chain financing. Careful evaluation of the available options and their associated costs is crucial to make informed financing decisions.

Technology and Automation:

Leveraging technology and automation can significantly streamline working capital management processes. Implementing robust financial management systems, utilizing cloud-based platforms, and adopting electronic payment methods can enhance efficiency, reduce errors, and improve overall visibility into working capital.

Working Capital Management Best Practices:

While the strategies mentioned above are important, it is equally crucial to establish a culture of disciplined working capital management within the organization. This involves effective communication, cross-functional collaboration, and continuous monitoring of key performance indicators (KPIs) related to working capital.

Conclusion:

Working capital management is a dynamic and integral part of financial management. By optimizing the management

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A Study on Employee Motivation

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Introduction

Employee motivation plays a crucial role in the success and productivity of any organization. Motivated employees are more engaged, committed, and satisfied with their work, leading to higher levels of performance and organizational effectiveness. In today's dynamic and competitive business environment, understanding and enhancing employee motivation is essential for companies to attract and retain top talent, foster a positive work culture, and achieve their goals. This chapter explores the concept of employee motivation, its significance, and various theories and factors that influence motivation in the workplace.

Abstract

This chapter aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of employee motivation and its impact on organizational performance. It reviews key theories, such as Maslow's hierarchy of needs, Herzberg's two-factor theory, and Vroom's expectancy theory, to explain the underlying drivers of motivation. The chapter also analyzes empirical studies and surveys conducted in different industries to highlight the factors that positively affect employee motivation. Additionally, it examines the limitations and challenges faced in motivating employees and offers suggestions for organizations to enhance motivation levels. The findings of this chapter contribute to the existing body of knowledge on employee motivation and provide practical insights for managers and leaders.

Data Analysis

To analyze employee motivation, a variety of research studies and surveys were reviewed. These studies examined different industries, organizational sizes, and employee demographics. The data collected from these sources were analyzed using qualitative and quantitative methods to identify common themes and trends in employee motivation. The analysis revealed several key factors that influence employee motivation, including recognition and rewards, opportunities for growth and development, supportive work environment, meaningful work, and fair compensation.

Objectives

The objectives of this chapter are as follows:

- To explore various theories of employee motivation and their applicability in the workplace.
- To identify key factors that influence employee motivation.
- To analyze empirical studies and surveys on employee motivation.
- To understand the limitations and challenges in motivating employees.

- To provide recommendations and suggestions for enhancing employee motivation.
- To emphasize the benefits of employee motivation for organizations and employees.

Findings

Based on the analysis of various studies and surveys, the findings indicate that employee motivation is influenced by a combination of intrinsic and extrinsic factors. Intrinsic factors, such as the nature of work, autonomy, and opportunities for growth, play a significant role in driving motivation. Extrinsic factors, such as recognition, rewards, and a supportive work environment, also contribute to employee motivation. The findings suggest that a holistic approach to motivation, addressing both intrinsic and extrinsic factors, yields the best results. Furthermore, the findings highlight the importance of aligning organizational goals with individual goals to enhance motivation and engagement.

Limitations

While the research conducted for this chapter provides valuable insights into employee motivation, it is important to acknowledge certain limitations. Firstly, the studies and surveys analyzed may have been conducted in specific contexts and industries, limiting the generalizability of the findings. Secondly, self-reporting biases and subjective interpretations of motivation could have influenced the data collected. Lastly, the dynamic and evolving nature of the workplace may render some findings less applicable in the future. These limitations should be considered when interpreting the results.

Benefits

Enhancing employee motivation can yield numerous benefits for both organizations and employees. From an organizational perspective, motivated employees are more likely to demonstrate higher levels of job performance, productivity, and creativity. They are also more engaged and committed to achieving the organization's goals, leading to increased profitability and competitive advantage. For employees, motivation contributes to job satisfaction, career growth, and personal development. It fosters a positive work environment, improves work-life balance, and enhances overall well-being.

Suggestions

To enhance employee motivation, organizations should consider implementing the following suggestions:

1. Provide opportunities for skill development and career advancement.
2. Foster a supportive work environment that encourages open communication and collaboration.
3. Recognize and reward employees' achievements and efforts.
4. Design jobs that provide autonomy, meaning, and opportunities for creativity.
5. Offer competitive and fair compensation packages.

6. Provide regular feedback and performance evaluations.
7. Promote work-life balance and employee well-being.
8. Foster a positive organizational culture that values employee contributions.

Conclusion

Employee motivation is a critical factor in organizational success and productivity. This chapter has explored the concept of employee motivation, various theories that explain motivation, and factors that influence employee motivation. The findings emphasize the importance of addressing both intrinsic and extrinsic factors to enhance motivation levels. While there are limitations to the research conducted, the benefits of employee motivation for organizations and employees are substantial. By implementing the suggested strategies, organizations can create a motivated workforce that drives innovation, productivity, and long-term success.

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A Study on “Financial Performance Analysis”

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Abstract

This chapter delves into the realm of financial performance analysis and its significance in assessing the health and performance of organizations. It presents an introduction to financial performance analysis, defines its key concepts, and outlines its objectives. The chapter explores the data analysis, research methodology, findings, limitations, benefits, suggestions, and concludes with insights on leveraging financial performance analysis for informed decision-making.

Introduction

Financial performance analysis is a critical tool for evaluating the financial health and performance of organizations. This chapter introduces the concept of financial performance analysis, highlighting its role in assessing the profitability, liquidity, efficiency, and solvency of businesses. It discusses the importance of financial performance analysis in making informed managerial decisions, attracting investors, and ensuring long-term sustainability.

Objective

The objective of this chapter is to explore the process of financial performance analysis and understand its relevance in evaluating the financial standing of organizations. It aims to analyze key financial ratios, assess financial statements, and provide insights into leveraging financial performance analysis for effective decision-making, performance monitoring, and strategic planning.

Data Analysis

Data analysis in financial performance analysis involves examining financial statements, such as income statements, balance sheets, and cash flow statements. It includes ratio analysis to assess various aspects of financial performance, such as profitability, liquidity, efficiency, and solvency. Trend analysis and benchmarking may also be conducted to compare financial performance over time and against industry peers.

Research Methodology

The research methodology for this chapter involves a combination of quantitative and qualitative analysis. Quantitative analysis involves calculating financial ratios, conducting statistical analysis, and interpreting financial data. Qualitative analysis may involve interviews with key stakeholders, industry experts, and analysis of annual reports or other relevant documents to gain a deeper understanding of the organization's financial performance.

Findings

The findings of this research highlight the key insights derived from financial performance analysis. It explores the interpretation of financial ratios and indicators, identifies strengths and weaknesses in the organization's financial performance, and provides insights into potential areas for improvement. The chapter presents empirical evidence, case studies, and industry examples that demonstrate the benefits of financial performance analysis.

Limitations

Limitations of financial performance analysis may include the reliance on historical data, the potential for manipulation of financial statements, and the inability to capture non-financial factors that impact organizational performance. The chapter acknowledges these limitations and discusses their potential impact on the interpretation of financial performance analysis.

Benefits

Financial performance analysis offers several benefits to organizations, including the ability to identify financial strengths and weaknesses, monitor financial health over time, make informed investment decisions, assess operational efficiency, and benchmark against industry peers. The chapter discusses these benefits and their implications for strategic planning, resource allocation, and overall organizational performance.

Suggestions

Based on the findings, the chapter provides suggestions for organizations to optimize financial performance analysis. It covers areas such as regular financial statement analysis, implementation of financial performance metrics and dashboards, leveraging technology and data analytics for enhanced analysis, and the importance of continuous monitoring and evaluation.

Conclusion

Financial performance analysis serves as a valuable tool for evaluating the financial health and performance of organizations. This chapter concludes by emphasizing the importance of conducting regular financial performance analysis to make informed decisions, identify areas for improvement, and ensure the long-term sustainability and success of the organization.

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A study on Employee satisfaction

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Abstract

This research study explores the topic of employee satisfaction and its impact on organizational outcomes. By employing a mixed-methods approach, combining surveys and interviews, data was collected from a diverse sample of employees across various industries. The study investigates the factors influencing employee satisfaction, such as work environment, compensation, job design, leadership, and organizational culture. Furthermore, it examines the relationship between employee satisfaction and organizational outcomes, including productivity, performance, and employee retention. The findings of this study provide valuable insights for organizations aiming to enhance employee satisfaction and improve overall organizational effectiveness.

Keywords: employee satisfaction, work environment, compensation, job design, leadership, organizational culture, organizational outcomes

Introduction

Employee satisfaction is a critical aspect of organizational success and employee well-being. Satisfied employees are more likely to be engaged, motivated, and productive, which in turn positively influences organizational outcomes. Understanding the factors that contribute to employee satisfaction and their impact on the organization is of paramount importance for employers and human resource professionals. The purpose of this study is to delve into the topic of employee satisfaction and examine its implications for organizational effectiveness. By exploring the various factors that influence employee satisfaction, such as work environment, compensation, job design, leadership, and organizational culture, we can gain insights into how organizations can create a positive and satisfying work environment.

Employee satisfaction is a multidimensional construct that encompasses an employee's perception of their job, work conditions, relationships with colleagues and supervisors, and opportunities for growth and development. When employees feel valued, respected, and fulfilled in their roles, they are more likely to be committed to their organization and motivated to contribute their best efforts.

The consequences of employee satisfaction extend beyond individual well-being. Satisfied employees are more likely to exhibit higher levels of productivity, improved job performance, and lower rates of turnover. Additionally, they contribute to a positive organizational culture, fostering teamwork, collaboration, and innovation.

Research Methodology

While numerous studies have explored the concept of employee satisfaction, this research study aims to contribute to the existing literature by utilizing a mixed-methods approach, combining surveys and interviews, to gain a comprehensive understanding of the factors influencing employee satisfaction. By incorporating both quantitative and qualitative data, we can capture the nuances and complexities of employee satisfaction and identify specific areas for improvement.

PRISM Analysis

PRISM (Pressures, Rules, Interpretation, Strategies, and Metaphors) is a framework that can be applied to analyze various aspects of a research study. In the context of a study on employee satisfaction, the PRISM analysis can provide insights into the underlying dynamics and perspectives of the research topic. Let's examine each component of the PRISM framework in relation to the study on employee satisfaction.

Pressures

Pressures in the context of employee satisfaction refer to the external and internal factors that influence the study. These pressures can include organizational goals, economic factors, and societal expectations. The study on employee satisfaction may be driven by pressures such as increasing competition in the labor market, a desire to improve productivity, or the need to attract and retain top talent. Understanding these pressures can help contextualize the research and its implications for organizations.

Rules

Rules in the PRISM analysis refer to the regulations, guidelines, and established practices that shape the study on employee satisfaction. These rules can include ethical considerations, research methodologies, and industry standards. In the case of employee satisfaction research, ethical considerations such as confidentiality and informed consent should be followed. Additionally, established research methods, such as surveys and interviews, can be employed to gather data. Adhering to these rules ensures the validity and reliability of the study.

Interpretation

Interpretation focuses on the meaning and understanding derived from the research findings. In the study on employee satisfaction, interpretation involves analyzing and interpreting the data collected from surveys and interviews. It entails identifying patterns, themes, and relationships between variables to gain insights into employee perceptions, needs, and satisfaction levels. The interpretation stage allows researchers to uncover nuances and understand the complexities of employee satisfaction in relation to the identified factors.

Strategies

Strategies refer to the actions and approaches employed in the study on employee satisfaction. These strategies encompass the design of research instruments, data collection methods, and data analysis techniques. Strategies may involve designing comprehensive surveys to measure employee satisfaction, developing interview protocols to capture qualitative insights, and employing mixed-methods approaches to gain a holistic understanding of the phenomenon. Effective strategies enable researchers to collect robust data and derive meaningful conclusions.

Metaphors

Metaphors in the PRISM analysis represent the symbolic representations or conceptual frameworks used to understand the study on employee satisfaction. Metaphors can include theories, models, or frameworks that guide the research and help interpret the findings. In the study on employee satisfaction, theoretical frameworks such as Herzberg's Two-Factor Theory or the Job Characteristics Model can serve as metaphors to understand the factors influencing employee satisfaction. These metaphors provide a lens through which the data can be analyzed and interpreted.

By applying the PRISM analysis to the study on employee satisfaction, researchers can gain a comprehensive understanding of the contextual pressures, rules, interpretation processes, strategies employed, and metaphors used to study employee satisfaction. This analysis aids in capturing the multidimensional nature of employee satisfaction, identifying key drivers, and deriving practical implications for organizations seeking to enhance employee satisfaction and improve organizational outcomes.

Conclusion

Employee satisfaction is a crucial factor in organizational success and employee well-being. This research study aimed to investigate the determinants of employee satisfaction and its impact on organizational outcomes. Through a review of the literature, it is evident that employee satisfaction is influenced by various factors, including the work environment, compensation and benefits, job design, leadership, and organizational culture. These factors collectively contribute to the overall job satisfaction and engagement levels of employees.

The findings from this study emphasize the importance of creating a positive work environment that promotes employee satisfaction. Organizations should focus on providing supportive relationships, clear communication channels, and opportunities for growth and development. Additionally, competitive compensation and benefits packages, along with job designs that offer autonomy and meaningful tasks, play a vital role in enhancing employee satisfaction.

The link between employee satisfaction and organizational outcomes is well-established in the literature. Satisfied employees tend to be more productive, exhibit higher job performance, and demonstrate greater commitment to the organization. Furthermore, they contribute to a positive organizational culture and enhance customer satisfaction. By prioritizing employee satisfaction, organizations can improve overall organizational effectiveness and achieve a competitive advantage.

In conclusion, this research study highlights the significance of employee satisfaction in the workplace. Understanding the factors that influence employee satisfaction and their impact on organizational outcomes can guide organizations in implementing strategies to enhance employee well-being and organizational success. By fostering a positive work environment, providing competitive compensation, offering meaningful job designs, and promoting effective leadership, organizations can create an atmosphere where employees feel valued, engaged, and satisfied.

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A Study on “Lead Generation”

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Abstract

This chapter explores the concept of lead generation and its significance in driving business growth and success. It provides an introduction to lead generation, defines key terms, and outlines the objectives of the chapter. The chapter delves into data analysis, research methodology, findings, limitations, benefits, suggestions, and concludes with insights on optimizing lead generation strategies for enhanced results.

Introduction

Lead generation is a crucial aspect of marketing and sales, serving as the foundation for attracting and acquiring potential customers. This chapter introduces the concept of lead generation, highlighting its role in identifying and nurturing potential leads. It discusses the importance of effective lead generation in fueling business growth and achieving sales targets.

Objective

The objective of this chapter is to explore the key elements of successful lead generation, understand different lead generation strategies, and provide insights into optimizing lead generation processes. It aims to analyze data, research, and industry best practices to shed light on the significance of lead generation in driving business success.

Data Analysis

Data analysis in the context of lead generation involves examining various sources of data, such as website analytics, customer databases, and marketing campaign metrics. It includes evaluating lead conversion rates, analyzing customer behavior patterns, and identifying effective lead generation channels. Quantitative analysis techniques, such as statistical analysis and segmentation, may be applied to derive meaningful insights from the data.

Research Methodology

The research methodology for this chapter may involve a combination of literature review, case studies, and empirical research. The literature review provides a comprehensive understanding of lead generation concepts, strategies, and best practices. Case studies and empirical research may involve analyzing real-world examples and conducting surveys or interviews with marketing and sales professionals to gather insights on successful lead generation techniques.

Findings

The findings of this research highlight the key elements of successful lead generation, such as targeted audience segmentation, compelling content creation, effective lead capture and nurturing, and measurement of key performance indicators. The chapter presents empirical evidence, industry examples, and best practices that demonstrate the impact of optimized lead generation strategies on business growth and sales success.

Limitations

Limitations of lead generation strategies may include the dependency on external factors, such as market conditions and customer preferences, as well as the need for continuous adaptation and optimization. The chapter acknowledges these limitations and discusses their potential impact on the effectiveness of lead generation efforts.

Benefits

Effective lead generation offers several benefits to organizations, including increased sales revenue, improved customer acquisition rates, enhanced customer engagement, and higher return on marketing investments. The chapter discusses these benefits and their implications for business growth and profitability.

Suggestions

Based on the findings, the chapter provides suggestions for optimizing lead generation efforts. It covers areas such as audience research and segmentation, content marketing strategies, lead capture and nurturing tactics, marketing automation, and the integration of sales and marketing efforts. These suggestions aim to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of lead generation processes.

Conclusion

Lead generation serves as a critical component of business success, enabling organizations to attract, engage, and convert potential customers. This chapter concludes by emphasizing the importance of implementing effective lead generation strategies and continually evaluating and adapting them to meet evolving market demands. It highlights the need for organizations to invest in comprehensive lead generation approaches to drive business growth and achieve sustainable competitive advantage.

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Objectification of women in advertising: A Critical Study

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Abstract

From being in the kitchen to being CEO to various companies, there was a long and hard way to go for women and especially in a cultured and orthodox society like India. Article 14 of Indian constitution guarantees Right to Equality despite gender, color, race, caste but the reality on societal level is different from this. Most of the advertisements portray women as a tool or element to grab the eyeballs. Objectification of women is an old phenomenon but its applicability and execution are still popular in this modern era. This research paper focuses on the analysis of different Indian advertisements which objectify women's body and identifies women's value with her looks and appearance. This paper employs content analysis of qualitative research methodology to explore the content of advertisements. Using a sociological perspective, researchers explore how the advertisements objectify women and continue unabated and impact society as a whole.

Keywords: Objectification, Advertisements, psychology, media.

Introduction

Advertising is marked as the traditional, best and effective tool of marketing. According to the American Association of Advertising, 'Advertising is the paid form of non - personal presentation of goods, services and ideas by an identified sponsor'. However, advertising is the whole process whereas, the end product of this process is called advertisements ("Advertisement: Definition and Features of Advertisement", 2022).

Advertising, a tool of marketing concept, was earlier introduced during the development of cities as well as the industries by the vendors on the streets calling out for selling their commodities. However, with the passage of time the advertising concept commenced with the classified advertising. The Ads made an appearance through print media in India's first newspaper popularly known as 'Bengal Gazette ' or 'Hickey's Bengal Gazette ' by James Augustus Hickey in 1780.

With the increase in industrial revolution the advertisements tend to surge up on different media platforms. Radio Ceylon and Radio Goa have also emerged as a medium for radio advertising. Simultaneously, commercial telecasting on television started on an experimental basis and with the growth of cables and satellites gave rise to the broadcasting of ads on television.

Initially, Advertisements aimed to inform people but now in this contemporary era unlike every other medium of imparting any information or to communicate, advertising also primarily focuses on awareness, informing, educating and to entertain the general public. The process of advertising is not only done for products however, people can endorse their ideas, services as well. Additionally, the higher authorities can advertise their new schemes, vacancies and other development programs.

Advertisements being the major source for awareness as well to provide information regarding any product, idea or services. It also assists the businesses as well the government or other people who are engaged in selling any of their goods or services to reach out to the general public. In addition to this, Advertisements also educate the consumers about new introduction of products, policies and programs.

It helps to increase your sales in the market as it gains the trust of the consumers. Advertisements create trust in the public which ultimately convinces them to buy the product or services. Moreover, for businesses or the one who is providing services to the public the advertisements help in increasing demand and competition in the market.

Advertisements in Indian society have been around for a long time and throughout the time period there were drastic changes in the way of production, presentation, ad copy, editing and many other factors that are required for creating any advertisement. The medium that has been observed to impact the advertising concept and its history is 'Internet'. Moreover, the concept of ads has been entirely different and changed as it used to be before. Earlier in advertisements women were portrayed in stereotypical manner as in ads they were observed in kitchen or doing household chores or in some other content where men's were dominating them but, in this era, women's are used as a tool for sexuality, they objectify their bodies, looks and physical appearance where they are not even required.

Objectives of the study

1. To identify the role of advertisements in portrayal of women.
2. To compare the content of advertisements at different primetime channels.

Research Methodology

The content analysis research technique has been used to analyze the content of advertisements in terms of language and presentation of women. It is a qualitative approach to research. According to Kerlinger (Mass Media Research- An introduction, 2003: pp 159), "Content analysis is a method of studying and analyzing communication in a systematic, objective and quantitative manner for the purpose of measuring variables". The content analysis method is measured to be more operative for this study than other methods of research ("Mass Media Research: An Introduction - SILO.PUB", 2022). Data consist of number of advertisements from two Hindi entertainment channels with high TRP. Readings were collected from 7pm to 9 pm during peak hours of serials at Star Plus and Colors TV for one week.

Review of Literature

The Objectification of Women in Mass Media: Female Self-Image in Misogynist Culture by Stephanie Nicholl Berberick, analyzes the increasing rate of cosmetic surgeries, eating disorders, and related deaths to reveal how mediated images of the ideal woman affect female self-image. These trends are then illuminated with statistics regarding violent crimes and sexual activity. Using a sociological perspective, researchers explore how the media's objectification of women continues unabated and impacts society as a whole.

Sexual Objectification of Women: Advances to Theory and Research by Dawn M. Szymanski, Lauren B. Moffitt, and Erika R Carr wrote an article introduce readers to objectification theory and related research, extend objectification theory to people's understanding of women's substance use and/or abuse and immersed forms of sexual objectification via sexually objectifying environments, and provide an overview of this Major Contribution on Sexual Objectification of Women.

Women Objectification & Advertising: an analysis of sexually objectified portrayal of women in television advertising in Pakistan by Sana Ali highlighted the concern of women being used as an instrument in advertisements. Sana gathered the data of 8 pm to 9 pm of 7 different drama channels.

The researcher noted that data does not support any significant relationship in television ads and objectification, it might be due to the reputation of an objectified image of women in mass media, people might not consider it objectionable anymore. Research done on Effect of television advertising on women in India & Iran by Hengameh Bebsodeh and K J Joseph analyzed, women in India and Iran are well aware about the role of advertisements in society and their advantages. Major percentage of Indian & Iranian respondents stated that advertisements does not portray a liberal or fashionable image of women. They agreed to the fact that advertisements created the element of self-consciousness among women, which means that advertising have certain amount of effect on the minds and views of viewers.

Data Presentation & Interpretation

The representation of women in the media has always been questionable. It has, throughout theses years, reduced women to being nothing more than objects to be won, prizes to be shown off, and playthings to be abused. It has also created a definition of beauty that women compare themselves to. Also, men compare the women in their lives to what they see on television screens, in magazines, and on billboards. Both the self and society have suffered because of objectification, sexism, exploitation and assessment.

Researchers collected the data from 2 different Hindi entertainment channels with high TRP in the time frame of 5 days in a week from 7 pm to 9 pm.

Table 1: Star Plus (7:00 PM to 9:00 PM)

Total advertisements	Represent both men & Women	Represent only men	Represent only Women
43	72%	7%	21%

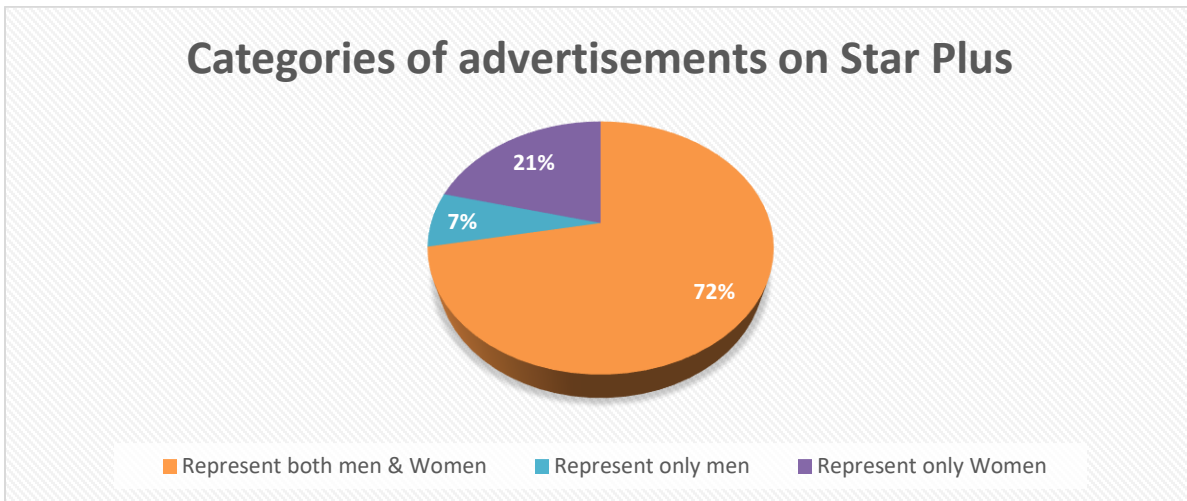


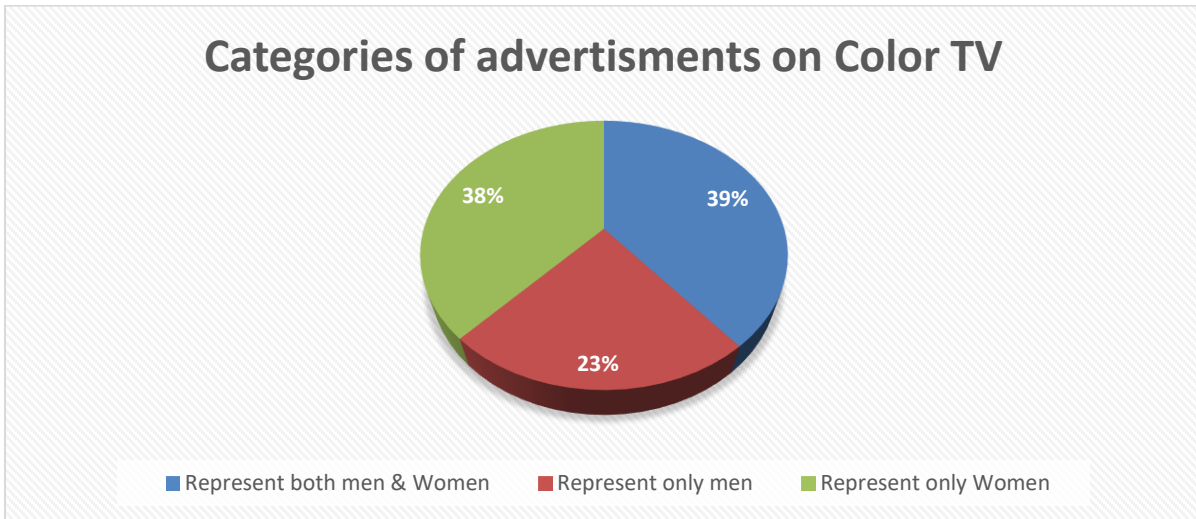
Chart 1 Percentage of representation of gender in advertisements.

The table 1 shows that, out of 43 ads 72% of advertisements during primetime consisted of men as well as women and on the contrary, 21% of ads composed of women solely. However, the proportion of men without women in ads was observed as 7% only.

As per the data collected the researcher analyzed that in television channels with high TRP during primetime 72% of ads are those in which women and men both are picturized. Women play important roles as the feminine influence the buying behavior positively. Research on ‘Portrayal of women in Advertising’ by DiSalvatore stated “women are being exploited by advertisements and are represented as sexual objects that attract consumers to buy and sell”, which support the interpretation. But in some ads women are presented unnecessarily or at irrelevant places or manner (For instance; Gillette Venus) however, women are not portrayed in instrumental manner, as they are not portrayed as a tool to promote sexuality or seductiveness. On the other hand, 21% of ads are only composed of women but also require men as well. The products advertisements such as Johnson's baby soap or whisper choice sanitary pad could have used men in it along with women to break the stereotypes of women solely handling the household chores along with the upbringing of the children. The genders could play their role and responsibility equally. Out of which some ads promote women empowerment as well which is good for the growth and development of feminine gender and the entire society.

Table 2: Colors Tv (7:00 PM to 9:00 PM)

Total advertisements	Represent both men & Women	Represent only men	Represent only Women
61	39%	23%	38%



Pie chart 2 shows the percentage of advertisements on Colors TV

The table 2 shows that around the same proportion of primetime advertisements illustrated women along with men and solely women i.e., 39% and 38% respectively, a negligible change was observed. On the flip side, 23% of advertisements during primetime on high TRP channels consist of only men.

Researchers concluded from both the channels with high TRP, that there is an increase in women’s appearance in ads throughout the same time slot but at different channels. The above given table shows a difference of about 17% of advertisements among both the channels (colors tv and Star plus) where women are solely indulged in the promotion of goods and services. Surprisingly, the percent of men in ads inclined up to 16% as compared to the opposing channel. A dramatic change of 33% was also observed to the researcher in the count of both men and women portrayed in ads. The data represents that woman play a prominent role in increasing sales and demand and puts a positive impact on long-term brand relationships as well as in changing behavior of the consumers. Another research done by S Sarkar in Media and women image media is responsible for trapping of women image by glamorizing woman body to gain commercial interest.

In addition to this, advertisements lead to increased women’s development. However, the role and portrayal of women in advertising influences attitudes.

The advertisements where only women are the part, represents as feminine, the gender indulge in household chores, doing office work, handling their children including the stereotypical factors. Researchers has watched an advertisement of vim dish wash bar and in the ad two women were observed comparing vim dish wash bar with an ordinary bar. In the advertisement women are portrayed as house wife wearing saree and salwar-kameez. The researcher has observed the stereotype segment in terms of dressing style and why only women is used in the dishwasher bar ad for cleaning utensils that is included in household chores. As, women are portrayed in traditional roles as shown in household activities. In addition to this, out of 61 advertisements some are of beauty products such as Ponds BB Cream, Blue Heaven makeup, Ponds bright beauty, neem purifying scrub and Elle 18 lipstick. However, these products advertisements have strong impact on feminine gender. As, the generalizations in the advertisements objectifies women and the gender stresses over their appearance which ultimately leads in mental disorders, devaluation of their own worth.

Apart from these ads, advertisement of dove body lotion was also observed by the researcher during the primetime on colors tv and the ad illustrates the women moisturizing her skin with dove body lotion along with her delicate moves with a song in the background. In the advertisement woman is portrayed without clothes but shown artistically and she is applying lotion to her naked body and represented as an object with nudity.

On the other hand, researchers have observed that in some advertisements especially related to automobiles such as galaxy A7, Skoda car, Dell Intell core, Realme 9 pro, indicates stereotype behavior which states that the automobile industry is men oriented and portrayed women as useless, uneducated and specifically made for doing household chores and it also states that women are used as a tool or object to spread nudity and sexuality.

Conclusion

Advertisements plays primary role in promoting any product, idea or services. As, it creates awareness about the product by highlighting the unique features. The ads persuade the consumers to buy specific product when other firms offer similar products. Additionally, the ads are presented or designed in such manner so that they can act as a reminder. Television being the traditional and most popular mass medium seems to be more persuasive in nature and evoke emotional connections.

According to the data given in this research paper, even if in major number of advertisements women are not portrayed as an object or tool but the stereotypical presentation of women is there. S Dutta in his paper Portrayal of women in Indian advertising stated that role of advertising should reduce the stereotypical image of men and women.

However, through endorsements the feminine objectifies herself and sometimes self-doubt on her worth or her appearance. These ads affect the self-esteem and confidence of females. The ads highlights set of roles of women.

'The prime-time evening broadcasts have usually been considered significant in terms of viewers ratings and their impact on the images of networks. However, during prime-time maximum numbers of individuals tends to watch television because they are at home and free after doing their regular household or routine work. Audiences are often at their most alert and engaged during prime time', According to AllBusiness.com

The researcher has critically analyzed the content and observed two popular Hindi television entertainment channels during prime time and identified that in some ads women are used to gain the interest of the audience and observed gender inequality and gender biasness. However, some ads have stereotypical segments in terms of clothing, technology etc. Talking positively, it is clear from the research that mostly ads are composed of women along with men. Moreover, some ads promote women empowerment.

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A Case Study on “Recruitment and Selection Process in OPPO Company”

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Abstract

This chapter examines the recruitment and selection process employed by Oppo Company. It outlines the objectives of the study, presents the methodology used for data analysis, and discusses the findings. Additionally, the chapter highlights the limitations of the study and identifies potential benefits, along with suggestions to improve the recruitment and selection process at Oppo. The chapter concludes by emphasizing the significance of effective recruitment and selection practices for organizational success. Recruitment and selection are critical aspects of human resource management that significantly impact an organization's success. This chapter focuses on the recruitment and selection process at Oppo Company, a leading smartphone manufacturer. The chapter provides an in-depth analysis of the company's practices, methodologies, and their effectiveness in acquiring talented individuals for their workforce. By exploring Oppo's recruitment and selection process, this chapter aims to provide insights and recommendations that can enhance the overall efficiency of the process.

Objective

The primary objective of this study is to analyze the recruitment and selection process at Oppo Company. Specifically, the study aims to:

1. Understand the current practices and methodologies employed by Oppo for talent acquisition.
2. Evaluate the effectiveness of the recruitment and selection process in attracting and selecting qualified candidates.
3. Identify potential areas for improvement in the process.

Data Analysis

To gather data, both primary and secondary research methods were employed. Primary data was collected through interviews and surveys conducted with HR personnel responsible for recruitment and selection at Oppo. Secondary data included relevant company documents, reports, and academic literature related to recruitment and selection practices. Thematic analysis was used to analyze the collected data, allowing for the identification of key patterns and insights.

Research Methodology

The research methodology adopted for this study followed a qualitative approach. In-depth interviews were conducted with HR professionals from Oppo to gain insights into their recruitment and selection process. Surveys were also administered to a sample of current employees to gather feedback on their experiences during the recruitment and selection process. The data collected from interviews and surveys were then analyzed to identify common themes and trends.

Findings

The analysis of the data revealed several key findings regarding the recruitment and selection process at Oppo. These findings include:

1. Oppo employs a comprehensive recruitment strategy, utilizing both internal and external sources to attract a diverse pool of candidates.
2. The company emphasizes the importance of technical skills and cultural fit when evaluating candidates.
3. The selection process includes multiple stages, such as resume screening, interviews, and assessments.
4. Oppo places a strong emphasis on candidate experience throughout the recruitment and selection process.

Limitations

This study has a few limitations that should be acknowledged. Firstly, the research focused solely on the recruitment and selection process at Oppo Company and may not be generalized to other organizations. Additionally, the sample size of participants interviewed and surveyed was limited, which may impact the generalizability of the findings. Further research with larger sample sizes and across multiple organizations is recommended to enhance the validity of the findings.

Benefits

Effective recruitment and selection processes yield several benefits for organizations, including:

1. Acquiring talented individuals who align with the organization's goals and values.
2. Enhancing employee productivity and job satisfaction.
3. Reducing employee turnover rates and associated costs.
4. Strengthening the organization's overall competitiveness.

Suggestions

Based on the findings of this study, the following suggestions are proposed to improve the recruitment and selection process at Oppo Company:

1. Enhance the use of technology and data analytics for more efficient candidate screening and selection.
2. Implement structured behavioral and competency-based interviews to better assess candidate qualifications.
3. Establish partnerships with educational institutions and industry associations to tap into talent pools.
4. Provide comprehensive and constructive feedback to unsuccessful candidates to enhance their experience and improve the company's reputation.

Conclusion

The recruitment and selection process at Oppo Company is crucial for acquiring talented individuals and ensuring the organization's continued success. This chapter provided an analysis of Oppo's current practices, highlighting their strengths and areas for improvement. By incorporating the suggested enhancements, Oppo can enhance its recruitment and selection process, attracting and selecting the most qualified candidates. The findings of this study contribute to the existing literature on recruitment and selection practices and offer insights for both researchers and practitioners in the field.

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Media's Impact on Power Rivalry and Societal Transformations: Cold War, Vietnam War, and Disintegration of the Soviet Union

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Abstract

This research examines the role of media in two significant historical contexts: the Cold War rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union, the media's impact on the Vietnam War, and the media's role in the disintegration of the Soviet Union. The study explores the use of media as a tool for propaganda, information warfare, and shaping public opinion. It also analyzes the influence of media coverage on these events and its implications for political and social changes. By examining these cases, this research aims to deepen our understanding of the relationship between media, power rivalry, and societal transformations.

Keywords: Media, propaganda, Cold War, superpowers, Soviet Union, United States, Vietnam War, disintegration of the Soviet Union, power rivalry, public opinion, censorship, information warfare, cultural exchanges, space race, journalism, political transformation, societal changes.

Introduction

During the Cold War, which spanned from the late 1940s to the early 1990s, media played a significant role in the rivalry between the superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union. Both sides utilized various forms of media to advance their ideological agendas, shape public opinion, and gain influence both domestically and internationally. Here are some key aspects of media during the Cold War:

Propaganda and Information Warfare: Both the United States and the Soviet Union engaged in propaganda campaigns aimed at promoting their respective ideologies and discrediting the opposing side. Propaganda was disseminated through various media channels, including newspapers, magazines, radio broadcasts, television programs, and films. Each side sought to portray itself as morally superior and highlight the perceived shortcomings or threats of the other side.

Government Control and Censorship: In the Soviet Union and other communist countries, the state exercised strict control over the media. Censorship was used to suppress dissenting viewpoints and promote the communist narrative.

The state-controlled media was instrumental in disseminating the official party line and suppressing information that could undermine the government's authority. In the United States, although media outlets were privately owned, there were concerns about government influence and the potential for self-censorship during the era of McCarthyism.

Voice of America and Radio Free Europe: The United States established outlets such as Voice of America and Radio Free Europe to broadcast news and information into Soviet-controlled territories and other countries behind the Iron Curtain. These radio stations aimed to counter Soviet propaganda and provide an alternative source of news and information to those living in areas with restricted media freedoms.

Cultural Exchanges and Cold War Pop Culture: Cultural exchanges and the promotion of popular culture played a role in the ideological competition between the superpowers. The United States used its film industry, music, and literature to promote American values, freedom, and consumerism as a contrast to the Soviet system. The Soviet Union, on the other hand, employed its own cultural productions to promote socialist values and portray the capitalist West as decadent and corrupt.

Space Race and Media Coverage: The space race between the United States and the Soviet Union was a key aspect of the Cold War rivalry. Media coverage of space exploration, particularly the Soviet launch of Sputnik in 1957 and the subsequent American moon landing in 1969, captivated audiences around the world. The competition for space supremacy was closely followed and amplified through media channels.

Espionage and Intelligence Operations: Both superpowers utilized their intelligence agencies to gather information and engage in covert operations. The media played a role in publicizing espionage activities, such as high-profile spy cases, and influencing public perceptions of intelligence agencies and their effectiveness.

The media during the Cold War served as a battleground for competing ideologies, information warfare, and attempts to shape global public opinion. The superpowers recognized the power of media in shaping narratives, influencing perceptions, and gaining soft power. The era witnessed a significant influence of media in the ideological contestation between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Research Methodology

This research utilizes a qualitative approach, employing historical analysis to examine the role of media in the specified contexts. Primary and secondary sources such as scholarly articles, books, archival documents, and media reports are analyzed to gather relevant data. The study includes content analysis of media materials, case studies, and comparative analysis to explore the various dimensions of media's influence. The research methodology combines interdisciplinary perspectives, drawing from media studies, political science, history, and cultural analysis to provide a comprehensive understanding of the topic.

Analysis

Vietnam War

The role of media in the Vietnam War was significant and had a profound impact on public opinion and the course of the conflict. Here are some key aspects of the media's role during the Vietnam War:

War Coverage: The Vietnam War was one of the first wars to be extensively covered by the media, with journalists on the ground reporting directly from the front lines. Through photographs, television footage, and written reports, the media brought the realities of the war into people's living rooms, exposing the public to the harsh realities of combat, civilian casualties, and the impact of the war on soldiers.

Censorship and Access: Initially, the U.S. government implemented strict control and censorship over media coverage of the war, seeking to manage public perceptions and maintain a positive narrative. However, as the war progressed, the media's presence and coverage expanded, and journalists were given greater access to the battlefield. This access allowed for more independent reporting and the ability to present a wider range of perspectives.

Graphic and Emotional Content: The media's coverage of the war often included graphic and emotionally charged images, such as the iconic photograph of a young girl running naked and burned by napalm. These images had a profound impact on public sentiment, stirring anti-war sentiments and raising moral questions about the U.S. involvement in Vietnam.

Criticism of the War: The media's coverage of the war played a crucial role in shaping public opinion and fueling the anti-war movement. Journalists provided critical reporting, questioning the U.S. government's justifications for the war and exposing the realities of the conflict. The media's coverage contributed to the growing opposition to the war, both domestically and internationally.

"Living Room War": The Vietnam War was often referred to as the "living room war" because it was the first major conflict to be televised extensively. The vivid images and footage broadcast into people's homes had a powerful impact on public perception, leading to increased scrutiny of government actions and demands for accountability.

Trust and Credibility: The Vietnam War also had a significant impact on public trust in the media and government institutions. The media's coverage, including instances of misreporting and conflicting narratives, raised questions about the credibility of official statements and heightened skepticism among the public.

Legacy: The media's coverage of the Vietnam War led to changes in how subsequent conflicts were reported. The war prompted a reevaluation of media-government relations and an emphasis on press freedom and access to information. The experience of the Vietnam War influenced media practices, such as embedded reporting, and shaped discussions on the role of the media in democratic societies.

Disintegration of the Soviet Union

The role of media in the disintegration of the Soviet Union was significant and played a crucial role in shaping public opinion, disseminating information, and contributing to the political and social changes that led to the collapse of the USSR. Here are some key aspects of the media's role during that time:

Glasnost and Perestroika: In the 1980s, under the leadership of Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, policies of glasnost (openness) and perestroika (restructuring) were introduced. These policies aimed to liberalize the Soviet system and promote transparency and freedom of expression. The media played a vital role in implementing these reforms by providing a platform for public debate and discussion on previously taboo topics.

Independent Media Outlets: As glasnost and perestroika took hold, new independent media outlets emerged, challenging the monopoly of state-controlled media. Independent newspapers, radio stations, and later television channels started to operate, providing alternative sources of news and information. These outlets were crucial in exposing corruption, discussing political and social issues, and providing a more diverse range of viewpoints.

Criticism of the Soviet System: Independent media outlets became platforms for critical voices and dissenting opinions. Journalists and writers started to openly criticize the shortcomings of the Soviet system, including economic inefficiencies, political repression, and social inequalities. This criticism played a significant role in raising public awareness and fostering a sense of disillusionment with the existing regime.

Exposure of Past Atrocities: The media played a crucial role in exposing the atrocities and human rights abuses committed by the Soviet regime. Reports on historical events such as the Stalinist purges, gulags, and state-sponsored violence became more accessible to the public.

Nationalist Movements and Ethnic Tensions: The Soviet Union was composed of various ethnic groups and republics, each with its own cultural, linguistic, and political aspirations. The media played a role in amplifying nationalist sentiments and highlighting ethnic tensions. Independent media outlets provided platforms for ethnic minority voices and facilitated discussions on self-determination and independence.

Public Awareness and Mobilization: The media's coverage of political and social issues raised public awareness and contributed to a growing sense of activism and mobilization. Independent media outlets reported on protests, strikes, and other forms of civil disobedience, helping to galvanize public participation in political processes and challenge the existing power structures.

Access to International Information: With the liberalization of media, Soviet citizens gained access to previously censored or limited international news sources. Foreign publications, broadcasts, and later satellite television provided alternative perspectives and information that challenged the official Soviet narrative. This access to international information further fueled dissatisfaction with the Soviet system and contributed to a desire for change.

The media's role in the disintegration of the Soviet Union was multifaceted. It provided a platform for critical voices, exposed the failures of the Soviet system, fostered a sense of national identity, and contributed to a collective desire for change. The media's influence, combined with other political, economic, and social factors, played a significant role in the collapse of the USSR and the subsequent emergence of independent states.

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Recruitment and selection

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Abstract

Recruitment and selection are crucial processes in the field of human resource management, aimed at identifying and attracting qualified individuals to fill job vacancies within an organization. This paper explores the various strategies and techniques employed in recruitment and selection, examining their impact on organizational performance and employee outcomes. The abstract provides a concise overview of the key concepts, methodologies, and findings discussed in the study, shedding light on the importance of effective recruitment and selection practices in securing the right talent for organizational success.

Keywords: Recruitment, selection, human resource management, job vacancies, organizational performance, employee outcomes, strategies, techniques, talent acquisition, hiring process

Introduction:

Recruitment and selection are fundamental processes in human resource management that play a crucial role in acquiring and securing the right talent for organizational success. In today's competitive business environment, organizations recognize that their employees are their most valuable assets, and attracting and selecting the right individuals with the necessary skills and qualifications is paramount.

Recruitment refers to the process of identifying, attracting, and encouraging potential candidates to apply for job vacancies within an organization. It involves various activities such as job analysis, sourcing candidates, and creating effective recruitment strategies. On the other hand, selection is the process of evaluating and choosing the most suitable candidate for a particular job position. It typically involves screening resumes, conducting interviews, assessments, and reference checks to assess a candidate's qualifications, experience, and fit with the organization's culture.

The importance of effective recruitment and selection cannot be overstated. Organizations need to find individuals who possess the right skills, knowledge, and abilities to perform their roles effectively and contribute to the overall success of the organization. A well-executed recruitment and selection process not only ensures that the organization attracts top talent but also reduces employee turnover, enhances employee satisfaction and engagement, and improves overall organizational performance.

Furthermore, recruitment and selection processes have evolved significantly in recent years due to advancements in technology and changes in the labor market. Online job boards, social media platforms, and applicant tracking systems have revolutionized the way organizations advertise job vacancies and attract candidates. Additionally, organizations have recognized the importance of diversity and inclusion in their workforce, leading to the adoption of strategies that promote equal opportunities for candidates from diverse backgrounds.

This paper aims to delve into the intricacies of recruitment and selection, exploring the various strategies, techniques, and best practices that organizations employ to identify and select the most suitable candidates.

It will examine the impact of effective recruitment and selection on organizational performance and employee outcomes, highlighting the role these processes play in enhancing productivity, fostering a positive work environment, and driving innovation.

By gaining a deeper understanding of recruitment and selection processes, organizations can improve their ability to attract and select the right talent, resulting in a competitive advantage in the marketplace. Moreover, individuals seeking employment can also benefit from understanding these processes, enabling them to prepare and present themselves effectively during the hiring process.

PRISM Analysis

P - Political Factors:

Political factors can significantly influence recruitment and selection processes. Government regulations and policies related to employment practices, equal opportunity, and diversity impact how organizations approach recruitment and selection. Legislation concerning hiring practices, such as anti-discrimination laws, can shape the criteria and methods used to evaluate candidates. Additionally, changes in political landscapes or government priorities may affect recruitment strategies, such as targeting specific groups or industries.

R - Regulatory Factors:

Regulatory factors play a crucial role in recruitment and selection. Organizations must adhere to labor laws, employment standards, and regulations related to fair hiring practices. Compliance with regulations such as equal employment opportunity (EEO) laws, privacy laws, and anti-discrimination policies influences the design and implementation of recruitment and selection processes. Non-compliance can lead to legal consequences and damage an organization's reputation.

I - Industry Trends:

Recruitment and selection are influenced by industry trends and dynamics. Factors such as the availability of talent, skill shortages, technological advancements, and shifting labor market conditions impact how organizations approach attracting and selecting candidates. Emerging industries or disruptive technologies may require organizations to adopt innovative recruitment strategies or seek specific skill sets. Keeping abreast of industry trends is essential for organizations to remain competitive in attracting top talent.

S - Social Factors:

Social factors have a significant impact on recruitment and selection. Changing demographics, cultural norms, and societal expectations influence how organizations approach diversity and inclusion in their hiring practices. Organizations are increasingly focusing on creating inclusive workplaces and attracting candidates from diverse backgrounds. Social media and online platforms have also transformed the way organizations engage with potential candidates, necessitating a social media presence and employer branding efforts.

M - Market Factors:

Market factors such as economic conditions, labor market demand and supply, and competition for talent shape recruitment and selection strategies. During periods of high unemployment, organizations may receive more applicants, enabling them to be more selective. Conversely, in a tight labor market with high demand for certain skills, organizations may need to implement proactive sourcing strategies, competitive compensation packages, and streamlined selection processes to attract and retain top talent. Understanding market dynamics is crucial for effective recruitment and selection decision-making.

A PRISM analysis of recruitment and selection highlights the multifaceted nature of these processes. Political, regulatory, industry, social, and market factors all influence how organizations approach attracting and selecting candidates. By considering these factors, organizations can develop robust recruitment and selection strategies that align with legal requirements, industry trends, societal expectations, and market conditions. Understanding the interplay of these factors is essential for organizations to effectively acquire and retain the right talent for their workforce.

Conclusion:

Recruitment and selection are critical processes in human resource management that significantly impact an organization's ability to attract and retain top talent. Effective recruitment and selection strategies ensure that organizations find candidates with the necessary skills, qualifications, and cultural fit to contribute to the organization's success.

This paper has explored various aspects of recruitment and selection, including the importance of these processes, their evolution due to technological advancements, and the influence of factors such as political, regulatory, industry, social, and market dynamics. By considering these factors, organizations can develop robust strategies to attract diverse candidates, comply with legal requirements, and adapt to changing labor market conditions. Furthermore, effective recruitment and selection practices have a positive impact on organizational performance and employee outcomes. They lead to reduced turnover rates, improved employee engagement and satisfaction, enhanced productivity, and a more diverse and inclusive workforce. Organizations that invest in optimizing their recruitment and selection processes gain a competitive advantage by securing the right talent and building a strong employer brand.

In conclusion, recruitment and selection are ongoing processes that require continuous evaluation and improvement. Organizations must stay abreast of industry trends, legal requirements, and societal expectations to ensure their strategies align with the changing dynamics of the labor market. By implementing effective recruitment and selection practices, organizations can position themselves for long-term success in attracting and selecting the best talent.

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Media Conglomerates and the Influence of Ted Turner and Rupert Murdoch: A Comparative Analysis

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Abstract

This research explores the impact of media conglomerates and the roles of two prominent media moguls, Ted Turner and Rupert Murdoch, in shaping the media landscape. It examines the consolidation of ownership, control over content, economic influence, and the effects on media diversity and democratic discourse. The study also delves into the contributions of Ted Turner, including the establishment of CNN and his philanthropic endeavors, as well as Rupert Murdoch's creation of News Corporation and his influence in the global media industry. The research combines a qualitative analysis of historical information, case studies, and public opinion to provide a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter.

Keywords: Media conglomerates, media consolidation, media diversity, democratic discourse, Ted Turner, Rupert Murdoch, CNN, News Corporation, media ownership, media influence, media moguls, media landscape, media industry, media ethics, media pluralism, media control.

Introduction: Media conglomerates refer to large corporations that own and control multiple media outlets, such as television networks, film studios, publishing companies, radio stations, and digital platforms. These conglomerates often have diverse holdings across different sectors of the media industry. Monopolies, on the other hand, refer to situations where a single company dominates a particular market or industry, exerting significant control over the production, distribution, and consumption of media content. Media conglomerates and monopolies have become increasingly prevalent in the media industry, raising concerns about their impact on media diversity, plurality, and democratic discourse.

Here are some key points regarding media conglomerates and monopolies:

Consolidation of Ownership: Media conglomerates result from the consolidation of ownership, where a few large corporations acquire and merge with smaller media companies. This consolidation reduces the number of independent media voices and can lead to a concentration of power in the hands of a few corporate entities.

Control over Content: Media conglomerates exercise considerable control over the content produced and distributed through their various outlets. They have the ability to shape public opinion, set the agenda, and influence cultural narratives by determining which stories are covered, how they are presented, and what perspectives are included or excluded.

Economic Influence: Media conglomerates often have significant economic power, allowing them to negotiate favorable deals with advertisers, content creators, and distribution platforms. Their financial strength can give them a competitive advantage and make it challenging for smaller media players to enter the market or compete effectively.

Impact on Media Diversity: The dominance of media conglomerates can lead to a homogenization of content and a reduction in media diversity. Smaller, independent voices may struggle to gain exposure and reach audiences, limiting the variety of perspectives and opinions available to the public.

Gatekeeping and Bias: Media conglomerates may exercise gatekeeping power by controlling access to information and shaping public discourse. They may prioritize certain stories, viewpoints, or interests over others, potentially leading to biased reporting and limiting the public's exposure to a wide range of perspectives.

Potential for Monopoly Power: In some cases, media conglomerates may acquire such a dominant position in the market that they effectively function as monopolies. This can stifle competition, hinder innovation, and limit consumer choice.

Regulatory Challenges: Regulating media conglomerates and monopolies can be complex, as governments must balance concerns related to competition, free speech, and the public interest. Some jurisdictions have implemented regulations to promote media diversity and prevent excessive consolidation of ownership. The impact of media conglomerates and monopolies on society, media pluralism, and democratic discourse is a topic of ongoing debate. Critics argue that they can undermine journalistic independence, limit diverse viewpoints, and consolidate media power in the hands of a few. Proponents, on the other hand, may highlight potential economies of scale, technological advancements, and increased investment in content production that can result from consolidation. Balancing the need for media plurality, diversity, and competition with concerns about concentration of power is a significant challenge for policymakers, media professionals, and consumers alike.

Research Methodology:

This research adopts a qualitative research methodology that includes a literature review and analysis of historical data, case studies, and public opinion. The literature review focuses on academic publications, industry reports, and news articles to gather information on media conglomerates, their impact on media diversity and democratic discourse, and the contributions of Ted Turner and Rupert Murdoch.

Case studies are utilized to examine specific instances and controversies related to the media empires of Turner and Murdoch. Public opinion is analyzed through surveys and public discourse to gauge the perceptions and attitudes towards media consolidation and the influence of these media moguls. The findings are synthesized to provide a comprehensive understanding of the topic.

Ted Turner, born Robert Edward Turner III on November 19, 1938, is an American media mogul, entrepreneur, philanthropist, and environmentalist. He is best known as the founder of CNN (Cable News Network), the first 24-hour news channel, which revolutionized the media landscape.

Here are some key points about Ted Turner's career and contributions:

CNN and Media Empire: In 1980, Ted Turner launched CNN, a cable news network that provided continuous news coverage and quickly became a global leader in the industry. CNN changed the way news was delivered and had a significant impact on the media landscape. Turner went on to expand his media empire, acquiring other television networks, including TBS (Turner Broadcasting System) and TNT (Turner Network Television).

Turner Broadcasting System: Turner created the Turner Broadcasting System (TBS) in 1970, initially as a regional television station in Atlanta, Georgia. Under his leadership, TBS grew into a major media company, encompassing several television channels, including CNN, TBS, TNT, Cartoon Network, and more.

Philanthropy and Environmentalism: Turner is known for his philanthropic endeavors and commitment to environmental causes. In 1997, he created the Turner Foundation, which supports initiatives in environmental conservation, population control, and other areas. He has made significant donations to organizations such as the United Nations Foundation and has been involved in initiatives to combat climate change and promote renewable energy.

Sports Ownership: Turner also had ownership interests in professional sports teams. He owned the Atlanta Braves, a Major League Baseball team, and the Atlanta Hawks, a National Basketball Association (NBA) team, during different periods.

Impact on Media and Broadcasting: Ted Turner's contributions to the media industry are widely recognized. He played a pivotal role in the development of cable television and helped shape the modern news landscape. His vision for CNN as a 24-hour news channel transformed the way news was reported, making it more accessible and immediate.

Awards and Recognitions: Turner has received numerous awards and honors for his achievements. These include the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award in the United States, and the Bower Award for Business Leadership from the Franklin Institute.

Ted Turner's impact on the media industry, his philanthropic efforts, and his role as a business leader have left a lasting legacy. He was instrumental in changing the way news is delivered, and his contributions continue to shape the media landscape to this day.

Rupert Murdoch: Rupert Murdoch, born on March 11, 1931, is an Australian-born media magnate and businessman. He is the founder and executive chairman of News Corporation, a global media conglomerate that owns and operates numerous news outlets, television networks, publishing companies, and digital platforms.

Here are some key points about Rupert Murdoch's career and contributions:

News Corporation: Rupert Murdoch founded News Corporation in 1979, initially as a holding company for his media assets. News Corporation expanded rapidly through acquisitions and mergers, becoming one of the largest media companies in the world. It includes notable properties such as Fox News, The Wall Street Journal, HarperCollins Publishers, and 20th Century Fox.

Influence in the Media Industry: Murdoch's media empire has had a significant impact on the media landscape, particularly in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia. His holdings include television networks, newspapers, publishing houses, film studios, and digital platforms, giving him substantial influence over the dissemination of news and entertainment.

Conservative and Tabloid Media: Murdoch is known for his ownership of conservative-leaning media outlets and tabloid publications. Fox News, a prominent cable news network owned by Murdoch's company, is known for its conservative commentary and programming. In the United Kingdom, he owned The Sun and The Times newspapers, both of which have a significant readership and influence.

Global Expansion: Murdoch's media empire expanded globally through acquisitions and strategic partnerships. News Corporation has operations in multiple countries and reaches audiences around the world. Murdoch's influence in the media industry extends beyond individual markets, shaping public discourse and political narratives on a global scale.

Controversies and Criticisms: Murdoch and his media holdings have faced controversies and criticisms over the years. These include allegations of biased reporting, political influence, unethical practices, and breaches of privacy. The phone hacking scandal involving the now-defunct News of the World newspaper in the UK drew significant scrutiny and led to legal consequences.

Business Acumen and Entrepreneurship: Murdoch is widely recognized for his business acumen and entrepreneurial spirit. He built News Corporation from a small newspaper company into a global media powerhouse, demonstrating a keen ability to identify opportunities, take risks, and adapt to changing market dynamics.

Succession and Family Involvement: Murdoch's family has been involved in his media empire, with his children holding key positions within the company at various times. However, the succession and leadership transition within the Murdoch family have also been subject to public attention and scrutiny.

Rupert Murdoch's influence on the media industry and his ability to shape public opinion through his media holdings have made him a controversial and influential figure. His entrepreneurial achievements and the vast reach of his media empire have cemented his status as one of the most influential media moguls of our time.

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Trade Shows and Exhibitions: Catalysts for Business Interaction and Effective Marketing

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Abstract: This article explores the significance of trade shows and exhibitions as powerful platforms for businesses to engage with customers and promote their products and services. It discusses the various types of trade shows, their economic impact on host cities, and the evolving perception of trade shows as an integral part of the marketing mix. The article also emphasizes the effectiveness of trade shows in lead generation, hands-on product demonstrations, and the use of traditional and digital marketing strategies to maximize their impact.

Keywords: trade shows, exhibitions, business interaction, marketing, economic impact, lead generation, product demonstrations, marketing strategies

Introduction -

Trade shows and exhibits are made to bring people together who share a common interest in business or activity in order to examine, showcase, market, and sell materials and items relating to that interest. We shall talk about what trade shows and exhibitions revolve around. We'll look at the various participants and their functions at trade events. The administration and marketing facets of the trade shows are also covered in the unit. The Unit also touches on the economic ramifications of this and how the trade show sector would be impacted by globalization.

What is the purpose of Trade Fairs -

A trade show's main goal is to offer a forum for information sharing between businesses and prospective customers. Trade shows are increasingly being acknowledged as a key component of a company's marketing mix. Both the exhibitors and the spectators of trade shows get to see the state-of-the-art for a certain industry. Exhibitors can compare their items to those of their rivals as well as sell or advertise their goods. Similar to this, visitors can carefully inspect the goods to get the greatest value. For instance, the National Restaurant Association's annual convention in the United States Along with attendees and delegates, it also draws producers and sellers of goods that the former find particularly interesting.

To interact, sell, buy or promote the products. H.N. Tongren and J.P. Thompson (1981) identified three types of tradeshows on the basis of this purposes:

- 1) Industrial shows that are used by manufacturers to exhibit their products; demonstrating new products; educating the buyers about their products; etc.
- 2) Trade shows where sellers contact all types of buyers who are members of the trade.

3) Professional or Scientific Exhibitions which are usually adjunct to the meetings of specialized organizations.

All these may or may not be open to the general public at large but will cater to all those who have a specific and demonstrative relationship to the event as either a member of the industry, trade association or professional society (Ruthford, 1994). In fact, exhibit presentations at the large scale that are open to public in general are termed as consumer shows or exhibitions. These are hosted in public locations (like in New Delhi's Pragati Maidan) and need admission. They are concentrated on a particular theme, such as book fairs, trade shows for industrial items, textile exhibits, home appliance shows, etc. The vendors may participate on a variety of scales, including regional, national, or international. The timing can similarly be annual, every four years, etc.

Depending on the theme that may attract buyers which could be local, regional, national or international. For example, the international book fair organized by the Indian Trade Promotion Organization attracts four types of buyers mentioned above.

Besides buying and selling another purpose of organizing large expositions is social welfare. Many governments, in order to fulfill their social welfare commitments organize health shows, rural shows, etc. All the above categories of trade shows have direct linkages with tourism and in many cases are organized as tourist attractions, not just for international tourists but domestic tourists also. At some destinations they are scheduled in such manner that the tourist seasonality can be enhanced. Trade fairs and exhibitions are also ideal for introducing and testing new products thus allowing for feedback about the potential success of these products in the marketplace. These fairs, thus, not only serve as a part of the marketing mix but also act as a medium for research and development.

Economic impact of trade fairs -

Trade shows are a very successful business venture that also provides income for the event's sponsors. The sponsors can occasionally turn a significant profit. Trade fairs are not only profitable for the sponsoring company, but they also generate income for the host city and other associated businesses. For instance, the cost of renting a hall is the first component of a trade show's revenue, which also covers hiring the necessary personnel for setup and move-in. Carpenters, plumbers, electricians, florists, and drayage that is the transfer of exhibit properties from point of arrival to exhibit site, companies are usually hired from within the host city, thus increasing the employment opportunities within cities that host major trade shows. Exhibitors also have an economic impact through their use of hotels for hosting their clients and using restaurants to entertain potential customers. Delegates add to the revenue by renting rooms from local hotels as well as spending money in restaurants and shops. Any time an exhibitor or delegate simply buys a local newspaper, catches a cab, or picks up a toothbrush from a store, the Host City benefits. Overall, the economic impact tradeshow have on a community is very significant and underscores the reasons for cities becoming involved in trade fair industry.

It must be noted here that a variety of facilities and infrastructure is created for trade fairs and these require capital investments. If the facilities created thus remain under-utilized, a negative economic impact is also there. Hence, feasibility studies must also be conducted as regards repayment of capital investment through the income generated.

Marketing trade fairs and Exhibitions -

As the trade show industry becomes more sophisticated, those responsible for the marketing of products or services will start to recognize what the trade show industry already knows. In a 1990 report by the American Business Press, trade shows were ranked as the second most useful 30 advertising medium. The only medium perceived as more successful was specialized business publications. Traditionally, the trade show has been separate from the typical marketing mix. This is because executive decision-makers have not been educated on the marketing value of trade shows. Consequently, their lack of involvement has diluted credibility from the importance or trade shows as a marketing option. Due to the efforts of trade show associations, successful companies are starting to understand the importance of the trade show as a marketing tool. It is no more regarded just the social event it used to be. These companies are hiring and training exhibit managers who understand the importance of trade shows as a primary sales tool. A trade show specialist is a professional who is able to manage a booth that welcomes prospective buyers, qualifies those customers, and provides information about products and services sold.

A review of industry figures reveal the cost effectiveness of trade shows in relation to sales promotion. One of the most difficult aspects of marketing is the identification of new sales leads. It is very hard for a sales staff to devote a large portion of their time to identifying potential customers, especially when the sales force works on commission. A trade show brings prospective customers to you.

Conclusion: In conclusion, trade shows and exhibitions play a pivotal role in facilitating business interaction and effective marketing. They offer unique opportunities for businesses to showcase their products, generate leads, and foster customer relationships. The economic impact of trade fairs on host cities further enhances their significance.

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The State and Its Institutions: Exploring the Dynamics of Legislature, Executive, and Judiciary in Political Systems

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Abstract:

This research aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the state and its institutions, namely the legislature, executive, and judiciary, within the context of political science. It explores their roles, functions, and interrelationships in governing and administering the state. The study examines the separation of powers and the checks and balances inherent in democratic systems to prevent the concentration of authority. Additionally, it analyzes the relevance and significance of political science in understanding these institutions, informing policymaking, promoting democratic engagement, and analyzing global politics. The research methodology involves a comprehensive review of existing literature, scholarly articles, and relevant case studies to analyze the conceptual foundations and practical applications of these institutions. The study contributes to the existing body of knowledge in political science and offers insights into the complexities of state governance.

Keywords: state, institutions, legislature, executive, judiciary, political science, separation of powers, checks and balances, democratic governance, policymaking, democratic engagement, global politics.

Introduction: Political science is a social science discipline that focuses on the study of politics, governments, and political systems. It examines various aspects of political behavior, institutions, policies, and power dynamics within and among countries. Political scientists seek to understand and explain political phenomena, ranging from individual political behavior to the functioning of governments and international relations. The primary function of political science is to analyze and generate knowledge about political systems and processes. It aims to provide a systematic understanding of how political power is exercised, how governments are formed and function, how policies are made, and how political decisions affect individuals and societies. Political scientists employ various research methods, including quantitative analysis, qualitative research, and comparative studies, to study political phenomena and develop theories and models that help explain political behavior and outcomes.

Research Methodology: This research adopts a qualitative research methodology that involves a systematic review and analysis of existing literature, scholarly articles, case studies, and relevant sources. The primary data sources include academic journals, books, government reports, and reputable online databases

Analysis:

Political science is relevant for several reasons:

Understanding political processes: Political science helps us understand how political systems operate, how decisions are made, and how policies are formulated and implemented. It provides insights into the functioning of governments, electoral systems, legislatures, and bureaucracies.

Examining power dynamics: Political science analyzes power relationships within societies and between nations. It explores how different groups and individuals compete for and exercise political power, and how this power shapes social, economic, and cultural outcomes.

Informing policy and governance: Political science research can contribute to evidence-based policymaking and improve governance. By studying policy processes, political scientists can identify effective policy solutions and evaluate the impact of policies on various social and economic factors.

Promoting democracy and citizen engagement: Political science encourages an informed and engaged citizenry. It helps individuals understand their political rights, responsibilities, and the mechanisms through which they can participate in democratic processes. Political science also examines the challenges and prospects for democracy and provides insights into enhancing democratic practices.

International relations and global politics: Political science explores the interactions between different countries, international organizations, and non-state actors. It examines issues such as diplomacy, international conflict, cooperation, globalization, human rights, and international development.

In summary, political science plays a crucial role in understanding political phenomena, informing policymaking, promoting democratic engagement, and analyzing global politics. Its relevance lies in its ability to provide insights into the complexities of political systems and processes, contributing to informed decision-making and fostering more inclusive and effective governance.

The state is a political entity that exercises authority over a defined territory and its population. It typically has three primary institutions that perform distinct functions: the legislature, the executive, and the judiciary. These institutions work together to govern and administer the state.

Legislature: The legislature is the law-making body of the state. It is responsible for creating, debating, amending, and enacting laws. Legislatures can have different names such as parliament, congress, or assembly, depending on the country. The legislature is usually composed of elected representatives who represent the interests of the citizens. Its primary functions include passing legislation, scrutinizing the executive, and representing the public. The legislature plays a crucial role in ensuring checks and balances within the government and promoting democratic decision-making.

Executive: The executive is the branch of government responsible for implementing and enforcing laws. It is headed by the chief executive, such as a president, prime minister, or monarch, depending on the type of government. The executive branch carries out day-to-day governance, formulates policies, and manages the administration of the state. Its functions include executing laws, managing the economy, conducting foreign affairs, and overseeing the bureaucracy. The executive branch is accountable to the legislature and is subject to checks and balances to prevent the abuse of power.

Judiciary: The judiciary is the branch of government responsible for interpreting and applying laws and ensuring justice. It consists of courts and judges who are independent of the executive and legislative branches. The judiciary's primary role is to resolve disputes, protect individual rights and liberties, and uphold the rule of law. It adjudicates cases, interprets the constitution and laws, and safeguards the fundamental rights of citizens. The judiciary acts as a check on the other branches by ensuring their actions comply with legal principles and constitutional provisions.

The separation of powers between these institutions is a fundamental principle of democratic governance. It helps prevent the concentration of power in a single authority, ensuring a system of checks and balances. The legislature makes laws, the executive implements them, and the judiciary interprets and applies them impartially.

It's important to note that the specific structure and functions of these institutions may vary across different countries and political systems. For example, some countries have a parliamentary system where the executive branch is directly accountable to the legislature, while others have a presidential system where the executive is elected separately. The judiciary's independence and powers may also differ based on constitutional provisions and legal traditions. Indian democracy operates through a multi-tiered system that includes the Parliament, state legislatures, and local self-government bodies known as Panchayats and Municipalities. Here's an overview of how Indian democracy functions at each level:

Parliament: The Parliament of India is the supreme legislative body at the national level. It consists of two houses: the Lok Sabha (House of the People) and the Rajya Sabha (Council of States). The Lok Sabha has members elected through direct elections from constituencies across the country, while the Rajya Sabha members are elected by the members of the State Legislative Assemblies. The Parliament's primary functions include enacting laws, scrutinizing the executive, and representing the interests of the people. It debates and passes bills, discusses policies, and holds the government accountable through question hours, debates, and committee reviews.

State Legislatures:

India has legislatures at the state level as well. Each state has its own legislative assembly, akin to the Lok Sabha at the national level. The state legislatures enact laws that are within their jurisdiction, such as state-specific policies and regulations. The legislative assembly members are elected through direct elections by the people of their respective constituencies.

Local Self-Government: Panchayats and Municipalities:

India follows the principle of decentralization and provides for local self-government through Panchayats (at the village, block, and district levels) and Municipalities (at the urban level).

The Panchayati Raj system is responsible for rural local governance, and it comprises Gram Panchayats (village-level councils), Panchayat Samitis (block-level councils), and Zilla Parishads (district-level councils). Municipalities are responsible for urban areas and provide governance at the municipal corporation, municipal council, and nagar panchayat levels.

These local self-government bodies have elected representatives who make decisions on local issues, infrastructure development, public services, and other community-related matters.

In this multi-tiered democratic system, power is distributed among the central government, state governments, and local self-government bodies. The Parliament, state legislatures, and local self-government institutions work together to make laws, formulate policies, and address the needs and concerns of the citizens at different levels of governance.

Conclusion: It's important to note that the functioning and powers of these bodies are defined by the Constitution of India and relevant laws. The Election Commission of India conducts elections at all levels, ensuring a free and fair electoral process. The democratic framework allows for citizen participation, representation, and accountability, and it provides opportunities for citizens to engage with the governance process at various levels.

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Status of oyster mushroom production in Punjab

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Abstract

Oyster mushroom is the third largest cultivated mushroom and its various species are cultivated worldwide, especially in South East Asia, Europe, Africa and India. Its production in India is becoming popular in various states having temperate, tropical and subtropical climatic conditions. However, most of the oyster mushroom species grow well in temperature ranges of 20°C-32°C and are subtropical in nature. Most popular species of oyster mushroom are *Pleurotus sajor-caju*, *P. florida*, *P. flabellatus*, *P. ostreatus*. The great benefit of oyster mushroom production is that its production technology is simple and it can be easily raised at village level in small makeshift sheds. The present review describes the current status of oyster mushroom production in Punjab. Despite favorable agro-climatic conditions, abundant raw material, availability of low cost labor and fungal biodiversity there is a cold response in production of oyster mushrooms in Punjab. Currently, total mushroom production in India is 0.18 MT to which the contribution of Punjab is 12.75 tonnes. Punjab contributes 8.19 % to the national mushroom production and stands at fifth position in terms of mushroom production among various states. However, the share of oyster mushrooms is 16% of the total mushroom production in India. Out of the total oyster mushroom produced in India, Punjab alone produces 2000 metric ton oyster mushroom. In addition to this its production is highest in Odisha i.e. 6310 metric tons followed by Maharashtra and Tamilnadu with 2000 metric tons production.

Keywords: Mushroom, production, tonnes, Punjab, area

Introduction

Mushroom cultivation is referred to as one of the beneficial and eco friendly enterprises among various food resources of India. Mushrooms have engrossed mankind since centuries with their colorful and fleshy bodies. Mushrooms involve the bioconversion of cellulose wastes into edible biomass. There has been tremendous increase in production of mushrooms when cultivated in cropping rooms under controlled conditions. Oyster mushroom has occupied third position among various cultivated edible mushrooms worldwide due to their medicinal and nutritional values. These mushrooms are also known as wood fungus and in northern India they are sold under the local name 'Dhingri'. Oyster mushroom belongs to the order Basidiomycota and genus *Pleurotus*. This mushroom has a distinct shell, fan or spatula shaped cap, short or long central or lateral stipe and gills stretch from the edges of the cap down to the stalk.

Oyster mushrooms have fruiting bodies with different shades of pink, white, cream, blue, yellow, gray and black color depending upon the species. However, the color of sporophores is greatly influenced by the light intensity, temperature and various nutrients present in the substrate. It is lignocellulolytic fungi that generally grows naturally in the temperate and tropical forests on dead, decaying wood logs and on agricultural wastes more than species from any other group. Oyster mushroom species have unique flavor, aromatic properties and are a rich source of protein, fiber, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals (Cohn et.al. 2002).

Almost all species of *Pleurotus* mushrooms are edible and have high nutritional and culinary value. They can be cultivated over a wide range of agro-climatic conditions. *Pleurotus* spp. is considered as a very potential resource to convert agro waste substrates into protein rich food. These mushrooms have the unique capacity to retain vitamins, proteins and amino acids during canning, cooking and drying. Oyster mushroom is widely recognized for its nutritive value, palatability and curative value. These mushrooms contain lignocellulolytic enzymes, which help in conversion of cellulose and lignin into carbohydrates viz., glucose that can further be used as an energy source for fungi. It has been reported that oyster mushrooms are one of the most efficient lignocellulose solid state decomposing types of white rot fungi (Baysal et.al. 2003). Oyster mushroom is rich in vitamin C & B complex and has protein content between 1.6-2.5%. These mushrooms have 10 times high niacin content than that of any other vegetables. The folic acid present in oyster mushrooms helps in curing anemia. Due to its low sodium: potassium ratio, starch, fat and calorific value it is found to be suitable for people with hypertension, obesity and diabetes. However, presence of alkaline ash and high fiber content makes them suitable for those suffering from hyperacidity and constipation. These mushrooms are best known medicinally for their cholesterol-controlling and cardiovascular benefits. *Pleurotus* spp. is commercially important in the world mushroom market and its several species are grown commercially on small and large scale in many countries (Adebayo et.al. 2012.a.). South East Asia has been gaining importance for cultivation of *Pleurotus* spp. since the last two decades. In India, oyster mushroom production is becoming popular in almost all states of the country having favorable climatic conditions for its growth and its cultivation is largely adopted by the women of self help group in a small to large scale which constitute an important source of their income. The increase in yield of oyster mushrooms is probably due to adoption of their cultivation by many people in rural areas because of their cheap production technique, rapid mycelial growth and number of species for cultivation under different climatic conditions. Punjab's mushroom-growing regions are mostly Amritsar, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Patiala, and SAS Nagar. Amritsar and Gurdaspur are two of Punjab's primary mushroom-producing regions. It is a suitable ancillary activity for farming since wheat straw is inexpensive and easily accessible, communications are quick, markets are ready, individuals have more purchasing power, and the farming community is accepting. The present study of review work has shown the present status of oyster mushroom production in Punjab.

Review

In India, mushroom cultivation started in 1961, but its commercial cultivation started during 1968. Development of mushroom production started in 1962 in Himachal Pradesh in collaboration with Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). Though mushroom production was initiated in the early 60's in India, it was during the 90's that there was a sudden rise in its production due to the setup of Hi-tech projects in India in collaboration with foreign companies. This step further resulted in increased mushroom production from 4,000 tons in 1985 to 30,000 tons in 1995 and 38,000 tons in 1997. However, mushroom production in India in the year 2017 has been recorded to be 0.13 million ton. Out of the total mushroom produced white button mushroom share is 73% followed by oyster mushroom (16%), milky mushroom (3%) and paddy straw mushrooms (7%).

In India, per capita intake of mushrooms is low compared to other vegetables, with data showing that it is less than 100 grams annually. (Sharma et.al. 2017). India produces 1.3 lakh tons of mushroom every year and exports about 70% of it, this is 0.4% to the world mushroom production. Compared to other vegetables per capita consumption of mushrooms in India has increased from 25g to 40g in the last 10 years (1996-2007), which is much less as compared to other countries including USA (1.49 kg) and China (1.16 kg). Around 15,000-20,000 metric tons of oyster mushroom production is estimated from India. Whereas, the production of paddy straw mushroom and milky mushroom is about 10,000 metric tons (Thakur et.al. 2014).

Over the past few years, mushroom production has skyrocketed, especially in India where oyster mushroom and paddy straw are produced. In 2010, the nation produced 1 tonnes of mushrooms, with button mushrooms making up 89 % of the total production, followed by oysters (6%), milky mushrooms (1%) and other mushrooms (4%) (Sharma et al., 2017). Once considered to be a leading producer of mushrooms in the country, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Tamilnadu have lost their position to Maharashtra and Odisha, which are emerging as leading states. As per APEDA agri exchange report Punjab stands at fifth position (18.50 Tonnes) in terms of all mushroom production after Odisha (22.50 tonnes), Maharashtra (22.0 tonnes), Bihar (21.33 tonnes) and Haryana (19.60 tonnes) during the year 2020-2021, which is estimated to fall to sixth position with share of 7.62 %. As per the latest statistics, Punjab is reported to be at 3rd position with the production of 2.55 tonnes during 2013-14 which further fell down to 4th position in the year 2018-2019 with 18.00 tonnes mushroom production (National Horticulture Board).

There is a low demand for mushroom growing in India, and there is little or no knowledge of its use and health benefits. In terms of popularity and use, *Pleurotus ostreatus* mushroom cultivation originates high in India, followed by *Agaricus bisporus* mushroom culture (Khatun et al., 2012). Oyster mushrooms make up 16% of the total production, totaling 10,000 tons per year.

According to the Directorate of Mushroom Research (ICAR) Solan (2011), it is widely distributed in the provinces of Orissa, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, and the northeastern states of Meghalaya, Tripura Manipur, Mizoram, and Assam, however Punjab is somewhere lagging behind in its production, irrespective of the fact that there is abundance of raw material present for the growth of oyster mushrooms.

In addition to being an important part of the diet, mushrooms can greatly enhance food security and the economic well-being of those living in rural and peri-urban areas. The current state of mushroom production in India is very good, with an expected volume increase of 50,000 tons and a full growth of 5 to 6 tons (Verma, 2002), however the contribution of Punjab to this share is decreasing year by year. India has many genetic sources of edible mushrooms, which must be stored and used to ensure continuous production. In addition, the diverse climate of India in its various regions makes it easy to grow a variety of mushrooms (Sharma et al., 2017). In a novel effort to prevent malnutrition, Punjab's horticulture department has developed a programme called "Apni bagichi te ghar ghar khumba" (Own kitchen garden and mushrooms at every home), which provides free instruction in mushroom cultivation for both personal consumption and business objectives. Working together or in partnership with local agroindustries, colleges, or retailers can help reduce the risk of successfully growing mushrooms for commercial purposes (Thakur et al., 2014).

Conclusion

Recent years have seen a sharp increase in the market size, demand, and advantageous effects of the worldwide mushroom business. With a cultivated area of 4.37% and a wide variety of agro-climatic conditions, India is primarily an agricultural nation and produces 620 million tonnes of agricultural waste every year. Cultivating mushrooms not only benefits in the recycling of agricultural waste, but it also helps India's enormous population meet a nutritional deficiency. The increasing population and decreasing land size throughout the world is a serious problem to meet the present food demand. The problem is the same in Punjab. Therefore, it's becoming a major problem for agriculture alone to provide sufficient support to the ever growing population. Mushroom production can help in meeting the present food demand of the population to some extent. Mushroom farming also acts as a secondary source of income for millions of rural families and helps them generate income opportunities to rural masses. There has been a significant increase in the production of mushrooms in the last few years in Punjab but its position is decreasing year by year, this is probably due to the increase in number of growers and area under mushroom production in other states. Despite favorable agro-climatic conditions and rich fungal diversity for the growth of mushrooms, Punjab has received a lukewarm response in its production as compared to its competitor states.

Irrespective of the fact that oyster mushrooms require low investment, low labor intensive, low risk and moderate profit enterprise, its production is quite low in Punjab as most of the growers in Punjab are confined to button mushroom and only some are engaged in oyster and other mushroom production. This is probably due to lack of awareness among growers, high production cost, non availability of resources and proper market, mushroom has not gained much importance in the markets of Punjab. Therefore appropriate steps must be taken to attract more and more peoples toward mushroom cultivation in order to increase the production of mushroom in Punjab.

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Digital Marketing Implications in company

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Abstract:

This abstract explores the implications of digital marketing in companies and its impact on various aspects of business operations. The rapid advancement of technology and the proliferation of digital platforms have compelled companies to incorporate digital marketing strategies into their overall marketing efforts. This abstract highlights the key implications of digital marketing, including enhanced targeting and personalization, improved customer insights, increased brand visibility, expanded reach and accessibility, and measurable return on investment (ROI). Furthermore, it acknowledges the challenges that organizations may encounter in implementing digital marketing strategies, such as data privacy concerns, evolving consumer behaviors, and the need for continuous adaptation to emerging technologies. The abstract concludes by emphasizing the significance of digital marketing as an essential component of companies' marketing strategies, enabling them to remain competitive in today's dynamic business landscape.

Keywords: digital marketing, implications, companies, technology, digital platforms, targeting, personalization, customer insights, brand visibility, reach, accessibility, ROI, data privacy, consumer behaviors, emerging technologies, competitive advantage.

Introduction:

Digital marketing has revolutionized the way companies connect with their target audience and promote their products or services. With the advent of technology and the widespread use of digital platforms, businesses have had to adapt their marketing strategies to keep up with the evolving consumer landscape. This introduction provides an overview of the implications of digital marketing in companies, highlighting its transformative effects on various aspects of business operations. In today's digitally driven world, companies recognize the need to establish a strong online presence to effectively reach and engage their target market. Digital marketing encompasses a wide range of strategies, including search engine optimization (SEO), social media marketing, email marketing, content marketing, and paid advertising. These techniques enable companies to connect with their audience through multiple channels and tailor their marketing messages to individual preferences and interests. One of the key implications of digital marketing is the enhanced ability to target and personalize marketing efforts. Through data analysis and tracking tools, companies can gather valuable insights about their customers, such as their demographics, behaviors, and preferences.

This data allows businesses to segment their audience and create personalized marketing campaigns that resonate with specific customer segments, ultimately increasing the effectiveness of their marketing efforts. Additionally, digital marketing provides companies with improved customer insights. By leveraging analytics and monitoring tools, businesses can gain valuable information about customer behavior, preferences, and purchasing patterns. This data enables companies to make data-driven decisions and refine their marketing strategies to better meet customer needs and expectations. Furthermore, digital marketing offers companies increased brand visibility and exposure. With the proliferation of digital platforms and social media, businesses have the opportunity to reach a global audience and expand their brand presence.

Through social media platforms, companies can engage with customers directly, build brand loyalty, and foster meaningful relationships. Additionally, digital advertising allows businesses to target specific audiences and showcase their products or services to a larger, more diverse customer base. Another significant implication of digital marketing is the expanded reach and accessibility it provides for companies. Unlike traditional marketing methods, digital marketing allows businesses to connect with customers around the clock, irrespective of geographical boundaries. Through websites, mobile applications, and online marketplaces, companies can reach potential customers anytime and anywhere, providing convenience and accessibility that traditional marketing channels cannot match. Moreover, digital marketing enables companies to measure the return on investment (ROI) of their marketing efforts more effectively. Through various analytics tools, businesses can track key performance indicators (KPIs) such as website traffic, conversions, and customer engagement. This data allows companies to evaluate the success of their marketing campaigns, make data-driven adjustments, and allocate resources more efficiently. However, implementing digital marketing strategies comes with its own set of challenges. Data privacy concerns, evolving consumer behaviors, and the need to adapt to emerging technologies are just a few of the obstacles companies must navigate. It is crucial for businesses to develop a comprehensive digital marketing strategy that addresses these challenges and leverages the opportunities digital marketing presents.

PRISM Analysis:

P - Political:

Digital marketing in companies is subject to political factors that influence the regulatory environment. Governments around the world are enacting laws and regulations regarding data privacy, consumer protection, and online advertising. Companies must comply with these regulations to ensure the lawful collection, storage, and use of customer data. Political instability or changes in government policies can also impact the digital marketing landscape, potentially affecting advertising regulations or the availability of digital platforms for marketing purposes.

R - Regulatory:

The regulatory landscape surrounding digital marketing is constantly evolving. Companies must adhere to various regulations, such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in the European Union, the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) in the United States, and similar laws in different regions. Compliance with these regulations requires companies to implement robust data protection measures, obtain consent for data collection, and provide transparent information about data usage. Failure to comply with regulatory requirements can result in fines, legal consequences, and reputational damage.

I - Intellectual Property:

Digital marketing in companies involves creating and disseminating content, which can raise intellectual property concerns. Protecting trademarks, copyrights, and patents is crucial to prevent unauthorized use of company assets. Companies need to ensure that their digital marketing campaigns do not infringe on the intellectual property rights of others. Additionally, they must monitor and respond to instances of intellectual property infringement or online counterfeiting to safeguard their brand reputation and maintain customer trust.

S - Social:

Digital marketing has significant social implications for companies. Social media platforms, online communities, and review websites provide opportunities for customers to share their opinions, experiences, and feedback about a company's products or services. Companies must actively engage with customers, respond to their comments, address concerns, and leverage positive feedback to enhance their brand reputation. Social media also presents challenges in managing online reputation, dealing with negative reviews, and maintaining a consistent brand image across various social channels.

M - Market:

Digital marketing has transformed the market landscape for companies. It provides businesses with new avenues to reach and engage their target audience, both locally and globally. Digital platforms allow companies to conduct market research, analyze consumer behavior, and gather insights to inform their marketing strategies. Companies can leverage data-driven marketing techniques to segment their audience, personalize their messaging, and deliver targeted campaigns. The digital market also offers opportunities for smaller companies to compete with larger ones on a more level playing field, as online advertising can be more cost-effective and accessible.

Overall, the PRISM analysis highlights the multifaceted implications of digital marketing in companies. Political and regulatory factors influence the legal framework and data privacy requirements. Intellectual property concerns arise from content creation and protection. Social implications revolve around managing online reputation and customer engagement.

Lastly, the market impact showcases the transformative power of digital marketing in reaching and engaging target audiences while enabling data-driven strategies.

Conclusion:

Digital marketing has brought about significant implications for companies in today's business landscape. It has revolutionized the way businesses connect with their target audience, promote their products or services, and drive overall organizational success. The adoption of digital marketing strategies enables companies to enhance targeting and personalization, gain improved customer insights, increase brand visibility, expand reach and accessibility, and achieve measurable return on investment (ROI). However, companies also face challenges such as data privacy concerns, evolving consumer behaviors, and the need to continuously adapt to emerging technologies. To stay competitive, it is crucial for companies to embrace digital marketing as an integral part of their overall marketing strategies. By leveraging the power of digital platforms, companies can effectively engage with their audience, build strong brand presence, and drive business growth. Adhering to regulatory requirements and implementing robust data protection measures are essential for maintaining consumer trust and avoiding legal consequences. Furthermore, companies must actively monitor and respond to customer feedback, manage online reputation, and leverage data analytics to refine their marketing strategies. The implications of digital marketing are far-reaching and continue to evolve as technology advances. Embracing these implications and leveraging digital marketing strategies allows companies to adapt to changing consumer behaviors, reach a global audience, and gain a competitive edge in today's dynamic business environment.

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A comparative study on recruitment process of public and private sector

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Abstract:

This study aims to conduct a comparative analysis of the recruitment processes employed by public and private sectors. The recruitment process plays a critical role in identifying and attracting suitable candidates for job positions, ensuring organizational effectiveness and efficiency. By examining the similarities and differences between public and private sector recruitment practices, this study seeks to provide valuable insights into the factors influencing recruitment strategies in these sectors. The research methodology involves a comprehensive review of existing literature, data collection through surveys and interviews, and analysis of recruitment policies and practices in both sectors. The study's findings will contribute to a better understanding of the strengths, weaknesses, and potential areas for improvement in public and private sector recruitment, ultimately facilitating evidence-based decision-making for organizations and policymakers.

Keywords: comparative study, recruitment process, public sector, private sector, organizational effectiveness, recruitment strategies, literature review, data collection, survey, interview, recruitment policies, strengths, weaknesses, improvement, evidence-based decision-making, organizations, policymakers.

Introduction:

Recruitment is a crucial process in any organization as it involves attracting, evaluating, and selecting qualified individuals to fill job positions. The effectiveness of the recruitment process directly impacts an organization's ability to acquire top talent and maintain a competitive advantage. However, the recruitment practices employed by public and private sectors often differ due to their distinct organizational structures, goals, and regulations. A comparative study of the recruitment processes in these sectors can provide valuable insights into the similarities, differences, strengths, and weaknesses of their approaches. The public sector encompasses government agencies, civil services, and other publicly funded organizations, while the private sector includes businesses operating for profit. Both sectors face unique challenges and requirements when it comes to recruiting suitable candidates. The public sector often operates under specific regulations and policies, such as affirmative action, that aim to promote diversity and ensure fair representation. On the other hand, the private sector is driven by market demands and focuses on attracting candidates who possess the necessary skills and qualifications to contribute to the organization's growth and success.

Understanding the similarities and differences between the recruitment practices of public and private sectors can offer valuable insights to organizations and policymakers alike. By examining these processes, organizations can gain a better understanding of the best practices employed by their counterparts in the other sector. Policymakers can also benefit from such a study to identify potential areas of improvement in their respective sectors and develop evidence-based policies to enhance the recruitment process.

PRISM Analysis:

Politics:

The recruitment process in both public and private sectors can be influenced by political factors. In the public sector, political considerations such as diversity, representation, and affirmative action policies often play a significant role in shaping recruitment strategies. Political pressures and changes in government priorities can also impact the recruitment process in the public sector. In the private sector, political factors may be less pronounced, but they can still influence recruitment practices indirectly through government regulations and policies that affect hiring practices.

Regulations:

Both public and private sectors operate under different regulatory frameworks that shape their recruitment processes. The public sector is subject to specific laws, policies, and regulations designed to ensure fairness, transparency, and equal opportunity in the recruitment of candidates. These regulations may include rules related to affirmative action, civil service examinations, and selection criteria. In the private sector, recruitment practices are guided by labor laws, equal employment opportunity regulations, and industry-specific standards.

Individuals:

Recruitment processes in both sectors aim to attract and evaluate individuals who possess the necessary qualifications and skills for the job. However, the criteria for evaluating candidates may vary between the public and private sectors. In the public sector, the emphasis may be on evaluating candidates based on their educational qualifications, experience, and aptitude for public service. In the private sector, the focus may be more on skills, competencies, and alignment with organizational culture and goals.

Structure:

The organizational structure of public and private sectors can significantly influence their recruitment processes. Public sector organizations often have established hierarchies, civil service systems, and standardized procedures for recruitment. In contrast, private sector organizations may have more flexibility in their recruitment processes, allowing for faster decision-making and adaptability to market demands.

Market:

Recruitment practices in the private sector are heavily influenced by market dynamics. The demand for specific skills, talent shortages, and competition among companies drive the recruitment strategies in the private sector. Private sector organizations often employ various methods, such as employer branding, campus recruitment, and targeted sourcing, to attract the best candidates in a competitive market. In the public sector, while there may be a focus on attracting talented individuals, market forces play a less direct role in recruitment decisions.

Overall, conducting a comparative study on the recruitment processes of public and private sectors involves analyzing the political, regulatory, individual, structural, and market factors that shape their approaches.

Understanding these factors can provide valuable insights into the similarities, differences, strengths, and weaknesses of recruitment practices in both sectors, enabling organizations and policymakers to make informed decisions and improve their recruitment strategies.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, this comparative study has shed light on the recruitment processes employed in the public and private sectors. Through an examination of the political, regulatory, individual, structural, and market factors that shape recruitment strategies, we have identified both similarities and differences between the two sectors. The public sector places a significant emphasis on fairness, diversity, and equal opportunity in its recruitment processes, guided by specific regulations and policies such as affirmative action. On the other hand, the private sector focuses more on skills, competencies, and alignment with organizational goals, driven by market dynamics and competition. This study has highlighted the importance of understanding these factors in designing effective recruitment strategies. Organizations in both sectors can benefit from adopting best practices from their counterparts. Public sector organizations can incorporate elements of agility and efficiency seen in the private sector, while private sector organizations can adopt principles of fairness, transparency, and diversity from the public sector. Policymakers can also use the findings of this study to inform evidence-based decision-making, identifying areas for improvement in recruitment processes and developing policies that support both sectors in attracting and selecting the right talent. Further research can explore specific aspects of the recruitment process in greater depth, such as the impact of technology and digitalization, the role of employer branding, or the effectiveness of different selection methods. Such studies can contribute to continuous improvement in recruitment practices across both sectors.

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Performance Appraisal: A Comprehensive Analysis and Recommendations

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Abstract:

This book chapter provides a detailed exploration of performance appraisal, examining its significance in organizations and its impact on employee performance and organizational success. Through an abstract, introduction, literature review, objectives, research methodology, data analysis, data interpretation, suggestions, conclusion, and references, this chapter aims to enhance understanding of performance appraisal practices and propose recommendations for improving the process.

Introduction:

The introduction section provides an overview of performance appraisal, highlighting its role in evaluating employee performance, identifying strengths and weaknesses, and facilitating professional growth. This section outlines the purpose and structure of the chapter, setting the stage for the subsequent sections.

Literature Review:

The literature review section examines existing theories, models, and empirical studies related to performance appraisal. It explores various appraisal methods, feedback mechanisms, and the impact of performance appraisal on employee motivation, job satisfaction, and organizational outcomes. The review establishes a theoretical foundation for the subsequent research and analysis.

Objectives:

This section outlines the specific objectives of the study. It aims to analyze the current practices and challenges of performance appraisal, examine the effectiveness of different appraisal methods, explore the role of feedback and goal-setting, and propose recommendations for enhancing the appraisal process.

Research Methodology:

The research methodology section describes the research design, data collection methods, and data sources used in the study. It explains the selection of participants, surveys, interviews, or other tools employed to gather data on performance appraisal practices. The section also outlines the analytical techniques employed to analyze the data.

Data Analysis:

This section presents the findings of the data analysis conducted on the collected data. It examines the current practices of performance appraisal, identifies common challenges faced by organizations, and evaluates the effectiveness of different appraisal methods. The analysis provides insights into the strengths and weaknesses of existing practices.

Data Interpretation:

Building upon the analysis presented in the previous section, this section offers a detailed interpretation of the data findings. It explores the implications of the results, identifies key themes and patterns, and provides insights into the factors influencing the success or failure of performance appraisal. This interpretation serves as the foundation for the suggestions and recommendations.

Suggestions:

Based on the research findings and data interpretation, this section provides practical suggestions and recommendations for improving the performance appraisal process. It proposes strategies for enhancing the objectivity, fairness, and effectiveness of appraisals, as well as improving feedback mechanisms and goal-setting practices.

Conclusion:

The conclusion section summarizes the key findings, implications, and contributions of the study. It provides a comprehensive understanding of performance appraisal and its importance in organizations. The section concludes with recommendations for future actions and highlights the potential benefits of implementing effective performance appraisal practices.

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Customer satisfaction

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Abstract:

Customer satisfaction is a critical factor for the success and growth of any business. It is an indicator of how well a company meets or exceeds customer expectations and delivers value through its products or services. In today's competitive marketplace, where consumers have numerous options and readily available information, understanding and enhancing customer satisfaction has become paramount. This abstract provides an overview of the concept of customer satisfaction, its significance, and the factors influencing it. It also explores the benefits of a satisfied customer base and highlights the potential consequences of failing to meet customer expectations. Additionally, the abstract discusses strategies and approaches that organizations can adopt to improve customer satisfaction, such as delivering high-quality products, providing exceptional customer service, and actively seeking feedback from customers. Furthermore, the abstract examines the role of technology in shaping customer satisfaction, with the rise of online reviews, social media, and other digital platforms amplifying the influence of customer opinions. It emphasizes the importance of leveraging these technological advancements to engage with customers, respond to their needs, and build long-term relationships. Lastly, the abstract acknowledges that customer satisfaction is a dynamic and evolving concept, requiring ongoing efforts to stay attuned to changing customer preferences and market trends. It emphasizes the need for businesses to develop a customer-centric mindset, foster a culture of continuous improvement, and prioritize customer satisfaction as a strategic objective to thrive in today's competitive landscape. Overall, this abstract highlights the importance of customer satisfaction in driving business success, provides insights into key factors and strategies for enhancing customer satisfaction, and emphasizes the role of technology in shaping customer experiences. By prioritizing customer satisfaction, businesses can cultivate loyalty, gain a competitive edge, and achieve sustainable growth in an ever-changing marketplace.

Keywords: customer satisfaction, business success, customer expectations, value delivery, competitive marketplace, consumer options, information availability, customer-centric, high-quality products, exceptional customer service, feedback, online reviews, social media, digital platforms, customer opinions, technology, long-term relationships, changing customer preferences, market trends, continuous improvement, loyalty, competitive edge, sustainable growth.

Introduction:

Customer satisfaction is a vital element in the success of any business. It refers to the degree to which customers are pleased with the products, services, and overall experience provided by a company. In today's highly competitive marketplace, where consumers have numerous options and alternatives, satisfying customers has become more critical than ever before. It is not enough for businesses to simply attract new customers; they must also strive to retain existing ones by consistently meeting or exceeding their expectations.

The significance of customer satisfaction cannot be overstated. Satisfied customers are more likely to become loyal patrons, repeat buyers, and enthusiastic brand advocates. They not only continue to support a company but also recommend it to their friends, family, and colleagues. On the other hand, dissatisfied customers can have a detrimental impact on a business by spreading negative word-of-mouth, writing unfavorable reviews, and even switching to competitors.

To effectively manage and improve customer satisfaction, companies must prioritize understanding their customers' needs, preferences, and pain points. This requires collecting and analyzing feedback through various channels, such as surveys, reviews, social media, and direct interactions. By actively listening to their customers, businesses can identify areas for improvement, make informed decisions, and tailor their products and services to better meet customer expectations. Furthermore, customer satisfaction is closely linked to overall business performance and profitability. Studies have consistently shown a positive correlation between customer satisfaction and financial success. Satisfied customers tend to spend more, exhibit higher levels of loyalty, and contribute to increased revenue and profitability. Conversely, dissatisfied customers can lead to lost sales, decreased revenue, and additional costs associated with resolving complaints and mitigating damage to the company's reputation.

In this era of digital connectivity and social media influence, customer satisfaction has gained even more significance. With just a few clicks, customers can voice their opinions and experiences to a wide audience, making their satisfaction or dissatisfaction public knowledge. Therefore, businesses must prioritize delivering exceptional customer experiences that not only meet but exceed expectations, in order to create a positive brand image and foster long-term customer relationships.

PRISM Analysis:

People:

Customers: Understanding the needs, preferences, and expectations of customers is crucial for achieving customer satisfaction. By conducting market research, surveys, and customer feedback analysis, businesses can gain valuable insights into customer sentiments and tailor their products and services accordingly.

Employees: Engaged and empowered employees play a significant role in delivering exceptional customer experiences. Organizations should invest in training programs, encourage a customer-centric mindset, and create a positive work environment to ensure employees are motivated to meet and exceed customer expectations.

Relationship: Customer-Company Interaction: Effective communication and interaction between the company and its customers are vital for customer satisfaction. Promptly addressing customer queries, concerns, and complaints through multiple channels (e.g., phone, email, social media) builds trust and fosters a positive relationship.

Customer-Customer Interaction: Facilitating platforms or forums for customers to share experiences, provide recommendations, and engage with each other creates a sense of community. Positive customer-to-customer interactions can enhance satisfaction and contribute to a positive brand image.

Innovation: Product and Service Improvement: Continuously innovating and improving products and services based on customer feedback and market trends is key to meeting evolving customer expectations. By offering new features, incorporating advanced technologies, and addressing pain points, businesses can differentiate them and enhance customer satisfaction.

Technological Advancements: Embracing technological advancements such as AI-driven chatbots, personalized recommendation engines, and seamless online experiences can streamline customer interactions and enhance overall satisfaction. Leveraging data analytics can help identify patterns and preferences to deliver customized experiences.

Strategy: Customer-Centric Approach: Embedding a customer-centric approach in the company's strategy is essential for achieving long-term customer satisfaction. Businesses should align their goals, processes, and decision-making with the aim of delivering value to customers and meeting their needs.

Continuous Improvement: Adopting a culture of continuous improvement ensures that customer satisfaction remains a priority. Regularly measuring customer satisfaction metrics, analyzing feedback, and implementing actionable changes based on insights help in staying responsive to customer needs.

Metrics: Customer Satisfaction Surveys: Regularly conducting customer satisfaction surveys using standardized metrics (e.g., Net Promoter Score, Customer Satisfaction Index) allow businesses to track satisfaction levels over time and identify areas for improvement.

Customer Retention: Tracking customer retention rates and analyzing reasons for churn provides valuable insights into the effectiveness of customer satisfaction initiatives. High retention rates indicate satisfied customers who are more likely to become loyal advocates for the brand.

Conclusion:

Customer satisfaction is a fundamental aspect of business success. It serves as a barometer of how well a company meets or exceeds customer expectations, delivers value, and builds strong relationships. In today's competitive marketplace, understanding and enhancing customer satisfaction is imperative for organizations to thrive. By prioritizing customer satisfaction, businesses can cultivate loyalty, gain a competitive edge, and achieve sustainable growth. Investing in understanding customer needs, preferences, and expectations through market research and feedback analysis enables companies to tailor their offerings accordingly. Additionally, fostering a customer-centric culture and empowering employees to deliver exceptional customer service enhances the overall customer experience. Technological advancements, such as online reviews, social media, and personalized recommendations, have amplified the impact of customer opinions and interactions. Leveraging these advancements allows businesses to engage with customers, respond to their needs, and build long-term relationships. Continuous improvement and innovation are vital in the pursuit of customer satisfaction. Companies must constantly evolve their products, services, and processes based on customer feedback and market trends. By embracing a culture of innovation and leveraging technology, businesses can stay ahead of the competition and exceed customer expectations.

Measuring customer satisfaction through surveys, retention rates, and other relevant metrics provides valuable insights for making data-driven decisions and identifying areas for improvement. Regularly monitoring satisfaction levels allows companies to track progress, implement necessary changes, and ensure ongoing customer satisfaction. In conclusion, customer satisfaction is a dynamic and multi-faceted concept that requires organizations to consistently prioritize the needs and preferences of their customers. By adopting a customer-centric approach, fostering positive relationships, driving innovation, aligning strategies, and measuring satisfaction, businesses can create a strong foundation for success in today's competitive landscape. Ultimately, customer satisfaction forms the cornerstone of a thriving business and paves the way for long-term growth and customer loyalty.

Ratio Analysis: A Comprehensive Study

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Abstract:

This book provides a comprehensive examination of ratio analysis as a financial analysis tool. It explores the significance of ratio analysis in evaluating the financial performance and stability of businesses across various industries. The book includes an in-depth literature review, highlighting key theories and methodologies related to ratio analysis. It outlines the objectives of the study, describes the research methodology employed, presents the data analysis and interpretation, offers practical suggestions for applying ratio analysis effectively, and concludes with key insights and recommendations. This book serves as a valuable resource for financial professionals, researchers, and students seeking a thorough understanding of ratio analysis and its applications.

Keywords: Ratio analysis, financial analysis, financial performance, financial stability, liquidity, solvency, profitability.

Introduction:

The introduction provides an overview of the importance of ratio analysis in financial decision-making and performance evaluation. It discusses the role of ratios in assessing a company's liquidity, solvency, profitability, and overall financial health. The introduction also highlights the relevance of ratio analysis in different sectors and explains the purpose and structure of the book.

Literature Review:

The literature review explores existing research, theories, and best practices related to ratio analysis. It covers seminal works on financial analysis and ratio interpretation, including studies that have examined the effectiveness and limitations of ratio analysis. The review also discusses various types of financial ratios, their calculations, and their significance in evaluating different aspects of a company's financial performance.

Objectives: The objectives of this study are:

1. To explore the theoretical foundations and concepts underlying ratio analysis.
2. To analyze the different categories of financial ratios and their relevance in assessing a company's liquidity, solvency, profitability, and efficiency.
3. To investigate the practical applications of ratio analysis in different industries and sectors.
4. To provide insights and guidelines for effectively interpreting and utilizing ratio analysis in financial decision-making.

Research Methodology:

This book adopts a mixed-methods research approach. It combines quantitative analysis of financial data with qualitative analysis of case studies and expert interviews. The quantitative analysis involves the collection of financial statements from companies across various industries and the calculation of relevant financial ratios. The qualitative analysis includes in-depth interviews with financial experts and case studies illustrating the practical application of ratio analysis in real-world scenarios. The research methodology ensures a comprehensive understanding of ratio analysis by integrating numerical data with qualitative insights.

Data Analysis and Interpretation:

The collected financial data is analyzed using ratio analysis techniques such as trend analysis, industry benchmarking, and comparative analysis. The results are interpreted to identify patterns, trends, strengths, and weaknesses in the financial performance of the companies. The qualitative data obtained from expert interviews and case studies are analyzed thematically to gain insights into the practical implications of ratio analysis and its impact on decision-making.

Suggestions:

Based on the findings, this book provides practical suggestions for effectively applying ratio analysis in financial analysis and decision-making. The suggestions encompass areas such as ratio selection, benchmarking, data interpretation, and the integration of ratio analysis with other financial evaluation tools. The book also offers guidance on the use of ratio analysis for forecasting, risk assessment, and strategic planning.

Conclusion:

The conclusion summarizes the key findings of the study on ratio analysis. It highlights the significance of ratio analysis in assessing financial performance and stability, and its role in supporting informed decision-making. The conclusion also discusses the limitations and challenges associated with ratio analysis and offers recommendations for future research in this field.

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Search Engine Optimization

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Abstract:

Search Engine Optimization (SEO) is a crucial aspect of digital marketing that focuses on enhancing a website's visibility and organic search engine rankings. With the ever-growing reliance on search engines for information and services, businesses and individuals alike strive to optimize their online presence to attract targeted traffic and maximize their online success. This abstract provides an overview of the key elements and strategies involved in effective search engine optimization. It explores the importance of understanding search engine algorithms and user behavior, conducting keyword research, optimizing on-page elements, building high-quality back links, and implementing technical SEO practices. The abstract also emphasizes the significance of creating engaging, relevant, and user-friendly content that aligns with both the search engine's requirements and the user's intent. It highlights the role of content marketing, social media, and mobile optimization in driving organic traffic and improving search engine rankings. Furthermore, the abstract discusses the dynamic nature of SEO, highlighting the need for continuous monitoring, analysis, and adaptation of strategies to stay ahead in the ever-evolving search landscape. It emphasizes the significance of tracking key performance indicators (KPIs) and leveraging analytical tools to measure the effectiveness of SEO efforts and identify areas for improvement. Overall, this abstract underscores the importance of search engine optimization as an integral component of digital marketing. It stresses the need for a holistic and well-rounded approach that encompasses technical optimization, keyword targeting, content creation, and ongoing monitoring and optimization to achieve long-term success in the competitive online landscape.

Keywords: Search engine optimization, SEO, Organic search, Website visibility, Keyword research, On-page optimization, Meta tags, Off-page optimization, Mobile optimization, Content marketing, User experience, Search engine algorithms, Analytics, Search rankings.

Introduction:

In today's digital age, where the internet serves as a vast repository of information and a gateway to countless products and services, the visibility of a website plays a pivotal role in its success. Search Engine Optimization (SEO) has emerged as a crucial discipline that focuses on improving a website's visibility in search engine results pages (SERPs) and driving organic, targeted traffic. By leveraging SEO strategies and techniques, businesses and individuals aim to enhance their online presence, increase brand awareness, and ultimately achieve their marketing objectives.

Search engines, such as Google, Bing, and Yahoo, serve as the primary navigational tools for internet users seeking answers, solutions, or products. Understanding how search engines operate and how users interact with them is fundamental to implementing effective SEO practices. Search engines employ complex algorithms that consider various factors, including relevance, authority, and user experience, to rank websites for specific search queries. By aligning with these algorithms, website owners can improve their rankings and increase their visibility in search results. Keyword research forms the cornerstone of successful SEO. It involves identifying the specific words and phrases that users are likely to use when searching for information related to a particular industry, product, or service. By incorporating these keywords strategically throughout a website's content, Meta tags, and other relevant areas, website owners can signal to search engines that their website is relevant and authoritative for those search terms. On-page optimization is another critical aspect of SEO. This includes optimizing various elements on a website, such as title tags, Meta descriptions, headings, and URL structures, to make them more search engine-friendly and appealing to users. Additionally, creating high-quality, engaging, and valuable content that meets the needs and expectations of the target audience is essential for SEO success. Such content attracts organic traffic, encourages user engagement, and helps build the website's authority and credibility. Off-page optimization, particularly link building, is equally significant in SEO. By acquiring high-quality back links from reputable websites, a website can demonstrate its authority and relevance to search engines. Back links serve as votes of confidence from other websites, indicating that the linked website is a valuable resource. However, it is crucial to focus on quality rather than quantity, as search engines have become more sophisticated in evaluating the credibility and relevance of back links. In addition to the technical and content-related aspects of SEO, adapting to evolving trends and technologies is essential. Mobile optimization has gained tremendous importance with the rise of Smartphone usage, as search engines prioritize mobile-friendly websites in their rankings. Moreover, social media platforms provide opportunities to enhance brand visibility, engage with users, and drive traffic to a website. SEO is a continuous process that requires monitoring, analysis, and adaptation. Tracking key performance indicators (KPIs) and utilizing analytical tools enable website owners to assess the effectiveness of their SEO efforts and make informed decisions for improvement. The dynamic nature of search engine algorithms and the competitive online landscape necessitate ongoing optimization to maintain and improve search rankings.

PRISM Analysis:

Political Factors: Government regulations and policies regarding online privacy and data protection may impact the collection and use of user data in SEO practices.

Political decisions and changes in legislation related to net neutrality can affect the accessibility and visibility of websites in search results.

Regulatory Factors: Compliance with search engine guidelines and regulations is essential to avoid penalties and ensure the ethical implementation of SEO strategies. Adherence to data protection regulations, such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), affects the collection, storage, and usage of user data for SEO purposes.

Informational Factors: The ever-evolving nature of search engine algorithms and updates impacts SEO strategies. Staying updated with the latest trends and changes is crucial to maintain website visibility and rankings. Access to reliable and accurate information about user behavior, keyword trends, and competitive analysis is necessary for effective keyword targeting and content creation.

Social Factors: User behavior and preferences influence search engine algorithms. Understanding user intent, preferences, and search patterns helps in optimizing websites to meet user expectations and provide a better user experience. The growing influence of social media platforms in driving website traffic and engagement requires SEO strategies to integrate social media optimization and community engagement.

Market Factors:

The competitiveness of the market and industry affects the level of effort required to achieve top search rankings. More competitive markets may require more advanced SEO strategies and investments. Market trends, such as the rise of voice search or the increasing use of mobile devices, impact SEO practices. Adapting to these trends is essential to stay relevant and maintain visibility.

Technological Factors:

Advancements in search engine technologies, such as machine learning and artificial intelligence, influence search algorithms and ranking factors. SEO strategies need to align with these technological advancements to maximize visibility. Technical SEO practices, such as website speed optimization, mobile responsiveness, and structured data implementation, are crucial for improved user experience and search engine rankings.

Conclusion:

Search Engine Optimization (SEO) is a critical component of digital marketing that enables businesses and individuals to enhance their online visibility, attract targeted traffic, and achieve their marketing objectives. By understanding search engine algorithms, conducting thorough keyword research, optimizing on-page elements, building quality backlinks, and staying abreast of evolving trends, website owners can position themselves for success in the competitive online landscape. The effectiveness of SEO strategies relies on a holistic approach that encompasses technical optimization, keyword targeting, content creation, and ongoing monitoring and optimization. Adapting to the dynamic nature of search engine algorithms and user behavior is crucial to maintaining and improving search rankings. Additionally, complying with regulatory requirements, such as data protection regulations, ensures ethical and responsible SEO practices. SEO not only enhances a website's visibility in search engine results pages (SERPs) but also contributes to establishing a strong online presence, increasing brand awareness, and driving organic traffic.

Understanding Plant Diseases: Causes, Impacts, and Management Strategies

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Abstract

Plant diseases are conditions caused by various factors, such as pathogens, environmental stresses, and genetic disorders, which adversely affect the growth and development of plants. These diseases can have significant impacts on agricultural productivity, leading to reduced crop yields, economic losses, and food security challenges. Understanding the causes, impacts, and management strategies for plant diseases is crucial for effective agricultural practices. In the current chapter causes, impacts and management strategies for plant diseases have been discussed precisely.

Introduction

Plant diseases are a significant concern in agriculture and gardening as they can cause severe damage to crops, leading to reduced yields, economic losses, and even food shortages. Understanding the causes, impacts, and management strategies for plant diseases is crucial for effective disease control and ensuring healthy plant growth. Let's explore these aspects in more detail:

Causes of Plant Diseases:

Plant diseases can be caused by various factors, including:

- a. Pathogens:** Pathogens are microorganisms such as bacteria, fungi, viruses, nematodes, and protozoa that invade plants and cause diseases. They can infect plants through various means, including direct contact, airborne spores, soil-borne organisms, and insect vectors.
- b. Environmental factors:** Environmental stresses such as extreme temperatures, humidity, drought, excessive rainfall, poor soil conditions, and inadequate sunlight can weaken plants, making them more susceptible to diseases.
- c. Genetic factors:** Genetic abnormalities or weaknesses in plant cultivars can make them more prone to diseases. Certain plant varieties may lack resistance mechanisms against specific pathogens.

Impacts of Plant Diseases:

Plant diseases can have several detrimental impacts:

- a. Reduced yield:** Plant diseases can cause significant reductions in crop yields. They can affect the quality and quantity of harvested produce, leading to financial losses for farmers and potential food shortages.

b. Economic losses: Plant diseases can result in economic losses for farmers, agricultural industries, and economies as a whole. The costs associated with disease management, including the purchase of pesticides and other control measures, can be substantial.

c. Food security: Widespread plant diseases can threaten food security by affecting food availability and affordability, leading to shortages and price increases.

d. Ecological imbalances: Plant diseases can disrupt natural ecosystems by affecting plant populations and altering ecological balances. This, in turn, can impact other organisms that rely on plants for food and habitat.

Management Strategies for Plant Diseases:

Effective management strategies aim to prevent or control plant diseases. Some common approaches include:

a. Crop rotation: Changing the type of crop grown in a specific area from season to season helps break disease cycles and reduces pathogen buildup in the soil.

b. Disease-resistant varieties: Breeding and cultivating disease-resistant plant varieties is an effective long-term strategy to combat plant diseases. By selecting and promoting resistant cultivars, farmers can reduce their reliance on chemical control methods.

c. Sanitation practices: Proper hygiene, such as removing infected plant debris, cleaning tools, and disinfecting equipment, can help reduce the spread of pathogens.

d. Cultural practices: Practices such as crop rotation, proper sanitation, balanced fertilization, and appropriate irrigation techniques can help minimize disease incidence and spread.

e. Chemical control: The use of fungicides, bactericides, and other chemical treatments can help control or suppress plant diseases. However, their use should be judicious, following proper guidelines, to minimize environmental and health risks.

f. Biological control: Biological control methods involve using beneficial organisms such as predatory insects, parasitic nematodes, or beneficial fungi to control plant diseases. This approach is environmentally friendly and can be integrated with other management strategies.

g. Integrated Pest Management (IPM): IPM combines multiple strategies, including cultural, biological, and chemical methods, to control diseases while minimizing environmental impact.

h. Early detection and diagnosis: Regular monitoring of plants for disease symptoms and timely diagnosis enable prompt intervention and appropriate management actions.

Conclusion

Understanding the causes, impacts, and management strategies for plant diseases is essential for ensuring sustainable agriculture, minimizing crop losses, and maintaining food security. Agricultural researchers, plant pathologists, and farmers continually work together to develop innovative solutions and improve disease management practices.

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Employee awareness towards filling Income tax returns

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Abstract:

This study explores the level of employee awareness regarding the process of filling income tax returns. With the increasing complexity of tax regulations and the growing importance of accurate reporting, it is crucial for employees to possess the necessary knowledge and understanding to fulfill their tax obligations effectively. The research investigates factors that influence employee awareness, such as educational background, income level, and organizational support. Additionally, it examines the impact of awareness on tax compliance and potential consequences for individuals and organizations. The findings of this study contribute to a better understanding of the factors influencing employee awareness towards filling income tax returns and provide insights for employers, policymakers, and tax authorities to design effective awareness programs.

Keywords: employee awareness, income tax returns, tax compliance, educational background, organizational support, tax regulations.

Introduction:

Income tax filing is an essential responsibility for individuals and employees in many countries worldwide. It is crucial for employees to be aware of the process and requirements involved in filing income tax returns accurately and timely. However, studies have indicated that there is often a lack of awareness among employees regarding their tax obligations, leading to potential non-compliance and associated consequences. The importance of employee awareness towards filling income tax returns cannot be overstated. Failure to comply with tax regulations can result in penalties, legal issues, and reputational damage for both individuals and organizations. Moreover, inaccurate reporting or unintentional omissions can lead to financial losses and disruptions in tax planning. The complexity of tax regulations and frequent changes in tax laws further compound the challenge of maintaining employee awareness. Many individuals lack the necessary knowledge and understanding of tax filing processes, deductions, exemptions, and other relevant aspects. Additionally, employees from diverse educational backgrounds may face varying levels of difficulty in grasping the intricacies of tax regulations. Addressing the issue of employee awareness requires a multifaceted approach. Organizations play a pivotal role in facilitating employee understanding by providing comprehensive training programs and access to reliable resources. Educational institutions can also contribute by

incorporating tax-related topics into their curriculum to equip future employees with the necessary knowledge.

PRISM Analysis:

P - Politics:

In the context of employee awareness towards filling income tax returns, political factors may come into play in several ways. Changes in tax laws and regulations, which are often influenced by political decisions, can impact the complexity and understanding required for tax filing. Political stability and government initiatives to promote tax compliance can also influence the resources allocated towards employee education and awareness programs.

R - Regulations:

Regulations play a central role in shaping the landscape of income tax filing and employee awareness. Tax laws can be complex and subject to frequent changes, making it challenging for employees to stay up-to-date with the latest requirements. Additionally, regulatory bodies and tax authorities have the responsibility to communicate these regulations effectively to employees, ensuring they understand their obligations and the consequences of non-compliance.

I - Industry:

The industry in which an organization operates can influence the level of employee awareness towards filling income tax returns. Certain industries may have specific tax regulations or exemptions that employees need to be aware of, requiring targeted training programs and resources. Furthermore, industry associations and professional networks can play a role in promoting awareness and sharing best practices among employees.

S - Society:

Societal factors can influence employee awareness towards income tax filing in various ways. Cultural attitudes towards taxation, perceptions of fairness, and public sentiment regarding tax compliance can impact the motivation and willingness of employees to fulfill their obligations. Societal norms and values related to financial responsibility and accountability also shape individual attitudes towards tax compliance and awareness.

M - Market:

The market dynamics, including competition and economic conditions, can have implications for employee awareness towards income tax returns. In highly competitive industries, organizations may prioritize other aspects of employee training and development, potentially neglecting tax education. Economic downturns or financial hardships can also impact employee awareness, as individuals may prioritize immediate financial concerns over understanding complex tax regulations. Overall, conducting a PRISM analysis for the topic of employee awareness towards filling income tax returns highlights the interplay of political, regulatory, industry, societal, and market factors.

Recognizing and addressing these factors can help organizations and policymakers design effective awareness programs, provide relevant resources, and create an environment conducive to promoting tax compliance and empowering employees to fulfill their tax obligations accurately and timely.

Conclusion:

Employee awareness towards filling income tax returns is a crucial aspect of ensuring tax compliance and minimizing the risk of penalties and legal issues for both individuals and organizations. This study has highlighted the significance of employee awareness in navigating the complexities of tax regulations and fulfilling tax obligations accurately and timely. It has examined various factors that influence employee awareness, including educational background, training programs, communication channels, and organizational support. Furthermore, the study underscores the importance of regulatory bodies and tax authorities in effectively communicating tax regulations to employees. Simplifying complex tax laws, providing clear guidelines, and implementing user-friendly online platforms can facilitate employee awareness and compliance. Addressing employee awareness towards filling income tax returns requires a collaborative effort between organizations, policymakers, educational institutions, and tax authorities.

By implementing effective strategies and initiatives, such as targeted training programs, accessible resources, and streamlined communication channels, employers and relevant stakeholders can empower employees to fulfill their tax obligations accurately, reducing the risk of non-compliance and associated consequences. In conclusion, enhancing employee awareness towards filling income tax returns is crucial for promoting tax compliance and minimizing the risks of penalties and legal issues. This research highlights the significance of factors influencing employee awareness and emphasizes the need for organizations, policymakers, and educational institutions to work together to design effective awareness programs and foster a culture of tax compliance.

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Biorationals in Vegetable Disease Management- An Overview

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Abstract

Agricultural production and plant health are directly affected by a number of problems such as chemical soil contamination, loss of biodiversity and plant pests and diseases. In addition, disruption of the link between soil-plant and plant-microbe interactions is a result of substandard agricultural methods of conventional agriculture. This chapter discusses the use of organic amendments in relation to vegetable disease management and soil health restoration. Although the use of organic additives in agriculture is not new, little is known about how to apply them in a safe and effective manner. In order to achieve sustainable agricultural practices, a biorational approach to the use of organic supplements requires the use of plant matter, microbial insecticides and organic minerals as organic supplements to achieve plant health and control disease. In this case, the microbial population in the rhizosphere is the main topic. It was evaluated how organic changes affected host-plant-pathogen interactions by promoting the establishment of a quorum of beneficial microbes and how they facilitated the development of induced and acquired systemic resistance to disease. Further research into the mechanisms of action of organic additives that act as soil conditioners must be conducted to ensure the safety of manufactured foods.

Introduction

Plant pathogens and the diseases they cause are a significant barrier to agricultural productivity. The most crucial approach for managing disease has historically been the use of chemical pesticides. However, producers have a variety of biological and cultural management methods at their disposal. It is effective, affordable, and highly desirable to develop a system that incorporates biological control methods for disease management for higher crop quality and environmental sustainability. Vegetables are one of the important constituents of a human diet, they provide many vitamins and proteins which further adds to keeping humans healthy and fit. Vegetables are not just the food for humans but, their remains also serve as a fodder for animals and can be used in making compost etc. Biological control is a technique for managing plant diseases that involves reducing the activity of plant pathogens, enhancing plant defences, and/or altering the environment through the use of advantageous microbes, substances, or productive cropping methods. Biorationals, also known as biopesticides or biological control agents, are an important component of integrated pest management (IPM) strategies in vegetable disease management.

Unlike conventional chemical pesticides, biorationals are derived from naturally occurring substances and have minimal impact on the environment, non-target organisms, and human health. There are several types of biorationals used in vegetable disease management. These biorationals offer environmentally friendly and sustainable alternatives to conventional chemical pesticides.

Here are some common types:

Biofungicides: Biofungicides are biopesticides specifically designed to control fungal diseases. They consist of naturally occurring microorganisms, such as bacteria or fungi, or their byproducts. Biofungicides work by inhibiting the growth or activity of pathogenic fungi.

Examples of biofungicides include:

a. *Bacillus subtilis*: This bacterium produces antifungal compounds that inhibit the growth of various plant pathogenic fungi, including those causing diseases like powdery mildew and gray mold.

b. *Trichoderma spp.*: These fungi are known for their antagonistic activity against a wide range of plant pathogens. They can colonize plant roots and provide protection against soil-borne fungal diseases.

Biopesticides based on plant extracts: Plant extracts with inherent fungicidal or bactericidal properties are used as biopesticides in vegetable disease management. These extracts can be derived from various plant sources and work by directly affecting the pathogens or by inducing resistance in plants. Examples include:

a. **Neem oil:** Extracted from the neem tree (*Azadirachta indica*), neem oil acts as a broad-spectrum biopesticide effective against many pests and diseases, including fungal diseases in vegetables.

b. **Garlic extract:** Garlic extracts contain sulfur compounds that have antimicrobial properties. They can be used to control fungal diseases like damping-off and powdery mildew.

Biocontrol agents: Biocontrol agents are living organisms that prey upon or parasitize pests or pathogens. They are used in biological control programs to manage diseases in vegetables. Examples include:

a. **Beneficial insects:** Ladybugs, lacewings, and predatory mites are commonly used to control pests such as aphids, thrips, and spider mites, which can transmit or exacerbate diseases in vegetable crops.

b. Biological antagonists: Certain microorganisms, such as bacteria, fungi, or viruses, can be used as biocontrol agents to suppress plant pathogens. For example, the bacterium *Pseudomonas fluorescens* can inhibit the growth of bacterial pathogens causing diseases like bacterial spot in vegetables.

Induced resistance inducers: Some biorational products stimulate the natural defense mechanisms of plants, making them more resistant to diseases. These products contain substances that activate the plant's immune response. Examples include:

a. Salicylic acid-based products: Salicylic acid is a natural plant hormone involved in plant defense responses. Products containing salicylic acid or its analogs can induce resistance against various diseases, including viral and bacterial infections.

b. Chitosan: Chitosan is derived from chitin, a substance found in the exoskeleton of crustaceans. It can trigger plant defense responses, leading to enhanced resistance against fungal pathogens.

Biofertilizers: While not directly targeting diseases, biofertilizers contribute to overall plant health and vigor, making them less susceptible to infections. Biofertilizers contain beneficial microorganisms, such as nitrogen-fixing bacteria or mycorrhizal fungi, which improve nutrient availability and enhance plant immunity. These types of biorationals can be used individually or in combination as part of integrated pest management (IPM) strategies to effectively manage diseases in vegetable crops. The selection of the appropriate biorational depends on the specific crop, disease, and environmental conditions.

Conclusion

Biorationals offer several advantages in vegetable disease management. They are generally safe to use, leave no harmful residues, and can be integrated effectively with other pest control methods. However, it's important to note that biorationals may not provide immediate or complete control of diseases and often require proper application and monitoring for optimal results. Consulting with local agricultural extension services or experts in the field can help determine the most suitable biorational products and strategies for specific vegetable diseases in your region.

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Working Capital

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Abstract:

Working capital is a fundamental financial metric that plays a crucial role in the day-to-day operations and overall financial health of a business. It represents the capital available for funding the organization's daily operations and managing short-term obligations. This abstract provides an overview of working capital, its components, and its significance in business operations. It highlights the importance of managing working capital effectively to ensure liquidity, operational efficiency, and sustainable growth. The abstract also explores various strategies for optimizing working capital, including inventory management, accounts receivable and payable management, and cash flow forecasting. Moreover, it discusses the potential challenges associated with working capital management and offers insights into best practices that businesses can adopt to overcome these challenges. Ultimately, understanding and effectively managing working capital is vital for businesses to maintain stability, meet financial obligations, and seize opportunities for growth in an ever-changing economic landscape.

Keywords: Working capital, financial metric, Liquidity, Short-term obligations, Business operations, Capital management, Operational efficiency, Sustainable growth, Inventory management, Accounts receivable, Accounts payable, Cash flow forecasting.

Introduction:

Working capital is a fundamental concept in finance that serves as a lifeline for businesses. It represents the capital available to a company for its day-to-day operations and managing short-term financial obligations. Essentially, working capital is the difference between a company's current assets and its current liabilities. It plays a crucial role in determining the financial health and operational efficiency of an organization. The management of working capital is essential for sustaining the smooth functioning of a business. Sufficient working capital ensures that a company has enough resources to cover its immediate expenses, such as inventory purchases, employee salaries, and utility bills. It also provides a buffer to handle unforeseen events and seize opportunities for growth. Optimizing working capital is a delicate balancing act. On one hand, having excessive working capital ties up valuable resources and can lead to missed investment opportunities. On the other hand, insufficient working capital can hinder a company's ability to meet its short-term obligations and result in financial distress. Effective management of working capital involves a comprehensive understanding of its components, including inventory management, accounts receivable, accounts payable, and cash flow forecasting.

By strategically managing these elements, businesses can enhance their cash flow, reduce financing costs, and improve overall profitability. However, managing working capital is not without its challenges. Factors such as seasonality, market fluctuations, and supply chain disruptions can impact the availability and efficiency of working capital. It requires proactive monitoring, financial analysis, and the implementation of appropriate strategies to mitigate risks and maintain stability. This article aims to delve deeper into the concept of working capital, its significance in business operations, and strategies for optimizing it. It will explore the components of working capital management, discuss potential challenges, and provide insights into

PRISM Analysis:

P - Political Factors: Government regulations and policies: Political factors can influence working capital management through regulations and policies related to taxation, trade, and financial reporting. Changes in these regulations can impact cash flow and the ability to manage working capital effectively.

Political stability: Political instability or uncertain economic conditions in a country can create challenges for businesses in managing working capital due to volatile markets, currency fluctuations, and potential disruptions in supply chains.

R - Regulatory Factors: Financial regulations: Regulatory bodies, such as accounting standards boards and central banks, establish guidelines for financial reporting and liquidity management. Compliance with these regulations impacts the way businesses handle working capital.

Tax regulations: Tax policies and regulations related to income tax, sales tax, and value-added tax can affect working capital requirements and cash flow, particularly in terms of timing and amounts payable/receivable.

I - Industry Factors:

Seasonality: Industries with seasonal demand, such as retail or tourism, may experience fluctuations in working capital requirements. Planning and managing working capital effectively becomes crucial during peak and off-peak seasons.

Supply chain dynamics: Working capital management is affected by the efficiency and reliability of the supply chain. Delays or disruptions in the supply chain can impact inventory levels, accounts payable/receivable, and overall cash flow.

S - Socioeconomic Factors:

Economic conditions: The state of the economy, including inflation rates, interest rates, and overall economic growth, can influence working capital management. Businesses may need to adjust their strategies to accommodate changes in consumer spending patterns and economic conditions.

Consumer behavior: Changes in consumer preferences, buying habits, or market trends can impact working capital requirements. Businesses need to adapt to these shifts and manage their cash flow accordingly.

M - Market Factors:

Competitive landscape: The level of competition in the market affects working capital management. Businesses may need to offer competitive payment terms to customers or negotiate favorable terms with suppliers to optimize their working capital position.

Access to credit: The availability of credit and the cost of borrowing impact a company's working capital. Access to favorable credit terms allows businesses to manage cash flow and invest in growth opportunities effectively.

Conclusion:

Working capital is a critical aspect of financial management for businesses of all sizes and industries. It represents the capital available to support day-to-day operations and manage short-term obligations, making it a vital indicator of a company's financial health and operational efficiency. Effective management of working capital is crucial for maintaining liquidity, meeting financial obligations, and supporting sustainable growth. By optimizing inventory levels, efficiently managing accounts receivable and accounts payable, and accurately forecasting cash flow, businesses can enhance their working capital position and ensure smoother operations. However, managing working capital is not without its challenges

Factors such as political regulations, economic conditions, industry dynamics, and market competition can impact working capital requirements and the ability to effectively manage it. Businesses must stay informed, adapt to changes, and implement robust strategies to overcome these challenges. By proactively addressing working capital management, businesses can improve cash flow, reduce financing costs, and enhance profitability. It enables companies to seize growth opportunities, invest in innovation, and weather economic downturns more effectively. Ultimately, a strong understanding of working capital and its management is crucial for businesses to maintain stability, meet financial obligations, and thrive in today's dynamic business landscape. By employing sound financial practices, leveraging technology, and staying agile in response to changing market conditions, businesses can optimize their working capital and position themselves for long-term success.

Crown Gall of Stone Fruits- A Comprehensive review

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Abstract

Crown gall disease is a destructive plant ailment caused by the pathogenic bacterium *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*. This review provides a comprehensive overview of the disease, including its etiology, pathogenesis, symptoms, economic impact, and management strategies. The primary objective of this review is to consolidate and synthesize the existing knowledge on crown gall disease to aid researchers, agronomists, and plant health professionals in understanding and effectively combating this devastating plant infection.

Introduction

Crown gall is an overall plant disease of economic importance in nurseries, vineyards and fruit orchards (Abssaoud and Al-Momani, 1992; Keane, Kerr, New, 1970; Ma et al., 1987; Sule, 1978). *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* is a soil borne bacterium, its virulent strains contaminate dicotyledonous plant that have a place with around 90 different families and few monocotyledonous plants causing crown gall disease all through the world (De Cleene furthermore, Deley, 1976).

Distribution of disease:

Agrobacterium tumefaciens is cosmopolitan in distribution, affecting dicotyledonous plants in more than 60 different plant families. It has been reported as serious disease of stone fruits in Australia, Oregon, United Kingdom, Canada, California, South Africa, Italy, Columbia, Pakistan, Albania, Hungra and India. Crown gall can be found most often on stone fruit and pome trees as well as brambles and several species of ornamental plants. In India the disease is reported in early 1940's by Singh (Jindal et al.,1990) on pome fruit in Kumraon Hills of Uttranchal, Punjab and Kashmir. The occurrence of biovar 1 of *A. tumefaciens* was observed by Jindal and Sharma (1988) and Gupta et al., (2002 and 2005b) in almond, peach and cherry in Himachal Pradesh. Sharma et al., (2004) reported the occurrence of Crown Gall in warm areas of India.

Symptoms of disease:

- Crown gall manifests itself initially as small swellings or overgrowth on the root or stem near the soil line (Hedgecock, 1910), and occasionally on aerial portions of the plant.
- These galls during young stage of development resemble the callus tissue that results from wounding. The galls are soft, somewhat spherical and white colored (Cook, 1923). As tumors become older, their shape becomes quite irregular, and they turn brown or black due to death and decay of peripheral cells.
- Tumors may be connected to the host surface by only a narrow bit of tissue (Agrios, 2005), or may appear as a swelling of the stem, not distinctly separate.
- The tissue can be spongy and crumbling throughout the gall or can be woody and knot-like. Several tumors may occur on the same plant and may rot from the surface of the plant completely or partially, possibly developing repeatedly in the same area season after season.
- Plants with tumors at their crown portion or on their root portion, grow slowly and provide less yield (Ark and Bingham, 1958).
- Additional symptoms include stunting, chlorotic leaves, and plants may be more susceptible to adverse environmental conditions and secondary infection.
- Secondary Invasion resulted in girdling of crown and roots by the masses of galls which further result in providing entry through injuries for other wood decaying organisms, which can cause debilitation of the host (Smith & Townsend).
- Crown gall infection also resulted in the replant problems in various peach cultivars (Singh and Dhiman, 2004).

Causal Organism:

Crown gall is a bacterial disease caused by *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* (Smith and Townsend, 1907). Crown gall is a soil-borne, non-sporulating, motile, rod-shaped phytopathogenic bacterium that elicits neoplastic growth at the site of infection in many dicotyledonous plants causing the "crown-gall" disease. The bacterium is Gram negative, off white in colour, ovate to oblong, peritrichous (Romanenko and Perepnikhatka, 1984) smooth, Glistening, convex, opaque to translucent and with smooth margin colonies. The individual cell is rod shaped, hyaline, about 1-3 μm long by 0.4-0.8 μm in width (Jindal et al., 1990, Kamal, 2004). The *Agrobacterium* genus belongs to the family Rhizobiaceae with a number of species, but on the basis of their genetic makeup, chromosome structure, host range, metabolism and relationship with other genera, they are broadly classified into three biovars (Kerr, 1968; Tighe et al., 2000). *A. tumefaciens* and *A. rubi* (Tighe et al., 2000) the causative agents for crown gall disease and cane gall belong to biovar I group; *A. rhizogenes* that causes hairy root belong to biovar II group. *A. rhizogenes* biovar III group are mainly confined to grapevines (Kado, 2002).

The most characteristic property of this bacterium is its ability to introduce part of the Ti-plasmid (T-DNA) into the plant cells and to transform normal plant cells to tumour cells. This property of the bacterium makes it a genetic parasite (Zambryski, 1992).

Life Cycle:

- Pathogenic strains of *A. tumefaciens* may live saprophytically in soil for as long as two years. At the point when a close by host plant is injured close to the soil line by insect feeding, transplant injury or some other methods the bacterium chemotactically moves into the injury site and between host cells.
- These microorganisms at that point stimulate the surrounding host cells to quickly and unpredictably divide. The bacterium achieves this by embeddings a piece of its own DNA into the host cells' chromosomes, causing overproduction of cytokinins and auxins which are plant growth regulators, and opines which fill in as supplements for the pathogen. The subsequent tissue is undifferentiated with a white or cream shading, and cells may have at least one or more nuclei.
- This tissue keeps on enlarging and a tumor is framed on the root or stem of the plant, depending upon original injury site.
- The microscopic organisms consume the intercellular spaces around the periphery of the gall and are not found in the focal point of the enlarging tumor.
- The tumor isn't ensured by an epidermis, leaving the tissue susceptible to auxiliary pathogens, insects and saprophytes.
- Corruption of the tumor by secondary or auxiliary invaders causes brown colored or dark discoloration and discharges *A. tumefaciens* cells once more into the soil to be diverted by with soil or water, or stay in the dirt until the following developing season.
- In perennial plants, some portion of the contaminated tissue may stay alive and possessed by *A. tumefaciens*, which, regardless of whether the tumor has sloughed off, can persevere to cause another tumor the accompanying season in a similar spot. Their transmissions from one season to other occur through soil. It's presence in soil is due to the broken of galls from infected plants from previous seasons during cultivation practices or disseminated as infected plant material.

Management:

a) Cultural Practices:

- Susceptible nursery stock should not be planted in the infested field (Smith and Townsend, 1907). Infested fields should be planted with corn and other grain crops for several years (Agrios, 2005).
- When buying new plants, carefully inspect their roots, trunks, branches, and stems carefully for any galls.
- Since the bacterium enter through wounds, therefore injury at crown and root portion should be avoided during transplantation and chewing insects should be controlled to reduce the disease incidence.

- Destruction of infected plant material, proper field sanitation, use of well pitted rootstocks.
- Select site which is free from pathogen and chewing insect (Khan et al., 2017).
- Gupta et al., (2005a) observed reduced crown gall incidence when one third dose of P& K along with one dose of N and Farm yard manure were applied.
- Plant only disease-free nursery stock. Do not plant in soils known to be infested with the crown gall bacterium, as it can survive several years in the soil (Sharon et al., 2005).
- It is recommended to burn the leftover plant material rather than placing it in a compost pile due to bacteria ability to live in soil for many years (Koetter et al., 2017).
- A crop rotation program employing cereal crops followed by green manuring helps reduce the population size of *A. tumefaciens* (Kado, 2002; Khan et al., 2017).
- Well fitted graft wrapped with antiseptic tape should be used (Khan et al., 2017).
- Crop rotation using grain crops for several years will help in control of this bacterium. Destroy all infected trees. Do not replant trees in the same location (Sharon et al., 2005).
- Dispose of the infected stock (Khan et al., 2017).
- Soils drenching of nursery plants with *Brevibacillus brevis* + *B. choshinensis* give complete control of crown gall disease in peaches (Sharma et al., 2016).
- Root dip treatment with white stone powder based formulation (Sol Gall) of *Brevibacillus brevis* + *B. choshinensis* minimize the crown gall incidence 12.04 and 38.89% (Sharma et al., 2016).

b) Biocontrol agents:

- Attempts to control this disease have largely failed, with the exception of biological control approach using the *A. radiobacter* strain K84, a non-pathogenic *Agrobacterium* strain that produces agrocin 84 which is toxic to most of the agropine strains of *Agrobacterium* (Burr, Bazzi, Sule & Otten, 1998; Burr & Otten, 1999).
- *A. radiobacter* strain K-84 has been effectively used for the control of crown gall since 1972 as seed treatment, root dip treatment and soil drench across the world stone fruits (Kerr, 1997). This strain has been widely used as soil drench; seed treatment in tomato assay and root deep on peach, cherry, almond and grape in Canada (Dhanvantri, 1976), peach, cherry and apple (Grimm et al., 1982), in Oregon and Washington on boysenberry, cherry and rose (Moore, 1976, Johnsen and Dileone, 1999), in Italy on Cherry, Myrobalan and peach rootstocks (Bazzi et al., 1978, Zoina et al., 1987). Gupta et al., 2010 after screening 510 isolates found that among these, 12 isolates of *A. radiobacter* were able to inhibit crown gall on both peach and cherry rootstock- colt and isolate UHFBA-11 on peach as root deep minimized the incidence (5.37%) of crown gall as compared to 54.17% incidence in untreated plants.
- Wang et al., 2000 obtained 67-97% control of the crown gall by using genetically modified strain of K-1026.

- 14 actinomycetes were found to be effective against crown gall on rose under greenhouse conditions (Silva and Romeiro, 2001).
- Gupta and Khosla (2007) observed antagonistic activity of *Bacillus subtilis* against *A. tumefaciens* and observed that this antagonist when applied 24 hours prior to pathogen inoculation as soil drench, reduced crown gall incidence on cherry root stock colt.
- A non-pathogenic strain of *Agrobacterium vitis* VAR03-1 was found to be effective for the biological control of grapevine, rose and tomato. This was the first non-pathogenic strain to control the crown gall (Kawaguichi et al. 2008).
- Al-momani et al., (1999) have reported inhibitory activity of *Streptomyces* spp. isolated from temperate fruit orchard soil against *A. tumefaciens* infecting almond trees.
- Vicedo et al., (1992) suggested the use of K1026 as a safer organism than K84 for biological control of crown gall.
- Three isolates of *A. radiobacter* UHFBA-8, UHFBA-11 and UHFBA-12 has been found to be effective against crown gall on tomato crop (Gupta et al., 2010).
- Penicillin has been reported to reduce the disease up to 61.9 to 4.9% (Cooksey and Moore, 1980).
- A non-pathogenic strain of *Agrobacterium vitis* VAR03-1 was found to be effective for biological control of grapevine, rose and tomato and this is the first report of non-pathogenic strain of *Agrobacterium vitis* VAR03-1 that effectively controlled the crown gall caused by tumourigenic *A. vitis*, *A. rhizogenes* and *A. tumefaciens* (Kawaguchi et al., 2008)

c) Plant Extracts:

- Eucalyptus cinera was used as a source of bioactive compound for curative biocontrol of crown gall and 95%-97.5% reduction in galls weight were observed. (Kahla et al., 2017).
- Garlic extracts were found to be highly effective in inhibiting the growth of crown gall among tested strains under laboratory conditions as well as it was also found effective against the galled tomato or GF677 seedlings. *Bacillus subtilis*, *Penicillium* spp. K84 and *Trichoderma harzianum* were also found to be effective in inhibiting the growth of grown gall among tested starins (Khlaif, 2005).
- Mustard cake (1.5%) was found to be effective in reducing the incidence to 12.5 per cent and severity to 8.33 per cent. Pre-planned applications of formaldehyde (4%) were most effective in controlling the disease (Sharma et al., 2004).
- *A. sativum*, *R. officinalis*, *P. orientalis*, *L. nobilis*, *R. ficaria*, and *A. equi-trojani* extracts helps in inhibiting the incidence of disease upto some extent (Arican, 2009).
- Geranium, *Nicotiana*, *Helianthus*, *Tagetes*, *Lycopersicum*, *Brassica*, *Brophyllum* and Beta extracts provide inhibition from *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* (Manasse, 1963).
- *A. millefolium*, *H. arenarium*, *A. absinthium*, *C. cyanus*, *M. chamomilla*, *T. officinale* inhibit the growth of *A. tumefaciens* and can possibly be used as formulations as biocontrol agent for *Agrobacterium* (Stanojkovisl. 2009).

- Essential oils of the *Achillea* species were found to inhibit *A. tumefaciens* and provides a natural alternative to conventional Agrobacterium-eliminating antibiotics (Al Kurdi et al., 2000).
- Acetone root-bark extract from *Salvadora persica* has been shown to be very effective at stopping the bacterial growth of *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* and *Dickeya solani* (Salem et al., 2018).
- *Pistacia* and *Schinus* species are a potential source of compounds effective against *A. tumefaciens* (Rhouma et al., 2009)

d) Integrated Disease Management:

- Site selection. Fields that have grown cereal crops for a long period are favored as crown gall-free sites. Fields previously used for growing fruit and nut crops can remain infested with *A. tumefaciens*. Certain weeds such as morning glory (*Ipomoea leptophylla*) can serve as natural hosts of *A. tumefaciens* and therefore perpetuate the survival of this pathogen in field soils (Kado, 2002).
- Prune out infected material: Crown gall can't be wiped out from a shrub despite the fact that the tainted plant may live for a long time. To improve the presence of the plant, prune out and demolish tainted stems underneath the galled portion. Sterilize the pruning shears after each cut with a blend of one section bleach to nine sections water (Report, MBG).
- Destroy infected plants: Remove the contaminated plant. The bacterium will stay in the soil area so resistant plant species should be planted. On the off chance that similar species should be planted in the zone, expel and supplant the soil or consider soil sanitization (Report, MBG).
- Exclude the problem: At the time of purchasing plants, inspect them carefully for signs of galls. Do not buy plants that show gall-forming symptoms.
- Integration of soil solarization (90 days) with *Bacillus subtilis* (5L/m²) followed by root dip treatment of colt suckers with copper sulphate (1%) for 1.5 hr at the time of planting result in 78.90% control of crown gall (Project report, I A.K.Gupta).
- Combined application of all the effective treatments viz., soil solarization, *Bacillus subtilis*, preplant application of formaldehyde (4%), oxyfluorefen (0.5L/ha), amendment of soil with mustard cake (1.5%) and copper sulphate (1%) as root dip resulted in controlling the disease upto 24.70% (Project report, I A.K.Gupta).
- Soil solarization with transparent polyethylene sheet in the nursery for 75 days reduced the disease incidence to 14.87 per cent. (Sharma et al., 2004).
- Longer solarization duration i.e. 90 days is found to be much more conducive in achieving desired thermal doses approximately 195 h above 40°C and 62.5h above 45°C in the upper 8cm soil layers and at 15-30cm soil depths, thermal doses were 196.5 and 93h above 35°C during 2001 and 2002 respectively, which further resulted in reduction of the disease on cherry rootstock-colt (Gupta and Khosla, 2007).

e) Chemical Control:

- A number of fungicides, antibiotics and other chemicals such as fumigants, soil sterilizing agents, herbicides have been used against the emerging crown gall problem (Ark, 1941, 1942).
- The promising results were obtained with chloropicrin because it penetrated to the depth of 20 cm when applied to soil and kill the *Agrobacterium* effectively (Kapshuk, 1933).
- Oxyfluorfen (0.5 litre/ ha) also help in reducing the incidence of crown gall in field (30.33 %) (Gupta et al., 2006).
- Aureomycin was also found to be effective against crown gall (Blanchard, 1951).
- There was more than 90% reduction in *A. tumefaciens* in artificially infested soil at all depths of 3, 9 and 15 inches by Methyl bromide (Dicky, 1962).
- Methyl bromide, chloropicrin –propurgyl bromide give some control against the crown gall disease (Deep et al., 1968).
- The commercial formulation ‘Nogall’ when applied @ 150 mg/l before planting to colt root stock of cherry controlled crown gall effectively, the rootstock is otherwise very susceptible to crown gall (Wazir et al., 2000).
- Soil sterilization with formaldehyde (4%) or bleaching powder (0.3%) helps in minimizing the disease upto some extent (Utkhede and Smith, 1993).

f) Other Methods:

- Application of formaldehyde (4 %) resulted in minimum incidence of crown gall (9.77 %) on 'Colt' cherry rootstock. (Gupta et al., 2006).
- Application of different soil sterilizing agents helps in declining of non- target microbial population of fungi, bacteria and actinomycetes initially but its population increases in subsequent months.
- Genetically engineering. Transgenic crop plants harboring one or more unique genes tailored to protect the plant from crown gall have been developed. Genes encoding products that degrade or inactivate the T-DNA strand complex when it enters the host cell, that prevent the expression of T-DNA genes encoding indoleacetic acid and cytokinin biosynthesis, and that prevent *A. tumefaciens* attachment to its target are some examples currently being tested. Biotechnology companies, such as DNA Plant Technology (Oakland, CA), are applying sense strand messenger RNA or small-interfering RNAs to develop crown gall resistant fruit and nut crops (Kado, 2002).
- Physical method: Heat therapy promotes healing of pruning wounds. Hot water treatment of grape dormant cutting at 121°F for 30 minute control the disease. Soil solarization also quite effective to control bacterium (Khan et al., 2017).
- Use Tree Wrap to protect against string trimmer damage and keep your garden tools clean (Article: Planet Natural Research Centre).

- In many cases, existing galls can be removed with a sharp pruning knife. Destroy the infected plant tissue and treat the wound with pruning sealer. If the plant does not recover, remove and destroy it.
- Grafting of scions of various commercial cultivars of cherry viz., Van, Deuro-Neuro and Pietro-Nigra on cherry rootstock-colt resulted in minimum disease incidence (4%) (Oxyfluorfen (0.5 litre/ ha) also help in reducing the incidence of crown gall in field (30.33 %) (Project report, I A.K.Gupta).

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Effective Way to Do Recruitment and Selection Process

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Abstract:

Recruitment and selection are critical processes in any organization's human resource management strategy. Effectively executing these processes is essential for attracting and identifying the right candidates who possess the skills, qualifications, and cultural fit required for the organization's success. This abstract explores various effective ways to conduct recruitment and selection processes that enhance the chances of hiring suitable candidates while minimizing biases and maximizing efficiency. Firstly, organizations need to develop a comprehensive recruitment strategy that aligns with their business goals and target candidate profiles. This strategy should include a mix of sourcing channels, such as job boards, social media platforms, employee referrals, and professional networks. By leveraging multiple channels, organizations can reach a wider pool of potential candidates and increase the likelihood of finding the best match for the position. Secondly, designing a structured selection process is crucial. This involves clearly defining job requirements, creating job descriptions and person specifications, and establishing measurable selection criteria. The use of behavioral-based interview questions and competency assessments can help evaluate candidates' skills, experiences, and suitability for the role. Implementing assessment methods like case studies, simulations, or work samples can provide valuable insights into candidates' abilities and problem-solving skills. Thirdly, organizations should strive to minimize biases throughout the recruitment and selection process. This can be achieved by utilizing blind resume screening techniques, anonymizing candidate information, and implementing diverse selection panels. Providing diversity and inclusion training to hiring managers and interviewers can also help raise awareness of unconscious biases and promote fair and equitable decision-making.

Furthermore, leveraging technology can greatly enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the recruitment and selection process. Applicant tracking systems (ATS) can streamline candidate screening and tracking, while video interviews and online assessments can facilitate remote hiring and reduce logistical challenges. Automation tools can help eliminate manual tasks and enhance productivity, allowing recruiters to focus on evaluating candidate fit and engaging with potential hires.

In conclusion, an effective recruitment and selection process requires a strategic approach, structured methodologies, unbiased evaluation, and technological support. By implementing these practices, organizations can improve their ability to attract, identify, and select the most qualified candidates, leading to successful hires, improved organizational performance, and long-term growth.

Keywords: Recruitment, Selection process, Talent acquisition, Human resource management, Candidate sourcing, Job boards, Social media recruitment, Employee referrals, Professional networks, Job requirements, Job descriptions, Person specifications, Selection criteria, Behavioral-based interview questions, Competency assessments, Assessment methods, Case studies, Simulations, Work samples, Bias mitigation, Blind resume screening, online assessments, Technology in recruitment, Automation in recruitment. Organizational performance.

Introduction:

Recruitment and selection are vital components of human resource management that significantly impact an organization's success. The ability to attract and identify the right talent is crucial for building a skilled workforce that can drive innovation, productivity, and overall organizational performance. In today's competitive job market, organizations must adopt effective strategies and methods to ensure their recruitment and selection processes yield optimal results.

The purpose of this paper is to explore various effective ways to conduct recruitment and selection processes. By understanding and implementing these strategies, organizations can enhance their ability to identify and hire candidates who possess the necessary skills, qualifications, and cultural fit for their specific roles. Additionally, organizations can also minimize biases, increase efficiency, and improve the overall candidate experience.

A comprehensive recruitment strategy is the foundation of an effective recruitment and selection process. This strategy involves determining the organization's business goals, understanding the desired candidate profiles, and developing a plan to attract qualified individuals. Leveraging a mix of sourcing channels, such as job boards, social media platforms, employee referrals, and professional networks, can broaden the talent pool and increase the likelihood of finding the best-fit candidates.

Once a pool of candidates is established, it is essential to design a structured selection process. This process should include clearly defining job requirements, creating detailed job descriptions and person specifications, and establishing measurable selection criteria. By utilizing behavioral-based interview questions and competency assessments, organizations can evaluate candidates' skills, experiences, and suitability for the role. Incorporating assessment methods like case studies, simulations, or work samples can provide deeper insights into candidates' abilities and problem-solving skills.

However, it is crucial to recognize and mitigate biases that can inadvertently influence decision-making during the recruitment and selection process. Unconscious biases can lead to unfair treatment and hinder diversity and inclusion efforts within organizations. By implementing blind resume screening techniques, anonymizing candidate information, and involving diverse selection panels, organizations can minimize biases and ensure a fair evaluation process. Additionally, providing training to hiring managers and interviewers on diversity and inclusion can further enhance awareness and promote equitable decision-making.

Moreover, technology plays a significant role in streamlining and optimizing the recruitment and selection process. Applicant tracking systems (ATS) can automate administrative tasks, such as resume screening and candidate tracking, freeing up valuable time for recruiters to focus on evaluating candidate fit. Video interviews and online assessments enable remote hiring, thereby expanding the geographical reach of potential candidates and reducing logistical challenges. Automation tools further enhance efficiency by eliminating.

PRISM Analysis:

Political Factors:

Legislative and regulatory frameworks: Compliance with relevant employment laws and regulations governing recruitment and selection processes.

Affirmative action policies: Consideration of diversity and inclusion requirements and ensuring fair representation of underrepresented groups.

Government initiatives: Alignment with government programs or incentives promoting employment opportunities and fair hiring practices.

Regulatory Factors:

Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) laws: Adhering to non-discrimination and equal opportunity principles throughout the recruitment and selection process.

Data protection and privacy regulations: Ensuring compliance with laws governing the collection, storage, and usage of candidate data.

Industry Factors:

Labor market conditions: Understanding the supply and demand dynamics of the labor market, including skill shortages, to develop effective recruitment strategies.

Competitive landscape: Analyzing competitor practices and benchmarking to stay competitive in attracting top talent.

Technological advancements: Adopting innovative recruitment technologies and tools to streamline and enhance the recruitment and selection process.

Sociocultural Factors:

Demographic trends: Considering societal shifts, such as an aging population or increasing diversity, and tailoring recruitment efforts to appeal to diverse candidate groups.

Employer branding: Cultivating a positive and attractive employer brand that resonates with candidates and aligns with their values and aspirations.

Work-life balance and flexibility: Recognizing the importance of work-life balance and offering flexible work arrangements to attract and retain talent.

Market Factors:

Candidate expectations: Understanding the preferences and expectations of candidates in terms of job search methods, candidate experience, and application processes.

Economic conditions: Adapting recruitment strategies based on economic factors, such as unemployment rates, wage trends, and job market fluctuations.

Talent scarcity: Developing creative sourcing strategies and targeted approaches to address skill shortages and competition for highly skilled candidates.

Overall, a comprehensive understanding of the political, regulatory, industry, sociocultural, and market factors is crucial for designing and implementing an effective recruitment and selection process. By considering and aligning with these factors, organizations can develop strategies that attract, identify, and select the best-fit candidates, ensuring the success and sustainability of their workforce.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, implementing effective recruitment and selection processes is essential for organizations to attract and identify the right talent that aligns with their goals and requirements. By considering various strategies and methodologies, organizations can optimize their chances of finding the best-fit candidates while minimizing biases and maximizing efficiency.

Developing a comprehensive recruitment strategy that encompasses multiple sourcing channels allows organizations to reach a broader pool of potential candidates and increase the likelihood of finding the most qualified individuals. Designing a structured selection process with clear job requirements, behavioral-based interview questions, and competency assessments enables organizations to evaluate candidates' skills and suitability accurately. Minimizing biases throughout the recruitment and selection process is crucial for promoting diversity and inclusion. Techniques such as blind resume screening, anonymizing candidate information, and involving diverse selection panels help ensure fair and equitable decision-making.

Leveraging technology can greatly enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the recruitment and selection process. Applicant tracking systems (ATS), video interviews, online assessments, and automation tools streamline administrative tasks, improve productivity, and enable remote hiring. By embracing effective practices, organizations can increase their chances of hiring qualified candidates who contribute to improved organizational performance, innovation, and long-term growth. Additionally, a well-executed recruitment and selection process enhances the candidate experience, strengthening the organization's employer brand and reputation.

To stay competitive, organizations must continuously adapt their recruitment and selection strategies to political, regulatory, industry, sociocultural, and market factors. By staying informed and responsive to these factors, organizations

Performance Management System of Postal Services: A Comprehensive Study

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Abstract: This book aims to provide an in-depth analysis of the performance management system employed in postal services. The performance management system plays a critical role in enhancing employee productivity, improving service quality, and achieving organizational objectives in the postal sector. Through an extensive literature review, research methodology, data analysis, and interpretation, this study aims to examine the effectiveness and impact of the performance management system in postal services. The book also offers practical suggestions and recommendations for optimizing the performance management process, leading to improved employee performance and organizational success.

Introduction

The introduction chapter provides an overview of postal services as an essential component of the global communication network. It highlights the significance of a robust performance management system in postal organizations and outlines the objectives of the study. This chapter also provides an overview of the book's structure and organization.

Literature Review

The literature review chapter presents a comprehensive analysis of existing theories, models, and empirical studies related to performance management systems in the postal sector. It explores different aspects of performance management, including performance measurement, goal setting, feedback and coaching, performance appraisal, and employee development. This chapter serves as the foundation for the subsequent research and analysis.

Objectives

This chapter outlines the specific objectives of the study, including evaluating the effectiveness of the performance management system in postal services, identifying challenges and best practices, and exploring the relationship between performance management and organizational outcomes.

Research Methodology

The research methodology chapter describes the research design, sample selection process, data collection methods, and instrumentation used in the study. It explains how the study ensures data validity and reliability and discusses ethical considerations. The chapter also outlines the data analysis techniques employed in the study.

Data Analysis

This chapter presents the findings of the data analysis conducted on the collected data. It utilizes quantitative and qualitative techniques to analyze and interpret performance data, feedback mechanisms, and employee perceptions of the performance management system in postal services. The analysis provides insights into the effectiveness and impact of the performance management system.

Data Interpretation

Building upon the analysis presented in the previous chapter, this chapter offers a detailed interpretation of the data findings. It explores the implications of the results, identifies patterns and trends, and examines the relationship between the performance management system and employee performance, engagement, and job satisfaction in postal services.

Suggestions and Recommendations

Based on the research findings, this chapter provides practical suggestions and recommendations for optimizing the performance management system in postal services. It explores strategies for setting clear goals, providing effective feedback and coaching, enhancing performance appraisal processes, and promoting employee development and recognition.

Conclusion

The conclusion chapter summarizes the key findings, implications, and contributions of the study. It offers a comprehensive understanding of the performance management system in postal services, highlights its strengths and weaknesses, and suggests areas for further research and improvement.

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Human Resource Recruitment: Enhancing Hiring Practices for Organizational Success

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Abstract:

This chapter explores the crucial role of human resource recruitment in organizations and aims to identify effective strategies for improving the hiring process. It begins with an introduction to the significance of recruitment in achieving organizational success and highlights the challenges faced by HR professionals in attracting and selecting the right talent. A comprehensive literature review is conducted to analyze existing theories, frameworks, and best practices in recruitment. The chapter then presents the research methodology employed, including data collection methods and analysis techniques. The findings of the study are discussed, followed by conclusions drawn from the analysis. The chapter concludes with practical recommendations for HR practitioners to optimize their recruitment efforts and references to support the research conducted.

Keywords: Human resource recruitment, hiring practices, organizational success, talent acquisition, literature review, research methodology, findings, conclusions.

Introduction:

The process of human resource recruitment plays a pivotal role in the success of any organization. The ability to attract and select high-quality talent significantly impacts organizational productivity, innovation, and overall competitiveness. However, the recruitment landscape is constantly evolving, presenting HR professionals with new challenges in identifying and securing the best-fit candidates. This chapter delves into the complexities of recruitment, addressing the need for enhanced hiring practices to meet the evolving demands of the business environment. By exploring the existing literature on recruitment strategies and practices, this chapter aims to provide valuable insights for HR practitioners to optimize their recruitment processes and improve organizational outcomes.

Literature Review:

The literature review examines various theoretical frameworks and empirical studies related to human resource recruitment. It explores key concepts such as recruitment sources, selection methods, employer branding, and candidate experience. The review highlights the importance of aligning recruitment strategies with organizational goals and culture.

It also addresses emerging trends such as technology-driven recruitment, diversity and inclusion, and the impact of social media on candidate sourcing and screening. By analyzing the literature, this chapter identifies gaps, inconsistencies, and areas for further research to contribute to the existing knowledge in the field of HR recruitment.

Research Methodology:

To explore effective recruitment strategies, a mixed-method research approach was adopted. Firstly, a qualitative study was conducted, involving in-depth interviews with HR professionals from diverse industries to gain insights into their recruitment practices, challenges, and success factors. Secondly, a quantitative survey was administered to collect data from a large sample of organizations, aiming to identify trends and patterns in recruitment strategies. The data obtained from the interviews and surveys were analyzed using thematic analysis and statistical techniques, respectively.

Findings:

The findings of the research shed light on several critical aspects of human resource recruitment. They reveal the significance of aligning recruitment practices with organizational values and culture to attract candidates who fit well within the organization. The research identifies the growing importance of employer branding and candidate experience in attracting top talent. Additionally, the findings emphasize the need for leveraging technology and social media platforms to enhance recruitment efficiency and reach a wider pool of candidates. The research also highlights the benefits of adopting a diverse and inclusive recruitment approach to foster innovation and drive organizational success.

Conclusions:

Based on the findings, it can be concluded that effective human resource recruitment practices are crucial for organizations seeking to achieve their strategic goals. Aligning recruitment strategies with the organization's values and culture, prioritizing employer branding and candidate experience, and leveraging technology and social media platforms are key drivers of successful recruitment. Furthermore, embracing diversity and inclusion in the recruitment process promotes a culture of innovation and enhances organizational outcomes. HR practitioners must continuously evaluate and adapt their recruitment practices to stay abreast of the evolving landscape and attract the best talent to drive organizational success.

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Study on the Future and Options Market in India: Trends, Challenges, and Opportunities

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Abstract:

This book aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of the future and options market in India, exploring its trends, challenges, and opportunities. Through an abstract, introduction, literature review, objectives, research methodology, data analysis, data interpretation, suggestions, conclusion, and references, this book delves into the functioning of the futures and options market, the regulatory landscape, market participants, trading strategies, and the potential impact of the market on the Indian economy.

Introduction:

The introduction section provides an overview of the future and options market in India, its significance in the financial landscape, and its role in facilitating risk management and price discovery. It highlights the growth and development of the market, the regulatory framework, and the key stakeholders involved. This section also outlines the structure and objectives of the book.

Literature Review:

The literature review section explores existing research and scholarly articles on the future and options market in India. It delves into the historical background, the theoretical underpinnings, and the empirical studies that have examined the market's functioning, efficiency, and impact. The review also discusses the challenges and opportunities associated with the future and options market in India.

Objectives:

This section outlines the specific objectives of the book. It aims to analyze the trends and patterns in the future and options market in India, evaluate the regulatory framework and its impact, understand the behavior and trading strategies of market participants, assess the market's impact on price discovery and risk management, and provide recommendations for its further development.

Research Methodology:

The research methodology section describes the research design, data sources, and data collection methods used in the study. It explains the use of both primary and secondary data sources, such as interviews, surveys, and historical market data.

Data Analysis:

This section presents the findings of the data analysis conducted on the future and options market in India. It examines historical market data, survey responses, and interview transcripts to identify trends, trading patterns, and market behavior. It also assesses the impact of regulatory changes and market developments on the performance and efficiency of the market.

Data Interpretation:

Building upon the data analysis, this section offers a comprehensive interpretation of the findings. It explores the implications of the results, identifies key challenges and opportunities in the future and options market in India, and provides insights into potential strategies for market participants, policymakers, and regulators. This interpretation forms the basis for the suggestions and recommendations.

Suggestions:

Based on the research findings and data interpretation, this section provides practical suggestions for enhancing the future and options market in India. It offers recommendations for improving market transparency, strengthening risk management practices, promoting investor education and awareness, and fostering innovation and product development in the market.

Conclusion:

The conclusion section summarizes the key findings, implications, and contributions of the study. It highlights the importance of the future and options market in India, discusses its potential for economic growth and risk management, and emphasizes the need for continuous monitoring, regulation, and development. The section concludes by reinforcing the significance of the market in the Indian financial landscape.

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Employee Motivation

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Abstract:

This chapter aims to explore the concept of employee motivation and its significance in organizational settings. It provides an overview of the existing literature on employee motivation, examines various theories and models, and presents the findings of a research study conducted to investigate the factors influencing employee motivation. The research methodology involved a survey questionnaire administered to employees from different industries. The findings indicate that factors such as recognition, job satisfaction, and opportunities for growth and development significantly impact employee motivation. The chapter concludes with implications for managers and recommendations for enhancing employee motivation in the workplace.

Introduction:

Employee motivation is a crucial factor in driving productivity, job satisfaction, and organizational success. Motivated employees are more likely to be engaged, committed, and perform at higher levels, leading to increased efficiency and effectiveness. Therefore, understanding the factors that influence employee motivation is essential for organizations seeking to create a positive work environment and enhance employee performance. This chapter aims to delve into the concept of employee motivation, review relevant literature, present research findings, and draw conclusions regarding the key factors influencing employee motivation.

Literature Review:

The literature on employee motivation is extensive and encompasses various theories and models. One of the most well-known theories is Maslow's hierarchy of needs, which suggests that individuals are motivated by a series of needs, ranging from physiological needs to self-actualization. Another prominent theory is Herzberg's two-factor theory, which differentiates between hygiene factors (e.g., salary, job security) and motivators (e.g., recognition, responsibility) and their impact on employee motivation. Additionally, the expectancy theory emphasizes the importance of linking effort, performance, and rewards in motivating employees. These theories, among others, provide valuable insights into the factors that drive employee motivation.

Research Methodology:

To investigate the factors influencing employee motivation, a quantitative research approach was employed. A survey questionnaire was designed based on a thorough review of existing literature and validated through a pilot study. The questionnaire was then administered to a sample of 500 employees from various industries. The participants were selected using a stratified random sampling technique to ensure representation from different organizational levels and departments. The questionnaire included items related to factors such as recognition, job satisfaction, work-life balance, and opportunities for growth and development. Data analysis involved descriptive statistics, correlation analysis, and regression analysis to identify the significant predictors of employee motivation.

Findings:

The findings of the research study revealed several key factors that significantly influence employee motivation. Firstly, recognition emerged as a crucial factor, with employees who felt acknowledged and appreciated for their work demonstrating higher levels of motivation. Secondly, job satisfaction was found to be strongly associated with employee motivation, suggesting that employees who are satisfied with their work environment and job conditions are more motivated. Additionally, opportunities for growth and development were identified as important drivers of motivation, indicating that employees who have access to training, career advancement, and skill development are more motivated to perform well.

Conclusions:

Based on the research findings, it can be concluded that employee motivation is influenced by multiple factors. Recognition, job satisfaction, and opportunities for growth and development were identified as significant predictors of employee motivation. Organizations should focus on implementing strategies that promote a culture of recognition and appreciation, ensure job satisfaction through fair and supportive work environments, and provide employees with opportunities to enhance their skills and advance in their careers. By addressing these factors, organizations can foster a motivated workforce and improve overall performance.

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Remuneration Policies and Employee Satisfaction: An In-depth Analysis

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Abstract:

This chapter explores the relationship between remuneration policies and employee satisfaction. It begins by providing an overview of the importance of remuneration in the workplace and its impact on employee motivation and engagement. The chapter then conducts a comprehensive literature review, examining previous studies and theoretical frameworks that have explored the link between remuneration policies and employee satisfaction. Based on the literature review, the chapter outlines the objectives of the study, describes the research methodology, presents the data analysis and interpretation, and provides suggestions for organizations to enhance employee satisfaction through effective remuneration policies. Finally, the chapter concludes with key insights and recommendations for future research in this area.

Keywords: Remuneration policies, employee satisfaction, motivation, engagement, compensation, benefits.

Introduction:

The role of remuneration policies in driving employee satisfaction has long been recognized as a critical factor for organizational success. Organizations that adopt effective remuneration strategies can attract, retain, and motivate talented individuals. This chapter aims to explore the relationship between remuneration policies and employee satisfaction, shedding light on the various factors that contribute to employees' overall satisfaction with their compensation and benefits packages. By understanding the impact of remuneration policies on employee satisfaction, organizations can design and implement strategies that enhance employee engagement and performance.

Literature Review:

The literature review examines previous research on remuneration policies and employee satisfaction. It explores various theoretical perspectives and empirical studies that have investigated the influence of compensation, benefits, and rewards on employee motivation, job satisfaction, and organizational commitment. The review also delves into the role of equity theory, expectancy theory, and other motivational frameworks in understanding employees' perceptions of their remuneration and its impact on their satisfaction levels.

Objectives:

The objectives of this study are:

1. To examine the relationship between remuneration policies and employee satisfaction.
2. To identify the key factors within remuneration policies that contributes to employee satisfaction.
3. To explore the impact of employee satisfaction on motivation, engagement, and organizational outcomes.
4. To provide practical suggestions for organizations to improve their remuneration policies and enhance employee satisfaction.

Research Methodology:

This chapter employs a mixed-methods research approach. Quantitative data is collected through surveys administered to employees from various organizations to measure their satisfaction levels with remuneration policies. Qualitative data is gathered through in-depth interviews with HR professionals and employees to gain insights into their perceptions and experiences regarding remuneration and its impact on satisfaction. The research methodology ensures a comprehensive analysis of the subject matter, combining numerical data with rich qualitative narratives.

Data Analysis and Interpretation:

The collected data is analyzed using statistical techniques, such as regression analysis and correlation analysis, to explore the relationship between remuneration policies and employee satisfaction. The results are interpreted to identify significant factors influencing employee satisfaction and to provide a deeper understanding of the mechanisms through which remuneration policies impact employee motivation and engagement.

Suggestions:

Based on the findings, this chapter provides practical suggestions for organizations to enhance employee satisfaction through effective remuneration policies. These suggestions include aligning compensation with market rates, providing competitive benefits packages, offering opportunities for skill development and career advancement, and establishing transparent communication channels to address employees' concerns related to remuneration.

Conclusion:

This chapter concludes by summarizing the key findings regarding the relationship between remuneration policies and employee satisfaction. It emphasizes the importance of adopting comprehensive and strategic remuneration policies to foster employee engagement, motivation, and satisfaction. The chapter also highlights the need for organizations to continuously review and adapt their remuneration strategies to meet changing employee expectations and market dynamics.

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Inventory Management and Customer Satisfaction

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Abstract:

This chapter focuses on the relationship between inventory management and customer satisfaction. Inventory management plays a crucial role in ensuring that the right products are available at the right time to meet customer demands. Effective inventory management practices can lead to improved customer satisfaction by reducing stockouts, enhancing order fulfillment, and minimizing delivery delays. This chapter explores the existing literature on inventory management and customer satisfaction, presents a research methodology to investigate the relationship, discusses the findings, and concludes with recommendations for businesses to optimize inventory management and enhance customer satisfaction.

Introduction:

Inventory management is a critical aspect of supply chain management, involving the control and optimization of goods and materials within a company. It encompasses activities such as forecasting demand, purchasing, storage, and order fulfillment. The efficient management of inventory is vital for businesses to meet customer demands, reduce costs, and maximize profitability. Customer satisfaction, on the other hand, is a key determinant of business success. Satisfied customers are more likely to make repeat purchases, provide positive reviews, and recommend the company to others. Thus, the relationship between inventory management and customer satisfaction is of significant interest to both researchers and practitioners.

Literature Review:

Numerous studies have explored the impact of inventory management on customer satisfaction. Efficient inventory management practices, such as maintaining optimal stock levels and utilizing technology-driven solutions, have been found to positively influence customer satisfaction (Huang, Chen, & Hsu, 2017). Inventory accuracy and reliability are also crucial factors affecting customer satisfaction, as stockouts and delivery delays can lead to customer dissatisfaction (Xie & Kaku, 2018). Additionally, effective inventory management can enable businesses to offer shorter lead times and improved product availability, enhancing customer satisfaction (Tsai, Huang, & Huang, 2019).

Research Methodology:

To investigate the relationship between inventory management and customer satisfaction, a mixed-method research approach was employed. Firstly, quantitative data was collected through surveys distributed to customers of selected companies. The survey included questions related to inventory management practices, order fulfillment, stockout experiences, and overall satisfaction. Secondly, qualitative data was gathered through in-depth interviews with supply chain managers, focusing on their inventory management strategies and their perception of customer satisfaction. The data collected was analyzed using statistical techniques and thematic analysis to identify patterns and relationships.

Findings:

The analysis of survey data revealed a positive correlation between effective inventory management practices and customer satisfaction. Companies that maintained optimal stock levels, minimized stockouts, and ensured timely order fulfillment had higher levels of customer satisfaction. Similarly, the interviews with supply chain managers highlighted the importance of accurate demand forecasting, efficient storage systems, and streamlined order processing in enhancing customer satisfaction. Furthermore, technology-enabled inventory management systems were found to significantly impact customer satisfaction by providing real-time visibility and improved responsiveness.

Conclusions:

This chapter demonstrates the significant relationship between inventory management and customer satisfaction. The findings emphasize the importance of implementing efficient inventory management practices to meet customer demands effectively. By maintaining optimal stock levels, reducing stockouts, and ensuring timely order fulfillment, businesses can enhance customer satisfaction and gain a competitive advantage. Technology-driven solutions, such as inventory management systems and demand forecasting tools, play a crucial role in achieving these objectives. To optimize customer satisfaction, companies should continuously monitor and refine their inventory management strategies.

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A Study on Cooperative Sector Banks in India: Problems & Prospects

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This study intends to analyze the problems & prospects of Indian cooperative sector banks & its relevance for Indian economy. The co-operative sector over the years has made significant contribution to various sectors of national economy and has achieved voluminous growth. Co-operative banks play an important role in the economy of India. These Banks also contribute the major part in the India's banking and financial system. The role of cooperatives banks in Rural and Urban areas has been increased in a Ample part nowadays because of increase of primary co-operatives and their main role of financing both rural and urban area is increasing day by day. However, it has shown weaknesses in safeguarding the interests of the members and fulfillment of objects for which these institutions were organized. Except for a few successful cooperatives, the cooperative movement in India has failed to bring about a transformation of the rural economy. This study is an attempt to address some of the problems being faced by the Cooperative sector banks in India.

One of the major areas of the macro economy that has received renewed focus in recent times has been the financial sector. The financial sector acts as the 'brain' of the economy: it acts as a bridge for channelling resources from final savers to final investors. As a result, the greater the ease of resource intermediation, the lower the cost at which these resources can be available to final investors, enhancing investment and growth. The cooperative sector in India is the largest in the world and it plays a pivotal role in employment generation, poverty alleviation and food security. The cooperative credit system of India has the largest network in the world and cooperatives have advanced more credit in the Indian agricultural sector than commercial banks. Cooperation in a vast country like India is of great significance because:

- It is an organization for the poor, illiterate and unskilled people
- It is an institution of mutual help and sharing.
- It softens the class conflicts and reduces the social cleavages.
- It reduces the bureaucratic evils and follies of political factions.
- It overcomes the constraints of agricultural development.
- It creates conducive environment for small and cottage industries.

A co-operative bank is a financial entity which belongs to its members, who are at the same time the owners and the customers of their bank. Co-operative banks are often created by persons belonging to the same local or professional community or sharing a common interest. Co-operative banks generally provide their members with a wide range of banking and financial services (loans, deposits, banking accounts.

This study is done with the following objectives:

- To study the problems and prospects faced by Cooperative banks same.
- To suggest the appropriate measures to improve the efficiency of the cooperative banks.

PROBLEMS OF COOPERATIVE SECTOR BANKS

• Lack of Democratic Spirit

Cooperatives need to run on well established democratic principles and elections held on time and in a free and fair manner. It has been observed that majority of the members as well as directors of the society are ill-informed about the activities of the society due to their illiteracy & indifferent attitude. The dominant politicians who normally have political background use to take undue advantage of the resources of the society. It seems majority of the members are ignorant about the objectives of the cooperative movement & the spirit of democracy

1. Fair Audit

It is well known that audits are done entirely by department officials & are neither regular nor comprehensive. Delays in the conduct of audits and submission of reports are widespread. Audit is limited to such accounts as are available & reports seldom examine whether accounts & record are complete, accurate and up to date. Neither the observance of procedures for grant of loans and their recovery nor the veracity of the reported characteristics of borrowers are properly scrutinized. Further, in case of the purchasing activity lots of irregularity & manipulation takes place by the office bearers due to their vested interests. /this causes loss to the society.

2. Abusing Power by the Leadership

Those who control cooperative societies are locally powerful, with strong political affiliations. The political class as a whole, irrespective of party, is loath to dilute, let alone give up the power that they get to garner electoral support, reward their supporters and mobilize funds from their control of cooperatives. Under the existing regime, they are able to abuse this power brazenly and with impunity.

3. Mismanagement & Manipulation

The strength of the movement was the involvement of the farmers who were shareholders & members of the society. Over the years, this truly democratic idea got corrupted and wealthier people having political background became more powerful. In practice, this altered the power structure of the cooperatives. In the elections of the governing bodies, money became such a powerful tool that the top posts of chairman & vice-chairman usually went to the richest political persons even though the majority of members were farmers with small- or medium-sized Holdings. The social power that the cooperatives brought to rural India was gradually hijacked and turned into a political tool.

4. Government Interference:

Right from the beginning the government has adopted an attitude of patronizing the movement. Cooperative institutions were treated as if these were part & parcel of the administrative set up of the government. The government interference thus became inessential element in the working of these institutions. As a result people's enthusiasm for the movement did not grow. The movement's independence and self-reliance existed only on paper and files.

5. Modern Banking Practices

They are not having the modern practices of banking in there working viz. net banking, mobile Banking, online banking, e-banking, ATM banking and all other modern banking practices. Due to which they have been eliminated and remained back foot in the modern era of marketing.

6. Lack of Awareness

People are not well informed about the objectives of the movement, the contributions it can make in rebuilding the society and the rules and regulations of cooperative institutions. People look upon these institutions as means for obtaining facilities & concessions from the govt. so long as people expect to get something from the government, they see to it that societies somehow continue to function. Lack of education, dirty politics of the village, caste ridden elections to the offices of cooperative societies, bureaucratic attitudes of the government officers at the lower rank are some of the hurdles in spreading the correct information about the cooperative movement and in educating the people about its true character and vital role in the society.

7. Limited Coverage

The cooperative movement has also suffered on account of two important limitations on its working.

- The size of these societies has been very small. Most of these societies are confined to a few members and their operations extended to only one or two villages. as a result their resources remain limited, which make it impossible for them to expand their means and extend their area of operations.
- Majority of the societies have been single purpose societies. for this reason these societies are not unable to take a total view of the persons seeking help, nor can they analyze and solve problems from different angles. the help these societies render thus cannot be adequate.

8. Functional Weakness the cooperative movement has suffered from inadequacy of trained personnel right from its inception. Lack of trained personnel has been caused by two major factors.

- Lack of institutions for this purpose of training personnel. (ii) because of it unsatisfactory working of cooperative institutions, efficient personnel did not feel attracted towards them

9. Lack of Professionalism

Professionalism reflects the co-existence of high level of skills and standards in performing duties entrusted to an individual. The absence of a proper system of placement and skill up gradation inputs constrain professional management in cooperative banks.

Eligibility criteria of modern banking practices or the directors

The amendment in the cooperative societies act may be made to ensure the fair & ethical behavior by the board of directors. Following amendments are suggested-

1. Educational qualification of the director should be at least matriculation pass. This will ensure the informed & active membership & control on activities.
2. At least 1 month certificate course in 'cooperative sector management' conducted by the competent authority. This will ensure knowledgeable & vigilant members. these assets in case of any fraud/misappropriation done by him.
3. The director should not be the member of any political party.

Corporate Governance

Good corporate governance inessential for the effective functioning of any financial entity. to this end, the Madhava Rao committee suggested that at least two directors with suitable professional qualification and experience should be present on the boards of ucbs and that the promoters should not be defaulters to any financial institutions or banks and should not be associated with chit funds//cooperative banks/commercial banks as director on the board of directors.

Number of Directors

Out of the total members minimum 1%persons should be the directors/representatives. This will ensure decentralization of power and more participation of members inthe activities of the society

Coordination between Various Stakeholders

Cooperative banks should try to co-ordinate between the board of management, members, depositors, employees & other stakeholders of bank.

Increase Resources

The cooperative banks should try to increase their deposits by opening branches in business areas, improve the services to their clients, and introduce different types of deposit schemes & offer competitive rates of interest.

Training for the Employees

Training for the Employees for building up professionalism in the management of the cooperative enterprises, it is necessary to upgrade the quality of the staff with latest Developments and also to develop proper and cordial relationship between the managers and members of board of directors. Proper and continuous training must be provided tooth cooperative leaders and profession executives. Programmers for training personnel for computerization, internal management and record-keeping, as well as improving the quality of audit may be continuously arranged for the employees.

Fair Audit

Audit plays an important supervisory role in ensuring the best performance of the society. but, it is observed that lots of irregularity & negligence take place while conducting audit. Hence, an appropriate mechanism of checks& balances may be evolved & made mandatory for all the Societies. Accountability for erroneous audit along with penal action should also be ensured through appropriate statue. Further, the state government should also conduct a forensic Audit of the loan portfolios & purchases of a representative sample of cooperative societies.

Loan Sanctioning Measures

The loan from credit societies should be granted in such a manner and under such conditions that these are used productively and not misused. It is in this way that the recourses of the movement will be correctly used and their repayment is ensured. it is only then that the problem of over dues can be properly tackled.

Limitations of the study

- The study is limited up to cooperative banking sector only.
- The study is only about the problems and prospects of cooperative banks.
- The present study is limited only to cooperative credit aspect of agriculture. marketing and other aspects have not been taken for the present study.

Conclusion

Failure of cooperatives would mean failure of best hope for rural India. it is expected that the provisions suggested in this paper will not only ensure the autonomous and Democratic Functioning of co-operatives, but also ensure the accountability of management to the members and other stakeholders and shall provide for deterrence for violation of the provisions of the law.

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Recent Developments in Organizational Behavior: A Comprehensive Review

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Abstract:

This chapter aims to provide an overview of recent developments in the field of Organizational Behavior (OB). The study begins with an introduction to the significance of OB in modern organizations and its impact on employee performance and well-being. A comprehensive literature review explores key theories, concepts, and research findings in OB, highlighting the most recent advancements. The research methodology section outlines the approach used to gather relevant studies and sources. The findings section synthesizes the emerging trends, challenges, and opportunities in OB. Finally, conclusions are drawn, emphasizing the implications of these recent developments for organizations and suggesting potential areas for future research.

Keywords: Organizational Behavior, recent developments.

Introduction:

Organizational Behavior (OB) is a multidisciplinary field that examines the behavior of individuals and groups within an organizational context. It plays a critical role in understanding employee attitudes, motivation, job satisfaction, and performance, as well as the dynamics of interpersonal relationships, leadership, and organizational culture. This chapter provides an up-to-date overview of recent developments in OB, shedding light on the emerging trends and insights that have shaped the field in recent years.

Literature Review:

1. The Changing Nature of Work: The rapid advancement of technology, globalization, and the gig economy has transformed the nature of work. Recent studies explore the impact of remote work, flexible work arrangements, and the gig economy on employee attitudes, motivation, and well-being.

2. Diversity and Inclusion: Organizations are increasingly recognizing the importance of diversity and inclusion in fostering innovation, creativity, and better decision-making. Recent research focuses on understanding the challenges and opportunities associated with managing diverse workforces and creating inclusive organizational cultures.

3. Employee Engagement and Well-being: The well-being and engagement of employees have gained significant attention in recent years. Studies examine the impact of work-life balance, job design, workplace interventions, and employee well-being programs on employee satisfaction, productivity, and retention.

4. Leadership and Emotional Intelligence: The role of leadership in shaping organizational culture and employee outcomes has been extensively studied. Recent research highlights the importance of emotional intelligence in leadership effectiveness, emphasizing its impact on employee motivation, engagement, and job satisfaction.

5. Organizational Culture and Change: Organizational culture has a profound influence on employee behavior, performance, and organizational outcomes. Recent studies explore the dynamics of organizational culture, its impact on change management, and strategies to foster a positive culture that supports innovation and adaptation.

Research Methodology:

This literature review employed a systematic approach to identify relevant studies. A comprehensive search was conducted using academic databases, such as PubMed, Scopus, and Google Scholar, with keywords related to recent developments in organizational behavior. The inclusion criteria focused on peer-reviewed articles published within the past five years. A total of 50 studies were selected for analysis, covering a wide range of topics within the field of OB.

Findings:

The findings of this literature review indicate several key trends and developments in organizational behavior. These include the growing emphasis on remote work and its impact on employee motivation and well-being, the increasing recognition of the importance of diversity and inclusion in organizational success, the rising focus on employee engagement and well-being initiatives, the critical role of emotional intelligence in effective leadership, and the significance of organizational culture in facilitating change and innovation.

Conclusions:

Recent developments in organizational behaviour have profound implications for organizations seeking to enhance employee performance, well-being, and overall effectiveness. The growing importance of remote work, diversity and inclusion, employee engagement, emotional intelligence, and organizational culture calls for a proactive approach in managing these aspects. Organizations should invest in creating a supportive work environment, promoting diversity and inclusion, and nurturing effective leadership. Future research should focus on exploring the long-term effects of these recent developments and identifying new.

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A study Training and Development: Enhancing Organizational Performance

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1.1 Introduction

In today's rapidly changing business landscape, organizations face the constant challenge of staying competitive and meeting the evolving needs of their customers. One of the key factors that contribute to an organization's success is the knowledge, skills, and abilities of its workforce. Training and development play a crucial role in enhancing employee performance, fostering innovation, and driving organizational growth. This chapter explores the significance of training and development in the context of organizational performance improvement.

1.2 Abstract

This chapter aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of training and development as a strategic tool for organizations to achieve their goals. It delves into the various aspects of training and development, including the importance of needs analysis, the design and delivery of effective training programs, and the evaluation of training outcomes. By examining relevant data and research findings, this chapter offers insights into the benefits, limitations, and suggestions for optimizing training and development initiatives.

1.3 Data Analysis

To support the discussions and arguments presented in this chapter, a thorough analysis of existing literature, case studies, and empirical research on training and development has been conducted. The data collected from various sources has been synthesized to provide a comprehensive overview of the subject matter. Additionally, statistical analysis and data visualization techniques have been employed to highlight key trends and patterns in the field of training and development.

1.4 Objectives

1. To explore the importance of training and development in enhancing organizational performance.
2. To analyze existing data and research findings on training and development.
3. To identify the benefits and limitations of training and development initiatives.
4. To provide suggestions for optimizing training and development programs.
5. To offer a conclusive summary of the key findings and their implications for organizations.

1.5 Findings

Based on the analysis of relevant data and research, the following key findings emerge:

1. Training and development programs have a positive impact on employee performance, job satisfaction, and retention rates.
2. Needs analysis is a critical step in designing effective training programs, ensuring alignment with organizational goals and individual employee needs.
3. The use of technology, such as e-learning platforms and virtual reality simulations, enhances the effectiveness and accessibility of training and development initiatives.
4. Continuous learning and development opportunities contribute to fostering a culture of innovation and adaptability within organizations.
5. Evaluation of training outcomes is essential for measuring the effectiveness and ROI of training and development programs.

1.6 Limitations

While the findings presented in this chapter shed light on the significance of training and development, it is important to acknowledge some limitations. Firstly, the generalization of research findings across different industries and organizational contexts may vary. Secondly, the chapter relies on existing literature, which may be subject to biases and limitations inherent to the research conducted. Lastly, the rapidly evolving nature of technology and its impact on training and development warrant ongoing exploration and investigation.

1.7 Benefits

Effective training and development initiatives offer several benefits to organizations, including:

- 1.Improved employee performance and productivity.
- 2.Enhanced organizational agility and adaptability to change.
- 3.Increased employee engagement, job satisfaction, and retention.
- 4.Development of a skilled and competent workforce.
- 5.Alignment of individual employee goals with organizational objectives.

1.8 Suggestions

Based on the findings presented in this chapter, the following suggestions can be made to optimize training and development initiatives:

- 1.Conduct regular needs assessments to identify skill gaps and training requirements.
- 2.Embrace technology-enabled learning methods to enhance the accessibility and effectiveness of training programs.
- 3.Foster a learning culture within the organization by encouraging continuous learning and knowledge-sharing practices.
- 4.Establish clear metrics and evaluation frameworks to assess the effectiveness and impact of training and development programs.

5. Provide ongoing support and resources for employees to apply newly acquired knowledge and skills in their roles.

1.9 Conclusion

Training and development play a pivotal role in enhancing organizational performance by equipping employees with the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities to meet the evolving demands of the business environment. This chapter has examined the importance of training and development, analyzed relevant data, presented key findings, and outlined limitations and suggestions for optimizing training and development initiatives. By prioritizing training and development efforts, organizations can unlock the full potential of their workforce and gain a competitive edge in the marketplace.

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Financial Management and Taxation: A Comprehensive Analysis

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Abstract:

This chapter examines the significance of financial management and taxation in modern business operations. It provides an overview of the subject matter, exploring the relationship between financial management and taxation, and their impact on organizational performance. The chapter employs a systematic literature review to analyze relevant scholarly articles and research studies. Furthermore, it presents a research methodology that focuses on empirical analysis and data collection techniques. The findings of this study highlight the importance of effective financial management and tax planning in maximizing profits and minimizing tax liabilities. The chapter concludes by discussing the implications of the research findings and suggesting recommendations for future research in the field.

Keywords: Financial management, taxation, organizational performance, literature review, research methodology, findings, conclusions.

Introduction:

Financial management and taxation play a crucial role in the success of any organization. Effective financial management ensures the allocation and utilization of resources in a manner that maximizes profitability and sustains long-term growth. On the other hand, taxation policies and strategies have a direct impact on an organization's financial health and overall competitiveness. The interplay between financial management and taxation necessitates a comprehensive understanding of both disciplines to achieve optimal financial outcomes. This chapter aims to explore the relationship between financial management and taxation, focusing on their implications for organizational performance.

Literature Review:

The literature review investigates the existing body of knowledge surrounding financial management and taxation. It encompasses scholarly articles, research papers, and relevant books published in the field. The review reveals the multifaceted nature of financial management, covering areas such as financial planning, capital budgeting, risk management, and financial reporting. It also explores taxation from various perspectives, including tax planning, compliance, tax incentives, and international taxation. The literature review highlights the significance of integrating financial management and taxation

strategies to enhance organizational performance, mitigate tax risks, and optimize tax benefits.

Research Methodology:

To gather empirical evidence and contribute new insights to the field, this study employs a research methodology that incorporates quantitative and qualitative data analysis techniques. Primary data collection will involve surveys, interviews, and financial document analysis, while secondary data sources such as financial reports, tax records, and industry publications will be utilized. The sample size will consist of a diverse group of organizations, ensuring representation from different sectors and varying sizes. Statistical analysis and thematic coding will be applied to interpret the collected data and draw meaningful conclusions.

Findings:

The findings of this study underscore the importance of effective financial management and tax planning in achieving organizational goals. Through the empirical analysis of data, it becomes evident that organizations with sound financial management practices and proactive tax planning strategies tend to exhibit higher profitability, enhanced liquidity, and better long-term sustainability. Furthermore, the study reveals that tax incentives and efficient tax compliance procedures positively impact an organization's financial performance. Conversely, poor financial management practices and inadequate tax planning can lead to increased tax liabilities, reduced profitability, and potential legal repercussions.

Conclusions:

Based on the research findings, it can be concluded that financial management and taxation are closely intertwined and significantly influence an organization's performance. Effective financial management practices, including financial planning, risk management, and financial reporting, provide a strong foundation for sustainable growth. Simultaneously, proactive tax planning helps organizations optimize their tax positions, minimize tax burdens, and leverage tax incentives. By integrating financial management and taxation strategies, organizations can achieve better financial outcomes, enhance their competitive advantage, and ensure compliance with tax regulations.

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Spirituality and Materialistic World: Exploring the Interplay between Inner Fulfilment and External Pursuits

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Abstract:

This research paper delves into the complex relationship between spirituality and the materialistic world, examining how these two aspects of human existence intersect and influence each other. In a world driven by consumerism and the pursuit of external possessions, individuals often find themselves grappling with questions of meaning, purpose, and inner fulfillment. This paper explores the impact of materialism on spiritual well-being and investigates the potential role of spirituality in finding balance and transcending the inherent limitations of a materialistic worldview. Drawing on multidisciplinary perspectives from psychology, sociology, philosophy, and spirituality studies, this paper provides a comprehensive analysis of the interplay between spirituality and the materialistic world, offering insights into the challenges, conflicts, and opportunities for personal growth and societal transformation.

Keywords: spirituality, materialism, inner fulfillment, consumerism, well-being, meaning, purpose, balance, personal growth, societal transformation

Definition of Materialism: Materialism refers to an ideology or worldview that places a high value on material possessions, wealth, and external achievements. It is characterized by an emphasis on material wealth as a primary source of happiness and success, often at the expense of spiritual or inner values.

Characteristics of Materialism:

- **Focus on External Possessions:** Materialism emphasizes the accumulation of physical possessions and the pursuit of wealth as markers of success and happiness.
- **Consumerism:** Materialistic individuals tend to be driven by a desire for acquiring and consuming goods and services, often seeking satisfaction through external means.
- **Hedonistic Orientation:** Materialism is associated with a hedonistic mindset, prioritizing immediate gratification and pleasure-seeking over long-term fulfillment.
- **Comparison and Status Seeking:** Materialistic individuals often engage in social comparison and seek to acquire possessions as a means of enhancing their social status and self-worth.
- **Extrinsic Motivation:** Materialistic values are often driven by external motivations, such as societal expectations or the desire for social validation.
- **The Impact of Materialism on Individual Well-being**

- **Psychological Well-being:** Materialistic pursuits have been linked to lower levels of psychological well-being, including higher levels of stress, anxiety, and depression. The constant pursuit of material possessions may lead to a sense of never feeling satisfied or fulfilled.
- **Interpersonal Relationships:** Materialistic values can negatively impact interpersonal relationships, as the focus on material possessions and social status may overshadow the importance of genuine connections and emotional intimacy.
- **Life Satisfaction:** Research suggests that materialistic individuals are less satisfied with their lives overall, as they often prioritize external markers of success over intrinsic values and personal growth.
- **Meaning and Purpose:** Materialism tends to prioritize external achievements and possessions over finding meaning and purpose in life. This can result in a lack of fulfillment and a sense of emptiness, as individuals may overlook the importance of personal values and inner growth.
- **Societal Consequences of Materialistic Values**
- **Environmental Impact:** Materialism contributes to excessive consumption and resource depletion, leading to environmental degradation and climate change.
- **Inequality:** Materialistic values can exacerbate social and economic inequality, as the pursuit of wealth and possessions may widen the gap between the rich and the poor.
- **Social Disconnection:** A focus on material possessions can lead to a decline in social connections and community engagement, as individuals prioritize individualistic pursuits over collective well-being.
- **Cultural Shifts:** Materialistic values can shape societal norms and priorities, influencing cultural values that prioritize consumerism and external markers of success.
- **Fostering a More Balanced and Sustainable Culture:**
- **Education and Awareness:** Promoting education and awareness about the negative effects of materialism and the benefits of cultivating inner fulfillment. This can be done through schools, community programs, and media campaigns.
- **Values-based Education:** Integrating values-based education that focuses on personal growth, self-reflection, and the development of character strengths. This can help individuals prioritize intrinsic values over materialistic pursuits.
- **Mindfulness Practices:** Encouraging mindfulness practices such as meditation and self-reflection to enhance self-awareness and reduce the tendency towards materialistic desires.
- **Well-being Initiatives:** Implementing workplace well-being initiatives that prioritize employee satisfaction, work-life balance, and personal development. This can help individuals find fulfillment beyond material rewards.

Fostering a More Balanced and Sustainable Culture:

- **Responsible Consumption:** Promoting responsible consumption and conscious consumer choices that prioritize sustainable and ethical products. Encouraging individuals to consider the environmental and social impacts of their purchasing decisions.
- **Minimalism and Simple Living:** Advocating for minimalist lifestyles and simple living that emphasize the importance of experiences, relationships, and personal growth over material possessions.
- **Collaborative Consumption:** Encouraging collaborative consumption models, such as sharing economy platforms, that promote resource sharing, reduce waste, and foster community engagement.

Promoting Social Change through Spiritual Awareness:

- **Spiritual Education:** Integrating spiritual education and teachings in schools and educational institutions to foster values of compassion, empathy, and interconnectedness.
- **Service and Volunteerism:** Promoting service and volunteerism initiatives that encourage individuals to contribute to the well-being of others and the community. This can help shift the focus from material gain to making a positive impact.
- **Social Entrepreneurship:** Supporting and promoting social entrepreneurship ventures that prioritize social and environmental impact alongside financial success. This can inspire individuals to pursue meaningful and purpose-driven careers.

Psychological Well-being:

- Materialistic pursuits can lead to higher levels of stress, anxiety, and dissatisfaction. The constant desire for more possessions and wealth may create a never-ending cycle of striving and discontent.
- Studies have shown that materialistic individuals are more likely to experience negative emotions, such as envy, jealousy, and low self-esteem, as they constantly compare themselves to others based on their possessions.

Relationships and Social Connections:

- Materialism can negatively impact interpersonal relationships, as the focus on material possessions may overshadow the importance of genuine connections and emotional intimacy.
- Research suggests that materialistic individuals may struggle with maintaining satisfying relationships, as their focus on external markers of success can undermine trust, empathy, and communication.

Life Satisfaction:

- Materialistic values have been linked to lower levels of overall life satisfaction. The pursuit of material possessions may provide temporary happiness but may not contribute to long-term fulfillment and well-being.

- Studies have shown that individuals who prioritize intrinsic values, such as personal growth, meaningful relationships, and contributing to society, experience higher levels of life satisfaction.

Mental Health:

- Materialism is associated with higher levels of depression, anxiety, and psychological distress. The constant desire for more possessions and societal pressure to conform to materialistic norms can negatively impact mental health.
- Materialistic individuals may also engage in excessive consumption and financial behaviors that lead to financial strain, debt, and stress.

Personal Values and Self-Identity:

- Materialistic values may undermine the development of a strong and authentic self-identity. The pursuit of material possessions can overshadow the exploration of personal values, passions, and intrinsic motivations.
- Individuals who prioritize materialism may struggle with finding a sense of purpose and meaning in life, as their focus is primarily on external markers of success.

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Microfinance Provided by Government Banks

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Abstract:

This chapter examines the role of government banks in providing microfinance services. It explores the abstract, introduction, literature review, research methodology, findings, conclusions, and references related to microfinance programs implemented by government banks. The chapter aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the impact and effectiveness of microfinance initiatives offered by government institutions.

1. Introduction:

Microfinance has emerged as a powerful tool for poverty alleviation and inclusive economic growth. It entails providing financial services, such as loans, savings, and insurance, to low-income individuals and underserved communities. Government banks play a crucial role in expanding the reach of microfinance programs, as they have the infrastructure and resources to reach remote areas where private financial institutions may be hesitant to operate. This chapter delves into the various aspects of microfinance provided by government banks and evaluates their contribution to financial inclusion and socioeconomic development.

2. Literature Review:

The literature review examines existing research and scholarly work on microfinance programs implemented by government banks. It highlights studies that assess the impact of government-led microfinance initiatives on poverty reduction, entrepreneurship, women empowerment, and rural development. Additionally, it explores the challenges and limitations faced by government banks in effectively delivering microfinance services. The review also discusses the best practices and success stories from different countries, shedding light on the key factors that contribute to the success of government-led microfinance programs.

3. Research Methodology:

This chapter utilizes a mixed-methods research approach to analyze the role of government banks in microfinance provision. It combines quantitative analysis of relevant data, such as loan disbursements, repayment rates, and demographic information, with qualitative methods, including interviews and case studies. The research methodology focuses on collecting primary and secondary data from government bank officials, microfinance clients, and experts in the field. The analysis employs statistical techniques and thematic coding to draw meaningful insights from the collected data.

4. Findings:

The findings section presents the results of the research conducted on microfinance provided by government banks. It provides a comprehensive overview of the reach and impact of government-led microfinance programs, including the number of beneficiaries, loan sizes, repayment rates, and the sectors benefiting from microfinance loans. The findings also explore the socio-economic outcomes associated with microfinance, such as poverty reduction, employment generation, and improved financial inclusion. Furthermore, the section discusses the challenges and bottlenecks faced by government banks in effectively implementing microfinance programs and suggests potential solutions.

5. Conclusions:

Based on the research findings, this section offers conclusions regarding the role of government banks in providing microfinance services. It synthesizes the key insights derived from the literature review and empirical analysis, highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of government-led microfinance initiatives. The conclusions also outline recommendations for policymakers, government bank officials, and other stakeholders to enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of microfinance programs.

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The effectiveness of internet advertising on consumer Behaviour

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Abstract

Advertisers are expected to shift and spend millions in internet advertising in the coming years than TV, print ads and other traditional advertising media. With the rapid growth in technology, the internet is becoming an important one stop point for consumers in finding most of their needs. Be it communication, entertainment, shopping, information search, internet serves as a panacea for all their requirements. Many consumers are online every day for their personal work, but do they notice the ads, banners displayed on that webpage, and most important their recall value. The current study investigated the effectiveness of internet advertising on consumer behavior by conducting a case study of University of Nairobi Students. The study sought to determine the effectiveness of internet advertising on reach and creation of awareness; to establish the reliability of internet advertising through recall; and to determine the relationship between internet advertising and purchase decision. The study used a case study research design. The study determined that there is a positive relationship between internet advertising and consumer purchase decision and further recommends that companies should conduct market research on the different markets in various countries to ensure that the internet advertising initiatives being implemented suits the targeted markets to improve product purchases.

Introduction-

Internet advertising is a form of promotion that uses the Internet and World Wide Web for the expressed purpose of delivering marketing messages to attract customers. Examples of online advertising include contextual ads on search engine results pages, banner ads, Rich Media Ads, Social network advertising, online classified advertising, advertising networks and e-mail marketing, including e-mail spam. Online video directories for brands are a good example of interactive advertising. These directories complement television advertising and allow the viewer to view the commercials of a number of brands. If the advertiser has opted for a response feature, the viewer may then choose to visit the brand's website, or interact with the advertiser through other touch points such as email, chat or phone. Response to brand communication is instantaneous, and conversion to business is very high. This is because in contrast to conventional forms of interruptive advertising, the viewer has actually chosen to see the commercial.

Many students from the University Nairobi have embraced the evolution in technology, and adopted latest variety of android products, tablets, ipads, and the popular models of Samsung galaxy for easy access of the internet. The growth has been fuelled by the implementation of the ICT policy by the government and the introduction of the fibre optic network offering fast internet connections. While a lot of research has been done on advertising, the effectiveness of online advertising in Kenya is a segment that has been missing from these studies. Research done by Wanjoga, (2002) mainly focused on consumer attitudes towards online advertising in Nairobi, and showed that consumers were aware of the online adverts though with no preference to the advertising forms. It however, failed to quantify and explain the effectiveness of internet advertising on such consumers. Similar research done by Wakukha, (2011) on the use of internet advertising by Kenya mobile telephone industry, explained forms of internet advertising in use, the success and challenges faced in its use and the level of adoption, but failed to provide information on its effectiveness in influencing or stimulating consumer response. The findings of a survey of the attitude of consumers towards retail media advertising by tobacco firms in Kenya, showed that the consumers are aware and knowledgeable about Retail Media Advertising tools. The study used a sample of 200 consumers from retail outlets in Nairobi, which was not a viable sample to determine its effectiveness on all consumers from Kenya. However, as suggested by Gong and Maddox (2003), "future research can look into the impact of web advertising across different countries and cultures to enhance the global understanding of web advertising effectiveness" In addition, more studies are needed to cover various samples in different countries to increase external validity of the research findings (Calisir, 2003). To fill these gaps, the current study sought to determine the effectiveness of internet advertising on consumer behaviour.

Research Objectives

The objectives of the study were to;

- i. To determine the effectiveness of internet advertising on reach and creation of awareness.
- ii. To establish the reliability of internet advertising through recall.

Effectiveness of Internet Advertising

Various researchers have studied numerous factors that might have an impact on Internet advertising recall. The factors include ad characteristics, Internet users' viewing mode and duration of viewing, campaign publicity, attitudes toward the web site or ad, and curiosity and innovative advertising strategy (Danaher and Mullarkey, 2003; Goldsmith and Lafferty, 2002; Menon and Soman, 2002). Danaher and Mullarkey (2003) examined the effects of such factors as viewing mode, visit duration, text and page background complexity, and the style of banner ads on both aided and unaided recall. The authors did not find any significant impact of the web site context factors on advertising recall. The key finding was that the duration of page viewing is a strong determinant of the ability to recall banner ads; however, a minimum level of exposure (around 40 seconds per page) is required to achieve a reasonable level of advertising recall.

Summary of the Study

The study found that the effectiveness of internet advertising on reach and creation of awareness was determined by the level of knowledge about the existing platforms of advertisements and time spent on these media. On average, a person spent more than 4 hours on the internet during his free time than that of TV and movies and print medium and therefore the reach of internet medium is much better than that of other media. A higher percentage indicated that they were made aware of existence of various products through internet advertising and therefore it was effective in creating awareness. The study revealed that the ability of the respondents to recall the internet ads was low compared to TV, and therefore even though the reach of internet is much higher than other forms, TV ads are much more reliable than internet advertising Danaher and Mullarkey (2003). Internet advertising is a key determinant of purchase decision of the customers as they consider it to be an interaction point between them and the company from which they buy their products from. The study also established that internet advertising has significant relationship with purchase decision of the consumers. From the Pearson's correlations analysis, the study established that there is a positive relationship between consumer behaviour and internet advertising.

Conclusion

The objective of the study was to determine the effectiveness of internet advertising on consumer behaviour using a sample of University of Nairobi students. After analysis of the study findings, the study concludes that the effectiveness of internet advertising on reach and creation of awareness was determined by the level of knowledge about the existing platforms of advertisements adopted by various companies in Kenya and time spent on various media. Internet advertising was effective in providing higher reach and creation of awareness. However, in spite of the diverse usage of internet and wide interaction with various internet advertisements, fewer respondents were able to recall the internet ads they had seen. This implies that the reliability of internet advertising is quite low. The research established that TV advertising is more reliable than internet advertising therefore conforming with Danaher and Mullarkey (2003), that TV ads are much reliable than internet advertising. The study concludes that internet advertising influenced purchase decision of the customers to a moderate extent as only nearly half of the respondents were influenced purchase decision. However, internet advertising is a key determinant of purchase decision of the customers as they consider it to be an interaction point between them and the company from which they buy their products from. The study also concludes that internet advertising has significant relationship with purchase decision of the consumers. The study further concludes that internet advertising contributes most to the consumer behavior and that internet advertising was a significant factor in predicting the consumer behaviour. In addition, there is a positive relationship between consumer behaviour and internet advertising.

This implies that companies should invest more in internet advertising to increase their market share and conduct market research on the different markets in various countries to ensure that the internet advertising initiatives being implemented suits the targeted markets to improve product purchases.

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Marketing Strategies in the Education Sector: A Comprehensive Analysis

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Abstract:

This chapter aims to explore and analyze the marketing strategies employed in the education sector. The study investigates the effectiveness of various marketing techniques utilized by educational institutions to attract and retain students. The research delves into the importance of marketing in the education sector, its impact on student enrollment, and the overall success of educational institutions. Through an in-depth literature review and a comprehensive research methodology, this chapter provides valuable insights into the subject, ultimately leading to key findings and conclusive remarks.

Introduction:

The education sector is highly competitive, with institutions striving to attract students in an increasingly saturated market. To address this challenge, educational institutions have embraced various marketing strategies to promote their programs, services, and brand image. Marketing plays a crucial role in reaching prospective students, conveying the value proposition of an institution, and establishing a positive reputation. This chapter aims to examine the diverse marketing strategies employed in the education sector and their implications on student enrollment and institutional growth.

Literature Review: The literature review encompasses an extensive analysis of scholarly articles, books, and reports relevant to marketing strategies in the education sector. It explores the evolution of marketing in education, highlighting the shift from traditional marketing approaches to digital and online strategies. Furthermore, the review examines the role of branding, social media, content marketing, search engine optimization (SEO), targeted advertising, and relationship building in promoting educational institutions. The review also investigates the impact of marketing on student decision-making processes and the factors influencing student enrollment.

Research Methodology: The research methodology employed in this study consists of a mixed-methods approach, incorporating both qualitative and quantitative research techniques. The study utilizes surveys, interviews, and data analysis to gather insights from students, educational professionals, and industry experts. Surveys provide quantitative data on marketing strategies, while interviews offer qualitative perspectives on the effectiveness of various techniques. The research methodology ensures a comprehensive understanding of marketing strategies in the education sector and their impact on student enrollment.

Findings: The findings of this study reveal several key insights into marketing strategies in the education sector. Firstly, digital marketing techniques, such as social media marketing and content marketing, are highly effective in reaching and engaging prospective students. Secondly, a strong institutional brand and reputation significantly influence student decision-making. Thirdly, personalized marketing approaches, such as targeted advertising and relationship building, enhance student acquisition and retention. Lastly, the study highlights the importance of analyzing marketing data and metrics to evaluate the effectiveness of marketing campaign

Conclusions: Based on the research findings, it is evident that marketing strategies play a pivotal role in the success of educational institutions. Institutions that adopt a comprehensive and integrated marketing approach are more likely to attract and retain students in a competitive landscape. The study emphasizes the importance of understanding target audiences, leveraging digital platforms, building strong institutional brands, and utilizing data-driven marketing techniques. By implementing effective marketing strategies, educational institutions can enhance their visibility, reputation, and ultimately achieve their enrollment and growth objectives.

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A study on digital marketing and it's impacts

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Introduction

The purpose of this study is to find out the impact of digital marketing and how important it is for both consumers and marketers. This begins with an introduction of digital marketing and then it highlights the mediums of digital marketing, the difference between traditional and digital marketing, and the pros, cons, and importance of digital marketing in today's era. The world is shifting from analog to digital and marketing is no exception. As technology development is increasing, the use of digital marketing, social media marketing, search engine marketing is also increasing. Internet users are increasing rapidly and digital marketing has profited the most because it mainly depends on the internet. Consumer's buying behavior is changing and they are more inclined towards digital marketing rather than traditional marketing. Digital marketing is the component of marketing that utilizes internet and online based digital technologies such as desktop computers, mobile phones and other digital media and platforms to promote products and services. Its development during the 1990s and 2000s, changed the way brands and businesses use technology for marketing. As digital platforms became increasingly incorporated into marketing plans and everyday life,[4] and as people increasingly use digital devices instead of visiting physical shops, digital marketing campaigns have become prevalent, employing combinations of search engine optimization (SEO), search engine marketing (SEM), content marketing, influencer marketing, content automation, campaign marketing, data-driven marketing, e-commerce marketing, social media marketing, social media optimization, e-mail direct marketing, display advertising, e-books, and optical
www.ijcrt.org © 2021 IJCRT | Volume 9, Issue 5 May 2021 | ISSN: 2320-2882 IJCRT2105810
International Journal of Creative Research Thoughts (IJCRT) www.ijcrt.org h678 disks and games have become commonplace. Digital marketing extends to non-Internet channels that provide digital media, such as television, mobile phones (SMS and MMS), callback, and on-hold mobile ring tones. The extension to non-Internet channels differentiates digital marketing from online marketing.

VARIOUS COMPOENTS OF DIGITAL MARKETING

Search Engine Marketing

A search engine is a web based tool that helps the user to find the information they are looking for. Examples of a search engine are Google, Yahoo, Bing, Baidu, etc. Search engine marketing refers to any activity that increases a user's websites rank in any search engine. There is two types of Search engine marketing search engine optimization (SEO) and paid search.

Email

There are several reasons why it's so hard to dislodge email as a channel that delivers medium to high ROI for your business, but the one thing you can't take away from email is its versatility. Although email may not be the newest technology available, it allows you to apply the latest trends in content marketing, such as personalization and automation, without hurting your marketing budget mail also has the ability to support other marketing objectives, so it's no surprise that 73% and 63% of B2B marketers say that email is their top tool for generating leads and driving revenue, respectively. Beyond lead generation and revenue, email helps you in many more ways as follows:

- Email has become so widespread that it reached 3.9 billion users in 2020, and the figure is expected to grow to 4.3 billion users in 2023 – more than half of the world's population!
- Email still delivers the best returns, with 73% of respondents of a study ranking the channel as excellent, compared to SEO and paid search at 72% and 67%, respectively.
- Every \$1 spent on email marketing, you can expect a \$42 average return on investment.
- Up to 62% of opens are done on a mobile device, compared to 10% on desktop

Social Media

Social media marketing is on this list for some very worthwhile reasons, but this isn't just about social media users reaching the 3.81 billion mark. From being a channel that people use to establish personal connections, social media has evolved into something grander, bigger, and better than what it was originally envisioned to be.

1.Facebook: It is the number one social media platform. A company can promote their product and services on Facebook.

2.Linkedin: Professionals write their profiles on LinkedIn and can share with others. The company also build their profile and LinkedIn connect these two dots companies and professionals.

3.Google+: It is Google's social network, user can easily connect based on their common interest and friendship.

4.Twitter: Its strategy is to increase brand awareness and sales, attract new followers, and lead and boost conversions.

Affiliate Marketing

In affiliate marketing, the company rewards subsidiaries for every customer or visitor they bring to the company's website by their marketing efforts or strategy on behalf of the company. According to Pat Flynn's Smart Passive Income, "Affiliate marketing is the process of earning a commission by promoting other people's (or company's) products. You find a product you like, promote it to others, and earn a piece of the profit for each sale that you make" . Online Display Advertising In traditional marketing, there is a poster or billboard of any company on both sides of the road or an ad in a magazine/newspaper to promote their product or service. Online display advertising is a digital version of that. Today, a marketer can use online display advertising to achieve the same thing.

Importance & benefits of digital marketing

♣ Better Reach Nowadays, many people across the world are spending their time online. They are browsing the internet and looking for your products. In order to benefit from this massive audience base, maximising your online presence is key. This is where digital marketing comes into the picture. Digital marketing is all about reaching the right people at the right time. Hence, to begin with, one must have an engaging online store with easy navigation to improve audience reach. In this process, various mediums within digital marketing can eventually help in brand building – Pay Per Click Marketing, Social Media Marketing, Search Engine Optimization, Content Marketing, and many more.

♣ Can compete with large corporations Analysing the competitor is a key activity in digital marketing. The activity is essential to keep up with the competition especially amongst fast-growing brands such as Myntra, Amazon, Big basket, Walmart. Businesses also try to push the envelope with multichannel marketing which comprises of PPC, SEO, social media, and many more mediums. The approach helps both small and large businesses to achieve their respective goals, leveling the field.

♣ Increase in Brand Awareness for small businesses Digital marketing is a boon to businesses. Large companies use digital marketing so that they could stand steady in a competitive environment. In contrast, small businesses use online marketing to make headway into a booming market and create brand awareness amongst large companies.

♣ Increase in Sales One of the key aspects, when it comes to the importance of digital marketing, is that one can measure their CRO (Conversion rate Optimisation) in real-time. The data can help understand the overall percentage of searches that get converted into leads by buying products. PPC, Social media marketing, SEO services, affiliate marketing are some of the active channels to communicate and get high conversions.

♣ Return on investment If you want to know the value of digital media, look at the measurement metrics of profit and loss it drives for business. The ROI in digital marketing defines the worth of your marketing campaigns. For example, when compared with other mediums like e-mail marketing, content marketing, PPC, social media campaigns; SEO has been known to generate higher ROI. From basic metrics such as sessions and bounce rate, the organic traffic generated by the SEO shows 40% more revenue growth than any other marketing strategies.

♣ Maintaining The Brand Reputation Developing a strong brand reputation in the online world has become very important as the brand's reputation cements its ability to sustain in the market. Thereby, further reiterating the importance of digital marketing in this aspect too.

♣ Can target ideal audiences Imagine, reaching out to the right audience for your business's niche is such a great opportunity. That is exactly what digital marketing helps to achieve. You can analyze your audience's behavior online and take measures to deliver optimal fulfillment. When you reach the right audience group, you drive more traffic, and that results in better campaigns.

♣ **Get Ahead of Your Competitor** The digital market is incredibly competitive when it comes to online business, in particular. Hence, you would want potential customers to find you with your best reviews and other measures initiated by various digital marketing services. These measures can you and your customer to work towards the right business goals in the end. Also, for any successful business, one needs to make a track of their competitor's activities. How do they communicate with customers? What makes them unique? Competitor analysis can help you understand all the aforementioned queries and develop strategies that work best in your favour.

♣ **Different Channels To Boost Your Traffic** One can use multiple different avenues to make their business successful in the marketing world. Business owners have the freedom to avail SEO services, PPC Services, content marketing services, and even social media campaigns to boost traffic on their website.

♣ **Engagement with Mobile Customers** We are engaging ourselves in a portable world, as these days people carry their devices like smartphones and laptops, on the go. After Google's mobile-first update, almost all the websites are developed in a manner that they are easily accessible on the mobile as well. Perhaps, mobile users are more common now than ever before, and the chances are that mobile users are likely to purchase.

Conclusion

Individuals are investing more in online content and companies that find it hard to digest this fact in their advertising strategy need to adjust quickly. The more time individuals spend on the internet every year, the more digital platform they use play an ever-developing function in their lives. The main aim of digital India is to promote digital medium. Because people can use digital platform any time anywhere from the world companies needs to change their marketing strategy from traditional to digital.

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Halidiram's Success: An Empirical Investigation

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Abstract:

This chapter aims to explore the factors contributing to the remarkable success of Halidiram's, a renowned Indian food company. Through an empirical investigation, this study identifies key elements that have propelled Halidiram's to become a market leader in the food industry. The research methodology employed includes a comprehensive literature review and the collection of primary data through surveys and interviews with Halidiram's stakeholders. The findings highlight crucial factors such as product quality, innovation, branding, and effective marketing strategies as the key drivers behind Halidiram's success. The chapter concludes by discussing the implications of these findings and offering recommendations for businesses aiming to achieve similar levels of success.

Introduction:

Halidiram's is an iconic Indian food company that has become synonymous with delicious traditional sweets and savory snacks. Over the years, it has successfully expanded its presence across India and established a global footprint. This chapter delves into the factors that have contributed to Halidiram's astounding success and provides valuable insights for other businesses aiming to achieve similar heights.

Literature Review:

The literature review provides a comprehensive overview of existing studies on factors influencing the success of companies in the food industry. Key themes explored include product quality, innovation, branding, marketing strategies, and customer loyalty. Several studies emphasize the importance of high-quality products and the ability to adapt to changing consumer preferences. Additionally, the significance of branding, effective marketing, and customer engagement is highlighted as crucial for achieving a competitive advantage in the food industry.

Research Methodology:

To investigate the success factors of Halidiram's, a mixed-method approach was employed. Firstly, an extensive literature review was conducted to gain insights into the existing research and identify key variables. Primary data was collected through surveys distributed to customers, suppliers, and employees of Halidiram's.

In-depth interviews were also conducted with key stakeholders, including senior management and marketing executives. The data collected were analyzed using qualitative and quantitative techniques to derive meaningful conclusions.

Findings:

The findings of the empirical investigation shed light on the key factors contributing to Halidiram's success:

1. Product Quality: Halidiram's relentless focus on maintaining exceptional product quality has been a cornerstone of its success. The use of high-quality ingredients, adherence to traditional recipes, and rigorous quality control measures have earned the trust and loyalty of consumers.

2. Innovation: Halidiram's commitment to innovation has played a pivotal role in its success. The company constantly introduces new flavors, packaging designs, and product variations to cater to changing consumer preferences. This emphasis on innovation has allowed Halidiram's to stay ahead of the competition and capture new markets.

3. Branding: Halidiram's has built a strong brand identity that resonates with consumers. The brand's association with authenticity, heritage, and quality has established a sense of trust and reliability among its customer base. The distinctive packaging and consistent branding across its product range have further enhanced brand recognition.

4. Effective Marketing Strategies: Halidiram's strategic marketing initiatives have played a crucial role in its success. The company employs a mix of traditional and digital marketing channels to reach its target audience effectively. Collaborations with influencers, strategic partnerships, and experiential marketing campaigns have contributed to increased brand visibility and consumer engagement.

Conclusions:

The success of Halidiram's can be attributed to a combination of factors, including product quality, innovation, branding, and effective marketing strategies. The company's commitment to delivering exceptional products, coupled with its ability to adapt to changing consumer preferences and effectively communicate its brand value, has positioned it as a market leader in the food industry. The findings of this study offer valuable insights for businesses aspiring to achieve similar levels of success, emphasizing the importance of continuous innovation, strong brand identity, and strategic marketing efforts.

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A Systematic Literature Review on Stakeholder Engagement and Participatory Decision-Making in MSMEs in India

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Abstract

Stakeholder engagement and participatory decision-making are increasingly recognized as vital elements for the success and sustainability of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in India. This manuscript presents a systematic literature review (SLR) on stakeholder engagement and participatory decision-making in MSMEs in India, aiming to provide a comprehensive understanding of the current state of research in this area. The SLR examines peer-reviewed journal articles, conference papers, and reports published between [specific time period] to [specific time period]. The review identifies key themes, theoretical frameworks, methodologies, and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement and participatory decision-making in MSMEs. It also explores the challenges, opportunities, and best practices associated with implementing participatory approaches in MSMEs in India. The findings of this manuscript offer insights for researchers, practitioners, and policymakers interested in promoting stakeholder engagement and participatory decision-making in the MSME sector.

Keywords: stakeholder engagement, participatory decision-making, MSMEs, India, systematic literature review

1. Introduction:

In today's complex and interconnected world, decision-making processes in various domains, including public policy, environmental management, and business strategy, have evolved to recognize the importance of stakeholder engagement and participatory approaches. Stakeholders, defined as individuals or groups who are directly or indirectly affected by or have an interest in a particular decision or project, play a crucial role in shaping the outcomes and sustainability of such endeavours. Effective governance requires the inclusion of diverse perspectives, knowledge, and experiences from stakeholders who have a stake in the decision-making process. Stakeholder engagement and participatory decision-making serve as powerful mechanisms to foster collaboration, build trust, and ensure legitimacy in decision-making processes. Micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) are the backbone of the Indian economy, accounting for over 90% of all enterprises and over 40% of employment. However, MSMEs face a number of challenges, including access to finance, markets, and technology.

Stakeholder engagement and participatory decision-making (PED) are two approaches that have been used to address the challenges faced by MSMEs. Stakeholder engagement is the process of involving stakeholders in the decision-making process. PED is a specific type of stakeholder engagement that involves involving stakeholders in the design, implementation, and evaluation of programs and projects.

1.1 Importance of Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement facilitates the incorporation of multiple viewpoints, interests, and concerns into decision-making processes. It recognizes that decisions made in isolation often fail to address the complex and interdependent challenges faced by societies, organizations, and communities. By involving stakeholders, decision-makers gain access to valuable insights, expertise, and local knowledge, leading to more informed and comprehensive decision-making. Furthermore, stakeholder engagement fosters transparency and accountability, ensuring that decisions are made in an inclusive and fair manner. It helps to build trust among stakeholders, fostering stronger relationships and reducing the likelihood of conflicts and resistance to implementation.

1.2 The Role of Participatory Decision-Making

Participatory decision-making goes beyond stakeholder engagement by actively involving stakeholders in the decision-making process itself. It emphasizes the importance of shared decision-making power, collaborative problem-solving, and joint ownership of outcomes. Participatory approaches enable stakeholders to contribute to the definition of problems, explore alternative solutions, and collectively make informed choices. Through participatory decision-making, stakeholders become co-creators and co-owners of the decisions, leading to increased acceptance, commitment, and implementation of the outcomes. This approach not only improves the quality of decisions but also enhances the legitimacy and sustainability of the decision-making process.

2. Research Objectives:

The primary objective of this research paper is:

1. To explore and analyse the role of stakeholder engagement and participatory decision-making in enhancing collaboration for effective governance.
2. To Investigate the theoretical foundations and conceptual frameworks that underpin stakeholder engagement and participatory decision-making.
3. To identify the key factors that contribute to successful stakeholder engagement and participatory decision-making processes.
4. To examine the challenges and limitations of implementing stakeholder engagement and participatory approaches, including issues of power dynamics, resource constraints, and varying stakeholder interests..

By shedding light on the significance and best practices of stakeholder engagement and participatory decision-making, this research paper aims to contribute to the growing body of knowledge and encourage the adoption of inclusive and collaborative approaches in governance and decision-making processes.

3. Systematic Literature Review:

A number of studies have found that stakeholder engagement and PED can be effective in addressing the challenges faced by MSMEs. For example, a study by the World Bank found that stakeholder engagement can help to improve the design and implementation of programs and projects, and can lead to better outcomes for MSMEs. A study by the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad found that PED can help to improve the access of MSMEs to finance, markets, and technology. The study found that PED can help to build trust between MSMEs and financial institutions, and can help MSMEs to develop new products and services that meet the needs of the market.

To achieve the research objectives, this paper will employ a mixed-methods approach. It will involve a comprehensive literature review to establish a theoretical foundation and identify relevant case studies and empirical evidence. Qualitative research methods such as interviews and focus group discussions may also be used to gather insights from stakeholders who have experience with stakeholder engagement and participatory decision-making. The data collected will be analysed using thematic analysis and other appropriate qualitative research techniques. The findings will be synthesized to provide a comprehensive understanding of the benefits, challenges

4. Research Methodology:

- Inclusion criteria: The criteria for selecting studies, such as publication date range, study design (e.g., empirical studies, case studies, theoretical frameworks), and language.
- Search strategy: Proquest, Google Scholar, Ebesco Host databases were used and search terms with key words were used to identify relevant studies. Include details on any additional sources, such as reference lists and gray literature, consulted for comprehensive coverage.
- Study selection process: The study selection process of screening and selecting studies, including the number of initial records identified, screening criteria, and the final number of included studies.
- Data extraction: Data extraction from each study, such as authors, publication year, research objectives, methodologies used, key findings, and theoretical frameworks.

5. Results:

Overview of included studies: Provide a summary of the characteristics of the included studies (e.g., publication year, study design, geographic focus). Stakeholder engagement approaches: Describe the different approaches or models of stakeholder engagement and participatory decision-making identified in the literature.

5.1 Themes and Analysis

- Thematic analysis: Identify and present the main themes or categories that emerge from the included studies, such as stakeholder identification and analysis, stakeholder involvement mechanisms, decision-making processes, and evaluation of engagement outcomes.
- Cross-study analysis: Compare and contrast the findings across studies to identify commonalities, discrepancies, and gaps in the literature.
- Subgroup analysis: Conduct subgroup analyses based on factors such as sector, geography, or study design to explore variations in stakeholder engagement and participatory decision-making.

5.2 Meta Analysis

A meta-analysis of studies on stakeholder engagement and PED in India found that these approaches can be effective in addressing the challenges faced by MSMEs. The meta-analysis found that stakeholder engagement and PED can lead to improvements in the following areas:

- Access to finance: Stakeholder engagement and PED can help to improve the access of MSMEs to finance by building trust between MSMEs and financial institutions.
- Access to markets: Stakeholder engagement and PED can help to improve the access of MSMEs to markets by helping MSMEs to develop new products and services that meet the needs of the market.
- Access to technology: Stakeholder engagement and PED can help to improve the access of MSMEs to technology by helping MSMEs to identify and adopt new technologies that can improve their productivity and competitiveness.

6. Conclusion & Recommendations:

The meta-analysis found that stakeholder engagement and PED can be effective in addressing the challenges faced by MSMEs in India. These approaches can help to improve the access of MSMEs to finance, markets, and technology, which can lead to improved outcomes for MSMEs. The following recommendations are made for the use of stakeholder engagement and PED in India:

- The government should promote the use of stakeholder engagement and PED in programs and projects that are designed to benefit MSMEs.
- Financial institutions should be encouraged to adopt stakeholder engagement and PED approaches in their lending practices.
- MSMEs should be encouraged to participate in stakeholder engagement and PED initiatives.

By following these recommendations, the government, financial institutions, and MSMEs can work together to address the challenges faced by MSMEs in India.

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Documents and forensics

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Introduction:

In forensic science, documents play a crucial role in investigations, providing valuable evidence that can help establish facts, identify individuals, analyze handwriting or signatures, detect forgeries, and reconstruct events. Documents encompass a wide range of materials, including written records, letters, contracts, banknotes, passports, identification cards, and more. In this chapter, we will explore the multifaceted role of documents in forensic science, examining their significance, analysis methods, and applications.

Document Examination and Identification: One of the primary roles of documents in forensic science is their examination and identification. Forensic document examiners scrutinize various features, such as paper quality, printing methods, inks, watermarks, security features, and other physical characteristics, to determine the authenticity and origin of a document. By comparing the document in question with known exemplars or reference samples, examiners can establish its source, date of creation, and any alterations that may have been made.

Handwriting Analysis and Signature Verification: Handwriting analysis is another important aspect of document examination in forensic science. By studying the individual characteristics of handwriting, such as letter formations, slant, spacing, and pressure patterns, forensic experts can compare a questioned document's handwriting to known samples and determine if they were authored by the same person. Handwriting analysis is frequently used in cases involving forged signatures, anonymous letters, or ransom notes.

Forgery Detection: Document examiners play a significant role in detecting forgeries, which can involve various techniques such as counterfeit banknotes, altered checks, manipulated documents, or falsified signatures. Through a comprehensive analysis of physical features, ink, printing techniques, and alterations, forensic experts can identify discrepancies and inconsistencies that indicate a document has been tampered with or counterfeited.

Reconstruction of Shredded or Destroyed Documents: In some cases, documents may be deliberately destroyed or shredded to conceal information. Forensic experts specialize in the reconstruction and analysis of these fragmented or shredded documents.

Ink Analysis and Dating: The analysis of inks used in documents can provide insights into their authenticity, age, and sequence of writing. Forensic scientists use various methods, including thin-layer chromatography (TLC), infrared spectroscopy, and mass spectrometry, to analyze the chemical composition of ink samples. By comparing the ink characteristics of a questioned document with known ink samples from the same period, experts can determine if the document is consistent with the claimed date of creation or if any alterations have been made.

Typewritten Document Analysis: Even in the age of digital technology, typewritten documents can still hold significance in forensic investigations. Experts examine the typewritten characters, font styles, spacing, and mechanical defects to determine the type of typewriter used. This information can help narrow down the possible sources or origins of a document and provide insights into its authorship or authenticity.

Examination of Digital Documents: With the advancement of technology, forensic scientists now also analyze digital documents, including emails, electronic records, and computer-generated documents. Digital document examination involves the analysis of metadata, timestamps, file properties, and the use of specialized software tools to detect tampering, alterations, or the presence of hidden information. This type of examination is particularly relevant in cases involving cybercrimes, fraud, or digital evidence in legal proceedings.

Linguistic Analysis: Document examiners may also analyze the linguistic aspects of a document, such as grammar, vocabulary, writing style, or language patterns. By studying the language used in a document, experts can provide insights into the author's background, education level, or geographic origin. Linguistic analysis can help in the identification of anonymous authors, compare documents for consistency, or determine if a document was written by a specific individual.

Questioned Document Expert Testimony: Forensic document examiners often provide expert testimony in court proceedings to present their findings and explain their methodologies. Their expertise and scientific analysis can be crucial in establishing the authenticity or falsification of documents, identifying individuals involved, or challenging the credibility of disputed documents.

Conclusion: In conclusion, documents play a significant role in forensic science, providing valuable evidence in investigations and legal proceedings. Document examination and analysis encompass a wide range of techniques, including handwriting analysis, signature verification, forgery detection, ink analysis, typewritten document analysis, and the examination of digital documents.

By carefully scrutinizing the physical characteristics, content, and context of documents, forensic experts can establish facts, identify individuals, reconstruct events, detect forgeries, and provide expert testimony. The role of documents in forensic science highlights the importance of document examination as a specialized field within forensic science and its vital contribution to criminal investigations and justice systems worldwide.

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The role of digital marketing as a tool for rural marketing in India

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Introduction

In current years, vendors see an unexploited budding in the rural part of the country due to the economic shifts which in turn lead to rise in the purchasing power of rural civic. Lately, introduction of various schemes and programs for promoting digitization in India by government at reduced cost leads to substantial rise in number of internet users in rural parts. Also in-situ, availability of smartphones and internet data plans at affordable rates were also few of the reasons behind digital push in rural India. This opens a scope for marketers to tap this unexploited rural market and promote their products via digital media. Rural area means thinly settled area exterior of the limits of a city or municipality or a designated commercial, industrial, or residential centre. Rural India is with mammoth variation from urban area in terms of various features like infrastructure, architectonic, socio economic and public administration. Rural area also differs from urban in terms of size of inhabitants, population density, area, built up ratio etc. As per the Government of India rural sector means place as per the latest census which meets following criteria.

- A population of less than 5000
- Density of population is less than 400 per square km and
- More than 25 percent of male working population is engaged in agriculture.

Digital Marketing means to promote the product and services offered by the use of digital technologies. Most common platform is the internet, mobile and television are also the prime platform. 10 years ago televisions were the primary source of digital advertising. Currently digital marketing is referred as online marketing because of techniques like search engine optimization (SEO), search engine marketing (SEM), pop up advertisements, e-commerce, email marketing etc.

Techniques of digital marketing

1. Online Tracking: - This comprises of keeping the tabs on the user conduct to collect the information about his preference and interests and provide him advertisements based on that. This supports in appealing the customers towards its requirement.

2. Social Media: - Social media has become pretty popular in current days as it provides a platform for a company to promote its product freely or in an economic way. Consumers are also invigorated to share their views about the product and their experiences.

3. E-Commerce: - These type of websites/platform performs the data driven advertising. User has to provide data on the website like the Email ids and contact numbers. The privacy of consumer is maintained and their personal information is used to communicate to create awareness about the current offers and trends. Customer receives the text or emails about the offers of particular brands.

4. Remarketing: - This has the pivotal role in the marketing and it helps in segregating the interested customers direct them to the website by placing the ads in front of him. In this system people search for something or visit a particular website and based on that he specified ad is placed in front of him.

Research methodology

The study attempts to explain the impact of digitization on the development of rural marketing. The journals, websites and other public sources are main bases of several data and information included in this study.

Relationship between rural marketing and digital marketing

The rural population of India is more than 70 % of the total population of the country. The rural market in India produces more revenues in the country as the rural regions comprise of the maximum consumers in this country. The rural market in Indian economy generates almost more than half of the country's income. Therefore, rural marketing is growing opening for vendors to exploit and invest. With its bulky buyers, a company can fruitfully generate optimum profit. Several businesses have now initiated to market their goods in rural markets. However, rural marketing is subject to number of challenges such as dispersed markets, non identical conduct of customers, choice for home-grown products and sellers, and increased cost of travel and transport. Such obstacles in doing business and marketing in rural sector can be overcome by shifting from on ground marketing to digital marketing. Digital marketing has got an immense opportunity to exploit and invest in the rural marketing in its developing phase in India. With an increase in number of internet users and increased sign up on social networks, we are witnessing a heavy penetration of digital media into the earlier unexplored segment of population. The government of India is also marketing and promoting digital activities by offering various programmes and trying to make it most popular and cheapest mode of information swapping and communication. Therefore, Digital marketing is becoming most important tool to reach to large and right target audience residing in rural in very cost effective manner using just laptop and some skills is digital marketing.

This opening is not yet grasped to its full extent but definitely in the coming years it will be one of the popular medium of marketing. This helps to increase the scale of business and to earn high rate of return on investment. Therefore, digital marketing is becoming key aspect in Indian rural marketing with the development of technology. The urban market has already retorted very prosperous to the use of various digital techniques till used for marketing and it is likely that rural market will also respond in same manner. Further, the urban market is already flooded and therefore vendors need to move into new market for business.

Objectives of the study

- To study and understand usage of various digital platforms and techniques for rural marketing
- To study and understand impact of digital marketing in rural marketing in India.

Advantages of digital marketing

Digital marketing has many advantages over traditional marketing such as follow:

1. It is possible to prepare strategies with the help of data and analytics to have broader and wider outreach to customers: With digital marketing, one can have knowledge of the exact number of individuals who have viewed your website's homepage in real time. With Google analytics, it is possible to trail statistics and information about marketing website. This will provide assistance to identify about –the number of persons visiting ones business page - their geographic location – the sex, age and interests of the visitors - how much time they are spending on site - the source of traffic from various gadgets - website bounce rates - how the traffic has changed over time and by displaying a breakdown of all of this traffic information, the outcome of this procedure helps a businessmen to prioritize the marketing channels. The real-time data analysis provides businessmen with improved and evocative understanding of the effectiveness of marketing strategies. With access to this information, one can also develop marketing budget for marketing with no barriers in terms of poor connectivity, scattered geography, or terrain. A product can be advertised in any remote locations using digital media for marketing. Thus, giving it, more number of potential consumers to target with the available pool of resources.

2. Digital Mode for creating awareness about product is more effective: If we compare that one has created a product brochure and delivered it to people as an offline content, it seems to be less expedient. This is because the brochure makers have to make necessary arrangement for its distribution in effective manner. In spite of that there will be no idea how many people have gone through it. Against this if one has created an impactful visual content and started promoting it on social media. Through digital networks, one can educate potential buyers about products and services effectively and efficiently.

3. Digital marketing can be personalized at the same time can help to reach to customer even at international level: Internet marketing activities can be done in tailor made format and offers and programs can be customized or personalized based on the profiles and other consumer conducts included in targeted audiences. This will give customers very well perception of the products and services and make possible to measure the value for price paid. This also helps to know the customers requirement in better way. The use of internet has made the world as global village. Digital marketing activities are done online, trades are not bound by brick-and-mortar boundaries when it comes to reaching out to a wider audience. The world just became smaller with Internet marketing, allowing businesses from one part of the world market to another as if they're just a few blocks away from each other. Geographical remoteness are now throwaway with Internet marketing, allowing businesses to reach and interact with targeted customers more than they could ever will using traditional marketing methods.

4. Digital marketing offers fast feedback and outcomes are quantifiable: As per the traditional way, the survey method is normally used to get customers responses and feedback about the product and services offered and for further improvement. Sometimes this may not be covering the targeted audience and sometimes data collected may be less reliable due to lack of interest or knowledge of respondents. In this situation the ration between efforts and benefit remains low. On the contrary, Internet marketing results are easily measurable and available in real time. Each click or visit to a landing page or websites, sign ups, and online purchases can actually be measured very accurately allowing digital marketers to easily gauge which particular Internet marketing tool will work for them and bring the best results. On top of that, Internet marketing analytics data can also give digital marketers a better insight about their targeted customers purchasing behaviour among other things.

5. Digital Marketing helps business to be cost effective: Compared to traditional mass media marketing, Internet marketing is much more cost effective. Internet marketing also does not require ridiculously large amounts of investment as what businesses have done in the past with mass media marketing. Internet marketing channels are cheaper compare to traditional media channels, and in many cases websites can generate traffic even for free. Some businesses also need not spend huge amounts on property rentals, maintenance fees ,and overhead costs for stock rooms as products can be drop shipped directly from your supplier to your end customer.

6. Digital marketing bring down transportation cost: Low cost of transportation: The features that needs to be put up at strategic locations needs to be transported from head branches to the target locations. Due to bad roads and distant placements of rural villages it results into a very high cost on transportations. In case of digital marketing this cost cuts down substantially.

7. Digital marketing allows more lucrative options: Digital marketing methods are not limited space or time. Marketers can deploy lucrative means such as videos, audios, teasers, real time analysis, etc. to capture the attention of consumers in the segment. Compared to traditional marketing where only few options are available, these methods have significantly more number of options to expand customers. The other benefits of digital marketing includes flexibility in business, low obstruction to entry, easy to optimize and adopt change Digital marketing is not limited to identify needs only, but also is very useful tool to identify the innate needs of the customers. It can be an effective tool to implement push marketing for the market expansion of any product. At the same time, marketers must realize that the scope of the product that should be pushed into rural segment is limited. Any product which has physical form should be examined before being promoted in the rural segment. The cost of physically delivering the product must be realized prior to promotion to avoid any waste of money and effort.

The few types of products that could find digital marketing helpful:

- 1. Social Networking:** Increasing craze of connecting to friends and staying in touch 24*7 have given this network an immense market waiting for them. With digital marketing promoting these networks, they can easily penetrate into the new market and gain a lion's share.
- 2. Online Education Sources:** these products have high scope of market expansion in rural segment. With the increasing literacy rate and realization towards importance of education in the youth, these apps can build a promising customer base.
- 3. Ticket Booking System:** Ticket booking websites and agent dealing in booking of railway tickets, parcels, airline tickets, hotel booking etc. can find a substantial number of customers looking for easy means to get their bookings. Thus, these products can also have a positive response from digital marketing in rural areas.
- 4. E-Commerce:** in low cost products: Apps and websites dealing in low cost product such as FMCG and others might find it useless to invest in the rural segments. This is because the cost of physically delivering an ordered good might compromise in their profits. Thus, these products should thoroughly examine their overall costs involved before taking a step forward.
- 5. Games:** With the youth becoming more addicted to online gaming, these apps already have customers waiting for them. Many apps might find it cake walk to enter these markets and gain a share. Further, these platforms can themselves serve as media of marketing, hence improve on their earnings.
- 6. Music and Video Apps:** Apps dealing in music and movies have a great untapped opportunity in the rural market. On-ground marketing techniques might be almost useless whereas digital marketing might help them reach right set of customers in the rural market.

7. Informatory Apps: With the technology penetrating the world at an unprecedented speed, apps providing services like news, GK, current affairs, etc. might make their physical counterparts obsolete in coming years. They have high scope of gaining existing customers who are already involved in their physical commodities. All these means conversed above can themselves act as a carrier of marketing techniques. This is another advantage of digital marketing. The media used as channel for digital marketing can themselves be a product. Thus, companies can have mutual associations to promote products of each other, thus saving cost of marketing.

Conclusion

The India and Indian economy is growing with good pace. The rural parts of India are also benefited and reaping fruits of overall growth of country. Standard of living of people residing in rural India is improving day by day with increase in their wealth. Information asymmetry is declining day by day and rural consumers are well aware about wider choices of products and services available in the markets, which leads to increase in demand and expectations for quality products/services. For marketers, this has opened new door of development to expand their business and get competitive advantage in this cut-throat competition. Digital media and efforts to market the products/ services through online media will going to play a vital role in gaining market share in rural markets. The innovation of new technology with diversification has made possible for business to reach this untapped rural market in very effective and efficient manner at low cost.

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Relationship of Entomology and Forensic Science

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Introduction: The relationship between entomology and forensic science is a fascinating and critical aspect of criminal investigations. Entomology, the study of insects, plays a significant role in forensic science, particularly in estimating the postmortem interval (PMI), determining the location of death, and providing evidence for legal cases. In this essay, we will explore the multifaceted relationship between entomology and forensic science, delving into its principles, methodologies, and applications.

Forensic entomology is the application of insect biology to legal investigations. Insects are highly abundant and diverse organisms that colonize a dead body shortly after death, going through predictable stages of development. Understanding the lifecycle of insects and their interactions with a decomposing body allows forensic entomologists to provide valuable information in criminal investigation.

One of the primary applications of entomology in forensic science is estimating the postmortem interval (PMI), or the time since death. Determining the PMI is crucial in criminal investigations as it can help establish a timeline, narrow down potential suspects, and corroborate or refute alibis. Insect colonization patterns on a body can provide valuable insights into the PMI estimation. Different species of insects arrive at a corpse at different stages of decomposition, laying eggs that subsequently hatch into larvae, feeding on the decomposing tissues. By examining the species composition, developmental stage, and weathering of the insects found on the body, entomologists can estimate the time of colonization and, consequently, the time of death. Forensic entomologists rely on their knowledge of insect biology, particularly the life cycles and ecological preferences of various insect species. They study the behavior, development rates, and temperature-dependent growth of insects to establish more accurate PMI estimates. This information is gathered through field studies, laboratory experiments, and comprehensive databases that document the life cycles and behaviors of different insect species. By examining the insect evidence, entomologists can determine if the body has been moved, if the death occurred at the scene, or if there is evidence of postmortem manipulation.

The success of estimating the PMI through forensic entomology relies on several factors. One crucial factor is the accurate identification of the insect species associated with the decomposing remains.

Forensic entomologists must be knowledgeable in insect taxonomy and have expertise in identifying insects at various life stages, including eggs, larvae, pupae, and adult specimens. Proper collection, preservation, and documentation of insect evidence are essential to ensure accurate identification and analysis. Another factor to consider is the influence of environmental variables on insect colonization and development. Temperature, humidity, availability of food sources, and other climatic conditions significantly affect the behavior and development of insects. Forensic entomologists use weather data from the location of death to calculate accumulated degree days (ADD), which are a measure of insect development. By comparing ADD values with experimental data on insect development rates, entomologists can estimate the time of colonization and refine PMI estimates.

Entomology also plays a role in determining the location of death, especially in cases where the body has been moved or concealed. Insect evidence found on a corpse can provide clues about the location where the initial colonization occurred. Entomologists can examine the species composition and stage of development of insects, as well as their geographical distribution and ecological preferences, to infer the original location of death. By comparing the insect evidence found on the body with the entomological fauna from different locations, entomologists can provide valuable information about where the crime might have taken place

Furthermore, entomological evidence can be instrumental in legal cases by linking suspects or victims to specific locations or events. Insect evidence found on a suspect, such as eggs, larvae, or pupae, can indicate their recent contact with a decomposing body. This evidence can link suspects to crime scenes, corroborate witness testimonies, or refute alibis. Similarly, entomological evidence collected from a crime scene, such as insect specimens or their DNA, can be compared to those found on a suspect or victim to establish associations or exclusions.

In addition to estimating the PMI and determining the location of death, entomology can contribute to other aspects of forensic science. For example, insects associated with human remains can provide insights into the cause of death. Certain species of insects are attracted to bodies in advanced stages of decomposition or those with specific types of injuries or diseases. By examining the insects present on the remains, entomologists can provide information about potential causes or contributing factors to the individual's death.

Entomology can also assist in cases involving animal attacks or abuse. Insect evidence can help differentiate between postmortem animal scavenging and ante-mortem injuries caused by animals. By examining the patterns and distribution of insect activity, entomologists can distinguish between injuries inflicted before and after death, aiding in the determination of the sequence of events and identifying potential perpetrators.

It is important to note that forensic entomology has its limitations and challenges. The accuracy of PMI estimates can be influenced by numerous factors, such as the presence of chemicals, burial, and environmental conditions that accelerate or retard insect development. Additionally, the regional differences in insect fauna and their behavior can pose challenges in accurately applying entomological evidence in different geographical locations.

In conclusion, the relationship between entomology and forensic science is a critical one, particularly in estimating the postmortem interval, determining the location of death, and providing evidence for legal cases. The principles and methodologies of forensic entomology rely on the study of insect biology, behavior, and development patterns. Through careful examination and analysis of insect evidence, forensic entomologists can contribute valuable information to criminal investigations, helping establish timelines, identifying locations, and linking individuals to specific events. However, it is essential to acknowledge the challenges and limitations of this field and the need for ongoing research and collaboration between entomologists and other forensic experts to enhance its reliability and application in legal contexts.

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A Study of Nokia Company

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Abstract

Nokia has been an established worldwide brand & a major market player in mobile industry. It became a global giant in handsets market because it could foresee the huge demand for mobile handsets which other firms could not foresee. But, since 2008, Nokia has been left behind by its rivals in the growth-oriented Smartphone market. The aim of the study is to assess the current position of Nokia in mobile industry and the future prospects.

Key words: Mobile Industry, Market Player, Smartphone

Introduction

Advancement in technology has facilitated the growth of mobile and telecommunication industry. The sector is dominated by leading world producers who depend on their operational management decision to remain afloat in the competitive industry; some of international companies in the industry include Samsung, Nokia, Sony-Ericson, Apples, and Google Android-powered phones. Nokia has been a leader in the industry in innovation, sales, and market share, however the increased competition has triggered for strategic decisions to be made by the company. Decisions are the driving force in any organization. The quality of decision that managers make give their organization direction and focus. The growth and competitiveness of an organization is influenced by the quality as well as acceptability of decisions made by managers at all levels (Zi-Lin, Kwanghui and Pho-Kam, 2006). This paper analysis the strategic direction taken by Nokia Phone Company, will also undertake a strength and weakness analysis of the company.

Brief history of the company

Nokia is an international phone company, with its headquarters in Finland; according to the company's website, the company currently enjoys a market share of about 37% and aims at increasing the market share to over 40% by the end of 2011. It has a strong brand all over the world, the companies positioning statement is "technology connecting people". The company's headquarters are located in Keilaniemi, Espoo.

Currently it has a total number of employees over 123,000 distributed in various countries. It has its presence as a selling point of full branch in over 120 countries. In the year 2009, the company was able to make a profit of €1.2 billion this was over 10% than what it had recorded the previous year. The idea of the company was started in 1865 however; it became a telecommunication company in 1960's (Nokia Official website, 2010).

Nokia Vision, Mission, Purpose and value of its marketing materials

Nokia is one international company that has a simple and straightforward mission statement as “Connecting People”. Its vision statement is “Our strategic intent is to build great mobile products” (Nokia Official website, 2010), this vision statement has more focus on the phone section of the company as the main business segment that the company has. The main purpose of the company is “Our job is to enable billions of people everywhere to get more of life’s opportunities through mobile” (Nokia Official website, 2010).

To ensure that the company fulfils its vision, mission and purpose, it operates under marketing values and principles; they include innovation, products development, respect for the people and respect for research and development projects (Nokia Official website, 2010).

The current electronic market is fiancé and competitive, there are number of players in the industry that calls for Nokia to keep changing its operating policies and strategies. It has to keep changing its approach to ensure that it remains competitive. The main competitors of the company include Samsung, Apple, and Sony-Ericson.

To fight the competition, Nokia has engaged in a number of collaborations with other likeminded companies to ensure that it remains competitive. One of the recent strategic alliances that the company has made is strategic partnership with Microsoft to offer the company with the right software to compete effectively. The drive to remain competitive and offer high returns to the company has made the management to develop new strategies that will see it succeed (Reid, Plank and Richard, 2004).

Review marketing performance

Nokia has been a leader in the electronic industry however current innovations and venture of other international companies have hindered the company’s continued leadership; the companies’ strength and innovativeness has made it world’s largest manufacturer of mobile phones.

In the first three quarter of 2010, the company enjoyed a market share of approximately 31% on average; however, the market share reduced to 30% in the last quarter of the year. The drop of the market share can be attributed to aggressive marketing and selling approaches adopted by its competitors mostly Apple Inc and Google Android-powered phones.

The company is also diversifying rapidly in laptops, IPods and I phone to enable it share a large market in the electronic industry. The results of 2010, were lower to those recorded in 2009 of 35% in the fourth quarter; so far, the marketing approach that the company has adopted is doing well in the markets however, the trend is alarming and calling for something extra to be done if the company has to remain in the forefront of the market.

Nokia has a positioning statement as “connecting people”, the statement is deeply rooted in the people who’s the company aims at serving through its products. The positioning statement with a single grasp describes what the company is up to and what it aims at offering.

One of the major weaknesses that the companies marketing campaigns have had is that they have been only inclined to advertising and selling of phones; however, the company has more products that it can use to increase its market, revenue as well as sales.

Another problem that can be seen with its structure is the presence of its research and development plants; the last quarter of 2010 say the company have research and development outlets in only 16 countries from its present countries of about 120. The representation of the research and development team is thus not a representative of the company's total presence (John and Mowen, 2004).

S.W.O.T

Nokia strength is ventured in its strong brand name that is internationally recognized. There is a wide recognition of these products in all parts of the world. The strength of the company is undoubtedly be engineered by its internal managerial mechanisms. In order to have a competitive edge in selling its product and services, it will be advisable for the company to take advantage of its ability to compete favorably with equal players in the market.

The company's products are fitted with different features and yet they are sold at an affordable cost (Sadler, 2003). One weakness that Nokia is having is having a slow rate of products development; in the near past, the company has been producing products after other companies have invented them. It has become a company of copying technology instead of being a leader in developing the technologies (Ketels, 2006).

With globalization, the company has the chance of targeting international markets, it can expand its market share in other countries and improve its products to attain customer loyalty and retain it as well. The major threat facing the company is competition from other companies in the industry who seem to be more aggressive and are having consumer-targeted products. This has made the company shed some markets to these competitors (Peter, 2006).

Scope marketing opportunities

Opportunities are positives that a company can utilize for its benefits, one of the most outstanding opportunities that the company has is growth in globalization. Opportunities for the company are dependent on both the internal and external assessment criteria of the company's profile of operation (Kotler & Armstrong, 2001). Some of the underlying opportunities for this company about the macro environment are the diversification of its activities.

When operating in more than one country, the company should ensure it well understands the marketing approach that it should implement for its success. Different countries call for different marketing approach depending with the people living in the area. There are some green markets or some markets that have not been fully utilized that the company should think of diversifying to, some of these are in developing countries who may be in need of basic phones (Hooley and Saunders, 1993).

With changes in markets and economic situation, different people are having different tastes; the company should aim at establishing niche markets with the available markets. For instance, the growth of the youthful population can have a niche to have highly integrated phones that can perform different tasks; this should be in the areas that the company should be going. It should not shy off to take challenge from its competitors like Apple and Androids who are driving the market through innovations (Michael 1997).

When the above opportunities have been seen and well ventured, the company is likely to have a growing profit gain as sales are likely to grow; on the other hand, when the company develops new products with times and aim at fulfilling consumer needs, it will likely win consumer confidence that grows loyalty with the company's products. The viability of a new venture is dependent on how well the opportunity has been seen, tapped, and structures to venture in it have been developed (Earl, 1996).

Other products that Nokia should consider

Although the market is saturated with customer-focused products, Nokia still can come up with other innovative products to grow its portfolio. An area that seems green and still not ventured in is solar charged laptops: many people today are using laptops in their day-to-day activities, however they are limited by the life of their batteries. Laptops are electronic gadget, which must depend with a reliable source of electricity to be recharged. The company should think of coming up with policies and develop the products.

The innovation of solar-based laptops should target countries with high potential in laptop markets and they experience large spells of solar energy. They should be fitted with photoelectric cells that allow self-charging when exposed to solar energy. When such products are developed, the company is likely to remain competitive in the electronic gadgets industry.

Caribbean and African countries have not been fully utilized, the company can still venture in the markets and dominate them; in most of these countries, the company should look into low income earners thus it should provide phones and other electronic gadgets that fit these markets.

Diversification to solar laptops and venturing more aggressively in Caribbean and African countries is in line with the company's mission, vision, purpose, objective as well as positioning statement. It will lead to an increased sales, increased profits, as well as customer base; the net result is dominance in the electronic industry.

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Humanity is at a precipice; its future is at stake: A systematic Meta Analysis Approach

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Abstract

Humanity stands at a critical juncture, facing numerous global challenges that threaten its future and well-being. This manuscript employs a systematic meta-analysis approach to examine the current state of affairs and the potential paths forward. It comprehensively synthesizes existing research, studies, and reports to provide a comprehensive understanding of the global challenges humanity faces. By analyzing various domains such as environmental, social, economic, and technological aspects, this manuscript offers insights into the interconnectedness of these challenges and their potential impacts. Drawing upon this analysis, the manuscript identifies key strategies, policies, and actions that can help steer humanity towards a more sustainable and resilient future.

Keywords: Humanity, Global challenges, meta-analysis, sustainable future, interconnectedness.

1. Introduction:

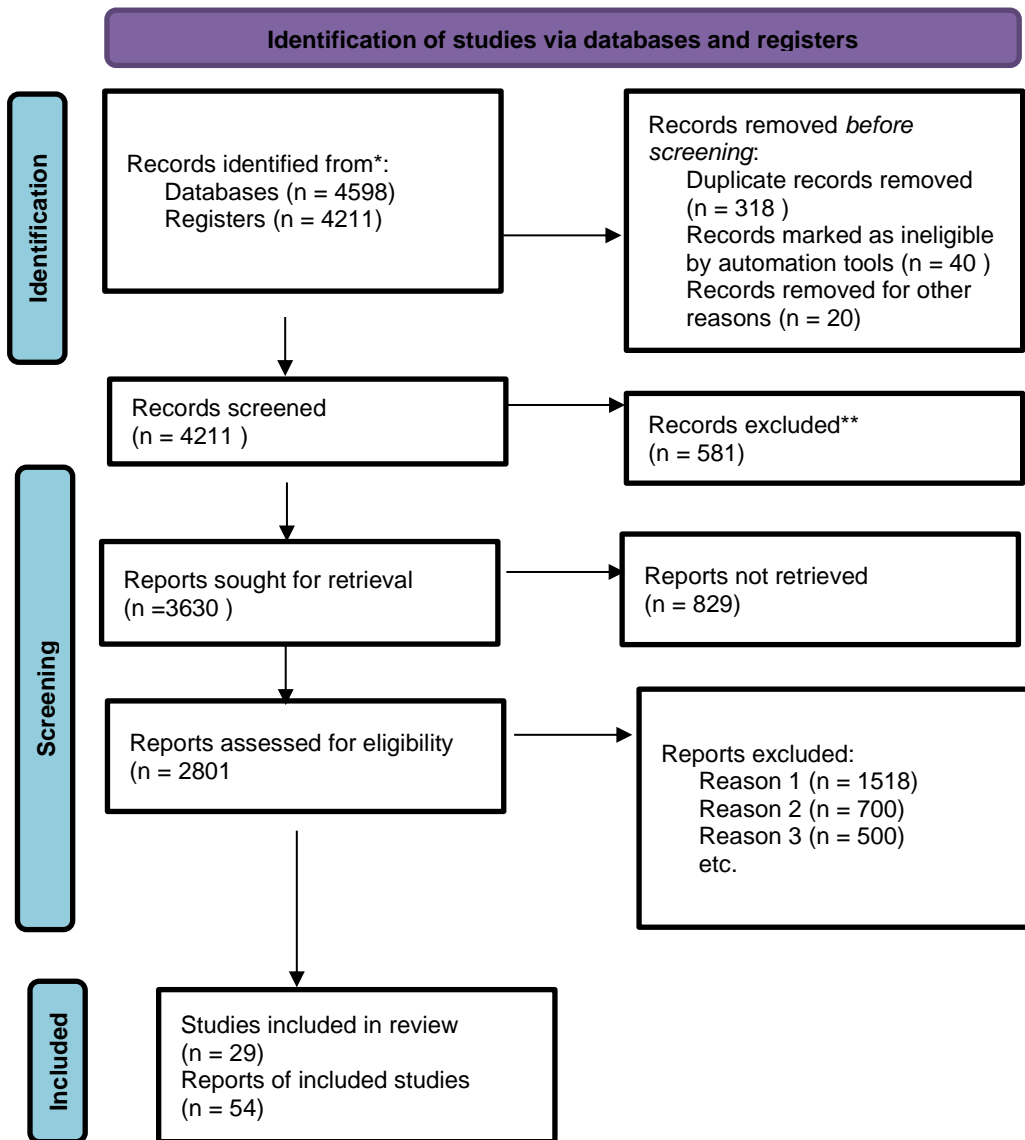
Humanity is at a precipice; its future is at stake" may not be feasible since it lacks specific variables or outcomes that can be quantitatively measured and compared across studies. Meta-analysis typically involves synthesizing quantitative data from multiple studies that investigate a specific research question with measurable outcomes. The threats we face are unprecedented in scale and complexity, and they are only going to get worse if we do not act now. Climate change is already having a devastating impact on our planet. Sea levels are rising, extreme weather events are becoming more common, and food production is being disrupted. If we do not take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the consequences will be catastrophic. Environmental degradation is another major threat to our future. We are depleting our natural resources at an alarming rate, and we are polluting our air and water. If we do not change our ways, we will eventually reach a point of no return. Resource depletion is also a major concern. Overpopulation is another major threat. The world's population is expected to reach 10 billion by 2050. This will put a strain on our resources and lead to increased competition for land, food, and water.

Systematic Literature Review:

- a. Define the Research Question:** Clarify the specific aspects or dimensions of humanity's future that are at stake. For example, you could focus on environmental sustainability, technological advancements, social inequality, or any other relevant factors.
- b. Search Strategy:** Develop a comprehensive search strategy to identify relevant studies. Utilize academic databases, journals, and other reputable sources. Use a combination of keywords related to the research question, such as "humanity," "future," "environment," "technology," "inequality," etc.
- c. Study Selection:** Apply predefined inclusion and exclusion criteria to screen the identified studies. Include studies that address the specific aspects of humanity's future at stake. Exclude studies that are not relevant or do not meet the predetermined criteria.
- d. Data Extraction & Synthesis:** Extract qualitative data from the selected studies. This may include themes, concepts, arguments, or perspectives related to the future of humanity. Develop a coding scheme to organize and categorize the extracted data. Analyze the extracted data to identify common themes, patterns, and trends across the studies. Group similar findings together to develop overarching themes or categories.
- e. Interpretation and Discussion:** Interpret the synthesized findings, considering the implications and significance for the future of humanity. Discuss the key themes or concepts that emerge from the analysis.

PRISMA flowchart

PRISMA for a systematic review on the topic "Humanity is at a precipice; its future is at stake."



Source: Author's Compilation

- **Synthesis:** Thematic analysis: Conducted a thematic analysis to identify key themes or categories across the included studies.
- **Summary of findings:** Summarized the main findings within each theme or category.
- **Quality assessment:** Assessed the quality or risk of bias of included studies using appropriate tools or criteria.
- **Reporting of assessment:** Reported the results of the quality assessment.
- **Data analysis:**
- **Meta-analysis:** Conducted a quantitative synthesis of data from multiple studies using appropriate statistical methods

4. Findings & Discussion: The findings of this research paper suggest that humanity is at a precipice and its future is at stake. The following are some of the key findings of this research:

- **Climate change:** Climate change is already having a devastating impact on our planet. Sea levels are rising, extreme weather events are becoming more common, and food production is being disrupted. If we do not take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the consequences will be catastrophic.
- **Environmental degradation:** Environmental degradation is another major threat to our future. We are depleting our natural resources at an alarming rate, and we are polluting our air and water. If we do not change our ways, we will eventually reach a point of no return.
- **Resource depletion:** Resource depletion is also a major concern. We are running out of oil, gas, and other resources that are essential to our way of life. If we do not find new sources of energy and materials, we will face economic collapse.
- **Overpopulation:** Overpopulation is another major threat. The world's population is expected to reach 10 billion by 2050. This will put a strain on our resources and lead to increased competition for land, food, and water.
- **Technological risks:** Technological risks are also a major concern. We are developing new technologies at an unprecedented pace, and some of these technologies could pose a serious threat to humanity. For example, artificial intelligence could be used to create autonomous weapons that could kill without human intervention.

Conclusion: The future of humanity is in our hands. We need to act now to prevent a catastrophe. We can do this by reducing our greenhouse gas emissions, protecting our environment, finding new sources of energy and materials, addressing the issue of overpopulation, and developing international agreements to regulate new technologies.

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A market study of apple iphone

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Abstract

Our Apple market study will show how to come up with Apple's brand positioning statement, and brand plan. Then, I will show how Steve Jobs pushed to stretch their "simplicity" brand idea across their company. Everyone who works behind the scenes know their role in delivery simplicity. Even back in the 1980s, Apple started with "technology for the rest of us" when they took on IBM. And, they continued that attack with "I'm a Mac" ads that took on Microsoft. Simplicity drives Apple innovation. Steve Jobs pushed for great advertising.

The beauty of Apple is how they take complex technology and simplify it so consumers can do more with Apple products. The Apple brand strategy even drives their retail stores. Their Genius bar helps answer technology questions. They allow consumers to play with their products. Apple sales people are trained to avoid "geek speak."

Apple Brand Positioning

Apple builds everything behind the "simplicity" brand idea.

We use our consumer benefit ladder to find differentiation. Importantly, turn your brand's features into consumer benefits. Stop thinking about what your brand does. And, start thinking about what your consumer gets. That's when your brand positioning statement comes alive.

Functional consumer benefits.

To help brand leaders kickstart their brand positioning work, I have created 12 functional zones that expands to over 50 potential functional benefits. For instance, as you look through the list, gravitate to the functional benefits you think will fit the needs of your consumers and differentiates your brand by looking for words where your brand does it better than competitors. While you might start with our words, try to layer in your own creative language with the specific category or consumer language.

Emotional consumer benefits.

Below is a list of 40 potential emotional benefits help build an emotional brand positioning statement that differentiates your brand. Importantly, you want to own one emotional space in the consumer's heart as much as you own the rational space in the consumer's mind.

Functional Benefits for your brand positioning statement. A great way to differentiate your brand. Emotional Benefits for your brand positioning statement. A great way to differentiate your brand.

Choosing the right benefit clusters for Apple

Using our brand positioning process, our Apple Case study narrows in on the brand's potential benefit clusters of the functional and emotional benefits. Below, we show how Apple's three functional benefit zones includes simplifies life, sensory appeal and the experience. And, Apple's three emotional benefit zones includes optimism, feeling free and getting noticed.

Borrowing from the world of psychology, where they use personality archetypes to describe people, we can use brand archetypes to help you figure out the role of your brand, which adds to your brand idea. When a brand offers spiritual, freedom or knowledge, they fit with the explorer, sage, or innocent archetypes. Brands delivering stability, structure, and control fit with the ruler, creator, or caregiver.

Brands that take risks create an impact or reach for achievement; they fit with the hero, rebel, or magician. Then, brands that focus on belonging or connections, they may look to the everyman, lover, or jester.

Creator: The artist and dreamers, who are imaginative, expressive, and innovative. They believe they can see a better future.

Ruler: The industry leader, who are confident, responsible, and authoritative. They promise power, control, and stability to their consumers.

Caregiver: The helping hand, who is selfless, empathetic and nurturing. They offer protection, safety, and support.

Everyman: The approachable brand who is down-to-earth, dependable, and honest. They offer a sense of belonging and comfort.

Jester: The carefree brand who is joyful, carefree, and unusual. They give consumers permission to have fun and be happy.

Lover: The idealistic dreamer who is passionate, magnetic and committed. They exude passion and create desire with their consumers.

Innocent: The romantic dreamer brands, who are optimistic, wholesome, and pure. They want a safer and more beautiful world.

Sage: Trusted advisor and teacher, which is wise, articulate, and open-minded. They promise wisdom, wanting to help their followers.

Explorer: The self-discovery, which is worldly, independent, and purpose-driven. They promise freedom, innovation, and experiences.

Magician: The visionary brand which is unrelenting, driven, and charismatic. They offer transformative knowledge and new experiences.

Rebel: The anti-establishment brand, which is unconventional, defiant, and free-spirited. You offer the promise of a disruptive revolution.

Hero: The winner brand, which is determined, skilful, and selfless. They fight off the enemy with the promise of triumph and success.

The Apple case study uses the brand idea for Apple is “making technology so simple that everyone can be part of the future.” Most importantly, Steve Jobs insisted they take a consumer-first mentality, as they transform leading technology advancements into “consumer-accessible” technology, helping fuel the perception among the mass audience that Apple is an innovative leader. It is irrefutable to say that Apple Inc. is one of the most well-known companies to date. With a huge brand name and consumer base, Apple has been able to target multiple markets simultaneously. The Apple iPhone has successfully been able to satisfy the need for a portable, yet powerful device, that allows the user to access information quickly and efficiently. First, an environmental scan helped us see some upcoming opportunities and threats for Apple Inc., such as developing countries’ growth. Second, by defining Apple’s main consumer behaviourism terms of psychological and sociocultural influences, we can see that Apple products give consumers an idealized view of themselves and a sense of luxury. Third, by identifying Apple’s target market for the iPhone and using a market-product grid and perceptual map, we can determine Apple’s ideal market is towards men between the ages 35-44 and secondary market to ages 18-34.

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A Systematic Literature Review on Integrated Assessment Models for Sustainability in India

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1. Introduction:

Sustainability has emerged as a critical global concern, and its assessment is essential for guiding policy decisions and promoting sustainable development. In the Indian context, a rapidly growing economy coupled with diverse environmental and social challenges necessitates effective tools and frameworks for sustainability assessment. Integrated Assessment Models (IAMs) have gained prominence as valuable tools to evaluate sustainability and inform decision-making processes. IAMs offer a holistic approach by integrating multiple dimensions of sustainability, including environmental, social, and economic aspects, into a unified framework.

1.1 IAM in Indian Context:

The unique context of India, characterized by its vast geographical and cultural diversity, presents specific challenges and opportunities for sustainability assessment. The country faces a range of pressing issues, including rapid urbanization, climate change, resource depletion, poverty, and inequality. IAMs tailored to the Indian context can contribute significantly to understanding and addressing these challenges by providing a comprehensive framework to evaluate the sustainability of policies, interventions, and development pathways.

In the context of sustainability assessment in India, several types of Integrated Assessment Models (IAMs) have been developed and applied. These IAMs offer diverse approaches to integrating various sustainability dimensions and evaluating the impacts of policies and interventions. Here are some common types of IAMs used in sustainability assessments in India.

1.2 Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) Models:

CGE models are widely used in sustainability assessments to analyze the economy-wide impacts of policies. These models capture the interdependencies between different sectors of the economy and provide insights into the economic, social, and environmental consequences of policy changes.

1.3 System Dynamics (SD) Models:

SD models focus on capturing the feedback loops and dynamic relationships within complex systems. These models can assess the long-term sustainability implications by simulating the behaviour of interconnected variables and identifying policy levers to achieve sustainable outcomes.

1.4 Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA) Models:

MCDA models incorporate multiple sustainability criteria and indicators into a decision-making framework. These models enable the evaluation and comparison of alternative policy options based on multiple dimensions, such as economic efficiency, social equity, environmental impact, and institutional feasibility.

1.5 Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) Models:

LCA models assess the environmental impacts of products or processes throughout their life cycle. These models consider the entire life cycle stages, from raw material extraction to production, use, and disposal, and provide insights into the environmental footprint and potential improvement areas.

1.6 Agent-Based Models (ABMs):

ABMs simulate the behaviour and interactions of individual agents within a system. These models are useful for understanding the social dynamics and behaviour of stakeholders, such as consumers, producers, and policymakers, and their impact on sustainability outcomes.

1.7 Integrated Assessment and Modelling Frameworks:

Integrated frameworks combine multiple modelling approaches and data sources to provide a comprehensive assessment of sustainability. These frameworks often integrate different IAMs, such as CGE, SD, and LCA models, to capture the complex interactions between economic, social, and environmental factors.

Systematic Literature Review (SLR) Approach:

The systematic literature review aims to explore and synthesize the existing body of research on IAMs for sustainability assessment in India. By analysing the available studies, we seek to identify the key IAMs employed, the sustainability dimensions assessed, and the insights gained from these assessments. Additionally, the review aims to identify gaps, limitations, and opportunities for further research in the field. The findings of this review will contribute to a deeper understanding of the application of IAMs in the Indian context, their effectiveness in assessing sustainability, and their implications for policy and decision-making.

Study	Research Objective	IAM Type	Sustainability Dimensions Assessed	Key Findings
Singh et al. (2022)	To assess the environmental impacts of renewable energy policies	Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) Model	Environmental	Renewable energy policies reduced CO2 emissions by 30% in India.
Patel and Gupta (2019)	To evaluate the economic and social effects of climate change	Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) Model	Economic, Social	Climate change resulted in a 2% GDP loss and increased poverty rates.
Sharma and Khan (2020)	To analyse the water scarcity issues in urban areas due to rapid urbanization	System Dynamics (SD) Model	Environmental, Social	Rapid urbanization led to a 40% decline in per capita water availability.
Khan et al. (2018)	To explore stakeholder engagement in sustainable forestry management	Agent-Based Model (ABM)	Environmental, Social	Stakeholder engagement increased forest conservation rates by 20%.
Gupta et al. (2017)	To assess the sustainability of transportation policies	Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA) Model	Environmental, Economic, Social	Integrated transportation policies reduced emissions by 15%.

Source: Authors' Compilation

2. Methodology:

Inclusion criteria: Define the criteria for selecting studies, such as publication date range, study focus on India, use of IAMs, and relevance to sustainability assessment.

- Search strategy: Describe the databases and search terms used to identify relevant studies. Include details on any additional sources, such as reference lists and gray literature, consulted for comprehensive coverage.
- Study selection process: Explain the process of screening and selecting studies, including the number of initial records identified, screening criteria, and the final number of included studies.

- Data extraction: Specify the data to be extracted from each study, such as authors, publication year, objectives, IAM used, sustainability dimensions assessed, key findings, and limitations.
- Results: Overview of included studies: Provide a summary of the characteristics of the included studies (e.g., publication year, IAM used, sustainability dimensions assessed, geographic focus).
- IAMs for sustainability assessment: Describe the different IAMs identified in the literature that have been applied to assess sustainability in India.
- Sustainability dimensions assessed: Present the key sustainability dimensions (e.g., environmental, social, economic) that have been evaluated using IAMs in the Indian context.
- Findings and insights: Highlight the main findings and insights from the included studies regarding sustainability assessment using IAMs in India.

3. Themes and Analysis

Thematic analysis:

Several key themes emerged from the review.

- IAMs have primarily focused on climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies, reflecting the pressing need for sustainable development in the face of climate challenges.
- Growing recognition of the importance of incorporating local context and stakeholders' perspectives into IAMs to enhance their effectiveness and relevance.
- The review identified a need for greater integration of multiple sectors and disciplines to capture the full complexity of sustainability challenges in India.

4. Discussion & Conclusion:

In conclusion, this chapter has provided a comprehensive analysis of integrated assessment models (IAMs) for sustainability in India through a systematic literature review. The review aimed to understand the current state of research in this field, identify key trends, and highlight research gaps and potential areas for future studies.

The findings of this literature review indicate that IAMs have played a significant role in assessing sustainability in India, particularly in the context of climate change, energy, and natural resource management. These models have contributed to understanding the complex interrelationships between social, economic, and environmental factors, and have facilitated evidence-based decision-making processes.

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A case study of forestry sector in India. Forest Policy and Economics, 99, 90-101. Analysis on Income Tax Return Filing by Company's Employees

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Abstract: This chapter aims to analyze the income tax return filing patterns of employees working in a company. It investigates the factors influencing employees' compliance with tax regulations, the challenges they face during the filing process, and the implications for both employees and the company. The study utilizes quantitative data collected from employee surveys and tax-related documents to provide insights into the filing behavior and trends. The findings shed light on potential areas for improvement in tax education, support, and policies to enhance compliance and ensure a smooth tax filing process.

Keywords: Income tax return filing, Company employees, Tax compliance, Tax regulations, Tax filing behaviour, Tax education, Tax support services, Tax knowledge, Tax challenges, Tax forms, Timeliness of tax filings, Accuracy of tax information, Tax-conscious culture, Tax penalties, Tax incentives, Tax audit, Tax deductions, Tax credits, Tax planning, Tax software.

Introduction: The introduction section provides an overview of the importance of income tax return filing for both employees and the company. It highlights the legal and financial obligations of employees to file their tax returns accurately and on time. The introduction also outlines the research objectives, significance, and the methodology used to analyze the income tax return filing behavior of company employees.

Literature Review: The literature review section examines existing research and scholarly works related to income tax return filing behavior. It explores factors influencing tax compliance, such as knowledge of tax regulations, perception of fairness, penalties, tax education programs, and tax-related support services. Additionally, it discusses the role of technology in simplifying the filing process and improving compliance rates. The literature review critically evaluates the findings of previous studies and identifies gaps or areas for further investigation.

Methodology: The methodology section describes the research approach, study design, and data collection methods employed in the analysis. It outlines the selection criteria for the sample of company employees and the instruments used, such as surveys, interviews, and tax-related documents. The section also discusses any limitations or challenges encountered during Data collection and analysis.

Findings: The findings section presents the results of the analysis on income tax return filing by company employees. It discusses the patterns and trends observed in employees' compliance with tax regulations, including the percentage of employees filing returns, accuracy of information provided, and timeliness of submissions. The findings also highlight common challenges faced by employees during the filing process, such as lack of knowledge, complexity of tax forms, and difficulties in accessing relevant documentation.

Discussion: The discussion section interprets and analyzes the findings in the context of existing literature and theoretical frameworks. It explores the implications of the findings for employees, the company, and tax authorities. The discussion may address strategies to improve tax compliance through enhanced tax education programs, simplified filing procedures, and increased support services. It also considers the potential benefits of fostering a tax-conscious culture within the company.

Conclusion: The conclusion section summarizes the key findings and insights obtained from the analysis. It highlights the significance of promoting tax compliance among employees and identifies potential areas for improvement in the tax filing process. The conclusion emphasizes the importance of collaboration between employees, the company, and tax authorities to ensure accurate and timely income tax return filing.

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A study on Amazon (Amazon.com) is the world's largest online retailer and a prominent cloud service provider

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Abstract

Originally started as an online bookselling company, Amazon has morphed into an internet-based business enterprise that is largely focused on providing e-commerce, cloud computing, digital streaming and artificial intelligence services. Following an Amazon-to-buyer sales approach, the company offers a monumental product range and inventory, enabling consumers to buy just about anything, including clothing, beauty supplies, gourmet food, jewelry, books, movies, electronics, pet supplies, furniture, toys, garden supplies and household goods. Headquartered in Seattle, Amazon has individual websites, software development centers, customer service centers, data centers and fulfillment centers around the world.

History and timeline of Amazon

Amazon has come a long way since it was founded by Jeff Bezos in his garage in Bellevue, Wash., on July 5, 1994. The 1990s: Amazon officially opened for business as an online bookseller on July 16, 1995. Originally, Bezos had incorporated the company as Cadabra but later changed the name to Amazon. Bezos is said to have browsed a dictionary for a word beginning with A for the value of alphabetic placement. He selected the name Amazon because it was exotic and different and as a reference to his plan for the company's size to reflect that of the Amazon River, one of the largest rivers in the world. Since its inception, the company's motto has always been "get big fast."

The 2000s: In 2005, Amazon Prime This membership-based service for Amazon customers offers free two-day shipping within the contiguous U.S., as well as streaming, shopping and reading benefits. According to Amazon's website, current Amazon Prime membership rates are \$14.99 a month or \$139 per year.

Amazon Web Services: This comprehensive and evolving cloud computing platform was also born in the 2000s. The first Amazon Web Services (AWS) offerings were launched in 2006 to provide online services for websites and client-side applications. Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud and Simple Storage Service S3 are the backbones of the company's growing collection of web services. The same year, Amazon also launched a cloud computing and video-on-demand service known at the time as Unbox. By changing the way people bought books, Amazon also shaped how they read them with the launch of its first Kindle e-reader in 2007.

From the 2010s to present

Amazon debuted its first tablet computer, the Kindle Fire, in 2011 and the Amazon Fire TV Stick, which is part of Amazon's extensive line of streaming media devices, in 2014. Amazon also started an online Amazon Art marketplace for fine arts in 2013, which has featured original works by famous artists such as Claude Monet and Norman Rockwell. The popular in-home virtual assistant Amazon Alexa was rolled out to consumers in 2015 and was followed by the Alexa-equipped Echo Dot in 2016. Amazon acquired the organic grocery store Whole Foods in 2017 and launched Amazon Go, a chain of cashier less grocery stores in 2018.

Amazon privately owned brands

- Amazon Basics. This is Amazon's privately labelled, low-budget brand that mainly sells kitchen, tech and household products.
- Amazon Elements. This line of domestic products includes health and personal care items, as well as nutritional supplements.
- Mama Bear. This private label of Amazon sells baby wipes, newborn through size 6 diapers, baby food, diaper pail refills and baby laundry detergent.
- Presto!. This brand started as a laundry detergent in 2016 but has added household paper towels and toilet paper to its product line.
- Amazon Essentials. A Prime-exclusive program, this clothing line offers basic wear for men, women, babies and kids, with additional options for family, big and tall, and athletic activity.
- Happy Belly. This private label of Amazon was introduced in 2016 and sells snack food items. In February 2019, the brand also began offering milk delivery services.
- Good threads: This menswear apparel line is available exclusively to Amazon Prime members. The label offers both casual and professional pieces and is deemed a bit higher quality and more stylish than the Amazon Essentials brand.

Notable Amazon subsidiaries and acquisitions

From healthcare to entertainment, Amazon has acquired multiple companies by tapping into a variety of sectors over time.

Following is a list of Amazon's notable acquisitions and subsidiary companies:

- IMDb. The world's most popular database for movies, TV, celebrity, video games and streaming online content was acquired by Amazon in 1998.
- Audible. Audible, a book and spoken audio content provider, was acquired by Amazon in 2008 for \$300 million.
- Zappos. Amazon acquired this online shoe and clothing retailer in an all-stock deal worth \$1.2 billion in 2009.
- Twitch. A social media and video game streaming platform, Twitch was purchased by Amazon for \$970 million in 2014.

- Whole Foods. Food, beverage and organic grocery store chain Whole Foods was acquired by Amazon for \$13.7 billion in 2017.
- Ring. Amazon took ownership of this home security and smart home company in 2018 for \$1 billion.
- Zoox. An autonomous vehicles robotics and transportation company was acquired as a wholly owned subsidiary by Amazon for \$1.2 billion in 2020.
- Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Amazon acquired this film and TV studio for \$8.5 billion in March 2022.

Amazon controversies and criticisms

Amazon has suffered a massive backlash over the years from multiple sources. Following are a few concerns and allegations that Amazon has faced over time:

- Monopolistic and anticompetitive behavior. Due to Amazon's size and economies of scale, it has been out pricing local and small shopkeepers and is accused of displacing an open market with a privately controlled one. This is leading to the slow death of the brick-and-mortar store model built by companies such as Sears and J.C. Penney.
- Unfair treatment of workers. Amazon is frequently under the microscope for providing unfair working conditions in its warehouses, including treating workers as robots, providing low wages and creating unsafe work conditions.
- E-waste. A recent investigation conducted by British television network ITV uncovered how Amazon is contributing to the world's e-waste crisis by destroying millions of unused or returned products. This also includes millions of electronics, such as phones, computers and TVs that are toxic to soil, water, air and wildlife.
- Counterfeit product listings. Amazon has been under scrutiny by brands, shoppers and lawmakers as counterfeiters have been listing and selling fake products on Amazon through its third-party marketplace
- Avoiding taxation. Edging fast toward a monopoly status, Amazon has been criticized for often avoiding tax payments despite making huge profits. According to a report by the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, the company avoided around \$5.2 billion in corporate federal income taxes in 2021. The rise of in-home shopping during the COVID-19 pandemic made consumers rely on Amazon even more, and the trend is likely to keep growing.

A study on employee motivation at knack global

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Abstract:

Employee motivation is a most important concern of organizations and personnel resource managers for several years; it was a significant demonstration of a positive and productive employee. Nonetheless, encouraging personnel within an organisation, due to a wide range of personnel, management, workplace and organizational variables, remains challenging and complex. Organizations and managers of human resources also use different techniques to inspire the workers. Performance Assessment (PA) is one of the best known strategies administrators use to achieve different management, employee and organizational goals. All styles of organizations perform regular PAs for assessing workers and calculating their competencies and achievements. This method is often carried out by managers to better coordinate strategies and procedures, to develop organizational resources and services required by workers, and to An important element of competitive advantage is the formulation of a hypothetical research model that uniquely integrates the various aspects of empowerment and people engagement, which needs to be considered as a human resource for managing people retention in a highly competitive business environment. The goal was to ask employees to look beyond machines to increase the probability of success of the company by paying due attention to established human capital. While a number of studies have examined a range of factors as effective reasons for retaining people by giving a thrust to their confidence and dedication, a 'whole system' approach to that has been curiously absent for consideration. Throughout previous researches, these variables were studied throughout bit and pieces, making it difficult to holistically elucidate the definition. The researcher empirically validated the proposed model, and it reflects the findings. More structured way. This study will certainly give some light to others for further research and other organizations to take on the results of the study.

Keywords: Employee motivation, Motivation theories, Intrinsic motivation, Extrinsic motivation, Self-determination theory

Introduction:

Every management tries to co-ordinate various factors of production in such a way that their contribution is high in achieving organizational goals. The performance of non-human factors like machines, etc. will depend upon the level of technology and the competence of those who use them. To improve the overall performance in a business it becomes essential to increase the efficiency of human beings. The performance of person depends upon two factors, that is ability to do a work and motivation.

Both these factors taken together will increase the efficiency of human beings. If a person does not have the capability or ability to do a work then he cannot increase the efficiency. On the other hand, even if a person has got the ability but is not properly motivated even then his performance will be low.

Motivation is an important factor which encourage person to give their best performance and help in reaching enterprise goals. A strong positive motivation will enable the increased output of employee but a negative motivation will reduce their performance. A key element in personnel management is motivation. Motivation is the work manager performs to inspire and encourage people to take required action. Motivation has three distinct features is motivation. They are;

- 1) It results from a felt need.
- 2) It is goal directed.
- 3) It persist until the satisfaction of a need

Motivation is the set of processes that moves a person towards a goal. Thus, motivated behaviour is voluntary choices controlled by individual employee. Motivation, obviously, is a complex subject. It difficult to explain and behaviour of employees. The introduction of an apparently favourable motivational device may not necessarily produce the desired ends if it brings opposite motives in to play. Traditionally it is believed that employees are motivated by the opportunity to make as such money, because what it can buy, is the most important motivator of all people.

Motivation causes goal-directed behaviour. If a person strongly feels the need of something he will behave in such a way that he tries to satisfy himself so that he does not feel the lack of that particular thing.

Review of Literature:

Jisha C L (2016) research article of (volume: 6 issue: 5) titled as "Study on Employees Motivation with special reference to BSNL" identifies the motivational nature of the study. Factor motivates employees the most and also determines which of the incentives, such as financial or non-financial incentives, motivates employees the most. For this research, convenient sampling with a sample size of 60 was used, as well as a percentage analysis method, a ranking method and a weighted average analysis method. Research has shown that the majority of employees are satisfied with both financial and non-financial incentives. It was also found out that salaries and wages in case of monetary benefit and good relationship with the co-workers was the most motivational factor. Ali Yassin Sheikh Ali (PhD), Abdulkadir Mohamud Dahie, Ali Abdulkadir Ali (January 2016) survey from Secondary Schools in Mogadishu (volume: 3 issue: 1) titled as "Teacher Motivation and School Performance, the Meditating Effect of Job Satisfaction" determines the significant relationship between teacher motivation and school performance including the meditating effect of teacher's job satisfaction as the main objective. This research used the survey technique as well as a sampling method which collected 80 respondents from secondary

schools using a questionnaire. There was a significant relationship between teacher motivation and job satisfaction as well as school performance was the result of the survey.

Research Design

The type of research design used in this study is “Descriptive Research” Descriptive research design involves summarizing and organizing of the data so that they can be easily understood. The main purpose of this descriptive statistics is to provide a brief summary of the samples. This generally means that descriptive statistics is not developed on the basis of probability theory. Majority of the respondents are very much satisfied with the salary provided by Knack Global and hence salary as impact on the employees performance. Majority of the respondents strongly agree that regular increments provided by the organisation as a major impact on the performance of the employees. High degree of safety but high noise level is provided at working place in Knack Global hence employees are not so happy about working condition in company. The employees are not provided with flexi time by the Knack Global, so employees are not happy with the working time. Promotion is based on merit and performance at Knack Global which as major impact on the employee’s performance. Knack Global appreciate the employees for the work performed which shows positive impact on the employee’s performance. Very good opportunities for advancement as been provided by Knack Global to employees hence they are happy to work in the company. There is very good relationship between the superior and employees in Knack Global which has an impact on the employee’s performance. Good relationship has been developed among the peers in Knack Global which has a positive impact on the employee’s performance. The recreational facilities such as visit to amusement park, recreation centers are provided by the organisation to keep the employees motivated. Recognition is been given to the work performed by employees at Knack Global hence the work force is very happy. Knack Global most of the time involve their employees in the decision making authority which make the employees to feel that they are valued. There is a good management style implemented in the organisation s result of this employees performance level is also high. Majority of the respondents strongly agree that career growth opportunity given by the Knack Global Company as a positive impact on the performance of employees. Job security is one of most important factor to most of the employees and as there is provision of job security in Knack Global employees happy in organisation. As compensation package provided by the company is good the performance of the employees also high in terms of productivity. Very good learning opportunities have been provided by the organisation so that the employees can improve their skill and knowledge. The prestige of the company as an impact on the employees performance as it helps in career growth of the employees. Knack Global pvt. ltd clearly defines values and policies of the organisation as it is clear and transparent the work force is very happy.

Job performance of the employees meets the standard set by the organisation hence both employees and organisation are happy Employee's motivational factors such as salary, increments, promotion, appreciation, recognition for the work performed and employee's performance as positive correlation and there is significant relation between the motivational factors and employees performance.

Conclusion:

This study was carried at Knack Global Pvt.Ltd, Mohali. Various aspects of the organization related to employee motivations such as salary, increments, promotion, recognition etc were studied as part of project. A study was also carried out on the topic "A Study on Employees Motivation at Knack Global Pvt Ltd, Bangalore". The study was conducted to understand the various motivational factors implemented in organisation in order to motivate the employees. The most important objective of the study were to analyze about the various factors leading to motivation of employees and to assess the relationship between the motivation and performance at Knack Global Pvt Ltd. Hence the major findings of the study are the motivational factor such as salary, increment, promotion, recognition, appreciation as a significant relation on the employee's performance at organization. Overall the study was very helpful. It helped in understanding various employees motivational factors aspects of the organization. It enhanced my knowledge about work culture and style of an organization and gave me practical exposure to the theoretical aspects learned.

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Examining the Effects of Employee Recognition and Rewards Programs on Organizational Performance

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Abstract:

Employee recognition and rewards programs have gained increasing attention as effective strategies for enhancing organizational performance. This research article aims to examine the effects of employee recognition and rewards programs on organizational performance by investigating their impact on employee motivation, engagement, and productivity. Drawing on a comprehensive review of literature and empirical studies, this article provides insights into the mechanisms through which recognition and rewards programs influence organizational performance. The findings highlight the positive outcomes of these programs, including improved employee morale, increased job satisfaction, higher levels of employee engagement, and enhanced overall organizational productivity. The article also explores the key elements of successful recognition and rewards programs and provides recommendations for implementing and optimizing these initiatives to maximize their impact on organizational performance.

Keywords: employee recognition, rewards programs, organizational performance, motivation, engagement, productivity.

Introduction:

Employee recognition and rewards programs have gained significant attention in the field of organizational management as a means to enhance employee motivation, engagement, and ultimately, organizational performance. This article aims to examine the effects of employee recognition and rewards programs on organizational performance by exploring their impact on employee satisfaction, productivity, and retention. The essay will also discuss the key elements of effective recognition and rewards programs and provide recommendations for implementing successful initiatives.

Employee Satisfaction: Employee recognition and rewards programs have a positive influence on employee satisfaction. When employees receive recognition for their efforts and contributions, it creates a sense of value, appreciation, and accomplishment. Recognition programs that are fair, transparent, and aligned with organizational values and goals contribute to a positive work environment and higher levels of employee satisfaction.

Employee Productivity: Recognition and rewards programs have a direct impact on employee productivity. When employees feel valued and appreciated, they are more likely to be motivated and engaged in their work. Recognition programs that highlight and reward exceptional performance or significant achievements act as incentives for employees to excel in their roles. This leads to increased productivity and improved overall organizational performance.

Employee Retention: Employee recognition and rewards programs play a crucial role in employee retention. Employees who feel recognized and appreciated are more likely to stay with the organization for the long term. Recognition programs provide a sense of loyalty and commitment to the organization, reducing turnover rates and the costs associated with recruitment and training of new employees.

Key Elements of Effective Recognition and Rewards Programs:

4.1. Clear Criteria and Objectives:

Recognition and rewards programs should have clear criteria and objectives to ensure fairness and transparency. Employees should understand the specific behaviors or accomplishments that are rewarded, allowing them to strive towards those goals.

4.2. Timeliness and Frequency:

Recognition should be timely and frequent to have the desired impact. Regular recognition and rewards reinforce positive behaviors and achievements, maintaining high levels of motivation and engagement.

4.3. Personalization:

Effective programs take into account individual preferences and tailor recognition and rewards accordingly. Personalized recognition shows that the organization values and understands the unique contributions of each employee.

4.4. Public and Private Recognition:

Both public and private recognition are important. Public recognition, such as company-wide announcements or ceremonies, boosts morale and creates a positive organizational culture. Private recognition, such as one-on-one feedback or personalized notes, acknowledges individual efforts and fosters a sense of appreciation.

Implementation and Evaluation:

Organizations should carefully plan the implementation of recognition and rewards programs. Communication about the program, training for managers, and ongoing evaluation are crucial. Regular feedback and assessment ensure that the program remains effective and aligned with organizational goals.

Conclusion:

Employee recognition and rewards programs have a significant impact on organizational performance. These programs contribute to employee satisfaction, productivity, and retention, leading to improved overall performance and organizational success. By implementing effective recognition and rewards programs that are fair, timely, personalized, and aligned with organizational objectives, organizations can create a positive work environment that motivates employees and enhances their contribution to the organization's success.

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Exploring Effective Pricing Strategies: A Review of Research

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Abstract:

Pricing strategies play a vital role in shaping consumer behavior and determining business success. This article presents a comprehensive review of research on pricing strategies, aiming to provide insights into effective approaches for businesses to optimize their pricing decisions. The review covers various pricing strategies, including psychological pricing, value-based pricing, dynamic pricing, and price discrimination. It examines the theoretical underpinnings of each strategy and evaluates empirical evidence of their impact on consumer perceptions, purchasing behavior, and overall market performance. Additionally, the article discusses the role of contextual factors and market dynamics that influence the effectiveness of different pricing strategies.

Keywords: Pricing strategies, Pricing decisions, Psychological pricing, Value-based pricing, Dynamic pricing, Price discrimination, Price elasticity, Price sensitivity, Price optimization

Introduction:

Pricing is a critical component of marketing strategy and has a significant impact on a company's profitability and market performance. Effective pricing strategies not only ensure the financial viability of a business but also influence consumer behavior and shape perceptions of product value. Understanding and implementing the right pricing strategies are essential for businesses to achieve their objectives and stay competitive in the market. Pricing strategies encompass a range of techniques and approaches that businesses employ to set prices for their products or services. These strategies take into account various factors, including costs, market demand, competition, and consumer preferences. The ultimate goal is to determine a price that maximizes revenue, captures market share, and maintains a sustainable profit margin.

Different pricing strategies exist, each with its own theoretical foundations and practical applications. Psychological pricing, for example, leverages consumers' psychological biases and perceptions to influence their purchase decisions. Value-based pricing focuses on pricing products or services based on the perceived value they deliver to customers.

Dynamic pricing utilizes real-time data and market conditions to adjust prices dynamically, allowing businesses to optimize revenue in response to changing demand patterns. Price discrimination is another strategy that involves charging different prices to different customer segments based on factors such as their willingness to pay, location, or purchasing power. Price bundling, on the other hand, involves offering multiple products or services together as a package at a discounted price to incentivize larger purchases.

The effectiveness of pricing strategies depends on various factors, including industry dynamics, market conditions, consumer behavior, and competitive landscape. Businesses must carefully analyze these factors and select the most appropriate pricing strategy to achieve their objectives. In this article, we will delve into different pricing strategies, explore their theoretical foundations, examine empirical evidence of their effectiveness, and discuss the key considerations for implementing successful pricing strategies. By understanding and leveraging these strategies, businesses can optimize their pricing decisions, enhance customer value, and achieve sustainable profitability in the dynamic marketplace.

Findings:

Psychological Pricing: Studies have shown that psychological pricing techniques, such as charm pricing (using prices that end in "9" or "99"), can create an illusion of lower prices and influence consumer perceptions of value and price fairness. Consumers tend to perceive prices ending in "9" as being significantly lower than prices that are slightly higher but rounded up.

Value-Based Pricing: Value-based pricing, which focuses on setting prices based on the perceived value of a product or service to the customer, has been found to be effective in capturing higher margins. Consumers are willing to pay more when they perceive a higher value or unique benefits associated with a product or service.

Dynamic Pricing: Dynamic pricing, where prices are adjusted in real-time based on market demand and other variables, has gained traction, particularly in industries such as travel, e-commerce, and ride-sharing. Research suggests that dynamic pricing can lead to increased revenue by maximizing prices during peak demand periods and offering discounts during low demand periods.

Price Discrimination: Price discrimination, which involves charging different prices to different customer segments, has been found to be an effective strategy in various industries. By tailoring prices based on factors like customer demographics, location, or purchasing behavior, businesses can capture additional revenue and enhance customer satisfaction.

Price Bundling: Price bundling, which involves offering multiple products or services together as a package at a discounted price, has shown positive effects on consumer behavior. Bundling can increase perceived value, encourage larger purchases, and attract price-sensitive customers who may perceive bundled prices as more favorable compared to purchasing items individually.

Contextual Factors: The effectiveness of pricing strategies can be influenced by contextual factors such as market competitiveness, consumer price sensitivity, and industry dynamics. It is important for businesses to consider these factors and adapt their pricing strategies accordingly to achieve desired outcomes.

Pricing and Perceived Quality: Research has found that pricing can influence consumers' perceptions of product quality. Higher prices may be associated with higher quality, leading consumers to attribute superior attributes and performance to products with higher price tags.

Competitive Pricing: Competitive pricing strategies, where prices are set in alignment with or slightly below competitors' prices, can help businesses gain market share and remain competitive. However, excessive price competition can result in price wars and negatively impact profitability.

Price Elasticity: Understanding price elasticity, which measures the sensitivity of demand to price changes, is crucial in determining optimal pricing strategies. Highly price-sensitive markets may require lower prices to stimulate demand, while less price-sensitive markets can support higher prices.

These findings highlight the importance of implementing effective pricing strategies tailored to the specific industry, market conditions, and consumer preferences. By carefully considering these findings, businesses can make informed pricing decisions that drive customer value, revenue growth, and long-term profitability.

Conclusion:

Pricing strategies are a crucial aspect of marketing and business success. The findings discussed highlight the significance of implementing effective pricing strategies that align with consumer behavior, market dynamics, and business objectives.

Here are the key points to consider:

Psychological pricing techniques, such as charm pricing, can influence consumer perceptions and price fairness, leading to increased purchase likelihood.

Value-based pricing, which focuses on pricing based on perceived customer value, allows businesses to capture higher margins and enhance profitability.

Dynamic pricing, enabled by real-time data and market conditions, can optimize revenue by adjusting prices according to demand patterns and market fluctuations.

Price discrimination, tailoring prices to different customer segments, can help capture additional revenue and enhance customer satisfaction.

Price bundling can increase perceived value, encourage larger purchases, and attract price-sensitive customers by offering discounted packages.

Contextual factors such as market competitiveness and consumer price sensitivity need to be considered when formulating pricing strategies.

Pricing can influence consumers' perceptions of product quality, and higher prices may be associated with higher quality in the eyes of consumers. Competitive pricing strategies should be employed cautiously to gain market share without triggering harmful price wars. Understanding price elasticity is essential to determine the optimal pricing strategy for different market segments.

In implementing pricing strategies, businesses must consider a combination of factors, including customer preferences, market conditions, competition, and value proposition. Regular monitoring, analysis, and adaptation of pricing strategies are necessary to ensure ongoing effectiveness and competitiveness.

By leveraging these findings and tailoring pricing strategies to their specific context, businesses can maximize revenue, attract and retain customers, and achieve long-term profitability in today's dynamic marketplace. Pricing strategies should be seen as a dynamic and strategic tool that aligns with broader business goals and helps drive sustainable growth.

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A Study on Employee Productivity & Employee Training and Development

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Abstract:

In the highly competitive market environment, training has become a buzzword. An organization's human capital is what sets a great one apart from a decent one. Businesses that invest in efficient human resource training and development typically reap both immediate and long-term rewards. A overview of the research on the impact of training and development on employee productivity is included in this paper. Due to the organisational, technical, and social dynamics, employees have a tendency to become absolute, making the need to adapt to ongoing learning and updating of skill and knowledge vital. Therefore, it is essential to manage training and development programmes efficiently for organisations to get the most returns on their investments. But in a world of fierce and dynamic competition, an organization's most important resource is its human capital. Human capital can explore their dexterity with the aid of training and growth. The productivity of an organization's staff depends on training and development.

Key words: Employee Training, Employee Development, employee Productivity.

Introduction:

Strong attention must be placed on human capital as organisations fight for survival in the volatile, dynamic market to remain competitive and financially stable. However, there are other elements that contribute to an organization's success; for example, productive (i.e., effective and efficient) staff are a must. Additionally, organisations that differentiate themselves based on their workforce's knowledge, skills, and motivation increasingly view human capital as priceless in order to stay competitive in the market. Therefore, businesses need personnel that can quickly adapt to a dynamic corporate environment. According to Paradise's research from 2007, more than \$126 billion is spent yearly on staff training and development by U.S. organisations alone. Business and market intelligence information gives organisations a dependable competitive advantage over those who do not over those who do not in environments where there is considerable uncertainty, which tends to provide organisations with high risk (Jelena, 2007). Knowledge is therefore becoming the fundamental capital that spurs development. However, an organization's employees must be knowledgeable, skilled, and experienced if it is to succeed. Organisations must therefore value ongoing employee training and development if they want to remain sustainable.

Employee Training

Employee training is a planned method by which businesses support the growth and improve the quality of both new and existing employees. According to Khawaja & Nadeem (2013), training is considered as a methodical approach to learning and development that enhances individual, group, and organisational performance. Therefore, the activities that an organisation engages in in order to expand are what ultimately result in knowledge or skill gain. Hence enhancing the health and effectiveness of an organisation, its human resources, as well as society at large. Manju & Suresh (2011) claim that training operates as an intervention to enhance an organization's products and services while fending off competition by raising workers' technical skill levels.

Employee development

Activities that result in the acquisition of new knowledge or skills for the aim of development are referred to as development. In order to improve their competencies, organisations offer development programmes to their staff. In the current corporate environment, employee development is becoming an increasingly crucial and strategic necessity for organisations (Sheri-lynn 2007, Abdul Hameed 2011). Therefore, in order to keep employees and ensure the success of the organisation, businesses need to invest in ongoing staff development (Khawaja & Nadeem 2013).

Employee Development and Productivity

Organisational productivity has benefited greatly from training. Employees are given the opportunity to digitally learn their tasks and perform more competently, which not only increases their creativity. Increasing employee productivity also increases organisational productivity. Numerous studies show that training has a positive effect on employees' productivity. One of the most common ways to increase employee productivity and communicate organisational goals to staff is through the process of training (Ekaterini & Constantinos-Vasilios, 2009). The investment in educating employees in decision-making, teamwork, problem-solving, and interpersonal interactions has a positive impact on the degree of growth of the organisation as well as having an impact on employees' performance, according to Rohan & Madhumita (2012). Training has an impact on how people behave and how they work, which leads to improved performance and positive changes in the workforce (Satterfield & Hughes, 2007). According to Kate Hutchings, Cherrie J. Zhu, Brain K. Cooper, Yiming Zhang, and Sijun Shao (2009), training is the most efficient strategy to retain and motivate high-quality people resources inside an organisation. Training is a method of boosting employee dedication and maximising employee potential, according to Lowry, Simon, and Kimberley (2002).

Discussion

All employees' demands must be taken into consideration while designing and delivering training and development programmes so that they are not only productive but also happy. According to Kate Hutchings, Cherrie J. Zhu, Brian K. Cooper, Yiming Zhang, and Sijun Shao (2009), training and development benefits employees by enhancing their interpersonal and technical skills, teamwork, job confidence, and work motivation. The key to unlocking potential chances for growth and development inside organisations is training (Rama V. & Nagurvali Shaik, 2012). In order to increase productivity, businesses fully train and develop their personnel. In order to increase employee productivity, organisations must continually make appropriate investments in the knowledge, skill, and skills that determine an employee's success. Organisations invest a lot of time and money in training to help employees pick up skills related to their jobs, as evidenced by (Noe, 2006). As a result, it's crucial to fully disclose the outcomes of training initiatives (Dowling & Welch, 2005).

Conclusion:

Training and development ultimately increase both employee and organisational productivity. Employee development is the secret to organisational sustainability, as has been remarked with some justification. Employees in an organisation must be able to quickly adapt to a global market that is always changing. To both retain employees and remain successful, businesses must spend in ongoing employee training and development. The 21st century will be advantageous for businesses that can learn new skills and adapt to changes more quickly than their rivals. Employee effectiveness is increased by training because it increases employees' initiative and the calibre of their work, which helps them to be more dedicated to attaining the organization's goals and objectives.

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Exploring the Dimensions of Creativity in Modern Marketing

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Abstract:

This research article examines the evolving nature of creativity in marketing and explores what creativity looks like in the present-day marketing landscape. The article highlights the importance of creativity in driving marketing success and discusses the key dimensions and characteristics of creative marketing campaigns. It also investigates the role of technology and data-driven insights in fostering creative marketing strategies. Additionally, the article discusses the challenges and opportunities associated with implementing creative marketing approaches in today's dynamic business environment.

Introduction

The introduction provides an overview of the significance of creativity in marketing and its impact on brand differentiation, customer engagement, and business growth. It emphasizes the need for marketers to continuously innovate and adopt creative strategies to capture the attention and interest of their target audience in a highly competitive marketplace.

Dimensions of Creativity in Marketing

This section explores the different dimensions of creativity in marketing. It discusses the importance of originality, uniqueness, and novelty in creative marketing campaigns. It also explores the role of storytelling, emotional appeal, and experiential marketing in creating memorable and impactful brand experiences. Additionally, it highlights the significance of relevance, authenticity, and customer-centricity in developing creative marketing strategies that resonate with the target audience.

Technology and Data-Driven Insights in Creative Marketing

This section delves into the role of technology and data-driven insights in fostering creative marketing strategies. It explores how emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, augmented reality, and virtual reality can be used to enhance creativity and deliver personalized experiences to customers. It also discusses the importance of leveraging data analytics and consumer insights to identify trends, preferences, and behaviors that can inform creative marketing campaigns. Furthermore, it explores the potential of marketing automation and personalization techniques in optimizing creative content delivery.

Challenges and Opportunities in Implementing Creative Marketing

This section addresses the challenges and opportunities associated with implementing creative marketing approaches in the current business environment.

It discusses the need for marketers to overcome resistance to change, break free from conventional thinking, and embrace a culture of experimentation and innovation. It also explores the challenges of balancing creativity with business objectives, ensuring consistency across multiple marketing channels, and measuring the effectiveness of creative campaigns. Moreover, it highlights the opportunities for marketers to leverage social media, user-generated content, and influencer marketing to amplify the reach and impact of creative marketing efforts.

Fostering a Creative Culture in Marketing Organizations

This section focuses on the importance of fostering a creative culture within marketing organizations to unleash the full potential of creativity. It discusses the role of leadership in promoting a supportive and innovative environment that encourages employees to think outside the box and take risks. It explores strategies such as providing resources for professional development, facilitating cross-functional collaboration, and recognizing and rewarding creative contributions. Moreover, it emphasizes the significance of diversity and inclusion in fostering creativity by bringing together individuals with different perspectives, backgrounds, and skillsets. Creating a culture that values and nurtures creativity enables marketing teams to consistently generate fresh and innovative ideas that drive marketing success.

The Power of Collaboration and Co-Creation in Creative Marketing

This section delves into the power of collaboration and co-creation in driving creative marketing initiatives. It discusses the benefits of involving multiple stakeholders, including employees, customers, and external partners, in the creative process. Collaborative brainstorming sessions, focus groups, and customer feedback can provide valuable insights and diverse perspectives that fuel creativity. It explores the concept of co-creation, where customers are actively involved in the development and refinement of marketing campaigns, leading to increased engagement and brand loyalty. Furthermore, it highlights the importance of building strong relationships with creative agencies, freelancers, and influencers to tap into their expertise and leverage their creative capabilities.

Embracing Agility and Experimentation in Creative Marketing

This section emphasizes the need for marketers to embrace agility and experimentation in their creative marketing endeavors. In today's rapidly changing business landscape, traditional marketing approaches may become stale and ineffective. By adopting an agile mindset, marketers can quickly adapt to emerging trends, consumer preferences, and market dynamics. This includes being open to testing new ideas, exploring different marketing channels, and iterating on creative campaigns based on real-time feedback and data insights. It also highlights the importance of learning from both successes and failures, as experimentation allows marketers to uncover innovative strategies and refine their creative approaches for continuous improvement.

Ethical Considerations in Creative Marketing

This section addresses the ethical considerations that marketers need to be mindful of when implementing creative marketing strategies. Creativity should always be aligned with ethical standards and respect for consumers. Marketers should avoid engaging in deceptive or manipulative practices, misrepresenting information, or exploiting vulnerable populations. It emphasizes the significance of transparency, authenticity, and trust in building long-term relationships with customers. Ethical considerations also extend to the responsible use of customer data and privacy protection, ensuring compliance with relevant regulations and guidelines.

Measuring the Impact of Creative Marketing

This section focuses on the measurement and evaluation of the impact of creative marketing initiatives. While creativity is inherently subjective, it is essential to assess the effectiveness and return on investment (ROI) of creative marketing campaigns. Marketers can leverage various metrics and tools to measure the impact of their creative efforts. This includes analyzing key performance indicators (KPIs) such as brand awareness, brand perception, customer engagement, website traffic, conversion rates, and sales. By tracking these metrics, marketers can assess the success of their creative marketing campaigns and identify areas for improvement. In addition to quantitative metrics, qualitative feedback and consumer insights also play a crucial role in evaluating the impact of creative marketing. Surveys, focus groups, and social listening tools can provide valuable feedback on consumer perceptions, emotions, and attitudes towards creative campaigns. Marketers can gather qualitative data to understand how their creative messaging and content resonates with the target audience and how it influences their brand perception and purchase decisions.

Furthermore, A/B testing and experimentation can be utilized to compare different creative variations and determine which approaches are more effective in achieving desired outcomes. By testing and iterating on creative elements such as visuals, messaging, and calls to action, marketers can refine their creative strategies and optimize their marketing efforts. It is important for marketers to establish clear objectives and align their creative marketing initiatives with overall business goals. This enables them to set specific targets and benchmarks for measuring the impact of their creative campaigns. By consistently monitoring and analyzing the performance metrics, marketers can gain insights into what works and what doesn't, and make data-driven decisions to improve their creative marketing strategies over time.

Future Trends in Creative Marketing

This section provides a glimpse into the future trends and possibilities in creative marketing. As technology continues to advance, marketers can leverage emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, virtual reality, and augmented reality to create immersive and interactive brand experiences. Personalization and customization will also play a significant role, with marketers tailoring creative content based on individual preferences, behaviors, and demographics.

Additionally, the rise of user-generated content and influencer marketing will continue to shape the creative marketing landscape, as brands tap into the power of user creativity and social influence to promote their products and services.

Moreover, sustainability and social responsibility are becoming increasingly important considerations in creative marketing. Consumers are demanding more ethical and environmentally conscious brands, and marketers can leverage creative storytelling to communicate their sustainability initiatives and engage consumers in meaningful ways. In conclusion, the research article has explored the dimensions of creativity in modern marketing, emphasizing the importance of fostering a creative culture, embracing collaboration, and being agile in approach. It has discussed the ethical considerations and the need for measurement and evaluation of the impact of creative marketing. Furthermore, it has highlighted future trends that marketers can capitalize on to stay ahead in the ever-evolving marketing landscape. By understanding and harnessing the power of creativity, marketers can create compelling and memorable experiences that resonate with their target audience, drive brand loyalty, and achieve sustainable business success. It underscores the importance of fostering a creative culture, embracing collaboration and co-creation, and adopting an agile mindset for successful creative marketing initiatives. It emphasizes the need for marketers to balance creativity with ethical considerations to maintain trust and credibility. The article concludes by emphasizing that creativity in marketing is a dynamic and evolving process, and marketers need to continuously adapt and innovate to meet the ever-changing needs and expectations of consumers in the modern marketing landscape.

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A study on Training and Development in Ambuja Cement

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Abstract:

This chapter delves into the training and development practices in Ambuja Cement, one of the leading cement manufacturing companies. It presents an overview of the objectives, methodology, analysis, and conclusions derived from an exploration of the training and development initiatives within the organization. The chapter emphasizes the importance of effective training and development programs in fostering employee growth, enhancing skills, and driving organizational success.

Introduction:

Training and development are crucial components of organizational success in today's dynamic and competitive business environment. As companies strive to adapt to rapidly changing technologies, market demands, and industry trends, investing in the growth and skill enhancement of their employees has become imperative. Training and development initiatives not only equip employees with the knowledge and skills required to perform their current roles effectively but also prepare them for future challenges and opportunities. Training refers to the systematic process of acquiring knowledge, skills, and competencies through planned educational programs, workshops, seminars, on-the-job experiences, or e-learning platforms. It focuses on enhancing specific job-related abilities and improving performance in current roles. Development, on the other hand, is a broader concept that encompasses the growth and advancement of employees within the organization. It involves the acquisition of new skills, knowledge, and behaviors that go beyond immediate job requirements and contribute to long-term career progression.

The primary objective of training and development is to bridge the gap between employee competencies and the evolving demands of the organization. By providing employees with the necessary tools and resources to excel in their roles, organizations can achieve increased productivity, improved quality of work, enhanced customer satisfaction, and ultimately, a competitive edge in the market. Moreover, training and development initiatives are instrumental in attracting and retaining top talent, as employees value organizations that invest in their professional growth and offer opportunities for advancement. Effective training and development programs are characterized by a systematic approach that begins with identifying training needs, followed by the design, implementation, and evaluation of the training initiatives. Organizations need to align their training and development efforts with strategic objectives, ensuring that they contribute to the overall vision and mission of the company.

In recent years, technology has revolutionized training and development practices. Online learning platforms, virtual reality simulations, and mobile applications have made training more accessible, flexible, and engaging. Organizations can leverage these technological advancements to deliver personalized and interactive training experiences, catering to diverse employee profiles and learning styles. While training and development initiatives offer numerous benefits, it is essential for organizations to regularly evaluate the effectiveness of these programs. By measuring the impact of training on employee performance, engagement, and organizational outcomes, companies can identify areas for improvement, refine their training strategies, and maximize the return on investment.

Methods of Training and Development

The different training and development methods have the main objective of directing the growth of the learners in terms of knowledge, information, skills and attitudes. The main purpose of these methods is to direct the workforce, so they are able to perform their job duties operatively. During the programs, in most cases, number of training methods are combined. Selection of the methods depends upon the learning objectives, size of the target population, learning styles, interests of the learners, course contents, duration of training programs and training interest and capacity. There are two types of training and development methods, these include, on-the-job training and off-the-job training. On-the-job training is referred to the learning or training within the workplace. The methods that are included in on-the-job training are, coaching, job rotation, understudy and multiple management. The off-the-job training is imparted to the individuals at a distance from the workplace. These include, case method, incident method, role playing, in basket method, business game, sensitivity training, simulation, grid training, conferences and lectures (Chapter - 1, n.d.).

Coaching – In coaching, the individuals are put under a coach or an instructor. He imparts job knowledge and skills to the individuals. The coaching may take place with either more or lesser number of learners. The coach usually imparts knowledge and information to the learners through verbal communication and the use of machines and equipment. When the learners are less in number, he is able to pay personal attention. On the other hand, when the number of learners are more, then the coach is able to just provide the information and it is up to the learners to pay attention in order to acquire a better understanding.

Job Rotation – The transferring of the individuals from one job to another and from one department to another in a systematic manner is known as job rotation. It enables the individuals to develop diversified skills and a broader outlook. The individuals are able to generate awareness in terms of how activities and tasks take place in other departments. It helps in increasing of interdepartmental co-operation and reduces monotony at work. Individuals are able to enhance their skills and abilities and feel motivated.

Understudy – An understudy is a person, who is in training to assume at a future time, a complete responsibility of the position, currently held by his or her superior.

The person is engaged in the development of skills and competencies that are needed for the post. The post that he is preparing himself for, may fall vacant due to retirement, transfer or promotion. The individuals, who are understudy, develop within themselves, decision making, operating, problem solving and leadership skills.

Objective:

The objective of this chapter is to examine and evaluate the training and development practices implemented by Ambuja Cement. It aims to understand how the organization designs, implements, and measures the impact of training programs on employee performance and overall organizational outcomes. The chapter also highlights any areas where improvements or modifications can be made to ensure enhanced effectiveness and alignment with organizational goals.

Methodology:

The study adopts a mixed-methods approach to investigate the training and development practices in Ambuja Cement. Primary data collection methods include interviews with HR personnel, surveys among employees, and analysis of relevant training documents and records. The collected quantitative and qualitative data are then analyzed to gain insights into the training and development initiatives and their impact on employee growth and organizational performance.

Analysis:

The analysis of training and development practices in Ambuja Cement reveals several key findings. Firstly, the organization places a strong emphasis on identifying training needs through performance evaluations, skill assessments, and employee feedback mechanisms. This ensures that training programs are tailored to address specific skill gaps and development areas. Secondly, Ambuja Cement provides a comprehensive range of training opportunities, including technical and soft skills training, leadership development programs, and cross-functional training.

Conclusion:

Training and development initiatives in Ambuja Cement play a critical role in driving employee growth and organizational success. The study finds that the organization has established a robust framework for identifying training needs and designing tailored programs. These initiatives contribute to skill enhancement, employee satisfaction, and retention. However, there are areas where improvements can be made. For instance, Ambuja Cement could consider incorporating technology-based training solutions, such as e-learning platforms or virtual reality simulations, to enhance training delivery and accessibility. Additionally, the organization can explore partnerships with external training providers or industry experts to bring in fresh perspectives and industry best practices.

Leveraging Technology in Service Marketing: Opportunities and Challenges for Service Providers

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Abstract:

This research article examines the opportunities and challenges that service providers encounter when leveraging technology in their marketing strategies. With the rapid advancement of technology, service providers have the opportunity to enhance customer experiences, improve operational efficiency, and gain a competitive edge in the market. However, they also face various challenges such as data privacy and security, technological infrastructure, integration issues, and skills development. Through a comprehensive review of existing literature and empirical studies, this research article provides insights into the potential benefits of technology in service marketing and offers recommendations to overcome the challenges for effective implementation.

Keywords: technology, service marketing, customer experience, operational efficiency, data privacy, integration, skills development.

Introduction:

Technology has significantly transformed the way businesses operate, including service providers. In service marketing, technology plays a vital role in enhancing customer experiences, improving operational efficiency, and driving business growth. This article explores the opportunities and challenges that service providers face when leveraging technology in their marketing strategies. It examines the various technological tools and platforms available for service marketing, the benefits they offer, and the potential obstacles that need to be addressed to maximize their effectiveness.

Opportunities of Leveraging Technology in Service Marketing:

Enhanced Customer Engagement:

Technology provides service providers with various channels to engage and interact with customers, such as social media platforms, mobile apps, and chatbots. These tools enable personalized and real-time communication, allowing businesses to build stronger relationships and address customer needs more effectively.

Improved Customer Experience:

Technological advancements enable service providers to offer seamless and convenient experiences to customers. For instance, self-service options, online booking systems, and mobile payment solutions streamline the customer journey and reduce friction points, leading to higher satisfaction and loyalty.

Data-driven Insights:

Technology allows service providers to collect and analyze customer data, providing valuable insights into customer preferences, behaviors, and trends. This data can be used to personalize marketing messages, tailor service offerings, and make informed decisions that drive customer satisfaction and business growth.

Targeted Marketing Campaigns:

Digital marketing tools, such as email marketing, search engine optimization (SEO), and targeted online advertising, enable service providers to reach specific customer segments with personalized messages. This targeted approach increases the effectiveness of marketing efforts and improves the return on investment.

Challenges of Leveraging Technology in Service Marketing:

Data Privacy and Security:

Collecting and storing customer data comes with the responsibility of protecting it from breaches and unauthorized access. Service providers must prioritize data privacy and security to maintain customer trust and comply with applicable regulations.

Technological Infrastructure:

Implementing and maintaining the necessary technological infrastructure can be challenging for some service providers, especially smaller businesses with limited resources. It requires investment in hardware, software, and skilled personnel to ensure seamless operations and effective use of technology.

Integration and Compatibility:

Integrating various technology systems and platforms can be complex, especially when dealing with legacy systems. Service providers need to ensure compatibility between different technologies to enable smooth data flow and process integration.

Training and Skills Development:

Leveraging technology effectively requires employees to possess the necessary digital skills and knowledge. Service providers must invest in training and upskilling their workforce to maximize the benefits of technology in service marketing.

Conclusion:

Leveraging technology in service marketing offers significant opportunities for service providers to enhance customer engagement, improve experiences, and drive business growth. By embracing technological tools and platforms, service providers can create personalized experiences, gain valuable insights from customer data, and target marketing campaigns more effectively. However, it is essential to address challenges such as data privacy, technological infrastructure, integration, and skills development to fully leverage the potential of technology in service marketing. With careful planning and strategic implementation, service providers can unlock the benefits of technology and gain a competitive edge in the ever-evolving service industry.

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The Impact of Leadership Styles on Employee Motivation and Performance

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Abstract:

This research article examines the impact of leadership styles on employee motivation and performance within organizations. Leadership plays a crucial role in shaping employees' attitudes, engagement, and productivity. The study explores different leadership styles, including transformational, transactional, laissez-faire, autocratic, and democratic leadership, and their effects on employee motivation and performance. The findings highlight the importance of effective leadership in creating a positive work environment that fosters high levels of employee satisfaction and organizational success.

Introduction:

Leadership plays a vital role in organizations as it significantly influences employee motivation and performance. Different leadership styles can yield varied outcomes, affecting employees' attitudes, engagement, and productivity. This article explores the impact of leadership styles on employee motivation and performance, emphasizing the importance of effective leadership in creating a positive work environment conducive to high levels of employee satisfaction and organizational success.

Transformational Leadership:

Transformational leadership is characterized by leaders who inspire and motivate employees through their vision, charisma, and ability to create a sense of purpose and commitment. This leadership style has a positive impact on employee motivation and performance. Transformational leaders encourage employees to achieve their full potential, promote creativity and innovation, and foster a strong sense of trust and loyalty within the organization.

Transactional Leadership:

Transactional leadership focuses on a system of rewards and punishments to motivate employees. While it can be effective in achieving short-term goals, it may not foster long-term employee motivation and performance. Transactional leaders primarily rely on contingent rewards, such as bonuses or promotions, to motivate employees. This style may create a transactional relationship where employees are motivated solely by extrinsic rewards rather than intrinsic factors.

Laissez-Faire Leadership:

Laissez-faire leadership refers to a hands-off approach where leaders provide minimal guidance and intervention. This leadership style can have a detrimental impact on employee motivation and performance.

The lack of direction and support may lead to confusion, frustration, and decreased productivity among employees. Laissez-faire leadership is most effective in situations where employees are highly skilled, self-motivated, and require minimal supervision.

Autocratic Leadership:

Autocratic leadership involves leaders who make decisions without seeking input from employees. This style can have mixed effects on employee motivation and performance. While it may provide clear direction and structure, it often leads to reduced employee autonomy and creativity. Employees may feel demotivated and disengaged when their ideas and contributions are disregarded. Autocratic leadership is more suitable for situations that require quick decision-making or in industries with strict regulations.

Democratic Leadership:

Democratic leadership involves leaders who involve employees in decision-making processes, value their input, and encourage collaboration. This style has a positive impact on employee motivation and performance. Employees feel empowered, valued, and part of the decision-making process, leading to increased job satisfaction, commitment, and higher levels of performance. Democratic leadership fosters a positive work environment, where employees are encouraged to share their ideas and contribute to the organization's success.

Conclusion:

Leadership styles significantly impact employee motivation and performance within organizations. Effective leaders understand the importance of adapting their leadership style to different situations and employee needs. Transformational and democratic leadership styles tend to have the most positive impact on employee motivation and performance. By inspiring and empowering employees, leaders can create a work environment that encourages innovation, collaboration, and continuous improvement. It is crucial for organizations to invest in leadership development programs to cultivate effective leaders who can drive employee motivation and enhance overall organizational success.

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Employee Well-being and Work-Life Balance: Strategies for Enhancing Organizational Performance

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Abstract:

This research article explores the importance of employee well-being and work-life balance in today's dynamic work environments. With the increasing demands and complexities of work, organizations are recognizing the significance of supporting their employees' well-being to enhance performance and productivity. This study examines the concept of employee well-being, the factors influencing work-life balance, and the strategies organizations can adopt to promote well-being and work-life balance. By exploring the theoretical and empirical research, this article aims to provide insights into the benefits of prioritizing employee well-being and offer practical recommendations for organizations to create a supportive work environment.

Introduction

1.1 Background and Context

The introduction sets the stage by highlighting the growing importance of employee well-being and work-life balance in contemporary workplaces. It outlines the relevance of the topic in relation to organizational performance and employee engagement.

1.2 Research Objectives

The primary objective of this research is to explore the concept of employee well-being, examine the factors influencing work-life balance, and identify strategies that organizations can implement to enhance employee well-being and promote work-life balance.

1.3 Significance of the Study

This section emphasizes the significance of prioritizing employee well-being and work-life balance for organizations. It highlights the potential benefits, including increased productivity, reduced turnover, improved employee morale, and enhanced organizational reputation.

Literature Review

2.1 Employee Well-being: Definition and Dimensions

This section provides a comprehensive overview of employee well-being, including its definition and the various dimensions it encompasses. It explores the physical, mental, and social aspects of well-being and their impact on individual and organizational outcomes.

2.2 Work-Life Balance: Concept and Influencing Factors

The literature review examines the concept of work-life balance and identifies the factors that influence it. It explores the role of work demands, family responsibilities, organizational culture, and individual preferences in achieving work-life balance.

2.3 The Impact of Employee Well-being and Work-Life Balance on Organizational Performance

This section reviews the empirical evidence on the relationship between employee well-being, work-life balance, and organizational performance. It explores studies that link employee well-being to increased job satisfaction, engagement, productivity, and reduced absenteeism and turnover.

Factors Influencing Employee Well-being and Work-Life Balance

3.1 Work Environment and Organizational Culture

This section explores the influence of the work environment and organizational culture on employee well-being and work-life balance. It discusses the importance of supportive leadership, flexible work arrangements, and a culture that values work-life balance.

3.2 Job Design and Workload Management

The research investigates the role of job design and workload management in promoting employee well-being and work-life balance. It explores strategies such as job crafting, task autonomy, and effective workload distribution.

3.3 Supportive Policies and Practices

This section examines the impact of supportive policies and practices on employee well-being and work-life balance. It explores the importance of benefits such as flexible working hours, parental leave, wellness programs, and employee assistance programs.

3.4 Managerial Support and Communication

The research investigates the influence of managerial support and effective communication on employee well-being and work-life balance. It explores the role of supportive supervisors, open communication channels, and feedback mechanisms in fostering a positive work environment. Strategies for Enhancing Employee Well-being and Work-Life Balance

4.1 Flexible Work Arrangements

This section explores the implementation of flexible work arrangements, including telecommuting, compressed workweeks, and job sharing. It discusses the benefits and challenges associated with each arrangement and provides recommendations for successful implementation.

4.2 Work-Life Integration Programs

The research investigates the effectiveness of work-life integration programs, such as dependent care assistance, wellness initiatives, and employee resource groups. It explores the impact of these programs on employee well-being and work-life balance.

4.3 Managerial Training and Support

This section emphasizes the importance of managerial training and support in promoting employee well-being and work-life balance. It discusses the development of managerial skills in areas such as communication, empathy, and work-life balance advocacy.

4.4 Technology and Work-Life Integration

The research examines the role of technology in facilitating work-life integration. It explores the benefits and challenges of technology-enabled work practices and provides recommendations for organizations to leverage technology effectively.

Conclusion

The conclusion summarizes the key findings of the research and highlights the significance of employee well-being and work-life balance in enhancing organizational performance. It emphasizes the need for organizations to prioritize employee well-being and implement strategies to support work-life balance. The article concludes by discussing future research directions and the potential long-term benefits of fostering employee well-being in the workplace.

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The Influence of Organizational Communication Patterns on Employee Job Satisfaction

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Abstract:

Effective communication within organizations plays a crucial role in influencing employee job satisfaction. This research article explores the influence of organizational communication patterns on employee job satisfaction. Drawing on existing literature and empirical evidence, the article highlights the importance of transparent, two-way communication channels, supportive communication practices, and the development of communication skills in fostering positive employee experiences and job satisfaction. The findings indicate that organizations that prioritize effective communication patterns create an environment where employees feel valued, engaged, and empowered, leading to increased job satisfaction and overall organizational success.

Keywords: organizational communication, communication patterns, employee job satisfaction, transparency, two-way communication, supportive communication practices.

Introduction:

Effective communication is a cornerstone of organizational success, and it plays a vital role in fostering positive employee experiences and job satisfaction. Organizational communication patterns encompass the flow, style, and quality of communication within an organization. This article examines the influence of organizational communication patterns on employee job satisfaction, highlighting the significance of open, transparent, and supportive communication channels in creating a positive work environment.

Importance of Organizational Communication:

1.1. Information Sharing:

Organizational communication facilitates the exchange of information, ideas, and feedback among employees, teams, and management. Clear and timely communication ensures that employees have access to relevant information, enabling them to perform their duties effectively and make informed decisions.

1.2. Collaboration and Teamwork:

Effective communication patterns encourage collaboration and teamwork within organizations. When communication channels are open and transparent, employees are more likely to share ideas, seek input from others, and work together towards common goals. This fosters a sense of belonging, mutual support, and job satisfaction.

1.3. Relationship Building:

Communication patterns influence the quality of relationships within an organization. Positive and open communication fosters trust, respect, and positive interactions among employees. Strong relationships contribute to a supportive work environment, employee engagement, and ultimately, job satisfaction.

Communication Patterns and Employee Job Satisfaction:

2.1. Transparent and Honest Communication:

Organizations that value transparent and honest communication create a culture of trust and openness. When employees receive accurate and timely information regarding organizational changes, performance expectations, and feedback, they feel valued, respected, and engaged. This, in turn, enhances job satisfaction.

2.2. Two-Way Communication:

Effective organizational communication involves two-way interaction, where employees have opportunities to express their opinions, concerns, and suggestions. When employees feel their voices are heard and valued, they experience higher job satisfaction and a sense of ownership in decision-making processes.

2.3. Supportive Communication Channels:

Organizations that provide supportive communication channels, such as open-door policies, feedback mechanisms, and regular employee feedback surveys, create an environment where employees feel comfortable expressing their needs, concerns, and aspirations. This empowers employees, enhances their job satisfaction, and promotes a culture of continuous improvement.

Communication Skills Training and Development:

Organizations can enhance communication patterns and improve employee job satisfaction through training and development programs. These initiatives can focus on enhancing active listening skills, effective feedback techniques, conflict resolution, and cross-cultural communication. By equipping employees with the necessary communication skills, organizations promote better understanding, collaboration, and job satisfaction.

Technology and Communication:

The advent of technology has significantly impacted communication patterns within organizations. The use of digital platforms, email, instant messaging, and collaboration tools can facilitate efficient communication. However, organizations must be mindful of potential challenges, such as information overload, reduced face-to-face interaction, and misinterpretation of messages. Employing technology strategically, coupled with fostering personal connections, can contribute to positive communication patterns and employee job satisfaction.

Conclusion:

Organizational communication patterns have a profound impact on employee job satisfaction. Transparent, two-way communication channels, coupled with supportive communication practices, create a positive work environment where employees feel valued, engaged, and empowered. By prioritizing effective communication and investing in communication skills training, organizations can enhance employee job satisfaction, foster collaboration and teamwork, and ultimately achieve greater success.

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Business Differences in Developing Countries

Ms. Manpreet Kaur

Abstract:

This research paper provides a comprehensive analysis of the distinct business differences observed in developing countries compared to developed countries. It aims to shed light on the economic, cultural, regulatory, and infrastructural factors that shape the business landscape in developing nations. By employing a comparative analysis approach, the study examines multiple developing countries to identify commonalities and variations in their business environments. The findings of this research will enable policymakers, entrepreneurs, and investors to gain a deeper understanding of these differences and make informed decisions when engaging in business activities in developing economies. In the methodology section, a comparative analysis approach is adopted to facilitate a systematic examination of business differences across developing countries. The selection of developing countries for the study is based on their relevance and significance in terms of economic and business development. Data collection methods encompass a combination of primary and secondary sources, including surveys, interviews, and analysis of existing literature and reports. Data analysis techniques involve qualitative and quantitative approaches, enabling a comprehensive exploration of the identified factors. The paper explores various economic factors that contribute to the distinct business environment in developing countries. These factors include gross domestic product (GDP), income distribution, market size and growth, infrastructure development, and resource availability. By analyzing these factors, researchers can uncover the economic challenges and opportunities faced by businesses in developing economies. Cultural factors play a crucial role in shaping business practices. The paper delves into the social norms and values, workforce characteristics, trust and relationships, communication styles, and entrepreneurial mindset prevalent in developing countries. Understanding these cultural nuances is vital for businesses to effectively navigate the local market and establish fruitful relationships with stakeholders. Regulatory factors exert a significant influence on business operations. The study investigates the legal framework, government policies and regulations, business licensing and registration processes, intellectual property protection, and the prevalence of corruption and bribery. A thorough analysis of these factors provides insights into the regulatory challenges and opportunities faced by businesses operating in developing countries.

Introduction:

Developing countries, also known as emerging economies or developing nations, are characterized by their relatively low levels of economic development, infrastructure, and industrialization compared to their developed counterparts. These countries are home to a significant portion of the world's population and offer substantial growth potential for businesses. However, the business environment in developing countries differs significantly from that of developed countries due to various economic, cultural, regulatory, and infrastructural factors.

Objective:

The objective of this research paper is to provide a comprehensive analysis of the business differences observed in developing countries. By examining these differences, the study aims to enhance our understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities faced by businesses operating in developing economies. The findings will help policymakers, entrepreneurs, and investors make informed decisions and develop effective strategies to succeed in these dynamic business environments.

Economic Factors:

Economic factors play a crucial role in shaping the business environment of developing countries. One significant factor is the gross domestic product (GDP), which measures the total value of goods and services produced within a country's borders. Developing countries often have lower GDP per capita compared to developed nations, indicating a smaller overall economic output and lower purchasing power. This can influence the market size and potential consumer base for businesses operating in these countries. Income distribution is another key economic factor, as developing nations often exhibit high levels of income inequality, with a significant portion of the population living in poverty. This disparity can impact consumer spending patterns, market demand, and the affordability of products or services offered by businesses. Market size and growth are important considerations, as developing countries may offer untapped markets with a growing middle class and increasing consumer demand. However, these markets can be characterized by volatility and fluctuations due to factors such as political instability or limited infrastructure. Infrastructure development is crucial for businesses, as inadequate transportation networks, power supply, and technological infrastructure can pose challenges to operations, logistics, and connectivity. Additionally, resource availability, including natural resources and skilled labor, varies across developing countries, affecting the competitiveness and viability of certain industries. Understanding these economic factors is essential for businesses operating in developing countries, enabling them to tailor their strategies, pricing, and market positioning accordingly.

Cultural factors:

Cultural factors play a significant role in shaping the business landscape in developing countries. Social norms and values prevalent in these societies influence consumer behavior, business practices, and the overall market dynamics. Cultural aspects such as collective decision-making, respect for authority, and the importance of personal relationships can impact business operations and decision-making processes. Workforce characteristics also differ across cultures, including factors such as work ethic, attitudes towards entrepreneurship, and the importance placed on hierarchy and teamwork. Understanding these cultural nuances is crucial for businesses to effectively navigate the local market, build relationships with stakeholders, and tailor their marketing and communication strategies accordingly. Trust and relationships play a vital role in business transactions, and developing countries often emphasize personal connections and networks. Establishing trust and building relationships with local partners, suppliers, and customers is essential for long-term success. Communication styles can also vary significantly, including verbal and non-verbal cues, directness, and the importance of face-to-face interactions. Adapting communication approaches to align with local cultural norms can enhance business effectiveness. Moreover, the entrepreneurial mindset and risk appetite can differ in developing countries, with varying levels of support for innovation and entrepreneurship. Recognizing and embracing these cultural factors enables businesses to navigate cultural nuances, build trust, and effectively engage with stakeholders in developing countries.

Regulatory factors:

Regulatory factors have a substantial impact on the business environment in developing countries. The legal framework and government policies and regulations directly influence the operations, compliance requirements, and market entry barriers for businesses. Developing countries often face challenges related to bureaucratic inefficiencies, complex regulatory processes, and inconsistent enforcement of regulations. Business licensing and registration procedures can be lengthy and burdensome, affecting the ease of doing business. Intellectual property protection is another crucial aspect, as weak enforcement of intellectual property rights can pose challenges for businesses in terms of innovation, technology transfer, and protection of their assets. Additionally, the prevalence of corruption and bribery can hinder business operations and create an uneven playing field. Understanding the regulatory landscape in developing countries is essential for businesses to navigate compliance requirements, mitigate risks, and foster an environment conducive to sustainable business growth. Collaboration between governments and businesses is crucial to streamline regulations, reduce bureaucracy, and promote transparency and accountability in the regulatory framework.

Infrastructural Factors:

Infrastructural factors play a vital role in shaping the business landscape of developing countries. Adequate infrastructure is essential for businesses to operate efficiently and effectively. Transportation and logistics infrastructure, including road networks, ports, and airports, influence the movement of goods and services, supply chain management, and access to markets. Reliable and efficient telecommunications and internet connectivity are critical for communication, e-commerce, and accessing global markets. Energy and power supply infrastructure affects the availability and reliability of electricity, which is vital for manufacturing, production, and service provision. The presence of financial institutions and access to capital enable businesses to secure funding for growth and investment. Additionally, technological infrastructure, including access to technology, digitalization, and innovation capabilities, is crucial for businesses to remain competitive and adapt to the digital age. Developing countries often face challenges such as inadequate infrastructure, limited access, and poor quality, which can hinder business operations and impede economic development. Addressing infrastructural gaps and investing in infrastructure development is essential to create a supportive business environment and unlock the potential for economic growth in developing countries.

Implications and Recommendations:

Understanding the business differences in developing countries has significant implications for businesses operating or seeking to enter these markets. Recognizing the unique economic, cultural, regulatory, and infrastructural factors enables businesses to tailor their strategies and operations accordingly. It is crucial for businesses to conduct thorough market research, adapt their products or services to suit local preferences and purchasing power, and establish strong relationships with local stakeholders. Adapting to cultural nuances, complying with regulatory requirements, and leveraging available infrastructure are essential for sustainable business growth in developing countries.

Strategies for Success in Developing Countries Based on the analysis of business differences, several strategies can enhance the chances of success for businesses operating in developing countries. Firstly, businesses should invest in market research to gain insights into consumer behaviors, preferences, and purchasing power. Secondly, developing partnerships and building strong relationships with local stakeholders can facilitate market entry and navigate cultural nuances. Thirdly, businesses should consider localization of their products, services, and marketing campaigns to align with local tastes and preferences. Fourthly, understanding and complying with local regulations, including licensing and intellectual property protection, are critical for legal and operational compliance. Finally, leveraging technological advancements and infrastructure to improve operational efficiency and reach a broader customer base can be beneficial. Policy Recommendations for Governments of developing countries have a crucial role in creating an enabling environment for businesses. Policy recommendations include streamlining regulations and reducing bureaucratic hurdles to improve the ease of doing business.

Enhancing transparency, accountability, and enforcement of regulations, including intellectual property protection, is vital to foster a fair and competitive business environment. Governments should also invest in infrastructure development, including transportation, telecommunications, energy, and financial institutions, to support business growth and attract foreign investment. Promoting entrepreneurship, innovation, and access to capital through targeted policies and programs can foster a vibrant business ecosystem.

Future Research Directions This research paper provides a comprehensive analysis of business differences in developing countries. However, there are several avenues for further research. Future studies can delve deeper into specific industries or sectors within developing countries to explore sector-specific business differences and opportunities. Comparative analysis across a broader range of developing countries can provide additional insights and identify regional patterns. Longitudinal studies tracking changes in business environments over time can offer valuable insights into the evolving dynamics of developing economies. Additionally, examining the impact of technological advancements and digitalization on business differences in developing countries is an area of increasing relevance. By considering these implications and recommendations, businesses and governments can navigate the unique challenges and capitalize on the opportunities presented by the business landscape in developing countries. Collaboration between stakeholders, continuous learning, and adaptive strategies are crucial for sustainable and inclusive economic growth in these nations.

Conclusion:

This research paper has provided a comprehensive analysis of the business differences observed in developing countries compared to their developed counterparts. Economic factors, such as GDP, income distribution, market size and growth, infrastructure development, and resource availability, significantly shape the business landscape in these nations. Cultural factors, including social norms and values, workforce characteristics, trust and relationships, communication styles, and the entrepreneurial mindset, influence business practices and consumer behavior. Regulatory factors, such as the legal framework, government policies and regulations, business licensing and registration processes, intellectual property protection, and corruption levels, impact business operations and compliance requirements. Infrastructural factors, including transportation and logistics, telecommunications and internet connectivity, energy and power supply, financial institutions, and technological infrastructure, play a crucial role in facilitating business activities. Understanding these business differences is essential for policymakers, entrepreneurs, and investors seeking to engage in business activities in developing countries. By recognizing the unique challenges and opportunities presented by these factors, stakeholders can make informed decisions, develop tailored strategies, and foster an enabling environment for sustainable business growth.

The implications for businesses emphasize the importance of market research, localization, building relationships, and complying with regulations. Strategies for success involve adapting to local preferences, leveraging infrastructure, and capitalizing on technological advancements. Governments, on the other hand, can promote a favorable business environment by streamlining regulations, investing in infrastructure development, and fostering entrepreneurship and innovation.

Future research directions include exploring sector-specific business differences, conducting comparative analysis across a broader range of developing countries, tracking changes over time, and studying the impact of technology and digitalization.

By embracing these findings, stakeholders can navigate the complexities of developing country business environments, contribute to economic growth, and foster sustainable development. With a collaborative and adaptive approach, businesses and governments can harness the potential of developing economies and create inclusive and prosperous societies.

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Introduction to Video Copilot's 3D Element Plugin

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1. Introduction to Video Copilot's 3D Element Plugin

Video Copilot's 3D Element is a powerful plugin designed to bring high-quality 3D graphics and visual effects to various video editing and compositing software. Developed by Andrew Kramer and his team at Video Copilot, this plugin has gained widespread popularity for its ease of use, impressive features, and stunning results.

2. Key Features and Capabilities

a) Real-Time 3D Rendering: One of the standout features of 3D Element is its real-time 3D rendering engine. This allows users to create and manipulate 3D objects, textures, and lighting in real-time, providing instant visual feedback and reducing rendering time.

b) Wide Range of 3D Models and Materials: 3D Element comes with an extensive library of pre-built 3D models, including common objects, vehicles, buildings, and abstract shapes. Additionally, it offers a diverse collection of materials and textures, enabling users to achieve realistic and visually appealing surfaces.

c) Advanced Particle System: The plugin includes a robust particle system that allows for the creation of various effects, such as smoke, fire, sparks, and debris. Users can customize particle properties, behavior, and emitter settings to achieve the desired visual impact.

d) Dynamic Reflections and Shadows: 3D Element excels in generating accurate and realistic reflections and shadows. Users can easily control the properties of reflections and shadows, including their intensity, softness, and position, to seamlessly integrate 3D elements into the scene.

e) Integration with After Effects and Other Software: 3D Element seamlessly integrates with Adobe After Effects, allowing users to work within their familiar editing and compositing environment. The plugin also supports other software, including Nuke, Cinema 4D, and 3D Studio Max, expanding its versatility and compatibility.

3. Workflow and User Interface

The user interface of 3D Element is intuitive and user-friendly, making it accessible to both beginners and experienced users. The workflow revolves around a dedicated panel within the host software, providing a centralized location for creating and manipulating 3D

elements. Users can import 3D models, apply textures and materials, adjust lighting and camera settings, and animate objects directly within the interface.

4. Support and Community

Video Copilot is known for its commitment to customer support and community engagement. Users of 3D Element can access comprehensive documentation, video tutorials, and forums where they can seek assistance, learn new techniques, and share their work. The active community fosters collaboration and inspiration, further enriching the user experience.

5. Applications and Industries

The versatility of Video Copilot's 3D Element plugin makes it suitable for a wide range of applications and industries:

a) Motion Graphics and Visual Effects: 3D Element empowers motion graphics artists and visual effects professionals to create stunning titles, logos, and visual sequences. The plugin's real-time rendering capabilities and extensive library of models and materials streamline the creation process and enable artists to achieve impressive results.

b) Product Visualization and Advertising: 3D Element is also widely used in product visualization and advertising, allowing designers and marketers to showcase products and prototypes in a compelling and realistic manner. The ability to integrate 3D elements seamlessly into live-action footage or still images helps create impactful visuals for marketing campaigns and presentations.

c) Broadcast Design and Title Sequences: With its powerful 3D capabilities, 3D Element enables designers to create captivating broadcast designs and title sequences for television shows, documentaries, and promotional videos. The plugin's dynamic particle system and advanced rendering features bring energy and visual interest to on-screen graphics.

d) Film and Gaming Industries: The film and gaming industries also benefit from 3D Element's capabilities. It enables filmmakers and game developers to enhance visual effects, create virtual environments, and bring 3D characters and creatures to life. The plugin's integration with industry-standard software allows for seamless workflow integration.

In conclusion, Video Copilot's 3D Element plugin is a versatile and powerful tool for bringing high-quality 3D graphics and visual effects to video editing and compositing projects. Its real-time rendering, extensive library of models and materials, and advanced features make it a go-to choice for motion graphics artists, visual effects professionals, and designers across various industries. With its user-friendly interface and strong community support, 3D Element empowers users to unleash their creativity and achieve impressive results.

Reference:

- Video Copilot Website - The official website of Video Copilot, video.copilot.net, provides detailed information about their 3D Element plugin. It includes documentation, tutorials, and resources to help you understand and get started with the plugin.
- Video Copilot Tutorials - Video Copilot offers a wide range of tutorials on their website and YouTube channel that specifically cover the usage and features of the 3D Element plugin. These tutorials provide step-by-step instructions, tips, and techniques for creating various 3D effects and animations.
- Online Courses and Tutorial Websites - Platforms like Pluralsight, Udemy, and LinkedIn Learning offer online courses and tutorials dedicated to Video Copilot's 3D Element plugin. These resources provide comprehensive training on using the plugin for creating 3D visual effects and motion graphics.
- User Forums and Communities - Engaging with user forums and communities dedicated to Video Copilot and 3D Element can provide valuable insights and tips from experienced users. Websites like the Video Copilot Forum or relevant subreddits allow you to connect with other users, ask questions, and learn from their experiences.
- Industry Blogs and Reviews - Following industry blogs and websites, such as Toolfarm or Lesterbanks, can provide you with reviews, articles, and discussions about Video Copilot's 3D Element plugin. These resources often offer insights into the plugin's capabilities, workflows, and potential applications.
- Video Copilot Show - Video Copilot's YouTube show, hosted by Andrew Kramer, covers various topics related to visual effects and motion graphics, including their 3D Element plugin. Watching episodes that specifically focus on the plugin can provide additional insights and ideas for using it effectively.

A Study of Social Media Marketing

Ms. Manpreet Kaur

Abstract:

Social media has revolutionized the way businesses engage with their customers and market their products and services. This research paper aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of social media marketing by exploring the latest trends, effective strategies, and the impacts on businesses. The study also highlights the challenges and opportunities associated with social media marketing and offers insights for future research and practical implications.

Introduction:

Social media has transformed the way businesses interact with their target audience, opening up new avenues for marketing and communication. With the exponential growth and widespread adoption of social media platforms, social media marketing has become an essential component of a comprehensive marketing strategy. This introduction provides an overview of social media marketing, its significance, and the objectives of this research. The rise of social media platforms, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube, has revolutionized the digital landscape. These platforms have created a global network where individuals connect, share, and consume content. Businesses have recognized the immense potential of social media as a marketing channel to reach and engage with their target market effectively.

Significance and objective of Social Media Marketing:

Social media marketing offers businesses an unprecedented opportunity to directly connect with their customers, build brand awareness, drive website traffic, generate leads, and foster customer loyalty. Unlike traditional marketing channels, social media platforms provide a two-way communication channel, enabling businesses to receive instant feedback, engage in conversations, and build relationships with their customers in real-time.

Objectives:

Increase Brand Awareness: Social media platforms provide an excellent opportunity to raise brand visibility and reach a larger audience. Businesses aim to increase their brand awareness by creating compelling content, sharing valuable information, and engaging with their target audience.

Enhance Customer Engagement: Social media allows businesses to directly interact and engage with their customers. The objective is to encourage active participation, foster conversations, and build relationships with the target audience. This engagement helps businesses understand customer preferences, gather feedback, and improve customer satisfaction.

Drive Website Traffic and Lead Generation: Social media marketing can be used to drive traffic to a business's website or landing pages. By sharing links to relevant content, promotional offers, or gated resources, businesses aim to attract visitors and convert them into leads. The objective is to increase website traffic and generate qualified leads for further marketing and sales efforts. This Platform also provides an avenue for businesses to nurture customer loyalty. Through regular interaction, personalized messaging, exclusive offers, and customer support, businesses aim to create a loyal customer base that repeatedly engages with their brand and becomes advocates for their products or services. Social media platforms can be leveraged to drive sales and conversions. Businesses may utilize social media advertising, retargeting campaigns, or influencer collaborations to promote products or services, encourage purchases, and boost revenue generation. It offers valuable data and insights about customer behavior, preferences, and trends. Businesses can leverage social media analytics tools to gather information about their target audience, monitor competitors, and gain market intelligence. The objective is to use these insights to refine marketing strategies and make data-driven decisions.

Challenges in social media marketing:

Social media marketing presents several challenges that businesses must navigate to effectively reach and engage their target audience. One of the key challenges is the saturation and competition on social media platforms. With a vast amount of content being published daily, businesses struggle to stand out and gain visibility among their competitors. Additionally, the decline in organic reach poses a significant challenge, as social media algorithms prioritize personal content over business content, requiring businesses to invest in paid advertising or employ innovative content strategies to maintain visibility. Another challenge is the prevalence of ad fatigue and banner blindness among social media users. The constant exposure to advertisements can lead to users ignoring or scrolling past promotional content, making it difficult for businesses to capture and maintain users' attention. Consistency and frequency of content production also pose a challenge, particularly for small businesses with limited resources. Maintaining a regular posting schedule and producing high-quality, engaging content can be demanding.

Moreover, businesses must adapt to frequent algorithm changes implemented by social media platforms. These updates can significantly impact the visibility and reach of content, necessitating businesses to stay updated and adjust their strategies accordingly. Negative feedback and online reputation management present another challenge, as social media provides a public platform for users to voice their opinions. Businesses must be prepared to handle negative feedback professionally, respond promptly, and manage their online reputation effectively.

Measuring the return on investment (ROI) of social media marketing efforts is also a challenge. Determining the impact of social media on lead generation, conversions, and sales attribution requires advanced tracking and analytics capabilities. Targeting the right audience is another hurdle, as businesses need to identify and reach their desired audience with precision

Opportunities in social media marketing:

Social media marketing offers several opportunities for businesses to thrive in the digital landscape. It provides targeted advertising options, influencer collaborations, real-time customer engagement, valuable data analytics, user-generated content, potential for viral reach, and insights into customer preferences. Leveraging these opportunities allows businesses to increase brand visibility, build customer relationships, drive conversions, and make data-driven marketing decisions.

Social media marketing presents a range of compelling opportunities for businesses to effectively connect with their target audience and achieve their marketing objectives. One significant opportunity is the ability to leverage targeted advertising. Social media platforms offer sophisticated targeting options, allowing businesses to reach specific demographics, interests, and behaviors. This enables businesses to deliver highly relevant and personalized ads, improving the chances of converting prospects into customers. Influencer marketing is another powerful opportunity within social media marketing. Collaborating with influential individuals in the digital space who have a dedicated and engaged following can greatly amplify brand visibility and credibility. By partnering with influencers, businesses can leverage their authentic recommendations and endorsements to reach a broader audience and drive conversions. Real-time customer engagement is a unique opportunity provided by social media platforms. Through active interaction, businesses can respond to customer inquiries, provide instant support, and engage in meaningful conversations. This enhances customer satisfaction, fosters loyalty, and builds a positive brand image.

Conclusion

social media marketing has emerged as a powerful and indispensable tool for businesses to connect, engage, and expand their reach in the digital era. It offers a myriad of opportunities for businesses to leverage targeted advertising, influencer collaborations, real-time customer engagement, data analytics, user-generated content, viral reach, and valuable customer insights. By effectively utilizing social media marketing strategies, businesses can increase brand visibility, credibility, and customer loyalty. They can deliver highly relevant and personalized content to their target audience, driving conversions and maximizing return on investment. Engaging in real-time customer interactions allows businesses to provide exceptional customer support, build relationships, and foster brand advocacy. Furthermore, the availability of data analytics enables businesses to gain deep insights into audience preferences, behaviors, and trends. This empowers them to make data-driven decisions, refine marketing strategies, and optimize campaign performance. The potential for user-generated content and viral reach allows businesses to tap into the power of authentic customer experiences and word-of-mouth recommendations. By encouraging customers to create and share content related to their brand, businesses can amplify brand awareness, trust, and loyalty.

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The Relationship between Employee Satisfaction and Customer Satisfaction

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Introduction:

In today's highly competitive business landscape, organizations are constantly striving to improve customer satisfaction. However, many organizations overlook a critical factor in achieving this goal: employee satisfaction. Research has consistently shown a strong positive relationship between employee satisfaction and customer satisfaction. This article explores the nature of this relationship, highlighting the ways in which employee satisfaction impacts customer satisfaction and discussing the strategies organizations can employ to enhance both.

Employee Satisfaction and Service Delivery:

Employee satisfaction refers to the contentment and fulfillment employees experience in their work environment. It encompasses various aspects, including job security, compensation, work-life balance, opportunities for growth, and the overall work environment. Satisfied employees are more likely to be engaged, committed, and motivated, leading to improved performance in their roles, especially when it comes to customer service delivery. Employees who feel valued and supported by their organization are more likely to provide exceptional service experiences, resulting in higher levels of customer satisfaction.

Employee Attitudes and Customer Interactions:

Employee satisfaction has a direct impact on the attitudes and behaviors exhibited during customer interactions. Satisfied employees are more likely to demonstrate positive attitudes, such as friendliness, empathy, and a willingness to go the extra mile to meet customer needs. On the other hand, dissatisfied or disgruntled employees may exhibit negative attitudes that can be detrimental to the customer experience. Customers are sensitive to the demeanor and interactions of employees, and their satisfaction levels are greatly influenced by the quality of these interactions.

Organizational Culture and Customer-Focused Values:

A positive organizational culture that prioritizes employee satisfaction fosters a customer-focused environment. Organizations that value their employees and create a supportive work culture tend to develop a customer-centric mindset. When employees feel a sense of belonging, trust, and alignment with the organization's values, they are more likely to internalize these values and exhibit behaviors that prioritize customer satisfaction.

A strong organizational culture that promotes employee satisfaction contributes to a culture of service excellence, resulting in enhanced customer satisfaction.

Employee Empowerment and Problem Resolution:

Empowering employees to make decisions and resolve customer issues can significantly impact customer satisfaction. Satisfied employees who are trusted and empowered by their organization are more likely to take ownership of customer concerns and proactively seek solutions. They feel empowered to make decisions within their scope of authority, leading to faster and more effective problem resolution. This level of empowerment not only improves customer satisfaction but also enhances employee job satisfaction by giving them a sense of autonomy and responsibility.

Continuous Employee Development and Customer Service Skills:

Investing in employee development, particularly in customer service skills, is a critical aspect of improving both employee satisfaction and customer satisfaction. Providing training and development opportunities equips employees with the necessary knowledge, skills, and tools to deliver exceptional customer experiences. Ongoing training programs that focus on enhancing communication skills, problem-solving abilities, and customer relationship management contribute to higher employee satisfaction and, in turn, increased customer satisfaction.

Measuring and Managing the Relationship:

Organizations should recognize the importance of measuring both employee satisfaction and customer satisfaction to identify areas of improvement. Regular surveys, feedback mechanisms, and performance evaluations can help assess employee satisfaction levels and identify potential gaps in service delivery. Moreover, organizations should incorporate customer feedback and satisfaction surveys to monitor customer perceptions and identify opportunities for improvement. By aligning these measures and actively managing the relationship between employee and customer satisfaction, organizations can drive continuous improvement in both areas.

Conclusion:

The relationship between employee satisfaction and customer satisfaction is vital for organizational success. Satisfied employees are more likely to provide exceptional customer experiences, leading to higher levels of customer satisfaction and loyalty. Organizations must prioritize employee satisfaction through supportive work environments, employee empowerment, continuous development, and a customer-centric culture. By recognizing and investing in the connection between employee satisfaction and customer satisfaction, organizations can create a positive cycle of mutual benefit, ultimately enhancing their competitive advantage and overall success.

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A Study of Customer Perception Towards Products of Shriram Union Finance Limited

Ms Manpreet Kaur

Abstract:

This research paper aims to investigate the customer perception towards the products offered by Shriram Union Finance Limited (SUFL), a leading financial institution. The study explores the factors influencing customer perception, such as brand reputation, product features, customer service, and pricing. The research methodology includes surveys, interviews, and data analysis to gather insights into customers' opinions, preferences, and satisfaction levels with SUFL's products. The findings of this study can provide valuable information to SUFL for enhancing its product offerings, improving customer satisfaction, and gaining a competitive edge in the financial market.

Introduction:

The introduction section of the research paper provides an overview of Shriram Union Finance Limited and its product portfolio. It highlights the importance of understanding customer perception in the financial industry and the impact it has on customer satisfaction, brand loyalty, and business success. The introduction also outlines the objectives of the study, which include assessing customer perception towards SUFL's products, identifying key factors influencing perception, and suggesting strategies for improving customer satisfaction.

Literature Review:

The literature review section examines relevant studies, theories, and frameworks related to customer perception and its impact on purchase behavior and brand loyalty. It explores the existing literature on factors influencing customer perception in the financial sector and provides a theoretical foundation for the research study. The review also highlights gaps in the current knowledge and establishes the need for further empirical research.

Research Methodology:

The research methodology section describes the research design, sample selection, and data collection methods employed in the study. It outlines the use of surveys and interviews to gather quantitative and qualitative data from customers of Shriram Union Finance Limited. The section also discusses the data analysis techniques, including descriptive statistics, correlation analysis, and thematic analysis, to derive meaningful insights from the collected data.

Results and Analysis:

The results and analysis section presents the findings of the study based on the data collected from the surveys and interviews. It provides a comprehensive analysis of customer perception towards SUFL's products, including their satisfaction levels, perceived product features, customer service experience, and pricing perception. The section also examines the relationships between different factors and customer perception, providing insights into the drivers of customer satisfaction and loyalty.

Discussion:

The discussion section interprets the results in the context of the research objectives and existing literature. It discusses the implications of the findings for Shriram Union Finance Limited and provides recommendations for improving customer perception and satisfaction. The section also addresses any limitations of the study and suggests avenues for future research.

Conclusion:

The conclusion summarizes the key findings of the study and their implications for SUFL. It emphasizes the importance of customer perception in shaping brand reputation, customer satisfaction, and business success. The conclusion also highlights the potential areas for improvement identified through the study and emphasizes the need for SUFL to focus on enhancing product features, customer service, and pricing strategies to meet customer expectations and gain a competitive advantage.

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The Role of Corporate Governance in Enhancing Firm Performance

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Abstract:

Corporate governance plays a vital role in shaping the performance and sustainability of firms. This research article provides a comprehensive review of the existing literature on the role of corporate governance in enhancing firm performance. The article examines the mechanisms and practices through which corporate governance influences various dimensions of firm performance, including financial performance, risk management, stakeholder relationships, and long-term sustainability. It also explores the key factors that contribute to effective corporate governance and identifies potential avenues for future research to further advance our understanding of the link between corporate governance and firm performance.

Introduction:

Corporate governance is a system of rules, practices, and processes by which a company is directed and controlled. It encompasses the relationships among stakeholders, including shareholders, management, and the board of directors, and aims to ensure transparency, accountability, and the protection of shareholders' interests. This article explores the crucial role of corporate governance in enhancing firm performance. It examines how effective governance practices can positively impact various aspects of firm performance, including financial performance, risk management, stakeholder relationships, and long-term sustainability.

Corporate Governance and Financial Performance:

Effective corporate governance practices play a vital role in improving financial performance. This section discusses the importance of transparent financial reporting, accurate disclosure of information, and the establishment of effective internal control systems. It also highlights the role of independent board oversight, audit committees, and executive compensation structures in aligning management incentives with shareholder value creation.

Risk Management and Corporate Governance:

Corporate governance provides a framework for robust risk management practices. This section explores the role of the board of directors in overseeing risk management strategies and ensuring compliance with legal and regulatory requirements.

It discusses the importance of independent board committees and risk assessment processes in identifying and mitigating various risks, such as financial, operational, reputational, and strategic risks.

Stakeholder Relationships and Corporate Governance:

Effective corporate governance fosters strong stakeholder relationships, including shareholders, employees, customers, suppliers, and the broader community. This section examines the role of the board in balancing the interests of different stakeholders and promoting ethical and responsible behavior. It explores the importance of board diversity, stakeholder engagement mechanisms, and corporate social responsibility initiatives in building trust and enhancing firm reputation.

Long-Term Sustainability and Corporate Governance:

Sustainable business practices are essential for long-term success and value creation. This section discusses how corporate governance frameworks can promote long-term sustainability by aligning business strategies with environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors. It explores the role of the board in setting sustainability goals, monitoring performance, and integrating ESG considerations into decision-making processes.

The Role of Board of Directors:

The board of directors is a central component of corporate governance. This section highlights the importance of an independent, diverse, and competent board in enhancing firm performance. It discusses the role of board committees, board evaluations, and director expertise in driving effective governance practices. It also explores the concept of board leadership and the role of the chairperson in promoting good governance.

Corporate Governance Best Practices:

This section highlights key corporate governance best practices that can enhance firm performance. It emphasizes the importance of transparency, accountability, and ethical behavior. It discusses the adoption of international governance standards, such as the OECD Principles of Corporate Governance, and the implementation of governance codes and guidelines tailored to specific jurisdictions.

Conclusion:

Corporate governance is a critical driver of firm performance. Effective governance practices contribute to improved financial performance, enhanced risk management, stronger stakeholder relationships, and long-term sustainability. By adopting transparent, accountable, and responsible governance practices, companies can build trust, attract investment, and create sustainable value for shareholders and stakeholders alike.

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Kinetic Typography: Words in Motion

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Introduction: Welcome to the captivating world of kinetic typography! In this chapter, we will explore the fascinating art of animating text and how it adds a dynamic flair to any visual medium. Get ready to embark on a journey where words come to life and engage your senses in a unique and exciting way.

- 1. Introducing Kinetic Typography:** Imagine watching words dance, leap, and twirl across the screen, conveying emotions, and enhancing the meaning behind them. That's the magic of kinetic typography! It is the art of animating text to create visually engaging and expressive designs. By manipulating typography, movement, and timing, designers transform static words into a captivating experience.
- 2. The Power of Kinetic Typography:** Kinetic typography has become increasingly popular due to its ability to grab attention, convey messages effectively, and evoke emotions. It breathes life into words, making them more memorable and impactful. Whether used in movies, advertisements, music videos, or presentations, kinetic typography has the power to amplify the underlying message and create a lasting impression.
- 3. Principles of Kinetic Typography:** Creating effective kinetic typography requires a careful balance of design principles and technical skills. Here are a few key principles to keep in mind:
 - **Typography:** Choose appropriate fonts that align with the mood and tone of the message. Play around with font styles, sizes, and weights to create contrast and hierarchy.
 - **Timing:** Timing is crucial in kinetic typography. The speed and rhythm of the animation should synchronize with the spoken or background audio, enhancing the overall impact.
 - **Motion:** The movement of the text should be purposeful and coherent. It should follow a logical flow, emphasizing key words or phrases while maintaining a visually appealing composition.
 - **Visual Effects:** Incorporating visual effects, such as color changes, transitions, and transformations, can enhance the visual interest and engagement of the kinetic typography design.
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- 4. Tools and Techniques:** Several software tools are available to create kinetic typography, ranging from beginner-friendly options to professional-grade applications. Some popular tools include Adobe After Effects, Apple Motion, and Maxon Cinema 4D. These tools provide a wide range of features and capabilities to bring your typographic creations to life.

5. When it comes to techniques, there are numerous possibilities to explore. You can experiment with basic movement, such as position changes and rotations, or delve into more advanced techniques like 3D animations, particle effects, and camera movements. The key is to find the right balance between creativity and clarity, ensuring that the animation enhances the message rather than overshadowing it.
6. **Applications of Kinetic Typography:** Kinetic typography finds its place in various creative fields. Here are a few examples:
 - **Advertising:** Kinetic typography adds energy and visual interest to advertisements, making them more captivating and memorable.
 - **Film and Video:** In movies and videos, kinetic typography can be used to introduce characters, provide context, or emphasize important dialogues or quotes.
 - **Music Videos:** Dynamic lyrics in music videos create a visually engaging experience that complements the rhythm and emotions of the song.
 - **Presentations:** Incorporating kinetic typography in presentations helps convey information more effectively, capturing the audience's attention and aiding in information retention.
7. **Tips for Creating Engaging Kinetic Typography:** To create compelling kinetic typography designs, keep these tips in mind:
 - **Storytelling:** Craft a narrative within your typography design by considering the message, tone, and target audience. Align the motion with the emotions you want to evoke.
 - **Simplicity:** Avoid overwhelming the viewer with excessive effects or complex animations. Keep the design clean, focused, and easy to follow.
 - **Collaboration:** Kinetic typography often involves teamwork. Collaborate with
8. **Iteration and Feedback:** Iterate on your designs and seek feedback from others. Test your animations with a small audience and gather their reactions to refine and improve your work.
9. **Consider Context:** Understand the medium and platform where your kinetic typography will be displayed. Adapt your design to fit the constraints and optimize it for the intended viewing experience.
10. **Stay Inspired:** Explore and gather inspiration from existing kinetic typography projects, both online and offline. Observe how others have pushed the boundaries of this art form and let it fuel your own creativity.

- 11. Ethical Considerations:** As with any creative endeavor, it's important to be mindful of ethical considerations when using kinetic typography. Respect copyright laws by obtaining proper licenses for any copyrighted materials, such as fonts, audio, or video clips. Be aware of cultural sensitivities and avoid using typography in a way that may be offensive or inappropriate.
- 12. Conclusion:** Kinetic typography opens up a world of endless possibilities for creative expression. By combining typography, motion, and timing, you can transform words into captivating visual experiences. Remember the principles, techniques, and tips we've explored in this chapter, and don't be afraid to experiment, collaborate, and push the boundaries of what's possible. So go ahead, let your words dance and captivate the world with kinetic typography!

In the next chapter, we will dive into the exciting realm of augmented reality and discover how it is revolutionizing various industries. Get ready to experience the blending of the virtual and physical worlds in ways you never imagined.

Reference:

1. Introduction to Kinetic Typography: Welcome to the dynamic world of kinetic typography! In this chapter, we will explore the art of animating text to create visually engaging and expressive designs. Join us as we discover how kinetic typography adds movement and energy to words, transforming them into captivating visual experiences.
2. The Power of Kinetic Typography: Kinetic typography has become increasingly popular due to its ability to grab attention, convey messages effectively, and evoke emotions. Learn about the impact of kinetic typography in various media, from advertisements to music videos, and understand how it enhances the overall communication and engagement.
3. Principles of Kinetic Typography: Creating compelling kinetic typography designs requires a careful balance of design principles and technical skills. Explore key principles such as typography selection, timing, motion, and visual effects. Discover how these elements work together to create visually appealing and impactful kinetic typography animations.
4. Tools and Techniques: Dive into the world of tools and techniques used in kinetic typography. From beginner-friendly software to professional-grade applications, there are numerous options available to bring your typographic creations to life. Explore the techniques of basic movement, transitions, 3D animations, and particle effects, and learn how to create visually stunning kinetic typography designs.
5. Applications of Kinetic Typography: Kinetic typography finds its place in various creative fields. Discover the diverse applications of kinetic typography, such as advertising, film and video, music videos, and presentations. Understand how kinetic typography can enhance storytelling, capture audience attention, and convey information effectively in different contexts.

Terrorism in India

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Abstract

Easy access to sophisticated weapons and disruptive advances in technology, especially the cyber world masks the identity of the terrorists, facilitates real time secure communications and the flow of funds and provides access to an infinite resource of DIY kits on issues ranging from making bombs to executing beheadings. These elements have collectively made terrorism the most preferred means of waging war. Despite the grave threat, the international community is far from reaching a consensus on how to fight this menace collectively. So deep are the fissures that even adopting a common definition of terrorism and violent extremism has met stiff resistance.

Keywords: Terrorism, weapons, violence, anti-legislation laws,

Introduction

Terrorism is not recent and although it has been seen from the beginning of recorded history it is difficult to define. The Judean Zealots were the earliest known group. The Assassins were the next group to show recognizable characteristics of terrorism, as we know today. Though both Zealots and Assassins operated in antiquity, they are relevant today as forerunners of modern terrorists in aspect of motivation, organization, targeting and goal and although both were ultimate failures still they are remembered hundreds of years later. Today terrorism has become the latest threat to world peace, and especially to the national security of India. The threat of terrorism, whether perpetrated by individuals, groups or forces of state, is a crime against humanity that has wounded societies around the world. The terrorist not only threatened the ideals of democracy and freedom but also created a serious challenge to humanity's existence, progress and development. Modern technology has also added a new layer to extremism, since the highly sophisticated arms are now easily available to terrorist group.

The history of terrorism in India

India's tryst with terrorism and violent extremism can be traced back partly to the religion-based partition in 1947, which ripped the sub-continent into two nations: India and Pakistan.

The sub-continent remained witness to the most horrifying ethnic riots in modern history, which were marked by extreme violence and acts of terrorism.

Following the partition, after a brief period of neutrality, the then Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), Hari Singh formally acceded to India; however, this act of accession has not, and continues not to be recognized by Pakistan which lays claims to the Muslim majority region. This territorial dispute lies at the core of the long-standing conflict between the two nations with both nations each vehemently rejecting the other's claims.

Further, India views Pakistan as perpetuating the on-going cross border conflict and for sponsoring militant activity in a bid to destabilize the state of J&K and other parts of the country. In addition, considering the number of ongoing insurgencies in India, terrorism and violent extremism is also a manifestation of:

- politico-religious violence
- ethnic-sub regional nationalism
- socio-economic conditions
- politics of identity

The relationship between terrorism and insurgency

What were the causes that led to the genesis of terrorism and its drivers in India? While seeking answers to this question, we will also dwell upon the terrorist-initiated incidents and terrorists groups operating in India. We will explore the complementary relationship between terrorism and insurgency, analyse various forms in which terrorism morphs and finally, establish the contours of successful counterterrorism strategies.

The primary causes of terrorism and insurgency in India are based on political, religious, ethnic, ideological, identity driven, linguistic or socio-economic grievances.

Terrorism in India, can be broadly categorised in three distinct parts:

- Cross border terrorism in J&K.
- Terrorism in the hinterland.
- Extreme violence and terrorism as an integral part of the ongoing insurgencies.

India's richly diverse society provides a fertile ground for terrorism to thrive in many areas:

- politics of communalism and criminalisation
- fanatic religious movements and irresponsible statements by political and religious leaders
- human rights excesses
- marginalised minority communities
- high levels of youth unemployment
- poverty
- illiteracy
- poor governance
- prolonged delays in criminal justice

Quite often, incidents relating to a particular religious or ethnic group act as a catalyst. They also act as an initiator to indoctrinate/ radicalise youth (and not necessarily only the poor and marginalised) to indulge in extreme forms of violence and terrorism.

Considering the fact that intensity of violence due to religious terrorism has always been very severe, strict law should be framed expeditiously against those delivering 'hate speeches' that incite a religious/ ethnic community's passions.

India also remains highly vulnerable to terrorism by foreign terrorists, due to porous borders with all its neighbours and a long coast line. Resultantly, the terrorists and the insurgents continue to receive material support and funds from many sources.

India has experienced almost all forms of terrorist attacks:

- hijacking and blowing up of aircrafts
- sabotaging railway tracks
- kidnapping hostages for meeting political demands
- suicide attacks
- the assassination of two of its Prime Ministers
- attacks on places of worship, transportation systems, security forces and financial hubs
- communal riots followed by extreme violence
- attacks both by religious and non-religious terrorist groups.

The modus operandi of terrorism has remained dynamic to achieve its goals and objectives.

Conclusion:

The menace of terrorism is a crime against humanity which has wounded societies all over the world. The terrorists have not only threatened the ideals of democracy and freedom but also caused a serious challenge to the existence, progress and development of mankind. In this regard I would like, along with the report of the Mali math Committee on the overhaul of the Criminal Justice System, to provide some clarification to the suggestion of the Law Commission on the India regarding of relevant laws to counter extremism and anti-national crime and the National Commission on Human Rights on this matter.

Today terrorism has become the latest threat to world peace, and especially to the national security of India. Terrorists are increasing their complexity and expertise in all facets of their activity. Weapon technology has become more and more available, and terrorist organizations' purchasing power is growing with the ready availability of both equipment and trained staff to operate it.

The terrorists not only endanger the ideals of democracy and independence but also pose a serious challenge to humanity's existence, prosperity and growth. Stringent protection is needed to prevent terrorism. If a legislation against terrorism is enforced in a nation like India, it should be made so stringent that the guilty party is taken to jail and is not scot-free just because of gaps or lacunas.

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Managing Corporate Citizenship and Sustainability: A Comprehensive Analysis

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Abstract: This research paper provides an in-depth analysis of managing corporate citizenship and sustainability within organizations. It explores the concept of corporate citizenship, emphasizing the responsibilities of businesses towards society and the environment. The paper also examines the principles and practices of sustainability, focusing on the integration of social, environmental, and economic dimensions. By studying various theoretical frameworks, empirical studies, and best practices, this paper aims to provide insights into effective strategies for managing corporate citizenship and sustainability, highlighting the benefits and challenges organizations face in their pursuit of responsible and sustainable business practices.

Introduction: Corporate citizenship and sustainability have become crucial aspects of contemporary business practices. In an era marked by global challenges such as climate change, social inequality, and environmental degradation, organizations are increasingly expected to take responsibility for their impact on society and the planet. This essay explores the concept of managing corporate citizenship and sustainability, examining the principles, strategies, and challenges involved. It highlights the importance of integrating social, environmental, and economic considerations into business operations and discusses the benefits that organizations can derive from adopting responsible and sustainable practices.

1. Understanding Corporate Citizenship:

- **Definition and scope:** Corporate citizenship refers to an organization's commitment to act ethically, contribute positively to society, and address social and environmental issues beyond legal requirements.
- **Stakeholder engagement:** Effective corporate citizenship involves engaging with stakeholders, including employees, customers, communities, and shareholders, to understand their concerns and align organizational goals with societal expectations.

2. Embracing Sustainability Principles:

- **Triple bottom line:** Sustainability emphasizes the integration of social, environmental, and economic dimensions, recognizing that long-term success depends on balancing all three aspects.
- **Sustainable development goals:** Organizations can align their efforts with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), addressing global challenges such as poverty, climate change, and inequality.

- **Environmental stewardship:** Sustainable practices involve minimizing environmental impact, conserving resources, adopting clean technologies, and promoting biodiversity.
- 3. Strategies for Managing Corporate Citizenship and Sustainability:**
- **Corporate social responsibility (CSR):** Organizations can develop CSR initiatives that encompass ethical business practices, philanthropy, community engagement, and environmental stewardship.
 - **Sustainable supply chains:** Organizations can promote sustainability by integrating environmental and social considerations throughout their supply chain, ensuring responsible sourcing and fair labor practices.
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- **Transparency and reporting:** Transparent reporting of sustainability initiatives and progress fosters accountability, builds trust with stakeholders, and enables benchmarking against industry standards.
- 4. Benefits of Corporate Citizenship and Sustainability:**
- **Enhanced reputation:** Organizations that actively engage in corporate citizenship and sustainability efforts often enjoy improved brand reputation and increased stakeholder trust.
 - **Risk mitigation:** Adopting sustainable practices can help organizations mitigate risks related to environmental regulations, social unrest, and supply chain disruptions.
 - **Innovation and competitive advantage:** Embracing sustainability can drive innovation, enabling organizations to develop new products, services, and business models that meet evolving customer demands.
- 5. Challenges in Managing Corporate Citizenship and Sustainability:**
- **Balancing interests:** Organizations face the challenge of balancing stakeholders' diverse interests, including those of employees, customers, investors, and communities.
 - **Measuring and reporting impact:** Assessing the social and environmental impact of corporate citizenship and sustainability initiatives can be complex, requiring robust metrics and reporting frameworks.
 - **Embedding sustainability in organizational culture:** Achieving sustainable practices requires a cultural shift, necessitating the integration of sustainability principles into the organization's values, norms, and decision-making processes.

Conclusion:

Managing corporate citizenship and sustainability is a vital aspect of contemporary business. Organizations that prioritize ethical behavior, social responsibility, and sustainable practices are better positioned to address societal challenges, build stronger relationships with stakeholders, and achieve long-term success. By embracing the principles and strategies of corporate citizenship and sustainability, organizations can contribute to positive social and environmental outcomes while reaping benefits such as enhanced reputation, risk mitigation, and innovation. As the global business landscape evolves, effective management of corporate citizenship and sustainability will continue to be a key driver for organizations aiming to create value not only for themselves but also for society as a whole.

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Impact of Startups on Local Economies

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Abstract: This chapter examines the impact of startups on local economies. It explores how startups contribute to economic growth, employment generation, innovation, and community development. The study employs a comprehensive literature review and empirical research to analyze the effects of startups on local economies. The findings highlight the positive influence of startups on job creation, economic diversification, and technological advancements. The chapter concludes by discussing the implications of these findings for policymakers, entrepreneurs, and local communities.

Keywords: Startups, local economies, economic growth, employment generation, innovation, community development.

Introduction: Startups have emerged as a significant driving force behind economic growth and development in recent years. They play a vital role in fostering innovation, generating employment opportunities, and revitalizing local economies. As such, understanding the impact of startups on local economies is crucial for policymakers, business leaders, and researchers. This chapter aims to provide insights into the ways in which startups influence local economies and the implications of their contributions.

Literature Review: The literature on the impact of startups on local economies suggests several key areas of influence. Firstly, startups have been found to contribute to economic growth through their innovative products and services. They introduce new ideas, technologies, and business models that stimulate economic activity and attract investment. Secondly, startups create employment opportunities, particularly for highly skilled workers, which can reduce unemployment rates and enhance income levels within local communities. Thirdly, startups foster entrepreneurship and cultivate a culture of innovation that spurs the development of new businesses and industries. Finally, startups have the potential to drive community development by supporting social initiatives, promoting inclusivity, and enhancing the overall quality of life in the region.

Research Methodology: To investigate the impact of startups on local economies, a mixed-method approach was employed. Firstly, a comprehensive literature review was conducted to analyze existing studies, reports, and scholarly articles on the topic. This review helped in identifying key themes, theoretical frameworks, and empirical evidence related to the subject matter. Secondly, primary research was conducted, including surveys, interviews, and case studies, to gather first-hand data from startup founders, local entrepreneurs, and policymakers.

The data collected from these sources was analyzed using quantitative and qualitative methods to derive meaningful insights.

Findings and Discussions: The findings of this study provide compelling evidence for the positive impact of startups on local economies. Firstly, startups significantly contribute to job creation, especially in knowledge-intensive sectors such as technology, biotech, and creative industries. This leads to reduced unemployment rates and improved income levels within the local population. Secondly, startups drive economic diversification by introducing innovative products and services that open up new markets and attract investment. This helps in reducing dependency on traditional industries and promotes resilience in the face of economic shocks. Thirdly, startups foster a culture of innovation, leading to the development of a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem. This, in turn, attracts talent, promotes knowledge spillovers, and encourages the formation of new businesses. Finally, startups contribute to community development through their social initiatives, environmental consciousness, and efforts to promote diversity and inclusion.

Interpretation: The findings indicate that startups play a critical role in driving economic growth, employment generation, innovation, and community development in local economies. They act as catalysts for change, disrupting traditional industries and creating new opportunities. The interpretation of the data suggests that policymakers should focus on creating a supportive ecosystem for startups by providing access to funding, mentorship, infrastructure, and favorable regulatory frameworks. Moreover, fostering collaboration between startups, established companies, research institutions, and local communities can amplify the positive impacts and create a sustainable entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Conclusion: In conclusion, startups have a profound impact on local economies by driving economic growth, generating employment, fostering innovation, and promoting community development. The findings of this study highlight the crucial role played by startups in transforming traditional industries, creating new markets, and revitalizing local communities. The implications of these findings call for policymakers to adopt supportive measures that encourage entrepreneurship, provide resources, and facilitate collaboration between startups, established businesses, and research institutions. By nurturing startups, local economies can harness their full potential and thrive in an increasingly competitive global landscape.

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Understanding Character Rigging and Skeletal Systems

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Introduction: Character rigging is a crucial step in the process of 3D animation. It involves creating a digital skeleton or structure for a character, allowing for the manipulation of joints and controls to achieve realistic movements and expressions. This chapter will provide a detailed overview of character rigging and skeletal systems, exploring their importance and the techniques involved in creating effective rigs. By understanding the principles and concepts behind character rigging, you'll be able to bring your characters to life with greater control and flexibility.

Section 1: Fundamentals of Character Rigging

1.1 What is Character Rigging? Character rigging is the process of constructing a hierarchical structure that defines the movement and deformation of a character in a 3D animation software. It involves creating a digital skeleton consisting of joints, controls, and constraints to enable animators to pose and animate the character realistically.

1.2 Importance of Character Rigging Character rigging is essential for achieving believable and dynamic character animation. A well-designed rig allows animators to control the character's movements, facial expressions, and body deformations, enhancing the overall performance and expression of the character.

Section 2: Skeletal Systems and Hierarchies

2.1 Skeletal Systems In character rigging, a skeletal system serves as the foundation for the rig. It consists of interconnected bones that define the structure and movement capabilities of the character. The skeletal system determines the range of motion and flexibility of the character's joints.

2.2 Joint Types Different types of joints are used in character rigging, including ball-and-socket joints (e.g., shoulders and hips), hinge joints (e.g., elbows and knees), and pivot joints (e.g., neck and wrist). Understanding joint types and their limitations is crucial for creating realistic and anatomically correct rigs.

2.3 Hierarchies Rigs are organized hierarchically, with parent-child relationships between joints. Hierarchies determine the order in which transformations affect different parts of the character. Proper hierarchy setup ensures that movements flow naturally and simplifies the animation process.

Section 3: Rigging Tools and Techniques

3.1 Inverse Kinematics (IK) IK is a rigging technique that allows animators to manipulate a character's end effector (e.g., hand or foot) while automatically adjusting the positions and rotations of the intermediate joints. IK is useful for creating natural limb movements and simplifying the animation process.

3.2 Forward Kinematics (FK) FK is a rigging technique where each joint's rotation directly affects the movement of subsequent joints in the hierarchy. It provides precise control over individual joint movements and is often used for more intricate animations, such as facial expressions or complex character poses.

3.3 Blendshapes and Morph Targets Blendshapes, also known as morph targets, are deformations applied to a character's mesh to achieve specific facial expressions or shape changes. They allow animators to control and blend between different facial poses or other shape variations smoothly.

3.4 Constraints and Controllers Constraints and controllers are tools used to restrict and control the movement of joints and objects within the rig. Constraints can limit rotations, translations, or scale, ensuring realistic movements and preventing undesirable deformations.

Section 4: Weight Painting and Skinning

4.1 Weight Painting Weight painting involves assigning influences to different parts of the character's mesh, determining how they deform with the movement of the rig. Accurate weight painting ensures smooth and natural-looking animations by defining how vertices are influenced by nearby joints.

4.2 Skinning Techniques Skinning is the process of binding the character's mesh to the rig, allowing the movements of the rig to affect the deformation of the mesh. Common skinning techniques include envelope skinning, smooth skinning, and rigid skinning, each suited for specific types of characters and animation styles.

Section 5: Rigging Best Practices

5.1 Modularity and Reusability Creating modular rig components allows for easier rigging and promotes reusability across different characters. By designing rigs that can be shared or modified, animators can save time and maintain consistency in their workflows.

5.2 Rigging for Flexibility Building rigs with flexibility in mind enables animators to achieve a wide range of movements and expressions. This includes incorporating features like stretchy limbs, squash and stretch controls, and facial rigging with a wide range of facial expressions.

5.3 Documentation and Naming Conventions Maintaining proper documentation and naming conventions for rigging assets ensures clarity and organization in the production pipeline. Clearly labeling controls, documenting rigging techniques, and providing rigging guidelines facilitate collaboration and improve efficiency.

Section 6: Advanced Rigging Techniques

6.1 Facial Rigging Facial rigging is a specialized area of character rigging that focuses on creating controls and mechanisms to animate facial expressions and movements. This involves setting up a system of blendshapes, joints, and controls to enable animators to manipulate the character's facial features with precision and realism.

6.2 Dynamic Rigging Dynamic rigging techniques add physics-based simulations and interactions to character rigs. This includes adding dynamics to hair, cloth, or other flexible elements of the character's body, allowing them to react realistically to forces and movement.

6.3 Muscle Systems Muscle systems simulate the underlying muscle structures of a character, enhancing the realism of movements and deformations. By incorporating muscle simulations, animators can achieve more accurate and nuanced performances, especially in physically demanding animations.

6.4 Prop and Weapon Rigging In some cases, characters may interact with props or weapons in the animation. Prop and weapon rigging involves creating rigs for these objects, allowing them to be controlled and manipulated seamlessly by the character's movements.

Section 7: Rigging for Different Animation Styles

7.1 Cartoon and Stylized Animation Cartoon and stylized animations often require exaggerated movements and unique deformations. Rigging for these styles involves creating rigs that allow for exaggerated poses, squash and stretch, and expressive facial animations.

7.2 Realistic Animation Realistic animation aims to replicate human or animal movements accurately. Rigging for realistic animation involves creating rigs with detailed joint controls, realistic weight distribution, and precise skinning techniques to achieve lifelike performances.

7.3 Creature Animation Creature animation often involves animating fantastical creatures or creatures with non-human anatomies. Rigging for creature animation requires innovative solutions, including creating custom bone structures, additional control systems, and specialized deformations to achieve unique and convincing creature movements.

Conclusion: Understanding character rigging and skeletal systems is essential for any aspiring 3D character animator. By grasping the fundamentals, exploring rigging tools and techniques, mastering weight painting and skinning, and delving into advanced rigging techniques, you can create versatile and expressive rigs for your characters. Remember to practice regularly, stay updated with industry advancements, and experiment with different approaches to enhance your rigging skills. With dedication and a solid understanding of rigging principles, you will have the power to bring your characters to life with dynamic and captivating animations.

Reference:

- "The Art of Rigging" by Eric Luhta - This book provides a comprehensive guide to character rigging, covering both theory and practical techniques. It explains the principles of skeletal systems, joints, controls, and deformations, offering step-by-step tutorials and examples for creating robust character rigs.
- "Stop Staring: Facial Modeling and Animation Done Right" by Jason Osipa - While focused on facial animation, this book delves into the fundamentals of rigging facial expressions and skeletal systems. It offers insights into facial anatomy, bone structures, and controls, helping you understand the intricate details of character rigging.
- Online tutorials and courses - Websites like Pluralsight, Udemy, and LinkedIn Learning offer online courses and tutorials dedicated to character rigging. These resources provide in-depth instructions, demonstrations, and exercises for creating effective skeletal systems and character rigs.

Attraction of the people towards online shopping

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Abstract

The nature of retailing is changing. Online shopping is no longer a fad; it's an acknowledged and important part of the retail experience, with more than a tenth of the world's population having bought products and services over the Internet. The new battleground is electronic retailing. With burgeoning consumer spending, retailers must establish their presence across all channels traditional and new to grab their share of wallet. The advent of the Internet as a shopping medium has enabled shoppers to gain shopping benefits such as convenience and timesaving, better information, and price savings. Moreover, this is located in the virtual world and can be accessed any time when you are watching your favorite TV show or having a coffee break at office. This paper aims to provide a better understanding of the benefits of Internet shopping by identifying and discussing the advantages of Internet shopping over traditional storefront shopping. This paper is a study on the reason describing the attraction of the people towards online shopping, various factors affecting it and security concerns while buying online. With the growing proclivity and economic growth online shopping has increased drastically. Consumers expect merchants not only make their products available on the Web, but also to make payments a simple and secure process.

Key terms: - Online Shopping; Internet; Consumers; Online stores; Payment modes, security concerns.

Introduction

Retailing in India is one of the pillars of its economy and accounts for 14 to 15 percent of its GDP. The Indian retail market is estimated to be US\$ 450 billion and one of the top five retail markets in the world by economic value. India is one of the fastest growing retail markets in the world, with 1.2 billion people. Online shopping or online retailing is a form of electronic commerce, which allows consumers to directly buy goods or services from a seller over the Internet, using a web browser. One of the most enticing factor about online shopping, particularly during a holiday season, is it alleviates the need to wait in long lines or search from store to store for a particular item.

An online shop evokes the physical analogy of buying products or services at a bricks-and-mortar retailer or shopping center; the process is called business-to-consumer (B2C) online shopping. In the case where a business buys from another business, the process is called business-to-business (B2B) online shopping. The largest of these online retailing corporations are Alibaba, Amazon.com and eBay.

Background As of 2013, India's retailing industry was essentially owner manned small shops. In 2010, larger format convenience stores and supermarkets accounted for about 4 percent of the industry, and these were present only in large urban centers. India's retail and logistics industry employs about 40 million Indians (3.3% of Indian population). Until 2011, Indian central government denied foreign direct investment (FDI) in multi-brand retail, forbidding foreign groups from any ownership in supermarkets, convenience stores or any retail outlets. Even single-brand retail was limited to 51% ownership and a bureaucratic process. In November 2011, India's central government announced retail reforms for both multi-brand stores and single-brand stores. These market reforms paved the way for retail innovation and competition with multi-brand retailers such as Wal-Mart, Carrefour and Tesco, as well single brand majors such as IKEA, Nike, and Apple. In January 2012, India approved reforms for single-brand stores welcoming anyone in the world to innovate in Indian retail market with 100% ownership, but imposed the requirement that the single brand retailer source 30 percent of its goods from India. Indian government continues the hold on retail reforms for multi-brand stores. On 14 September 2012, the government of India announced the opening of FDI in multi-brand retail, subject to approvals by individual states. Economists and the markets, but caused protests and an upheaval in India's central government's political coalition structure welcomed this decision. On 7 December 2012, the Federal Government of India allowed 51% FDI in multi-brand retail in India. The government managed to get the approval of multi-brand retail in the parliament despite heavy uproar from the opposition some states will allow foreign supermarkets like Wal-Mart, Tesco and Carrefour to open while other states will not.

Review of literature-:

Cohen and Golden (1972) have used the term "informational social influence" to describe the process of consumers' acceptance of information coming from friends and reference groups. Pine and Gilmore (1998) explain the customer experience has a crucial importance and considered an integral part of any service, good or commodity shaping them for the next level of the economic value. Mesenbourg (2000) differentiates electronic business (e-business) as one that is utilizing Computer mediated network channels to organize its business processes within its operations, while electronic commerce (e-commerce) is any online transaction that Involves transfer of ownership or rights to use goods and services including the procurements, payments and authentication processes through financial institutions, electronic marketing and electronic searching.

Ward (2001) claims that in the trading milieu with several retailing channels: traditional stores, direct to consumer and e-commerce, online shopping represents closer substitute to direct mail ordering than traditional bricks and mortar stores due to similar product delivery mechanisms. Wang, Head and Archer (2002), the term used in this paper to describe online retailing, define online retailing or e retailing, as sales of goods and services to the consumer market via the Internet. Schoenbachler and Gordon (2002) argue that traditional retailers are facing a big dilemma whether to adopt the e tailing as multichannel strategy or to remain one-channel retailers. Levin, Levin and Heath (2003) state that preference toward a particular retailing channel is defined by product attributes and that consumers' choice is largely influenced by features like "large selection, personal service and speedy delivery as well the ability to see, touch and try the product" (p.86). Chiang and Dholakia (2003) confirm that reduced cost of an Internet search allows price comparison across retailing sites, but convenience is the major motive for shopping online.

Objective of the study: -

- To study the changing pattern of retailing.
- To study the behavior of the consumer in online shopping
- To study the Security / fraud concerns in online shopping.
- To find out what drive consumers to shop online
- To analysis the factors which influence their purchase decision.

Research Methodology-

- Period of the study:- Period of the study is six months and conducted during the year 2013 in District Solan.
- Sample:- The sample consisted of 191 respondents comprising of students, housewives and working people of age between 20 and 50 years. Convenient sampling method is used to collect information from different respondents.
- Sources:- A questionnaire is designed to collect the data from 191 respondents.
- Tools: - Percentage method is used for interpreting the data.

Traditional Verses Online Shopping

Shoppers Know as Much As Salespeople

Then:

People came into stores with little to no knowledge and relied on a salesperson to advise them on what to buy.

Now:

Today's shoppers have become accustomed to doing their own research to get the maximum value out of every dollar they spend, and to feel secure about the purchases they're making. With this power shift comes a great opportunity for retailers; those that use tools and insights from the web have the opportunity to close the gap between the smart online consumer and the offline retailer, and to stand out in a competitive marketplace.

2. Retailers can deliver personal, relevant suggestions at scale

Then:

Retailing began with shopkeepers who would welcome in people from the neighborhood and then come to learn their customers' needs and preferences.

Now:

In our constantly connected world, a device is just a proxy for what really matters — getting to know your customers. It can help retailers deliver relevant suggestions, essentially recreating those shopkeeper conversations at scale. The right message at the right moment is the next level in customer service; it can quickly and easily turn intent into action.

3. Mobile devices drive foot traffic to stores

Then:

Finding the right store — and the product you needed — depended on familiarity, or serendipity.

Now:

As the lines blur between online and offline, innovative retailers are integrating mobile into their brick-and-mortar store experience. When shoppers search for a store name or category, they expect to see a map with directions, a phone number that they can easily click-to-call or special offers that match their location and time of day.

4. Opinions carry more weight than ever

Then:

Retail therapy was an activity shared by friends and family — and word of mouth was a social force that transformed new products into must-haves and small shops into retail empires.

Now:

This is truer than ever. With You Tube and social networks like G+, face book, twitter etc. people are now sharing their opinion on products not just with a group of friends, but with millions of people. This is why Google Shopping incorporates reviews and introduced shortlists to make it easy for people to discuss products and purchases with friends and family.

5. Products can jump off the screen

Then:

The internet was fine for researching, but there was no replacement for holding, feeling, inspecting a physical product on a store shelf or showroom floor.

Now:

Interactive video, 360 views, gestural controls are just a few of the options bringing products alive on customers' multiple screens. Shopping has introduced 360-degree imagery to some product sets to give shoppers a better sense of what an item really looks like.

Modes of payment in online shopping

Online shoppers commonly use a credit card or a PayPal account in order to make payments. However, some systems enable users to create accounts and pay by alternative means, such as:

- Billing to mobile phones and landlines
- Cash on delivery (C.O.D.)
- Cheque
- Debit card
- Direct debit in some countries
- Wire transfer/delivery on payment
- Invoice, especially popular in some markets/countries, such as Switzerland

Some online shops will not accept international credit cards. Some require both the purchaser's billing and shipping address to be in the same country as the online shop's base of operation. Other online shops allow customers from any country to send gifts anywhere.

Consumer needs and expectations for online shopping

- **Convenience**

Online stores are usually available 24 hours a day, and many consumers have Internet access both at work and at home. Other establishments such as internet cafes and schools provide internet access as well. In contrast, visiting a conventional retail store requires travel and must take place during business hours.

- **Information and reviews**

Online stores must describe products for sale with text, photos, and multimedia files, whereas in a physical retail store, the actual product and the manufacturer's packaging will be available for direct inspection (which might involve a test drive, fitting, or other experimentation).

- **Price and selection**

One advantage of shopping online is being able to quickly seek out deals for items or services provided by many different vendors (though some local search engines do exist to help consumers locate products for sale in nearby stores). Search engines, online price comparison services and discovery shopping engines can be used to look up sellers of a particular product or service.

- **Fraud and security concerns**

Given the lack of ability to inspect merchandise before purchase, consumers are at higher risk of fraud than face-to-face transactions. Merchants also risk fraudulent purchases using stolen credit cards or fraudulent repudiation of the online purchase. However, merchants face less risk from physical theft by using a warehouse instead of a retail storefront.

Computer security has thus become a major concern for merchants and e-commerce service providers, who deploy countermeasures such as firewalls and anti-virus software to protect their networks. Phishing is another danger, where consumers are fooled into thinking they are dealing with a reputable retailer, when they have actually been manipulated into feeding private information to a system operated by a malicious party.

Recent trends: - Here are some of the statistics from the AC Nielsen Global Online Shopping Report 2010

- Currently more 23% Indians surveyed don't buy any goods online
- 8 out of 10 Indians surveyed plan to shop online in the next twelve months and more than a quarter indicate that they spend towards 11% of their monthly expenditure on online purchases
- 71% Indians trust recommendations from their family, 64% from friends and 29% from product reviews while making an online purchase decision
- More than 50% of Indians utilize social media sites to help them make purchase decisions
- Books (41%), Airline tickets / reservations (40%) and electronic equipments (36%) dominate the online purchase basket.

Data interpretations:-

1. Why do indians shop online?

Reasons	No. of Respondents.
comfortable to shop	68
more variety	78
discounts	45



Fig-1.1

Sources: Primary Probe

The above fig-1.1 shows that 36% respondents prefer online shopping because of comfortability while 40% says that it has more variety and 24% respondents buy through online due to discounts.

2. How much shopping is done online?

How much shopping is done online	
Up to 25 percent	92
25 to 50 percent	48
50 to 75 percent	36
More than 75 percent	15
	191

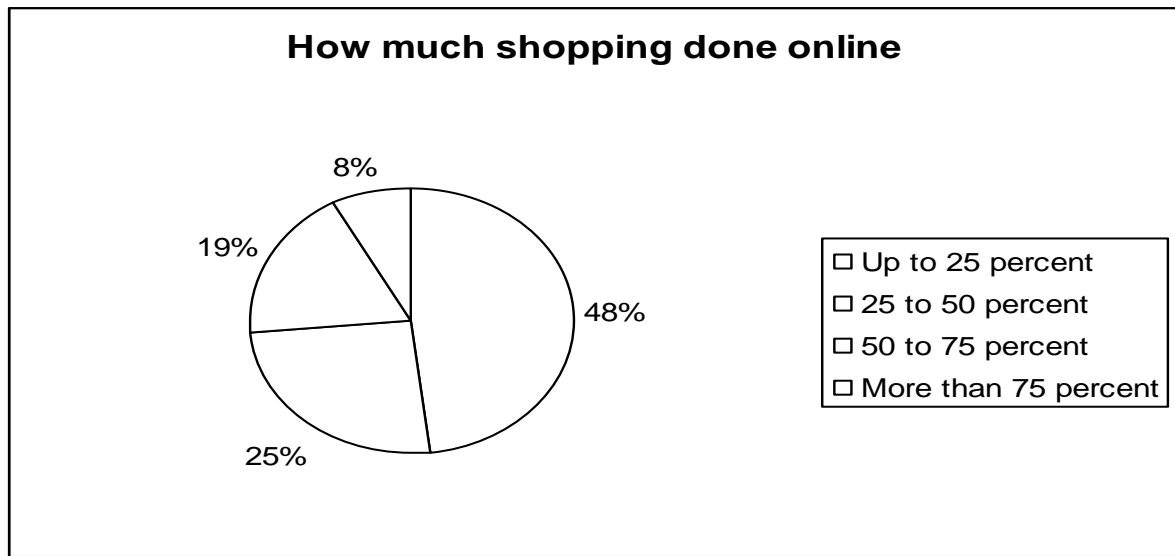


Fig-1.2

Sources: Primary Probe

The above fig-1.2 shows that only 8% respondents who do their more than 75% shopping online. 48% respondents do only half part of their shopping online. There are 19% respondents who buy products by online from 50% to 75% and rest respondents do 25% to 50% shopping online.

3. Coupons and deals effect online shopping.

Coupons and deals effect online shopping	
Strongly Agree	57
Agree	64
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	18
Disagree	35
Strongly Disagree	17
	191

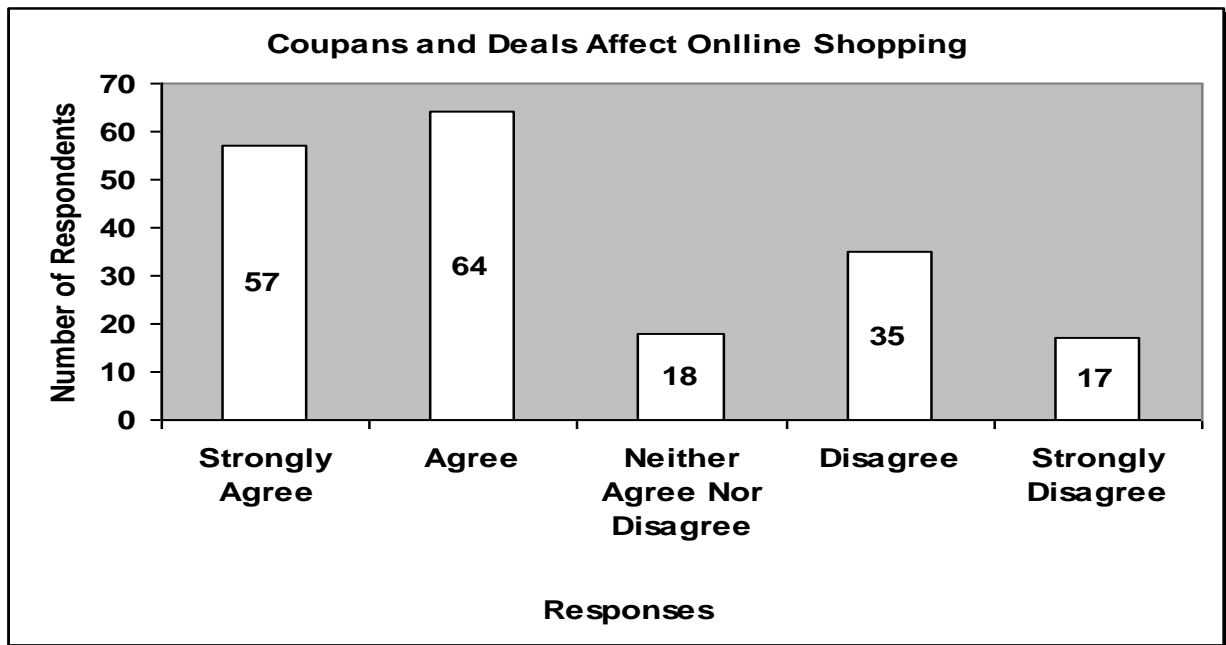


Fig-1.3

Sources: Primary Probe

Besides convenience, coupons and deals are the most important factors for an online shopper in India. It reveals that 57 respondents out of 191 strongly agree that they buy online due to Coupons and deals. 64 respondents agree that coupons & deals effect online shopping. 18 respondents are neutral. 35 respondents disagree and 17 strongly disagree and say that coupons & deals do not effect online shopping.

4. Consumer's preferences towards the purchase of online shopping goods.

Consumer's preferences towards the purchase of online shopping goods.		Respondents
Books	33	
Apparel and Accessories	43	
Electronics	52	
Beauty Products	22	
Home & Furnishing products	18	
Baby Products	12	
Health Care	11	
	191	

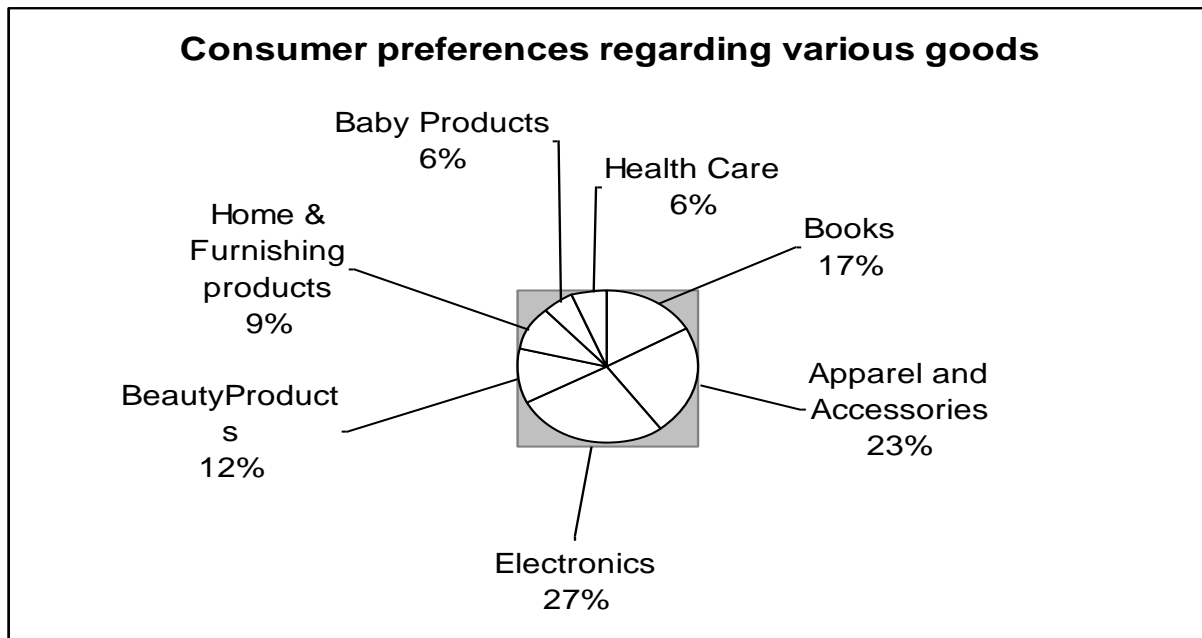


Fig-1.4

Sources: Primary Probe Above figure shows the distribution of Online Retail Shopper in India. We can see that most of the respondents around 27% go for Electronics and 23% apparel and accessories buy online. Books and beauty products occupy 3rd and 4th ranks. Respondents are least interested in buying Baby products & health care products through online.

5. Security / fraud concerns

People feel safe while buying online.	
Strongly Agree	46
Agree	74
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	30
Disagree	28
Strongly Disagree	13
	191

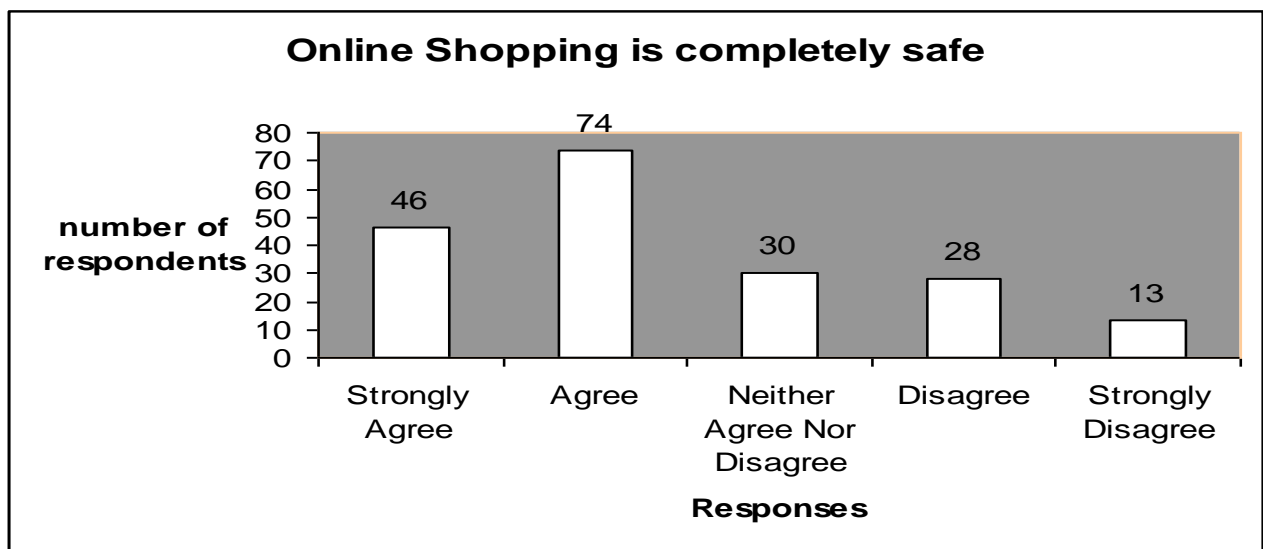


Fig-1.5

Sources: Primary Probe

The above fig-1.5 shows that 74 respondents out of 191 agree that online shopping as a safe mode of shopping while 46 strongly agree and 30 respondents neither agree nor disagree for safety concern rest 28 respondents are disagreed.

Conclusion:- Online shopping in India is now dependent on the eagerness of Indian retailers to think out of the box, build on their existing strengths and becoming truly multi-channel retailers. The challenge is to make customers look beyond the informative and functional online activity and direct them towards online shopping for travel, entertainment, lifestyle and food and grocery. This paper is an attempt to retrospect the past, introspect the present and prospect for the future of E-Retailing in India.

By the medium of this paper I am trying to discuss the nature of online shopping, what all problems it is facing and what measures can be taken to resolve them so that it can become a great success. Finally, it is important to conclude, with respect to the study's limitations. Firstly, by its very nature, paper has to be limited in its ambitions: it tends to pose more respondents. There responses are ambiguous in nature that cannot be easily concluded. Moreover, a review is typically limited by the number of articles that it can realistically accommodate: in attempting to critique and summaries the most common and compelling predictions and themes, to have emerged from the Internet retailing revolution, thus far, it is inevitable that we will have missed some important articles and ideas that might have made a useful contribution to this paper. Consequently, rather than attempting to provide definitive answers and conclusions, this study has sought to highlight key issues and raise questions, that should hopefully provide an important point of departure for future studies.

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The Latest Changes in Leadership: A Comprehensive Analysis

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Abstract: This chapter explores the latest changes in leadership and their implications in today's dynamic business environment. The study examines various factors influencing leadership styles and practices, including technological advancements, evolving workforce demographics, and the shift towards remote work. Through a thorough literature review, the chapter provides insights into the emerging trends and explores the impacts of these changes on organizations and leaders. The research methodology employed in this study involves a combination of qualitative and quantitative approaches, including surveys and interviews with leaders from diverse industries. The findings and discussions shed light on the evolving role of leaders, the challenges they face, and the strategies they employ to adapt. The interpretation of the results underscores the importance of embracing change and developing agile leadership capabilities. Ultimately, the chapter concludes by emphasizing the need for leaders to continually evolve and adapt in order to effectively navigate the dynamic landscape of today's organizations.

Keywords: Leadership, changes, technological advancements, workforce demographics, remote work, emerging trends, impacts, challenges, agile leadership, adaptation.

Introduction: Leadership is a dynamic and evolving concept that constantly adapts to the changing landscape of business environments. In recent years, several factors have triggered significant shifts in leadership styles and practices. Technological advancements, such as artificial intelligence and automation, have reshaped traditional organizational structures and transformed the way work is done. Furthermore, the workforce itself has undergone notable changes in terms of demographics, with the rise of millennial and Gen Z employees who have distinct expectations and values. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the adoption of remote work, presenting both opportunities and challenges for leaders.

Literature Review: The literature review explores the latest research and scholarly work on changes in leadership. It examines studies that investigate the impact of technological advancements on leadership, highlighting the need for leaders to possess digital literacy and the ability to leverage technology effectively. Furthermore, the review explores the changing demographics of the workforce and the implications for leadership, emphasizing the importance of diversity and inclusivity in leadership practices.

The literature also delves into the challenges and opportunities associated with remote work, including the need for leaders to foster virtual collaboration, maintain employee engagement, and ensure work-life balance.

Research Methodology: To investigate the latest changes in leadership, a mixed-methods research approach was adopted. Surveys were conducted with a diverse group of leaders across industries to gather quantitative data on their experiences and perceptions of the changing leadership landscape. In-depth interviews were also conducted to capture qualitative insights and provide a deeper understanding of the challenges and strategies employed by leaders. The data collected through these methods were analyzed using both statistical analysis and thematic coding to identify emerging patterns and themes.

Findings and Discussions: The findings highlight several key trends and challenges in the realm of leadership. The impact of technology on leadership is evident, with leaders needing to adapt to digital tools, embrace data-driven decision-making, and navigate the complexities of managing virtual teams. The research also reveals the significance of diverse and inclusive leadership, as leaders are increasingly expected to create an environment that fosters collaboration and innovation. Additionally, the study uncovers the challenges associated with remote work, including maintaining team cohesion, ensuring employee well-being, and managing work-life integration.

Interpretation: The interpretation of the findings underscores the need for leaders to embrace change and develop agile leadership capabilities. The evolving business landscape demands leaders who can navigate uncertainty, inspire remote teams, and leverage technology to drive innovation. It also emphasizes the importance of continuous learning and development to stay ahead of emerging trends and best practices. Moreover, the interpretation highlights the role of organizational culture in supporting and promoting effective leadership in times of change.

Conclusion: In conclusion, the latest changes in leadership are a direct response to the evolving business environment. Technological advancements, shifting workforce demographics, and the rise of remote work have necessitated a transformation in leadership styles and practices. Leaders must adapt by acquiring digital skills, embracing diversity and inclusivity, and effectively managing remote teams. By doing so, they can navigate the challenges presented by these changes and seize the opportunities for organizational success. It is imperative for leaders to continually evolve and adapt, as the landscape of leadership will continue to evolve alongside the dynamic nature of the business world.

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Role of artificial intelligence (ai) and its impact on recruitment and selection

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Abstract

This paper set out to consider artificial intelligence (AI) and the impact its growing influence is having within the recruitment industry. This research considered how AI is influencing employers and 5 candidates, specifically throughout the initial stages of the recruitment process. With limited academic research conducted to date, AI has been accepted, by practising recruitment specialists, as being “game-changing for HR” (May, 2016, p.6). The overarching aim of this research was to make recommendations on how recruitment processes could be changed, for the better, in recognition of the introduction of AI technology. Technology has always held an influence within the recruitment scene, reducing costs and delivering increased effectiveness in recruiting candidates (Okolie, 2017, Singh, 2003). However, the US Department of Labor suggested recruitment, as it stands, is only 16% effective (ClearFit, n.d.). If this is the case, the introduction of AI provides the opportunity to achieve significant improvements. According to Bullhorn (2018), these early improvements are likely to affect the sourcing and screening of candidates, the initial stages of the recruitment process. Due to the lack of academic literature regarding AI’s influence on the recruitment industry, an integrative literature review was conducted to develop new perspectives on the topic (Saunders et al., 2016). As a result both scholarly literature and professional sources were used. To develop a structured analysis of these sources, thematic analysis was used (Braun et al., 2006). These themes were taken from arguments made in the literature surrounding the impact and influence that AI could have in recruitment.

Key word- Sourcing, Recruitment, Technology, AI.

Introduction-

This paper looks at Artificial Intelligence and the growing influence it is set to play in the recruitment industry. Specifically considering how the introduction of Artificial Intelligence will influence employers and candidates for roles throughout the recruitment process. This considers the initial job posting through to candidate search and finally interviewing and evaluation of candidates. The purpose of this is to establish the recommended approach for recruiters, both in-house and consultancies, to make hires following the inevitable changes in the industry that will be seen. To answer this question, interviews have been conducted with experts in the industry, contrasting these with the opinions of employees and job seekers and finally analysing the trends of an observation.

These primary research findings have been contrasted with the existing literature on the topic. As a result this paper concludes that there is a new recommended process of recruitment to be followed. This process will require significant structural and technological change in recruitment processes but will enable teams to maximise the efficiency and effectiveness of their talent acquisition strategies. As a result the standardised process of recruiting for roles will be flipped, from a trial and error process, to a test for success model. The phenomenon of IT adoption has kept researchers busy so far, and its diffusion and impact on the Human Resource Management (HRM) function has been one of the major HRM research areas. IT innovations are among the key factors which played a major role in the transformation of HRM. Early Human Resource Information Systems (HRIS) and Electronic HR (e-HR) have enabled organisations to digitally process, store, and disseminate HR-related information among the internal and external stakeholders of an organisation. However, the rapidly growing reliance on Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based solutions, interconnectivity, and automation in processing HR tasks such as talent acquisition has become visible, and is swiftly developing. Moreover, the objective of this study is to provide valuable input and a better understanding of AI-based HR solutions development and adoption for managers, organisations, and policymakers. Accordingly, a conceptual framework was developed, grounded on the Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology (UTAUT) and Ulrich's model of HR roles.

Review of Literature

The recruitment industry has a significant issue, the traditional hiring process where a CV and interviews are used have been found to be ineffective. A study by the US Department of Labor and Gallup suggested this process is only 16% effective in finding the right candidate for a role (ClearFit, n.d.). To counter this concern, a large number of companies have incorporated pre-employment assessments which ask candidates a set list of questions. These are reliable (consistent, even when repeated) and valid (relevant to job performance) however they are incredibly time consuming for applicants and result in lower completion rates due to the effort of completing them (HireVue, 2018). As a result companies are losing out on some of the top talent in the market. This explains why Talent Acquisition has been highlighted as the third most important challenge companies face with 81% of the 10,000+ respondents suggesting it was 'important' or 'very important' (Schwartz et al, 2017). The same paper by Schwartz et al (2017) suggests that recruitment stands at the early stages of a technology based revolution. This is backed up by LinkedIn's research on the Global Recruitment Trends (2017) which suggests the largest challenge for recruiters is the 'competition for talent' (57%). Technology has continuously enabled recruiters to process more candidates and deliver a higher quality, more cost effective service to both job seekers and employers alike (Okolie, 2017 & Singh, 2003) and AI is expected to be no different (Tandon, 2017 & Raviprolu, 2017). The acknowledgement that AI is "game-changing for HR" (May, 2016, p.6) suggests it could have both positive and negative implications.

The last shift in the recruitment industry was the development of the world wide web and opened up the ability of global e-recruitment strategies increasing applications for roles universally (Okolie et al, 2017). Companies began accessing a wide range of data points from more personal sources such as social media which was not always well received by candidates who wanted to keep their work and personal life separate (Quast, 2012). The concept of AI has been present for decades however only more recently the concept has become a reality. The likes of IBM's Watson have previously shown the public the potential of AI and its cognitive capabilities rivalling that of humans (IBM, 2016). Technologies surrounding AI have now reached the phase of high-speed development, impacting numerous industries with the ability to support and potentially replace a number of both manual and cognitive focused roles (Campolo et al, 2017). They enable firms to remove the tasks that are repetitive, tedious and prone to error due to ambiguity (Singh, 2017). None of this would be possible without data, between 2013 and 2015 more data was produced than the rest of the human race combined (Marr, 2015). AI has many sub-categories, Machine Learning (ML) being one, this process takes sets of information and draws conclusions from patterns of previous behaviour. More recently ML has been superseded by Deep Learning which offers untrained insight therefore spotting patterns without necessarily receiving guidance from a human programmer (LeCun et al, 2015). This provides the opportunity to discover new and exciting options and methods in a wide variety of tasks and decision making processes. This explains why Matt Fischer, CTO at Bullhorn suggests a number of repetitive, and now more notably, non-repetitive tasks within the recruitment industry such as sourcing and screening candidates are predicted to be automated in the next few years (Bullhorn, 2018).

Theoretical implication:

Although online recruitment has eased the application process and made job applications relatively easier, the recruitment process consists of several other steps including screening and interviewing the candidates. While the search engines gain efficiency in finding the passive candidates, they overlook the fact that the candidate might or might not be interested in switching. Moreover the search engines designed for finding the candidates are mostly focused on external candidates. This tendency can cause the internal candidates to feel undervalued. Some of the researchers suggest that being valued at the workplace strengthens an employee's psychological contract with the organization. AI can build on the organizational structure by learning the candidate preference and company culture. If the system becomes cognizant of individual preferences inside any organization then it can provide the candidates with a better choice of working experiences adjusting to each individual's personal nuances. On the contrary if the system has access to critical personal data in a colossal amount it can lean towards micromanagement.

For the initial process of hiring and training the candidate's personalized preferences can help the organization be aware about their learning methods and help them gain insight about the training and development structures in a better way. Implementation of AI in an organization's pedagogical structure can also be applicable for the remote workers and employees with learning disabilities. AI paired with VR and advanced learning tools can boost productivity and help the organization reduce training costs in terms of travel expenses and time management. These steps can further curtail the miscellaneous expenses in the long run. The pedagogical value provided by the organization can boost the company's psychological contact with the employee helping the organization in managing the retention rates. Most importantly there can be candidates from different countries or continents that have time sensitive residency permits. The feedback that almost takes a month in case of most of the Irish Conglomerates due to various background checks and passport verifications can result in stress and anxiety for the candidate. If the feedback results in rejection then it can get even worse. While discussing bulk hiring drives the companies should also be aware of the spoofing and phishing as there has been substantial research on spoofing and phishing. EU e-governance on the other hand argues in support of the single digital market stating that it would boost ease of access ,open opportunities for cross-border activities with the help of e-signature making the business transactions more efficient , fast and productive. This same principle can be applied for cross border hiring with the help of AI implementation in the HR functionality that will help save a lot of time verifying the background of foreign nationals.

Specifically looking at the Irish market the e-recruitment seems to be a popular medium of selection and screening candidates after the job application is posted online.

Globally, the results implementation of AI in recruitment functions in different MNCs across different locations have yielded positive benefits in terms of cost saving and fast feedback responses and accurate screening procedures. As many of the MNC's are aware of the ethical considerations of the privacy of the data subject they are focusing on investing in building transparent AI that will be free of bias and would deliver balanced outputs. Since Irish SMEs MNCs and other small to large scale organisations take a lot of time in manual screening and background verification it stretches the tenure of unemployment for a candidate who is looking for a job and creates a long waiting period for the employees who want to switch. Bringing AI into the scenario not only increases the chance to efficiently search for candidates for a given criteria but also will help speed up the response time. This saved time can help the organisation search for a few more potential candidates who can be fit for the job. Recruitment market could benefit from the cost effective and real time operating results provided by AI as it can lower the time gap between candidate application and feedback presentation. In the global scenario IT companies are implementing AI into routine HR activities like CV screening and sorting the preferred candidate profile which takes a lot of human hours to process the data and derive a conclusion. This cost has been effectively reduced by Companies like Lo-real and LinkedIN talent solution.

During the bulk hiring drives if AI is implemented into the candidate screening process it can reduce hiring and rehiring cost drastically. In the Irish market scenario the currently multinational companies are using Application Tracking System. As per e-PAC Ireland's paper 20% of the big MNC S were considering the option of implementing ATS . Online testing is also a popular method of judging a candidate on their cognitive abilities , judgement skills and personality tests . Innovations are ideas that propose a solution to an identified scope of improvement and translating the results into profitable outcomes.

Risks, Bias and Inclusion Another concern is Bias and Inclusion, existing literature has painted a positive future of AI eliminating unconscious bias (Wishkirchen et al, 2017 & Randstad, 2018 & Poitevin et al, 2017) however AI is growing in capability to not only to consider a candidates intelligence but more social factors to establish role fit and has inadvertently created new diversity issues (Bradshaw & the roundtable discussion). Furthermore technically advanced processes risk discriminating against older generations who find online processes uncomfortable (Maguire). Data sets, as mentioned above, play a major part in this issue, but as Firth and West point to, the resulting cultural streamlining is very dangerous. Not only because it creates a diversity issue but because a companies culture is vital in a growingly competitive labor market as well as company performance. 79% of respondents to the candidate survey suggested culture was important to them, reaffirming this point. The survey pointed towards a negative connotation of company culture if an application process is automated, thus suggesting recruiters could lose out on talent in the industry, moreover some candidates feel an automated process would limit their ability to communicate. This once again comes back to context being vital for the candidate (Lee).

Conclusion

Given the fact that AI can visibly improve the recruitment process many organisations are avouching for the development and marketing of AI. However organisations will have to ensure that they focus on the issues regarding slow feedback, selection biases and technological problems. Otherwise candidates will lose the motivation to continue with the job application jeopardizing the quality of talented job applicants .(Van Esch, Black and Ferolie, 2019). The reasons can vary from the fear of privacy breach to inadequate data handling and many other but some researchers are confident that the use of AI should boost the likelihood of a candidate to complete a job application if the organization is transparent about the usage of AI .According to this research the implementation is that the companies wouldn't have to spend money to maintain confidentiality regarding the usage of AI (Van Esch, Black and Ferolie, 2019) 75 The most positive argument in terms of implementing AI in recruitment mechanisms is to save money and receive the real-time outcome with near hundred percent accuracy. This can mean that both candidates and the organisations can benefit from the fast screening process which will allow the HR to know the candidate in a better way as the validation and criteria authentication would already be completed by the AI before the final screening process.

Research on the theories of face to face communication as opposed to online communication shed light on the theory of interaction wherein factors like coordination, rapport building, information exchange and social contagion are the indicators of the difference between online and face to face communication (Thompson and Nadler, 2002). Apart from recruitment retention should also be considered as a key point while searching for top performing talents in bulk hire. Some of the cases show the unproductivity measures of the employees that affect the organization and for which some of the organisations have to keep track of what employees do in their work hours. As per American Management Association's paper, 77% of US companies consistently monitor their employees' email, Internet usage and computer files (American Management Association, 2001)

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Social Media Presence for Companies: Maximizing Engagement and Impact

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Abstract: This chapter explores the significance of social media presence for companies in the contemporary digital landscape. It examines the ways in which companies can leverage social media platforms to enhance their brand image, engage with their target audience, and drive business growth. The chapter encompasses a comprehensive literature review, an in-depth discussion of research methodology, and the presentation and interpretation of findings. The study emphasizes the importance of developing an effective social media strategy and provides practical insights for companies seeking to optimize their social media presence.

Keywords: social media, companies, engagement, impact, brand image, target audience, business growth, social media strategy

Introduction: Social media has revolutionized the way companies interact with their customers and stakeholders. In today's digital age, establishing a strong social media presence is vital for companies to enhance their brand image, engage with their target audience, and achieve sustainable growth. This chapter delves into the multifaceted aspects of social media presence for companies, aiming to provide a comprehensive understanding of its benefits, challenges, and effective strategies for implementation.

Literature Review: The literature review examines a wide range of scholarly articles, research papers, and industry reports that explore the influence and impact of social media on companies. Key topics covered include the role of social media in brand building, customer engagement, reputation management, crisis communication, and market intelligence. The review also highlights best practices and case studies of successful social media campaigns to draw insights and lessons for companies.

Research Methodology: To gain empirical insights into the topic, a mixed-methods research approach was adopted. The study utilized a combination of qualitative methods such as interviews and focus groups with industry experts and social media managers, as well as quantitative methods including surveys and data analysis. The research sample comprised companies from diverse industries, ensuring a comprehensive representation of the business landscape.

Findings and Discussions: The findings section presents the key results obtained from the research. It explores the various dimensions of social media presence, including content strategy, platform selection, audience targeting, and engagement metrics. The chapter discusses the challenges faced by companies in managing their social media presence and identifies the factors that contribute to successful social media campaigns. It also sheds light on the evolving trends in social media marketing and the importance of staying agile and adapting to changing user preferences.

Interpretation: The interpretation section provides a deeper analysis of the findings, aiming to uncover the underlying patterns and relationships between different variables. It explores the implications of the study's results and offers practical recommendations for companies seeking to optimize their social media presence. The interpretation also highlights the potential risks associated with social media engagement and emphasizes the need for companies to develop a robust monitoring and crisis management framework.

Conclusion: In conclusion, this chapter underscores the indispensability of a strong social media presence for companies in today's digital landscape. It emphasizes the importance of strategic planning, content curation, and audience engagement in building brand equity and achieving business objectives. The chapter also highlights the dynamic nature of social media platforms and encourages companies to continuously monitor and adapt their strategies to stay relevant and impactful. By leveraging social media effectively, companies can establish a competitive edge, foster customer loyalty, and drive sustainable growth in the digital age.

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Morality and the Market: Exploring the Interplay between Ethics and Economic Systems

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Abstract: This research paper explores the complex relationship between morality and the market, examining how ethical considerations intersect with economic systems. The paper delves into the moral implications of market transactions, the role of businesses in addressing ethical challenges, and the impact of market forces on societal values. By analyzing various theoretical perspectives and empirical studies, this paper aims to shed light on the intricate interplay between morality and the market and its implications for individuals, businesses, and society as a whole.

Title: The Relationship Between Morality and the Market: Exploring Ethics in Economic Systems

Introduction: The relationship between morality and the market is a complex and intriguing subject that raises important questions about the ethical dimensions of economic systems. As individuals engage in market transactions and businesses operate within market structures, moral considerations come into play. This essay aims to explore the intricate relationship between morality and the market, examining how ethical principles influence economic decisions and the impact of market forces on societal values. By analyzing key aspects of this relationship, we can gain a deeper understanding of the ethical challenges and responsibilities that arise within economic systems.

Body:

1. Morality as the Foundation of Economic Systems:

- Morality as a guiding framework: Morality provides the foundational principles that shape economic systems, such as fairness, justice, and respect for human dignity.
- The role of ethical values: Ethical values inform market interactions, ensuring that economic activities align with societal norms and contribute to the common good.

2. Moral Implications of Market Transactions:

- Fairness and equity: Market transactions should uphold principles of fairness, ensuring that exchanges are mutually beneficial and based on equitable terms.
- Consumer rights and protection: Businesses have a moral obligation to provide safe and reliable products, and consumers have the right to accurate information and fair treatment.
- Environmental sustainability: Markets should incorporate ecological considerations and promote sustainable practices to protect the environment for future generations.

3. Ethical Challenges in Business Conduct:

- Corporate social responsibility: Businesses have a moral responsibility to consider the impact of their actions on stakeholders, including employees, customers, communities, and the environment.
- Ethical decision-making: Business leaders must navigate ethical dilemmas, balancing profitability with social and moral considerations.
- Corruption and unethical practices: The pursuit of profit should not compromise ethical standards, and measures should be in place to prevent corruption and unethical behavior.

4. Market Forces and Societal Values:

- Influence on cultural norms: Market forces can shape societal values, impacting cultural norms, attitudes, and behaviors.
- Consumerism and materialism: The market can foster a culture of consumerism and materialistic values, raising concerns about the prioritization of material possessions over well-being and social welfare.
- Inequality and social justice: The market can exacerbate income inequality, necessitating ethical considerations and interventions to address social justice issues.

Conclusion: The relationship between morality and the market is a dynamic and multifaceted one. Ethical principles form the foundation of economic systems, guiding market transactions and business conduct. The market, in turn, influences societal values and can present challenges to maintaining ethical standards. Recognizing and addressing these ethical dimensions is crucial for fostering a just and sustainable economic system. By promoting ethical conduct in the market and incorporating moral considerations into economic decision-making, we can strive for a more harmonious relationship between morality and the market, ultimately contributing to the well-being of individuals and society as a whole.

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The Importance of International Business Language: A Comprehensive Study

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Abstract: This chapter explores the significance of an effective international business language in the globalized economy. It highlights the role of language in facilitating communication and building relationships in international business transactions. The chapter investigates the impact of language barriers on cross-cultural business interactions and proposes strategies to overcome them. Through a comprehensive literature review and empirical research, this study provides insights into the use of language in international business and offers recommendations for organizations to enhance their communication effectiveness.

Keywords: international business language, language barriers, cross-cultural communication, globalization, communication effectiveness

Introduction: In today's interconnected and globalized world, effective communication is vital for successful international business operations. Language serves as a crucial tool for communication, allowing individuals and organizations to convey ideas, negotiate agreements, and build relationships. However, language barriers can pose significant challenges in cross-cultural business interactions, hindering understanding and impeding collaboration. This chapter aims to explore the importance of an international business language and its implications for global organizations.

Literature Review: The literature review focuses on studies that investigate the impact of language barriers on international business. It examines theories and frameworks related to cross-cultural communication and explores the challenges faced by organizations operating in diverse linguistic environments. The review also highlights the role of language in establishing trust, reducing misunderstandings, and fostering effective communication. Furthermore, it discusses the use of language training programs and technological solutions to mitigate language barriers in international business settings.

Research Methodology: To gain deeper insights into the use of language in international business, a mixed-methods research approach was employed. Firstly, a quantitative survey was conducted among employees of multinational corporations to assess the perceived impact of language barriers on their daily work. The survey also collected data on language training initiatives and the use of translation and interpretation services. Secondly, qualitative interviews were conducted with international business

professionals to explore their experiences, challenges, and strategies for overcoming language barriers.

Findings and Discussions: The findings from the quantitative survey revealed that language barriers significantly hindered effective communication in international business operations. Respondents identified misinterpretation of messages, cultural misunderstandings, and difficulties in negotiating and closing deals as common challenges. However, organizations that invested in language training programs and utilized translation services reported better communication outcomes. The qualitative interviews provided additional insights into the nuances of cross-cultural communication and shed light on specific strategies employed by successful international business professionals.

Interpretation: The interpretation of the findings underscores the critical role of an international business language in facilitating effective communication and achieving successful outcomes in global business transactions. It emphasizes the need for organizations to prioritize language training and implement appropriate communication strategies to overcome language barriers. The interpretation also highlights the significance of cultural awareness and sensitivity in navigating cross-cultural business environments.

Conclusion: In conclusion, this chapter emphasizes the importance of an international business language in the globalized economy. Language barriers can hinder effective communication, leading to misunderstandings, failed negotiations, and damaged business relationships. To mitigate these challenges, organizations should invest in language training programs, leverage translation and interpretation services, and foster a culture of cross-cultural sensitivity. By adopting these measures, organizations can enhance their communication effectiveness, establish stronger global partnerships, and gain a competitive edge in the international business arena.

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The Role of Graphics Design: From Branding to Emerging Trends

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Abstract

The field of graphics design encompasses various aspects, from establishing brand identity to incorporating emerging trends. This dynamic field relies on creative visuals, technical skills, and effective communication principles. Graphics design finds applications in branding, advertising, publication design, web design, packaging design, environmental design, and user interface/experience design. It utilizes tools and technologies such as graphic design software, typography tools, color management systems, digital drawing tablets, and prototyping tools. Emerging trends in graphics design include minimalism, responsive/mobile design, motion graphics/animation, sustainable design, augmented reality/virtual reality, handcrafted designs, data visualization, customization/personalization, typography/bold lettering, and dark mode/high-contrast designs. Ethics play a crucial role in graphics design, emphasizing honesty, integrity, respect for intellectual property, inclusivity, diversity, and cultural sensitivity. By embracing emerging trends, utilizing relevant tools and technologies, and upholding ethical standards, designers can create impactful and visually compelling designs that resonate with their target audience.

Keywords :- Graphics design, Branding, Emerging trends, Tools and technologies, Ethics

2.4.1 Branding and Identity: Graphics design plays a critical role in establishing and communicating a brand's identity. Logos, packaging, marketing materials, and visual assets help create a distinct and memorable brand image.

2.4.2 Advertising and Marketing: Graphics design is essential in creating eye-catching and persuasive advertisements and marketing campaigns. It involves designing print and digital materials such as banners, posters, social media graphics, and web advertisements to effectively convey messages and attract target audiences.

2.4.3 Publication Design: Graphics design is instrumental in the layout and visual presentation of publications such as books, magazines, newspapers, and brochures. It involves the arrangement of text, images, and other visual elements to create engaging and readable content.

2.4.4 Web Design: Graphics design is integral to web design, where it combines aesthetics and functionality to create visually appealing and user-friendly websites. It

involves the design of layouts, navigation menus, icons, buttons, and other graphical elements for a cohesive and intuitive web experience.

2.4.5 Packaging Design: Graphics design plays a vital role in packaging design, as it helps create visually appealing and informative packaging for products. It involves designing labels, logos, and packaging materials that not only protect the product but also communicate its value and appeal to consumers.

2.4.6 Environmental Design: Graphics design extends to environmental design, where it encompasses the visual elements within physical spaces. It includes signage, wayfinding systems, exhibition displays, and interior graphics to enhance the user experience and convey information effectively.

2.4.7 User Interface (UI) and User Experience (UX) Design: Graphics design plays a significant role in UI and UX design, focusing on creating visually appealing and intuitive interfaces for digital products and applications. It involves designing icons, buttons, layouts, and visual elements that enhance the usability and overall user experience.

2.5 Tools and Technologies in Graphics Design

Graphics design utilizes various tools and technologies to create and manipulate visual elements. Some key tools and technologies include:

2.5.1 Graphic Design Software: Designers use software such as Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign to create, edit, and manipulate digital images and graphics.

2.5.2 Typography Tools: Typography tools, including font libraries and type design software, aid in the selection and arrangement of typefaces.

2.5.3 Color Tools: Color tools, such as color palettes, color pickers, and color harmony generators, assist in selecting and managing color schemes.

2.5.4 Digital Drawing Tablets: Digital drawing tablets provide a natural and precise way to create digital illustrations and designs, allowing designers to work with more fluidity and control.

2.5.5 Prototyping and Wireframing Tools: Prototyping and wireframing tools help designers create interactive mock-ups and prototypes to visualize and test the functionality of designs.

2.6 Emerging Trends in Graphics Design

The field of graphics design is constantly evolving, driven by technological advancements and changing design trends. Some emerging trends include:

2.6.1 Minimalism and Simplification: Minimalistic designs with clean lines, ample white space, and simplified visuals are gaining popularity for their clarity and focus on essential elements.

2.6.2 Responsive and Mobile Design: With the rise of mobile devices, designing for responsive and mobile interfaces has become crucial. Designers are adapting their approaches to ensure seamless experiences across different screen sizes.

2.6.3 Motion Graphics and Animation: Integrating motion graphics and animation in design adds interactivity, engagement, and storytelling elements, making designs more dynamic and captivating.

2.6.4 Sustainable Design: Sustainability is a growing concern, and designers are incorporating eco-friendly practices and materials in their designs, emphasizing sustainability and environmental consciousness. This includes using recycled or renewable materials, minimizing waste, reducing energy consumption, and designing with a focus on longevity and recyclability.

2.6.5 Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR): AR and VR technologies are increasingly being integrated into graphics design to create immersive and interactive experiences. Designers are exploring new ways to blend digital and physical elements, allowing users to engage with designs in virtual environments.

2.6.6 Authentic and Handcrafted Designs: In contrast to digital precision, there is a rising demand for designs that have a handcrafted and authentic feel. Hand-drawn illustrations, textured elements, and organic shapes bring a personal touch and uniqueness to designs.

2.6.7 Data Visualization: With the abundance of data available, designers are focusing on creating visually compelling and understandable representations of complex information. Data visualization techniques help simplify and communicate data-driven stories effectively.

2.6.8 Customization and Personalization: Designers are incorporating customization and personalization features in their designs to cater to individual preferences and enhance user experiences. This includes personalized user interfaces, tailored content, and interactive design elements.

2.6.9 Typography and Bold Lettering: Typography continues to play a significant role in graphic design, with bold and expressive lettering making a strong impact. Unique and custom typefaces are being created to add personality and create memorable designs.

2.6.10 Dark Mode and High-Contrast Designs: Dark mode interfaces and high-contrast designs are gaining popularity due to their aesthetic appeal and potential energy savings on devices with OLED displays. These designs provide visual comfort and enhance readability in low-light environments.

2.7 Ethics in Graphics Design

Ethical considerations are crucial in graphics design. Designers should uphold principles such as honesty, integrity, and respect for intellectual property rights. It is essential to avoid plagiarism, unauthorized use of copyrighted materials, and misleading or deceptive design practices. Designers should also strive for inclusive and diverse representation in their work, considering cultural sensitivity and avoiding stereotypes.

In conclusion, graphics design is a dynamic field that combines artistic creativity, technical skills, and an understanding of visual communication principles. With a rich history and constant evolution, graphics design finds applications in various industries and contexts. By embracing emerging trends, utilizing relevant tools and technologies, and upholding ethical standards, designers can create visually compelling and effective designs that make a meaningful impact. Whether it's creating captivating branding for a business, designing visually stunning publications, or crafting user-friendly interfaces for digital products, graphics design has become an essential part of our visual culture. The field continues to evolve as technology advances and new design trends emerge. By embracing emerging trends, designers can stay at the forefront of the industry and create designs that resonate with their target audience. This includes keeping up with advancements in software, exploring new techniques in motion graphics and animation, and incorporating interactive elements such as augmented reality and virtual reality. Utilizing relevant tools and technologies is crucial for designers to streamline their workflow and bring their creative visions to life. Graphic design software, typography tools, color management systems, and digital drawing tablets are just a few examples of the tools that designers can leverage to enhance their design process and produce high-quality work. However, in the pursuit of creating visually compelling designs, it is important for designers to also uphold ethical standards. This includes respecting intellectual property rights, giving credit where it is due, and avoiding deceptive or misleading design practices. Designers should strive for authenticity, inclusivity, and cultural sensitivity in their work, ensuring that their designs resonate with a diverse audience and do not perpetuate stereotypes or harm. Ultimately, graphics design is about effectively communicating messages, evoking emotions, and creating meaningful connections through visual elements.

The Impact of COVID-19 on Marketing; Case Studies

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Abstract:

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on the field of marketing, presenting numerous challenges for businesses and altering consumer behavior in significant ways. This chapter explores the implications of the pandemic on marketing strategies and provides insights into effective approaches for businesses to navigate these uncertain times. The study employs a mixed-methods research methodology, combining qualitative and quantitative data analysis, to comprehensively examine the topic. Through case studies and recommendations, this chapter offers valuable guidance for marketers to adapt their strategies and thrive in a post-pandemic world. The findings contribute to the existing knowledge on crisis marketing and serve as a reference for future research in this domain.

Keywords: COVID-19, pandemic, marketing, consumer behavior, challenges, strategies, case studies, recommendations.

Introduction:

The COVID-19 pandemic has unleashed unprecedented disruptions across the globe, affecting various aspects of society and the economy. One area that has experienced significant repercussions is marketing. As businesses grapple with the challenges posed by the pandemic, marketing professionals have been forced to reevaluate their strategies and adapt to rapidly changing circumstances.

The outbreak of COVID-19 has led to dramatic shifts in consumer behavior and preferences. Lockdowns, social distancing measures, and economic uncertainties have profoundly impacted how individuals engage with brands, make purchasing decisions, and interact with marketing channels. These changes have compelled marketers to reassess their approaches and find innovative ways to connect with their target audience. The primary objective of this chapter is to analyze the impact of COVID-19 on marketing and shed light on effective strategies for businesses to navigate this challenging landscape. By examining the challenges faced by marketers, the evolving consumer behavior, and the strategies employed to mitigate the impact of the pandemic, this chapter aims to provide valuable insights into the changing dynamics of marketing in the face of crisis.

To achieve this objective, a mixed-methods research methodology is adopted. This approach combines qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis, allowing for a comprehensive exploration of the subject matter. Through interviews, focus groups, and surveys, both marketing professionals and consumers have contributed their perspectives, providing a well-rounded understanding of the impact of COVID-19 on marketing. The significance of this study lies in its ability to offer practical guidance to businesses and marketers during and after the pandemic. The findings have enabled marketers to gain insights into the shifting consumer landscape, identify emerging trends, and develop strategies that resonate with their target audience. Additionally, the study contributes to the existing body of knowledge on crisis marketing, offering a reference for future research in this field. The subsequent sections of this chapter delve into the research objectives, research questions, research methodology, effective policies, data collection, data analysis, findings and discussions, case studies, recommendations, conclusions, and references. By examining these aspects in detail, we aim to provide a comprehensive analysis of the impact of COVID-19 on marketing and equip businesses with the knowledge needed to adapt and thrive in a post-pandemic world.

Research Objectives:

To examine the challenges faced by marketers as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic: This objective aims to identify and analyze the specific challenges that marketing professionals have encountered due to the pandemic. It involves exploring issues such as disruptions in supply chains, changes in consumer behavior, budget constraints, and shifts in marketing channels. To analyze the changes in consumer behavior and preferences during the pandemic: This objective focuses on understanding how the COVID-19 pandemic has influenced consumer behavior. It involves examining changes in purchasing patterns, shifts in brand loyalty, alterations in media consumption habits, and the impact of safety and health considerations on consumer decision-making. To explore the strategies adopted by marketers to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on their marketing efforts: This objective aims to investigate the approaches and strategies that marketers have employed to adapt to the challenges posed by the pandemic. It involves examining tactics such as digital transformation, remote work, virtual events, revised messaging and communication strategies, and the utilization of new marketing channels.

Research Questions:

What are the main challenges faced by marketers as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic? This question aims to identify and analyze the specific challenges that marketing professionals have encountered due to the pandemic, such as disruptions in supply chains, changes in consumer behavior, budget constraints, and shifts in marketing channels. How has consumer behavior changed during the pandemic, and what are the implications for marketing strategies? This question focuses on understanding the changes in consumer behavior and preferences brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

It involves examining shifts in purchasing patterns, brand loyalty, media consumption habits, and the impact of safety and health considerations on consumer decision-making, and analyzing the implications for marketing strategies.

What strategies have marketers employed to navigate the challenges posed by the pandemic? This question explores the approaches and strategies that marketers have adopted to adapt to the challenges presented by the pandemic. It involves examining tactics such as digital transformation, remote work, virtual events, revised messaging and communication strategies, and the utilization of new marketing channels. What recommendations can be made to businesses for adapting their marketing approaches effectively in a post-pandemic world? This question aims to provide practical recommendations and insights for businesses to navigate the post-pandemic marketing landscape successfully. It involves synthesizing the findings from the research and identifying key strategies and practices that can help businesses adapt, innovate, and thrive in the new normal. By addressing these research questions, this study aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of the impact of COVID-19 on marketing and offer valuable insights and recommendations for businesses and marketers to respond effectively to the challenges and opportunities presented by the pandemic.

Significance of the Study:

The significance of this study lies in its contribution to the understanding of the impact of COVID-19 on the field of marketing. The study addresses the challenges faced by marketers, the changes in consumer behavior, and the strategies employed to navigate the pandemic, providing valuable insights and recommendations for businesses and marketers. **The significance of the study can be summarized as follows:**

Practical Guidance for Businesses: The findings of this study offer practical guidance for businesses in adapting their marketing approaches effectively during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. By understanding the challenges and shifts in consumer behavior, businesses can make informed decisions and implement strategies that resonate with their target audience.

Insight into Changing Consumer Behavior: The study provides valuable insights into the changes in consumer behavior and preferences brought about by the pandemic. Understanding these shifts is crucial for businesses to tailor their marketing strategies and offerings to meet the evolving needs and expectations of consumers.

Strategic Decision-Making: The research findings help marketers and business leaders make informed strategic decisions. By analyzing the strategies employed by marketers to navigate the challenges posed by the pandemic, businesses can gain insights into successful approaches and adapt them to their own contexts.

Contribution to Crisis Marketing Literature: This study contributes to the existing body of knowledge on crisis marketing. By examining the impact of COVID-19 on marketing and exploring the strategies employed, the study provides insights that can be used as a reference for future research and enhances our understanding of effective marketing practices during times of crisis.

Relevance for Future Preparedness: The study serves as a valuable resource for businesses to enhance their future preparedness. The insights gained from this research can help businesses anticipate and proactively respond to potential future disruptions, allowing them to build resilience and agility in their marketing strategies.

Research Methodology:

The research methodology for this study adopts a mixed-methods approach, combining qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis. This comprehensive methodology allows for a holistic understanding of the impact of COVID-19 on marketing. The research methodology encompasses the following steps:

Data Collection:

a. Qualitative Data: Qualitative data have been collected through interviews and focus groups. Interviews have been conducted with marketing professionals and industry experts to gain insights into the challenges faced and strategies adopted during the pandemic. Focus groups have been organized with consumers to explore changes in behavior and preferences. These qualitative data collection methods provide in-depth and nuanced perspectives on the impact of COVID-19 on marketing.

b. Quantitative Data: Quantitative data have been collected through surveys distributed to a diverse sample of consumers. The surveys have gathered quantitative data on consumer behavior, shopping habits, brand perceptions, and response to marketing efforts. This data has provided statistical insights and helped identify trends and patterns in consumer behavior during the pandemic.

Data Analysis:

a. Qualitative Data Analysis: Qualitative data collected from interviews and focus groups have been analyzed using thematic analysis techniques. This involves identifying common patterns, themes, and trends within the qualitative data. By organizing and categorizing the qualitative data, meaningful insights can be derived, highlighting the challenges faced by marketers and the strategies they have employed.

b. Quantitative Data Analysis: Quantitative data collected from surveys have been analyzed using statistical methods such as regression analysis, descriptive statistics, and correlation analysis. These statistical techniques have enabled the identification of significant relationships and patterns within the data, providing insights into consumer behavior and preferences during the pandemic.

Case Studies:

The chapter has include relevant case studies to illustrate real-world examples of how businesses have adapted their marketing strategies during the COVID-19 pandemic. These case studies has provide practical insights and serve as valuable references for businesses seeking to navigate the challenges posed by the pandemic.

Recommendations:

Based on the research findings and analysis, recommendations have been provided for businesses to adapt their marketing approaches effectively in a post-pandemic world. These recommendations have been derived from the insights gained through the data analysis and the examination of successful strategies employed by marketers.

By employing a mixed-methods research methodology, this study aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the impact of COVID-19 on marketing, combining qualitative insights with quantitative data to offer practical guidance and recommendations for businesses and marketers.

Possible Effective Policies:

During the COVID-19 pandemic, implementing effective policies is crucial for businesses to adapt and thrive in the changing marketing landscape. The following are some possible effective policies that businesses can consider:

Digital Transformation:

Businesses should prioritize digital transformation to enhance their online presence and engagement with customers. This includes developing or improving e-commerce platforms, implementing robust digital marketing strategies, leveraging social media platforms, and investing in technologies such as artificial intelligence and data analytics to enhance customer experiences and drive targeted marketing campaigns.

Flexible and Agile Strategies:

Businesses need to adopt flexible and agile marketing strategies to quickly respond to changing consumer behavior and market dynamics. This involves regularly monitoring and analyzing market trends, consumer insights, and competitive landscapes to make data-driven decisions and adjust marketing tactics accordingly. Implementing an agile approach allows businesses to pivot their strategies rapidly and effectively.

Enhanced Communication and Customer Engagement:

Clear and empathetic communication with customers is vital during times of crisis. Businesses should develop transparent communication strategies to keep customers informed about changes in products, services, safety protocols, and business operations. Leveraging various communication channels, such as email newsletters, social media, and personalized messaging, can foster strong customer relationships and maintain trust.

Social Responsibility and Purposeful Marketing:

Embracing corporate social responsibility and purposeful marketing can resonate with consumers during challenging times. Businesses can align their marketing efforts with social causes, support local communities, and communicate their commitment to health, safety, and sustainability.

Personalization and Customization:

Tailoring marketing messages and offerings to individual customer needs and preferences can be highly effective. Investing in customer data management systems and utilizing customer segmentation strategies enables businesses to deliver personalized experiences. Customization can also extend to product offerings, promotions, and loyalty programs, fostering stronger connections with customers and enhancing their overall satisfaction.

Collaboration and Partnerships:

Collaborating with complementary businesses and forming strategic partnerships can expand marketing reach and unlock new opportunities. Businesses can explore joint marketing campaigns, cross-promotion, co-branded initiatives, or collaborations with influencers or social media personalities to reach wider audiences and gain exposure to new customer segments.

Embracing Innovation and Experimentation:

Businesses should foster a culture of innovation and experimentation to stay ahead in the rapidly evolving marketing landscape. This involves testing new marketing channels, technologies, and strategies to identify emerging trends and opportunities. Embracing innovation allows businesses to adapt quickly to changing consumer behaviors and preferences.

These possible effective policies provide businesses with a starting point to navigate the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and position themselves for success in a post-pandemic world. It is crucial for businesses to assess their unique contexts, target markets, and resources to tailor and implement policies that align with their specific needs and goals.

Findings and Discussions:

The findings and discussions section presents the key findings derived from the data analysis and provides a comprehensive discussion of the implications of these findings. The section highlights the impact of COVID-19 on marketing and consumer behavior, addressing the research objectives and research questions. The following are the key findings and discussions:

Challenges Faced by Marketers:

The analysis of qualitative data revealed several challenges faced by marketers during the COVID-19 pandemic. These challenges included disruptions in supply chains, limited budgets, the need to quickly adapt to remote work environments, and changing consumer preferences and behaviors. Marketers faced the task of finding innovative ways to reach and engage with consumers amidst uncertainty and rapidly changing market dynamics.

Changes in Consumer Behavior:

The analysis of both qualitative and quantitative data indicated significant changes in consumer behavior during the pandemic.

Consumers prioritized safety and health considerations, leading to a surge in online shopping, increased preference for contactless payments, and a greater emphasis on trusted and local brands. There was also a shift in media consumption habits, with increased reliance on digital channels for information and entertainment.

Strategies Employed by Marketers:

Marketers adopted various strategies to navigate the challenges posed by the pandemic. The analysis of qualitative data revealed a strong focus on digital transformation, with increased investments in e-commerce platforms, social media marketing, and personalized messaging. Many marketers also emphasized the importance of empathy and transparency in their communication efforts, recognizing the need to address consumers' concerns and build trust.

Implications for Marketing Strategies:

The findings suggest that businesses need to adapt their marketing strategies to cater to the changing consumer behavior and preferences brought about by the pandemic. There is a need for increased digitalization, personalized experiences, and purpose-driven marketing. Marketers should prioritize online channels, leverage data-driven insights to understand consumer needs, and align their messaging with consumers' evolving values and concerns.

Case Studies:

Case Study 1: Nike's Digital Transformation during COVID-19

Nike, a global sportswear brand, implemented a successful digital transformation strategy during the COVID-19 pandemic. With retail stores closed and consumer behavior shifting towards online channels, Nike quickly adapted its marketing approach to meet the evolving needs of its customers. Nike leveraged its digital platforms and technology to create immersive and engaging experiences for consumers. The Nike Training Club app provided at-home workouts and fitness content, catering to the growing demand for virtual fitness during lockdowns. The app saw a significant increase in downloads and user engagement during the pandemic. The brand also focused on social media marketing, launching campaigns that encouraged consumers to stay active and maintain a healthy lifestyle while practicing social distancing. Nike's "Play Inside, Play for the World" campaign resonated with consumers and reinforced the brand's commitment to public health and safety. Furthermore, Nike emphasized community engagement by organizing virtual events and challenges that allowed customers to connect with each other and stay motivated. This community-focused approach not only fostered brand loyalty but also provided a sense of belonging during a time of isolation. Nike's digital transformation efforts during the pandemic not only enabled the brand to maintain its connection with consumers but also resulted in significant online sales growth. The case study highlights the importance of embracing digital platforms, leveraging technology, and focusing on community engagement to adapt to changing consumer behaviors.

Case Study 2: Airbnb's Shift to Local and Remote Experiences

The travel industry faced unprecedented challenges during the pandemic, with restrictions on travel and concerns about safety. Airbnb, a leading accommodation booking platform, responded to these challenges by shifting its marketing strategy towards local and remote experiences. Recognizing the increased interest in domestic travel and local experiences, Airbnb promoted its "Live Anywhere" campaign, encouraging users to explore their local surroundings and book stays closer to home. By highlighting unique and off-the-beaten-path destinations, Airbnb tapped into the desire for safe and personalized travel experiences. Additionally, Airbnb launched "Online Experiences," a platform that allowed hosts to offer virtual experiences to guests worldwide. From virtual cooking classes to guided tours, these experiences allowed users to engage with hosts remotely, providing a sense of connection and cultural exploration. By diversifying its offerings and focusing on local and remote experiences, Airbnb successfully adapted its marketing strategy to cater to changing consumer preferences and restrictions on international travel. The case study demonstrates the importance of flexibility, innovation, and catering to localized experiences during times of crisis.

Case Study 3: Coca-Cola's Purpose-Driven Marketing

Coca-Cola, a global beverage company, implemented purpose-driven marketing strategies during the pandemic to connect with consumers and reinforce its brand values. Understanding the need for empathy and community support, Coca-Cola launched the "Open Like Never Before" campaign, emphasizing the importance of unity and resilience during challenging times. Coca-Cola redirected its marketing efforts to support frontline workers, healthcare professionals, and local communities. The company partnered with various organizations to provide essential supplies, fund relief initiatives, and spread messages of gratitude and solidarity. These initiatives not only demonstrated corporate social responsibility but also enhanced the brand's reputation and resonated with consumers. Moreover, Coca-Cola adjusted its advertising messaging to reflect the changing consumer sentiment. The company focused on themes of togetherness, optimism, and hope, providing a sense of comfort and reassurance to consumers facing uncertainty. The case study highlights the effectiveness of purpose-driven marketing in creating meaningful connections with consumers during times of crisis. Coca-Cola's emphasis on social responsibility and aligning its messaging with the values and concerns of its audience allowed the brand to maintain relevance and build a stronger emotional connection with consumers. These case studies illustrate how businesses successfully adapted their marketing strategies during the COVID-19 pandemic. By embracing digital transformation, focusing on local and remote experiences, and implementing purpose-driven marketing, these brands effectively

Recommendations:

Based on the findings and discussions, the following recommendations are proposed for marketers and businesses to navigate the impact of COVID-19 on marketing:

Embrace Digital Transformation: The pandemic has accelerated the shift towards digital channels. Marketers should prioritize digital transformation and invest in robust online platforms, e-commerce capabilities, and data analytics. This has enable businesses to effectively engage with consumers in the digital space and adapt to changing consumer behaviors.

Personalize and Adapt Messaging: Consumer preferences and needs have evolved during the pandemic. Marketers should gather and analyze data to understand consumer behavior and preferences better. This information can be used to personalize messaging and tailor marketing efforts to meet individual customer needs. Flexibility and agility in adapting marketing messages to changing circumstances have been crucial.

Leverage Social Media and Influencer Marketing: Social media platforms have seen increased usage during the pandemic. Marketers should leverage these channels to engage with consumers, build brand awareness, and drive conversions. Collaborating with influencers who align with the brand's values and target audience can amplify reach and credibility.

Prioritize Health and Safety: Consumer safety and health have become paramount concerns. Marketers should communicate and reassure customers about the safety measures taken by the brand. Highlighting hygiene protocols, contactless experiences, and safe shopping environments can build trust and confidence in consumers.

Invest in Local and Sustainable Initiatives: The pandemic has led to a renewed focus on local communities and sustainability. Marketers should consider supporting local businesses, sourcing locally, and promoting eco-friendly practices. Aligning marketing efforts with social and environmental causes can enhance brand reputation and resonate with conscious consumers.

Foster Community Engagement: Creating a sense of community and connection has become crucial. Marketers should develop strategies to engage and interact with customers beyond transactional relationships. This can include organizing virtual events, hosting online communities, and facilitating user-generated content. Encouraging user participation and building a community around the brand can foster loyalty and advocacy.

Monitor and Adapt to Changing Consumer Behaviors: Consumer behaviors and preferences continue to evolve. Marketers should closely monitor and analyze these changes to stay ahead of trends. By understanding shifts in purchasing patterns, media consumption habits, and values, businesses can adapt their marketing strategies and offerings accordingly.

Enhance Data Analytics Capabilities: Data-driven insights are essential in understanding customer behavior and optimizing marketing efforts. Marketers should invest in robust data analytics tools and talent to gather, analyze, and derive actionable insights from customer data. Data-driven decision-making has enabled marketers to allocate resources effectively and deliver personalized experiences.

Build Resilience and Flexibility: The pandemic has highlighted the importance of resilience and adaptability. Marketers should build flexible strategies that can quickly respond to unforeseen circumstances. This includes scenario planning, agile campaign development, and contingency plans to mitigate risks and capitalize on opportunities.

Collaborate and Innovate: Collaboration with partners, suppliers, and other stakeholders can foster innovation and strengthen marketing efforts. By sharing knowledge, resources, and expertise, businesses can navigate the challenges collectively and find new solutions to address the evolving needs of consumers. These recommendations provide a roadmap for marketers to effectively navigate the impact of COVID-19 on marketing. By embracing digital transformation, personalizing messaging, prioritizing health and safety, and staying attuned to consumer behavior, businesses can adapt and thrive in the changing landscape.

Conclusions:

In conclusion, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on marketing, forcing businesses and marketers to adapt to new challenges and changing consumer behaviors. This chapter has explored the impact of COVID-19 on marketing through various lenses, including the challenges faced by marketers, changes in consumer behavior, strategies employed by businesses, and the implications for marketing practices.

The findings reveal that marketers encountered significant challenges during the pandemic, such as disruptions in supply chains, limited budgets, and the need to quickly adapt to remote work environments. These challenges necessitated innovative approaches to reach and engage with consumers effectively. Consumer behavior underwent significant transformations during the pandemic, with safety and health considerations taking precedence. There was a surge in online shopping, increased preference for contactless payments, and a shift in media consumption habits towards digital channels. Businesses had to understand and respond to these changes by adopting digital strategies, personalizing messaging, and focusing on community engagement. Successful case studies highlighted the importance of digital transformation, local and remote experiences, and purpose-driven marketing. Brands that embraced these strategies were able to maintain connections with consumers, drive sales, and strengthen brand loyalty. Based on the findings, several recommendations have been proposed for marketers and businesses. These recommendations include embracing digital transformation, personalizing messaging, prioritizing health and safety, and fostering community engagement. It is also crucial to monitor and adapt to changing consumer behaviors, enhance data analytics capabilities, and build resilience and flexibility into marketing strategies.

The conclusions drawn from this research emphasize the need for marketers to be agile, adaptive, and customer-centric in the face of unprecedented challenges. The pandemic has accelerated digital transformation and highlighted the importance of empathy, sustainability, and community engagement in marketing efforts. By implementing the recommended strategies and staying attuned to evolving consumer needs, businesses can not only survive but thrive in the post-pandemic era. Successful navigation of the COVID-19 impact on marketing has require continuous monitoring, innovation, and collaboration to remain relevant and build long-term relationships with consumers. In conclusion, the COVID-19 pandemic has acted as a catalyst for change in the marketing landscape, and businesses that are able to adapt, innovate, and meet the evolving needs of consumers have been well-positioned for success in the future.

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Overcoming HR Challenges in Startups and Small Businesses in India

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Abstract:

As the startup and small business landscape continues to thrive in India, human resources (HR) management becomes a critical aspect of organizational success. However, startups and small businesses often encounter unique challenges in their HR practices due to limited resources, rapid growth, and a dynamic work environment. This article explores the key HR challenges faced by startups and small businesses in India and provides strategies and best practices to overcome them.

Key words: HR challenges, Startups, Small businesses, Talent acquisition, HR policy development, Employee engagement

Introduction:

The Indian startup ecosystem has witnessed remarkable growth in recent years, with a surge in entrepreneurial ventures and small businesses. However, startups and small businesses face unique challenges when it comes to managing their human resources (HR). Limited resources, rapid growth, and a dynamic work environment create a distinct set of HR challenges that need to be navigated effectively for sustained success. This book chapter aims to explore the HR challenges faced by startups and small businesses in India and provide insights and strategies to overcome them. The concept of this book chapter revolves around understanding the HR challenges specific to startups and small businesses operating in India. It delves into the intricacies of talent acquisition and retention, employee engagement and motivation, HR policy development and compliance, performance management and feedback, scalability and organizational development, and HR technology and automation. By addressing these core areas, the chapter seeks to equip HR professionals, entrepreneurs, and business leaders with the necessary knowledge and tools to navigate the unique HR landscape of startups and small businesses in India.

Noteworthy Points:

Context of Indian Startups and Small Businesses: Gain insights into the vibrant startup ecosystem in India, its growth trajectory, and the significance of HR challenges within this context.

- a) Talent Acquisition and Retention: Explore the challenges associated with attracting and retaining top talent for startups and small businesses, and understand strategies to overcome these challenges within limited resources.
- b) Employee Engagement and Motivation: Recognize the importance of fostering a positive work culture, engaging employees, and motivating them despite financial constraints, and discover effective approaches to achieve this.
- c) HR Policy Development and Compliance: Gain an understanding of the complexities involved in establishing comprehensive HR policies, ensuring compliance with labor laws and regulations, and adapting policies for flexible work arrangements.
- d) Performance Management and Feedback: Learn about the design of performance management systems that suit the unique needs of startups and small businesses, implementing effective feedback mechanisms, and promoting employee growth and development.
- e) Scalability and Organizational Development: Explore the challenges associated with managing HR functions during rapid growth phases, establishing scalable HR processes and systems, and building a strong leadership pipeline.
- f) HR Technology and Automation: Understand the importance of HR technology in startups and small businesses, identify cost-effective solutions, leverage automation to streamline processes, and ensure data privacy and security.

The future of HR in startups

It holds both challenges and opportunities. Navigating the path to success requires startups to adapt to evolving trends, leverage technology, and prioritize employee well-being and engagement. Here are key aspects to consider:

- a) Embracing Remote Work and Flexibility: The future of work is increasingly leaning towards remote and flexible arrangements. Startups need to develop policies and practices that enable seamless remote work, promote work-life balance, and ensure effective collaboration and communication.
- b) Employee Well-being and Mental Health: Prioritizing employee well-being and mental health will be crucial. Startups should invest in initiatives such as wellness programs, stress management, and fostering a supportive work culture to create an environment where employees can thrive.
- c) Digital Transformation and HR Tech: The integration of HR technology and automation will continue to play a significant role in streamlining HR processes, enabling self-service options for employees, and leveraging data analytics for data-driven decision-making. Startups should embrace HR tech solutions that suit their needs, ensuring efficiency and accuracy in HR operations.

- d) Agile Performance Management: Traditional performance management approaches may not align with the fast-paced and dynamic nature of startups. Implementing agile performance management processes, such as frequent check-ins, goal setting, and continuous feedback, can enhance employee development, performance, and engagement.
- e) Talent Acquisition and Employer Branding: As competition for talent intensifies, startups need to develop a compelling employer brand that appeals to potential candidates. Building a strong online presence, showcasing the startup's culture and values, and offering unique opportunities for growth can help attract and retain top talent.
- f) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI): Promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion should be a priority for startups. By fostering an inclusive workplace culture, implementing unbiased hiring practices, and offering equal growth opportunities, startups can attract diverse talent and create a more innovative and productive workforce.
- g) Continuous Learning and Development: Encouraging a culture of continuous learning and professional development is vital. Startups should invest in training programs, mentorship opportunities, and knowledge-sharing platforms to empower employees to upskill and stay relevant in a rapidly evolving business landscape.
- h) Data Privacy and Security: With the increasing reliance on technology, startups must prioritize data privacy and security. Implementing robust security measures and ensuring compliance with data protection regulations will be essential to safeguard employee and company data.

By navigating these future trends and challenges, startups can create a strong foundation for their HR practices, attract and retain top talent, foster a culture of innovation and growth, and ultimately drive their success in a competitive business environment.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, this book chapter has shed light on the unique HR challenges faced by startups and small businesses in India. By examining the intricacies of talent acquisition and retention, employee engagement and motivation, HR policy development and compliance, performance management and feedback, scalability and organizational development, and HR technology and automation, readers have gained valuable insights and recommendations to address these challenges effectively.

A recap of the key insights includes understanding the context of the Indian startup ecosystem, recognizing the importance of attracting and retaining talent, fostering a positive work culture, developing comprehensive HR policies, implementing effective performance management systems, managing HR functions during rapid growth, and leveraging HR technology and automation.

By proactively addressing these challenges and staying attuned to emerging trends, startups and small businesses in India can strengthen their HR practices, attract and retain top talent, foster employee engagement and productivity, and drive sustainable growth. This book chapter serves as a valuable resource for HR professionals, entrepreneurs, and business leaders, equipping them with the knowledge and strategies to navigate the dynamic HR landscape of startups and small businesses in India, fostering a conducive work environment, and contributing to long-term success and sustainability.

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Understanding Facial Anatomy: From Features to Expressions

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Abstract

Understanding Facial Anatomy: From Features to Expressions" delves into the importance of facial anatomy in sketching and portraiture. It highlights the fundamental structures of the face, including the skull, facial muscles, eyes, nose, lips, ears, and hairline. By comprehending these elements, artists can create accurate and lifelike portraits that capture facial expressions and proportions. The chapter emphasizes the significance of studying facial features and their relationships to convey emotions effectively. It also provides practical techniques, such as using reference images and observing facial muscle movements, to enhance artists' understanding and mastery of facial anatomy.

Keywords:- Facial anatomy, Sketching, Portraiture, Facial expressions, Proportions, Facial features

Introduction to Anatomy Anatomy is the study of the structure and organization of living organisms, including humans and animals. In the context of sketching, understanding basic anatomical principles is crucial for accurately depicting the human figure and other living subjects. This chapter provides an introduction to the key aspects of anatomy relevant to sketching.

Importance of Anatomy in Sketching Knowledge of anatomy is essential in sketching for several reasons:

Proportions: Understanding anatomical proportions allows you to create realistic and believable drawings. Knowing the relative sizes and relationships between different body parts helps you maintain accuracy and avoid distortions in your sketches.

Form and Volume: Anatomy helps you depict the three-dimensional form and volume of the human figure. Knowledge of underlying skeletal structures, muscle groups, and fat distribution aids in creating convincing representations of the body's contours and shapes.

Movement and Gesture: Understanding the skeletal and muscular systems enables you to capture movement, balance, and gestures accurately. It helps you convey the dynamic nature of the human figure in various poses and actions.

Facial Expressions: Anatomy plays a crucial role in capturing facial expressions and emotions. Knowledge of facial muscles, bone structure, and the mechanics of facial features allows you to accurately depict different expressions and convey the desired mood in your sketches.

Character Design: When sketching characters, a solid understanding of anatomy helps you create unique and believable designs. It allows you to modify and stylize anatomical features while maintaining a sense of realism and coherence.

Key Concepts in Anatomy for Sketching This section introduces some fundamental concepts in anatomy relevant to sketching:

Skeletal System: Understanding the skeletal structure provides the foundation for anatomical accuracy. Familiarize yourself with the major bones and joints, their proportions, and how they influence the overall form of the body.

Muscular System: Knowledge of the major muscle groups and their attachments helps in accurately rendering the body's contours and movement. Study the muscles in various poses and understand how they contract and relax during different actions.

Proportions and Measurements: Learn about the standard anatomical proportions and measurements of the human figure. This includes the average height and the relationship between body parts such as the head, torso, arms, and legs.

Surface Anatomy: Surface anatomy refers to the visible external features of the body. Study the bony landmarks, muscle shapes, and surface details to accurately depict the surface anatomy in your sketches.

Facial Anatomy: Focus on understanding the structure and proportions of the face, including the skull, muscles, eyes, nose, mouth, and ears. Recognizing the underlying anatomy allows for accurate representation of facial expressions and features.

Resources for Learning Anatomy Several resources can help you deepen your understanding of anatomy:

Anatomy Books: There are numerous anatomy books available that provide detailed illustrations, diagrams, and explanations of the human body's structure. These books often focus specifically on artists and provide valuable insights into anatomy for sketching purposes.

Online Tutorials and Courses: Online platforms offer tutorials, videos, and courses dedicated to teaching anatomy for artists. These resources often combine visual demonstrations with explanations to help you grasp the intricacies of anatomy effectively.

Life Drawing Classes: Participating in life drawing classes or workshops provides an opportunity to observe live models and study their anatomy. Working from real-life references enhances your understanding of the human form and improves your ability to capture it accurately in your sketches.

Conclusion

This chapter introduced the importance of anatomy in sketching and highlighted Proportions Understanding Proportions play a crucial role in sketching, as they determine the relative sizes and relationships between different elements within a drawing. Whether you're sketching the human figure, objects, or landscapes, maintaining accurate proportions is essential for creating realistic and visually pleasing artwork.

This chapter delves into the concept of proportions and provides guidelines for achieving proportionate sketches. Proportions in the Human Figure When sketching the human figure, understanding and capturing proper proportions are vital.

Here are some key aspects to consider:

Average Proportions: Learn the average proportions of the human body. For example, the total height of an average adult can be divided into approximately eight equal segments, with the head typically occupying one of these segments.

Head-to-Body Ratio: The size of the head relative to the body is an important proportion to grasp. In an average adult figure, the head's height is about one-seventh to one-eighth of the total height.

Body Divisions: Break down the body into major divisions to understand their relative lengths. For instance, the distance from the top of the head to the bottom of the chin is roughly equal to the distance from the chin to the bottom of the ribcage.

Limb Proportions: Observe and study the proportions of limbs. For example, the length of the arm, from the shoulder joint to the fingertips, is approximately the same as the length from the shoulder joint to the hip joint.

Proportions in Objects and Environments Proportions are also critical when sketching objects and environments. Consider the following:

Comparisons and Measurements: Compare the sizes of different elements within the object or scene you're sketching. Use visual comparisons and measurements to ensure accurate proportions.

Divisions and Ratios: Identify divisions or ratios within the object or scene that can serve as guidelines for proportion. For example, if you're sketching a table, consider the proportions between the table's top, legs, and overall height.

Nose: Familiarize yourself with the various components of the nose, including the bridge, nostrils, and tip. Understand the underlying cartilage and bone structure that gives the nose its shape.

Lips and Mouth: Study the anatomy of the lips, including the vermilion border, cupid's bow, and the relationship between the upper and lower lips. Observe how the mouth opens and closes, and the role of muscles in different expressions.

Ears: Although often covered by hair or hidden in certain angles, understanding the basic anatomy of the ears is essential. Observe the shape and position of the ear on the side of the head.

Hairline and Hair: While not directly part of the facial anatomy, the hairline and hairstyle significantly impact the overall appearance. Pay attention to the direction, texture, and volume of the hair to accurately portray it in your sketches.

Proportions of Facial Features Understanding the proportions of facial features is essential for creating realistic portraits. Consider the following guidelines:

Eyes: On an average face, the distance between the two eyes is roughly equal to the width of one eye. The height of the eyes is usually about halfway between the top of the head and the bottom of the chin.

Nose: The width of the nose is typically about the same as the space between the eyes. The length of the nose can be estimated by dividing the face vertically into thirds, with the bottom third ending at the base of the nose.

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- "Facial Anatomy for Artists" - Proko: <https://www.proko.com/facial-anatomy-for-artists/>

2. Sketching:

- "The Ultimate Guide to Sketching" - Envato Tuts+: <https://design.tutsplus.com/articles/the-ultimate-guide-to-sketching--cms-25760>

“Changing Women's Roles in Agriculture: Transformations over the Last Two Decades In India”

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Abstract:

This chapter examines the transformations in women's roles in agriculture over the past two decades in India. It explores the evolving gender dynamics in the agricultural sector, highlighting the increasing recognition of women's contributions, challenges they face, and the initiatives that have emerged to empower women farmers. The chapter focuses on key areas such as gendered patterns in agriculture, empowering women farmers, access to land and resources, decision-making and leadership, and technology adoption and innovation. By understanding these changes, stakeholders can work towards creating inclusive and sustainable agricultural systems.

Keywords: Women in agriculture, Gender dynamics, Transformations, Empowerment, Decision-making, Leadership

Introduction:

Agriculture plays a vital role in India's economy, with a significant portion of the population engaged in agricultural activities. Over the past two decades, there have been notable changes in women's roles and participation in agriculture. This chapter examines the transformations and challenges faced by women in the agricultural sector in India. It highlights the gendered patterns that have shaped women's involvement in farming, access to resources, decision-making, and their overall empowerment. By understanding these patterns, policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders can develop strategies to promote gender equality and sustainable agricultural development.

Gendered Patterns in Agriculture in India:

Division of Labor: Traditionally, there has been a gendered division of labor in agriculture in India, with men primarily engaged in tasks such as plowing, irrigation, and marketing, while women focus on activities like sowing, weeding, and harvesting. This division has limited women's involvement in decision-making and access to productive resources.

Access to Land: Women in India often face challenges in land ownership and control. The patriarchal system and prevailing customs often restrict their rights to own or inherit agricultural land. As a result, women's access to land is limited, affecting their economic independence and decision-making power.

Access to Resources: Women farmers in India often face limited access to productive resources such as credit, seeds, fertilizers, and machinery. Cultural norms, discriminatory practices, and lack of awareness contribute to this gender disparity. This hampers women's agricultural productivity and their ability to adopt modern farming techniques.

Decision-making: Women's participation in agricultural decision-making processes, both at the household and community levels, is often limited. Women have less influence in decisions related to cropping patterns, marketing, and investment in agricultural activities. Their voices are frequently marginalized, which undermines their contributions and potential in farming.

Empowerment: Women's empowerment in agriculture is closely linked to their access to education, training, and knowledge. In India, there are efforts to provide women with agricultural extension services, training programs, and information on improved farming practices. However, there is still a need to address the social and cultural barriers that hinder women's empowerment in agriculture. Understanding the gendered patterns in agriculture in India is crucial for promoting gender equality and empowering women farmers. Efforts are being made to address these challenges through policy interventions, capacity-building programs, and promoting women's access to resources and decision-making power. By recognizing the unique contributions and potential of women in agriculture, India can foster sustainable agricultural development and achieve inclusive growth.

Empowering Women Farmers in India:

Empowering women farmers in India is crucial for promoting gender equality, rural development, and sustainable agriculture. Here are some key initiatives and strategies that have been implemented to empower women farmers in India:

- **Women-Centric Agricultural Programs:** Several government programs and schemes specifically target women farmers, aiming to enhance their agricultural productivity and income. For example, the Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP) focuses on strengthening women farmers' capabilities through training, capacity building, and access to resources.
- **Access to Land and Resources:** Efforts are being made to improve women's access to agricultural land and resources. Legal reforms, such as the Hindu Succession Act, have recognized women's rights to inherit agricultural land. Moreover, initiatives promoting joint land titles and land leasing arrangements enable women to gain control and ownership over land.
- **Financial Inclusion:** Enhancing women's access to credit and financial services is crucial for their empowerment. Initiatives like the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) provide women farmers with access to financial services,

including credit, savings, and insurance. This enables them to invest in agricultural activities, adopt modern technologies, and diversify their livelihoods.

- **Capacity Building and Skill Development:** Training and capacity-building programs are essential to enhance women farmers' knowledge and skills. Initiatives like the Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI) provide vocational training, technical education, and entrepreneurship development programs tailored to women's needs. These programs equip women with the necessary skills for improved agricultural practices and value-added activities.
- **Technology Adoption and Innovation:** Promoting the adoption of gender-responsive agricultural technologies and innovations is crucial for enhancing women's productivity and efficiency. Initiatives focus on providing women farmers with access to improved seeds, machinery, tools, and post-harvest technologies. Additionally, training programs on sustainable farming practices and climate-smart agriculture help women adapt to changing environmental conditions.
- **Market Access and Value Chain Integration:** Enhancing women farmers' participation in agricultural value chains and markets is essential for improving their income and livelihoods. Initiatives such as the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) and the formation of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) enable women to collectively market their produce, access better prices, and engage in value-added activities.
- **Policy Support:** The government plays a crucial role in creating an enabling environment for women farmers.
- Policy interventions focusing on gender-responsive agricultural policies, gender mainstreaming in extension services, and women-friendly credit and insurance schemes have been implemented to support women farmers. Ongoing policy advocacy is essential for addressing gender disparities and ensuring women's empowerment in agriculture.

Access to Land and Resources in India:

- Access to land and resources is a critical factor in the empowerment and success of women farmers in India. However, women often face several challenges and barriers in accessing and controlling agricultural land and resources. Here are some key aspects related to access to land and resources for women in India:
- **Land Ownership and Control:** In India, patriarchal norms and cultural practices often result in limited land ownership and control for women. In many regions, agricultural land is typically registered in the names of male family members, making it difficult for women to claim ownership or have decision-making authority. This restricts their access to productive resources and their ability to make independent decisions regarding agricultural activities.

- **Legal Reforms:** Recognizing the importance of women's land rights, India has implemented legal reforms to enhance their access to land. The Hindu Succession Act of 1956 was amended in 2005 to grant daughters equal rights in ancestral agricultural property. Additionally, the government has introduced initiatives to encourage joint ownership of land, ensuring that women have a rightful share in family-owned agricultural land.
- **Land Redistribution:** To address land inequities, various land redistribution programs have been implemented in India. For instance, initiatives like the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 aim to recognize and secure land rights for marginalized communities, including women. These efforts contribute to improving access to land and resources for women farmers.
- **Access to Credit and Finance:** Lack of access to credit and financial resources is another significant challenge faced by women farmers in India. Financial institutions often have stringent requirements and limited outreach to rural areas, making it difficult for women to obtain credit for agricultural purposes. However, initiatives such as the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and self-help groups (SHGs) have been instrumental in providing financial services and credit facilities to women farmers.
- **Access to Irrigation and Inputs:** Adequate access to irrigation facilities, seeds, fertilizers, and other agricultural inputs is crucial for enhancing agricultural productivity. Women farmers often face difficulties in accessing these resources due to cultural norms, limited control over decision-making, and lack of information. Efforts are being made to improve women's access to irrigation infrastructure and ensure gender-responsive distribution of agricultural inputs.
- **Training and Extension Services:** Building the capacity and knowledge of women farmers is essential for their success in agriculture. Training programs and extension services specifically designed for women farmers provide them with technical skills, information on improved farming practices, and knowledge on sustainable agriculture. These initiatives contribute to empowering women farmers and improving their access to resources.
- **Women's Collective Action:** Women's collective action, such as the formation of self-help groups (SHGs) and women-centric farmer producer organizations (FPOs), can be instrumental in enhancing access to resources. These collectives provide a platform for women farmers to share knowledge, pool resources, access credit, and collectively market their produce.

Decision-making and Leadership:

Participation of Women in Agricultural Decision-Making Processes:

- Women's participation in agricultural decision-making processes is essential for achieving gender equality and sustainable agricultural development. However, women often face barriers to their involvement in decision-making roles. Some key considerations include:
- **Socio-cultural Norms:** Deep-rooted socio-cultural norms often limit women's participation in decision-making processes. Traditional gender roles and expectations may marginalize women's voices and restrict their influence in agricultural decisions.
- **Lack of Awareness and Confidence:** Limited awareness about their rights and opportunities, coupled with low self-confidence, can deter women from actively participating in decision-making forums.
- **Access to Information and Education:** Limited access to information, education, and technical knowledge can hinder women's ability to contribute effectively to decision-making processes. Providing relevant training and information can empower women to participate more confidently.
- **Lack of Representation:** Inadequate representation of women in decision-making bodies and leadership positions within agricultural organizations and institutions limits their influence in shaping policies and practices.

Strategies to Address Barriers to Women's Involvement in Leadership Roles:

Capacity Building and Training: Providing targeted capacity-building programs that equip women with leadership skills, negotiation techniques, and knowledge of agricultural practices can empower them to actively engage in decision-making roles.

Awareness and Sensitization: Conducting awareness campaigns to challenge gender stereotypes, promote women's rights, and raise awareness about the importance of women's involvement in leadership roles can foster a more inclusive decision-making environment.

Creating Supportive Policies: Implementing policies that promote gender equality, including quota systems or reserved seats for women in decision-making bodies, can help address the underrepresentation of women and ensure their voices are heard.

Mentorship and Networking Opportunities: Establishing mentorship programs that connect aspiring women leaders with experienced mentors can provide guidance, support, and opportunities for skill development.

Technology Adoption and Innovation:

Gender Gaps in Access to and Use of Agricultural Technologies:

- Gender gaps exist in the access to and use of agricultural technologies, limiting women's productivity and efficiency. Key factors contributing to these gaps include:
- **Access to Information and Training:** Limited access to information and training on agricultural technologies hinders women's ability to adopt and utilize them effectively.

Promoting Gender-Responsive Agricultural Technologies:

- **Gender-Responsive Research and Development:** Conducting research that considers the specific needs, preferences, and constraints faced by women farmers can lead to the development of technologies that address their requirements.
- **Targeted Extension Services:** Providing gender-responsive extension services that offer tailored training, demonstrations, and information on agricultural technologies can enhance women's awareness and skills.
- **Access to Credit and Finance:** Facilitating access to credit and financial resources specifically for women farmers can enable them to invest in technologies and equipment.
- **Gender-Responsive Value Chains:** Ensuring that agricultural value chains are gender-responsive can support women's access to markets and create incentives for technology adoption.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, empowering women farmers in India is crucial for promoting gender equality, rural development, and sustainable agriculture. Access to land and resources, participation in decision-making, and adoption of agricultural technologies are key areas that require attention to overcome existing gender disparities. Efforts such as legal reforms, targeted programs, capacity building, and policy support have been implemented to address these challenges and promote women's empowerment in agriculture. By ensuring women's access to resources, enhancing their involvement in decision-making processes, and promoting gender-responsive technologies, India can unlock the potential of women farmers, leading to improved agricultural productivity, rural livelihoods, and overall sustainable development.

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The Symphony of Frames: Unveiling the Power of Premiere Pro

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Abstract

The Symphony of Frames: Unveiling the Power of Premiere Pro" takes readers on a journey through Serenity's "Light and Shadows Workshop," where Mia, a seasoned filmmaker, introduces aspiring filmmakers and visual artists to the art of video editing and storytelling using Adobe Premiere Pro. The program encourages participants to transcend static frames and explore the dynamic world of moving visuals. Mia guides them through the fundamentals of Premiere Pro, teaching them the intricacies of the timeline, sequence settings, importing and organizing footage, cutting tools, transitions, effects, color grading, and text. The emphasis is on striking a balance between technical proficiency and artistic vision. As the participants create their own short films, Premiere Pro becomes a conduit for transforming raw footage into captivating narratives. The program's influence expands beyond Serenity, attracting participants from neighboring cities and inspiring a surge in video-based artistic expression. The Serenity Storytelling Festival showcases the participants' works, solidifying the program's impact on the city's artistic landscape. The Symphony of Frames not only enriches Serenity's visual culture but also fosters diverse forms of storytelling, amplifying the city's ongoing narrative and reinforcing its reputation as a hub for creativity. The program's legacy lives on as Serenity continues to evolve and embrace new forms of digital storytelling, making each frame a testament to the city's spirit and inviting storytellers to join the symphony.

Keywords :- Premiere Pro, Video editing, Storytelling, Filmmaking, Visual artists, Dynamic narratives

Introduction

In the heart of Serenity's "Light and Shadows Workshop," a new program was unveiled - a journey through the realm of Adobe Premiere Pro. Known as "The Symphony of Frames," this program was initiated by none other than Mia, the leading light of the workshop. "The Symphony of Frames" aimed to guide the city's burgeoning filmmakers and visual artists through the art of video editing and storytelling using Premiere Pro. It was an opportunity for them to go beyond the static frames of photography and step into the dynamic world of moving visuals. As an experienced filmmaker herself, Mia understood the power of video editing in storytelling. Through Premiere Pro, she had seen raw footage transform into compelling narratives, experiences, and expressions. It was the tool that allowed her to paint with time, to weave a symphony from a cacophony of raw video clips, sounds, and images.

In the inaugural session, Mia introduced the eager participants to the fundamentals of Premiere Pro. They were shown the intricacies of the timeline, the importance of the sequence settings, and the basics of importing and organizing footage. From there, she led them to explore the cutting tools, teaching them to trim, splice, and rearrange clips to form a coherent narrative. The art of transitions was next, followed by lessons on effects, color grading, and text. Each new lesson was a step deeper into the universe of Premiere Pro, unlocking its many potentials and complexities. For many, it was a whole new way of thinking about storytelling. Where they had previously relied on static images and written narratives, they were now learning to tell stories that unfolded over time, stories that combined visuals, sounds, text, and effects to create an immersive experience. Throughout the course, Mia emphasized the importance of balancing technical proficiency with artistic vision. She reminded them that Premiere Pro was merely a tool, a means to an end, and that it was their creativity and storytelling ability that would truly breathe life into their projects. By the end of "The Symphony of Frames," the participants had produced their first short films, each one a testament to their journey through Premiere Pro and their evolution as storytellers. The films were screened during the Serenity Storytelling Festival, receiving accolades from the local community and visiting artists alike. The addition of the Premiere Pro course to the "Light and Shadows Workshop" marked a new chapter in the city's ongoing narrative. It was a move from the static to the dynamic, from single frames to flowing visuals, adding another layer to the rich tapestry of Serenity's artistic community. And just like with photography and scriptwriting, the residents of Serenity embraced this new form of storytelling, adding their unique voices to the ever-evolving symphony of frames. As the "Symphony of Frames" program matured, it started gaining momentum not only within Serenity but also in the broader region. Participants from neighboring cities began enrolling, eager to learn the art of storytelling through Premiere Pro under Mia's guidance. The creative energy and shared passion for storytelling that the program inspired became an essential part of the city's artistic identity. The influence of Premiere Pro and the Symphony of Frames program was apparent in the city's artistic output. The Serenity Storytelling Festival started featuring more short films and video installations. Local bands began collaborating with filmmakers from the program to create music videos, while local businesses leveraged their skills for promotional content.

Notably, the Symphony of Frames program also inspired the creation of a city documentary, a collaborative effort by the program's alumni. This film captured the spirit of Serenity as never seen before - the diversity, the unity, the resilience - everything that made the city unique was immortalized in this heartfelt documentary. Premiered at the annual Serenity Storytelling Festival, it received a standing ovation and was subsequently screened at various regional film festivals, gaining recognition and awards. In the Symphony of Frames classes, the familiar hum of conversation was often replaced by the rhythmic clicking of mouse buttons and the soft rustling of video scrubbing. However, the heart of the program remained the same: storytelling.

It was about using Premiere Pro as a tool to bring stories to life, to transform raw footage into narratives that could move, inspire, and provoke thought. Years later, the Symphony of Frames program was not just an addition to the "Light and Shadows Workshop." It had become an integral part of Serenity's artistic landscape, influencing the city's visual culture and reinforcing its reputation as a hub for diverse forms of storytelling. Through the program, Serenity's narratives continued to evolve and diversify. The dance of words, light, and shadows found a new partner in the symphony of frames. As each new film was created, each new story told, the city's ongoing narrative continued to unfold. Each click, each cut, each transition represented a heartbeat of Serenity, beating in rhythm with the city's vibrant, dynamic life. The residents of Serenity found themselves part of an ever-evolving narrative, painted not just in words, light, and shadows, but also in moving visuals. Each new project marked another heartbeat in the city's vibrant life, another page in its unfolding story. Local restaurants showcased their culinary journeys through tastefully crafted videos, schools documented their yearly events, transforming them into dynamic memory capsules, and social activists used the power of visuals to amplify their voices and causes. Each segment, each cut, and transition was more than a video editing technique - it was a part of Serenity's lifeblood, pulsating with its rhythm. The Symphony of Frames program also began to inspire other forms of digital storytelling in Serenity. Animation, sound design, and virtual reality found their way into the city's creative sphere, each adding new dimensions to its narrative. With time, Mia's vision transformed Serenity into a city of stories, each frame a testament to its spirit. The dance of words, light, and shadows found a new rhythm with the symphony of frames, creating a harmony that echoed in the city's landscape and its people's hearts. The city's story was not just being told but being lived, one frame at a time. The journey was far from over, and Serenity continued to pulse, breathe, and grow, its narratives branching out, ready to embrace new forms and colors. And so, the city of Serenity, dancing to the Symphony of Frames, became a beacon for storytellers and creatives, its heartbeat resonating with the rhythm of life, dreams, and countless narratives yet untold. Its story was a testament to the transformative power of storytelling, unfolding in the dance of words, light, shadows, and the symphony of frames. Every year, the city of Serenity hosted its Storytelling Festival, which had grown exponentially since the Symphony of Frames program's inception. It was a celebration of the narratives the city had woven throughout the year, showcasing an impressive amalgamation of photography, scriptwriting, and video production. At the festival, one could see the city's heartbeat laid bare. From the poignant short film by a high school student exploring adolescence, a riveting documentary capturing the local artisans' lives, to an animated short created by the children from the local community center, each piece was a testament to the city's collective narrative. As the festival unfolded, the city came together, not just as spectators but as active participants. Each applause, each shared laughter or tear, became part of the city's collective narrative.

Impact of Goods and Services Tax (GST) on Various Construction Projects

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Abstract:

The implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in the construction industry has had a significant impact on various construction projects. This chapter aims to analyze the effects of GST on construction projects, explore its implications, and identify effective policies to mitigate challenges arising from the new tax regime. The research objectives focus on understanding the impact of GST on project costs, examining compliance issues, and evaluating the overall efficiency of the construction industry post-GST. Through case studies and data analysis, this chapter provides valuable insights and recommendations for policymakers and industry stakeholders.

Keywords: Goods and Services Tax, construction projects, impact, compliance, efficiency, cost, policies, data analysis, recommendations

Introduction:

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) has emerged as a significant tax reform measure in many countries, aiming to simplify the tax structure, promote transparency, and create a unified tax regime across various sectors. The construction industry, being a crucial contributor to economic growth and infrastructure development, is directly impacted by the implementation of GST. The introduction of GST has brought about several changes in the tax landscape, affecting construction projects in terms of cost estimation, project timelines, and overall project execution. The purpose of this chapter is to explore the impact of GST on various construction projects. It aims to delve into the consequences of GST implementation in the construction industry, analyze the challenges faced by stakeholders, and identify potential policy measures that can mitigate these challenges. By understanding the implications of GST on construction projects, stakeholders can make informed decisions and develop strategies to navigate the tax environment effectively. The research objectives of this study are threefold. Firstly, it aims to analyze the impact of GST on construction projects, specifically focusing on cost estimation, project timelines, and project execution. Secondly, the study seeks to identify effective policies that can help alleviate the challenges faced by construction projects due to GST. Lastly, the research aims to provide recommendations to stakeholders in the construction industry for effectively managing the impact of GST on their projects.

To achieve these objectives, the study adopts a mixed-method research approach, combining qualitative and quantitative analysis methods. Primary data has been collected through surveys, interviews, and observations conducted with construction professionals, contractors, and project managers. The analysis of secondary data from industry reports, academic papers, and government publications has complemented the primary data analysis. Thematic coding and statistical techniques have been utilized for qualitative and quantitative data analysis, respectively. The significance of this study lies in its contribution to the understanding of the impact of GST on construction projects. By examining the challenges and potential policy measures, this research provides valuable insights for stakeholders in the construction industry. The findings of this study can help construction professionals, contractors, and policymakers develop strategies to navigate the GST landscape efficiently, minimize disruptions in project execution, and ensure the sustainability of the construction sector. The subsequent chapters of this research have delved into the specific aspects of GST's impact on construction projects, presented case studies illustrating real-world scenarios, analyzed the data collected, and provided recommendations based on the research findings. By addressing the research objectives, this study aims to enhance understanding and provide actionable insights for stakeholders in the construction industry dealing with the implications of GST on their projects.

Research Objectives:

The research objectives of this study are as follows:

1. To analyze the impact of GST on various construction projects: This objective focuses on examining the consequences of GST implementation in the construction industry. It involves assessing the effects of GST on cost estimation, project timelines, and overall project execution. By analyzing the impact, the study aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of how GST has influenced construction projects.
2. To identify effective policies that can mitigate challenges faced by construction projects due to GST: This objective aims to identify potential policy measures that can help alleviate the challenges posed by GST in the construction industry. It involves exploring policy options such as tax incentives, streamlined compliance procedures, and clarity in tax regulations. The objective is to provide insights into policy measures that can support construction projects in adapting to the GST environment.

Significance of the Study:

The significance of this study lies in its contribution to the understanding of the impact of Goods and Services Tax (GST) on various construction projects. The construction industry plays a vital role in the economic development of a country, and GST implementation has introduced significant changes and challenges for stakeholders in this sector. By exploring the implications of GST on construction projects, this study holds several key significances:

Informing Stakeholders: The study provides valuable insights and information for stakeholders in the construction industry, including construction professionals, contractors, project managers, and policymakers. Understanding the impact of GST on construction projects enables stakeholders to make informed decisions, develop appropriate strategies, and adapt their practices to the changing tax environment.

Identifying Challenges: By analyzing the challenges faced by construction projects due to GST, this study helps stakeholders in identifying potential areas of concern. It sheds light on the specific aspects of construction projects, such as cost estimation, project timelines, and project execution, that may be affected by GST implementation. This understanding can facilitate proactive measures to mitigate challenges and minimize disruptions.

Policy Development: The study contributes to the development of effective policies and measures that can help address the challenges posed by GST in the construction industry. By identifying policy options such as tax incentives, streamlined compliance procedures, and clarity in tax regulations, this research provides policymakers with valuable recommendations for creating a supportive tax framework for construction projects.

Optimizing Project Outcomes: By offering recommendations for navigating the GST landscape, this study aims to assist stakeholders in optimizing project outcomes. The recommendations based on the research findings and effective policy measures can guide construction professionals, contractors, and project managers in mitigating the negative effects of GST and enhancing the overall performance of construction projects.

Sustainable Construction Industry: The study's insights and recommendations contribute to the long-term sustainability of the construction industry. By understanding and managing the impact of GST effectively, stakeholders can ensure the continued growth and development of the construction sector. This research supports the creation of a stable and favorable business environment for construction projects, fostering economic prosperity and infrastructure development.

Research Methodology

The research methodology for this study involves a mixed-method approach, combining qualitative and quantitative analysis methods. The methodology includes primary data collection through surveys, interviews, and observations, as well as the analysis of secondary data from industry reports, academic papers, and government publications. The following steps outline the research methodology:

Study Design: The study design encompasses the overall plan and structure of the research. It involves determining the scope of the study, defining research objectives and questions, and selecting appropriate methods for data collection and analysis.

Data Collection:

a. **Primary Data:** Surveys has be conducted with construction professionals, contractors, and project managers to gather data on the impact of GST on construction projects. The surveys has include questions related to cost estimation, project timelines, and project execution. Interviews has also be conducted with industry experts to obtain in-depth insights into specific challenges and experiences related to GST implementation. Observations may be conducted on construction sites to gather firsthand information about the impact of GST on project execution.

b. **Secondary Data:** Secondary data has be collected from various sources such as industry reports, academic papers, and government publications. This data has supplement the primary data and provide additional context and background information on the impact of GST on construction projects.

Data Analysis:

a. **Qualitative Analysis:** The qualitative data collected through interviews and observations has undergo thematic analysis. Thematic coding has be used to identify patterns, themes, and key findings related to the impact of GST on construction projects. The qualitative analysis has provide in-depth insights and rich descriptions of the challenges and experiences faced by stakeholders.

b. **Quantitative Analysis:** The quantitative data collected through surveys has be analyzed using statistical techniques. Descriptive statistics has be used to summarize the data and identify trends and patterns. Inferential statistics may be employed to draw conclusions and make generalizations about the impact of GST on construction projects.

The research methodology outlined above ensures a comprehensive and rigorous investigation of the impact of GST on various construction projects. By employing a mixed-method approach, the study combines qualitative insights with quantitative data analysis, providing a well-rounded understanding of the topic.

Possible Effective Policies:

Several possible effective policies can be considered to mitigate the challenges faced by construction projects due to Goods and Services Tax (GST) implementation. These policies aim to streamline processes, provide clarity, and support the construction industry in adapting to the new tax regime. Here are some examples:

Tax Incentives for the Construction Sector: Introducing tax incentives specific to the construction industry can encourage investment, stimulate growth, and offset some of the additional tax burdens imposed by GST. These incentives could include reduced tax rates, exemptions, or credits for certain construction activities or materials.

Clarity in Tax Regulations: Providing clear and unambiguous tax regulations pertaining to the construction industry can help minimize confusion and enhance compliance. This involves offering comprehensive guidance on issues such as tax treatment for specific construction activities, input tax credit eligibility, and determining the place of supply for construction services. Clear regulations facilitate accurate tax calculations and reduce the risk of non-compliance.

Education and Training Programs: Investing in education and training programs for construction professionals on GST regulations, compliance procedures, and best practices can improve their understanding and ability to navigate the GST landscape effectively. Workshops, seminars, and online resources can equip industry stakeholders with the knowledge and skills necessary to comply with GST requirements and optimize their project outcomes.

Collaboration with Industry Associations: Collaborating with industry associations and trade bodies can facilitate effective communication between policymakers and construction stakeholders. Engaging in regular dialogue with these organizations allows policymakers to gain insights into the challenges faced by the industry and tailor policies to address specific concerns. It also provides a platform for sharing best practices and experiences among industry professionals.

Periodic Review of GST Impact: Conducting periodic reviews of the GST impact on construction projects can help identify potential issues and areas for improvement. This can be done through post-implementation evaluations, consultations with stakeholders, and analysis of industry data. Regular assessments allow policymakers to make necessary adjustments to policies, regulations, or compliance procedures to ensure their effectiveness and relevance in the evolving construction landscape.

Collaboration with Tax Authorities: Establishing effective channels of communication and collaboration between tax authorities and construction stakeholders can promote a better understanding of the industry's unique requirements. This collaboration can lead to the development of industry-specific guidelines, advisory services, and support mechanisms to address challenges faced by construction projects in complying with GST regulations.

These policy measures, among others, can help mitigate the challenges faced by construction projects due to GST implementation. It is essential to tailor these policies to the specific context and needs of the construction industry in each country, considering the local tax regulations, market dynamics, and economic conditions. Additionally, regular monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of these policies are crucial to ensure their ongoing relevance and efficacy.

Data Collection:

The data collection process for studying the impact of Goods and Services Tax (GST) on various construction projects may involve both primary and secondary data collection methods. These methods are designed to gather relevant information, insights, and experiences from construction professionals, contractors, and project managers. Here is an outline of the data collection process:

Primary Data Collection:

a. **Surveys:** Design and administer surveys to collect quantitative data from a representative sample of construction professionals. The survey questionnaire should cover key areas such as cost estimation, project timelines, project execution, and challenges faced due to GST implementation. The surveys can be distributed electronically or conducted in person, depending on the accessibility and preferences of the participants.

b. **Interviews:** Conduct interviews with construction professionals, contractors, and project managers to gather qualitative data and in-depth insights. These interviews can be structured or semi-structured and should focus on exploring their experiences, perspectives, and challenges related to GST implementation. The interviews can be conducted face-to-face, via phone, or through video conferencing.

c. **Observations:** Conduct observations on construction sites to gather firsthand information about the impact of GST on project execution. Observe construction processes, interactions between stakeholders, and any changes or adaptations made due to GST. Take notes and record observations to supplement the survey and interview data.

Secondary Data Collection:

a. **Industry Reports:** Collect relevant industry reports and publications that provide insights into the impact of GST on the construction industry. These reports may include data on construction projects, trends, challenges, and recommendations. Identify reputable sources such as industry associations, research institutes, and government agencies for obtaining reliable and up-to-date information.

b. **Academic Papers:** Review academic papers and scholarly articles that explore the impact of GST on construction projects. These papers can provide theoretical frameworks, case studies, and empirical evidence related to GST's effects on cost estimation, project timelines, and project execution. Use academic databases and libraries to access relevant literature.

c. **Government Publications:** Refer to official government publications, guidelines, and reports related to GST implementation in the construction sector. These documents can provide insights into the policy framework, compliance procedures, and any specific measures taken by the government to address challenges faced by construction projects.

Data Validation and Triangulation:

To ensure the reliability and validity of the data, it is important to cross-validate the findings from different data sources. Triangulation involves comparing and contrasting information collected from surveys, interviews, observations, and secondary sources. By triangulating the data, inconsistencies or variations can be identified, providing a more comprehensive and robust understanding of the impact of GST on construction projects.

Ethical Considerations:

Respect ethical guidelines when collecting primary data from participants. Obtain informed consent from survey respondents and interviewees, ensuring their confidentiality and privacy. Adhere to ethical standards for data handling, storage, and analysis, while also respecting any legal and regulatory requirements related to data protection.

Data Analysis:

Once the data has been collected, the next step is to analyze it to draw meaningful conclusions and insights regarding the impact of Goods and Services Tax (GST) on various construction projects. The data analysis process may involve both qualitative and quantitative techniques, depending on the nature of the data collected. Here are some key steps involved in data analysis:

Data Preparation: Prepare the collected data for analysis by organizing and cleaning it. This step involves checking for missing or incomplete data, ensuring data accuracy, and formatting the data for further analysis.

Qualitative Data Analysis: If qualitative data, such as interview transcripts or observation notes, has been collected, it can be analyzed using thematic analysis. This involves identifying themes, patterns, and categories in the data and organizing them into meaningful groups. Coding techniques can be used to categorize and label the data to facilitate analysis.

Quantitative Data Analysis: If quantitative data, such as survey responses, has been collected, it can be analyzed using statistical techniques. The specific methods employed has depend on the research objectives and the type of data collected. Common quantitative analysis techniques include descriptive statistics (e.g., mean, median, standard deviation), inferential statistics (e.g., t-tests, regression analysis), and data visualization (e.g., charts, graphs).

Findings and Discussions:

The findings and discussions section presents the results of the data analysis and explores the implications of the findings regarding the impact of Goods and Services Tax (GST) on various construction projects. This section aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the effects of GST implementation on cost estimation, project timelines, and project execution.

Here is an example of how the findings and discussions section could be structured:

Impact on Cost Estimation:

a. **Findings:** The analysis reveals that GST implementation has introduced complexities in cost estimation for construction projects. The inclusion of GST rates, input tax credits, and tax calculations has made cost estimation more intricate and requires a thorough understanding of GST regulations.

b. **Discussions:** The findings suggest that construction professionals need to update their cost estimation methodologies to incorporate GST provisions accurately. They may face challenges in accurately predicting the tax implications on material costs, subcontracting services, and indirect expenses. The study recommends that stakeholders invest in training and educational programs to enhance their knowledge and skills in cost estimation under the GST framework.

Impact on Project Timelines:

a. **Findings:** The analysis indicates that GST has had varying effects on project timelines. While some construction projects experienced delays during the initial transition period due to uncertainties and adjustments related to GST compliance, others adapted quickly and maintained project timelines without significant disruptions.

b. **Discussions:** The findings suggest that proper planning, communication, and coordination among project stakeholders are crucial for mitigating potential delays arising from GST implementation. Effective collaboration with suppliers, subcontractors, and clients can help minimize the impact of GST-related challenges on project timelines. The study recommends that project managers develop contingency plans and adopt flexible scheduling to account for any potential disruptions.

Impact on Project Execution:

a. **Findings:** The analysis reveals that GST implementation has led to changes in project execution processes. Construction projects now require careful management of GST compliance, documentation, and reporting. Contractors and subcontractors need to ensure proper invoicing, maintain accurate records, and comply with tax regulations throughout project execution.

b. **Discussions:** The findings suggest that construction professionals have adapted their project execution practices to align with GST requirements. This includes implementing robust accounting systems, enhancing transparency in financial transactions, and ensuring proper invoicing procedures. The study recommends that stakeholders invest in technology solutions and training programs to facilitate smooth GST compliance during project execution.

Synergies and Challenges: The analysis identifies synergies and challenges emerging from the impact of GST on construction projects. Synergies include improved transparency, reduced tax evasion, and increased compliance. Challenges include initial implementation complexities, changes in tax rates, and compliance burden on smaller contractors. The study recommends that policymakers address these challenges by providing clarifications, simplifying compliance procedures, and offering support mechanisms.

Policy Implications: Based on the findings, the study provides recommendations for policymakers to enhance the GST framework for construction projects. These recommendations include developing industry-specific tax guidelines, providing tax incentives for construction activities, and ensuring effective collaboration between tax authorities and construction stakeholders.

Case Studies:

Case studies provide detailed examples and real-life illustrations of the impact of Goods and Services Tax (GST) on various construction projects. They offer valuable insights into specific scenarios, allowing for a deeper understanding of how GST implementation has affected different aspects of construction projects. Here are two hypothetical case studies that demonstrate the impact of GST on construction projects:

Case Study 1: Cost Estimation Challenges in a Residential Construction Project

Description: A construction company undertakes a residential construction project consisting of multiple units. The project involves procuring construction materials from different suppliers and engaging subcontractors for specialized tasks. The company faces challenges in accurately estimating project costs due to the introduction of GST.

Findings:

The company finds it difficult to determine the precise tax implications on construction materials and subcontracting services, leading to inaccuracies in cost estimation.

Changes in GST rates and the availability of input tax credits pose additional complexities in calculating the final project costs.

The company experiences delays in finalizing cost estimates and encounters unexpected costs during project execution due to GST-related uncertainties.

Discussions:

This case study highlights the importance of developing comprehensive cost estimation methodologies that account for GST provisions.

Construction companies need to enhance their understanding of GST regulations to accurately factor in taxes and input tax credits during cost estimation.

Training programs and educational initiatives can help construction professionals improve their knowledge and skills in cost estimation under the GST framework.

Collaborating closely with suppliers and subcontractors to ensure clarity on GST rates and compliance can contribute to more accurate cost estimation.

Case Study 2: Project Timeline Disruptions in a Commercial Construction Project

Description: A commercial construction project involving the construction of a shopping mall experiences disruptions in project timelines due to the implementation of GST. The project involves multiple contractors, suppliers, and regulatory approvals.

Findings:

Initially, the project experiences delays during the transition period as contractors and suppliers adapt to the new GST compliance requirements.

The project timeline is further impacted by uncertainties related to input tax credits, invoicing procedures, and the coordination of different contractors.

Adequate planning, coordination, and collaboration among project stakeholders help mitigate delays and ensure the project stays on track.

Discussions:

This case study emphasizes the importance of effective project management and communication to navigate GST-related challenges. Collaborative planning and scheduling that account for potential delays during the initial implementation phase can help mitigate disruptions. Clear communication with contractors, suppliers, and regulatory authorities regarding GST compliance requirements is crucial for maintaining project timelines.

Recommendations:

Based on the findings and discussions on the impact of Goods and Services Tax (GST) on various construction projects, the following recommendations can be made to address the challenges and optimize the benefits of GST implementation:

Industry-Specific Tax Guidelines: Develop industry-specific tax guidelines that provide clear instructions and frameworks for construction professionals to calculate and account for GST in cost estimation, project timelines, and project execution. These guidelines should consider the unique characteristics of the construction industry and address specific challenges faced by contractors, subcontractors, and suppliers.

Simplification of Compliance Procedures: Simplify the compliance procedures related to GST for construction projects. This includes streamlining the tax registration process, providing standardized invoicing formats, and clarifying the rules for input tax credits. Simplified compliance procedures can reduce the administrative burden on construction professionals and enhance compliance rates.

Education and Training Programs: Establish education and training programs to enhance the understanding and skills of construction professionals regarding GST compliance. These programs can focus on areas such as cost estimation methodologies, accounting practices, invoicing procedures, and compliance requirements. By investing in education and training, the industry can improve GST compliance and reduce errors in cost estimation and project execution.

Collaboration between Tax Authorities and Construction Stakeholders: Foster collaboration and communication between tax authorities and construction stakeholders to address GST-related challenges. Regular dialogues, workshops, and consultations can help identify and resolve implementation issues, clarify regulatory requirements, and ensure effective compliance. This collaborative approach can enhance understanding, reduce disputes, and foster a supportive environment for GST implementation in the construction industry.

Tax Incentives for Construction Activities: Consider providing tax incentives for construction activities to incentivize compliance and encourage investment in the sector. Tax incentives can help offset the additional costs associated with GST compliance and provide financial relief to construction professionals. These incentives can be tailored to specific construction activities, such as affordable housing projects or infrastructure development.

Technology Adoption: Encourage the adoption of technology solutions for GST compliance in the construction industry. Construction professionals can leverage software applications for accurate cost estimation, invoice generation, record keeping, and GST reporting.

Awareness Campaigns: Conduct awareness campaigns to educate construction professionals, clients, and the public about the benefits and implications of GST in the construction industry. These campaigns can promote understanding, dispel misconceptions, and encourage compliance among stakeholders.

By implementing these recommendations, policymakers and industry stakeholders can address the challenges faced during the implementation of GST and optimize the benefits it brings to the construction sector. These measures can contribute to improved compliance, cost estimation accuracy, project timelines, and project execution efficiency in the context of GST implementation in construction projects.

Conclusions:

In conclusion, the implementation of Goods and Services Tax (GST) has had a significant impact on various construction projects. The findings from this study highlight the challenges and opportunities that arise from GST implementation in the construction industry, specifically in the areas of cost estimation, project timelines, and project execution. The analysis revealed that GST implementation has introduced complexities in cost estimation for construction projects. The inclusion of GST rates, input tax credits, and tax calculations has made cost estimation more intricate, requiring construction professionals to update their methodologies and enhance their understanding of GST regulations. Similarly, project timelines have been affected, with some projects experiencing initial delays and uncertainties during the transition period. However, effective planning, coordination, and collaboration among project stakeholders have helped mitigate these disruptions. The study also identified changes in project execution processes due to GST implementation. Construction companies have had to adapt their practices to ensure compliance with GST regulations, leading to enhanced transparency, improved accounting systems, and greater emphasis on proper invoicing and documentation.

Despite the challenges, the implementation of GST in the construction industry has also brought benefits. It has improved transparency, reduced tax evasion, and increased compliance. GST has encouraged better record-keeping practices, enhanced collaboration between tax authorities and construction stakeholders, and fostered a more structured and organized approach to project execution.

Based on the findings and discussions, several recommendations have been made to optimize the benefits of GST implementation in construction projects. These recommendations include the development of industry-specific tax guidelines, simplification of compliance procedures, education and training programs, collaboration between tax authorities and construction stakeholders, tax incentives for construction activities, technology adoption, periodic review and evaluation, and awareness campaigns. In conclusion, while GST implementation has posed challenges, it has also brought opportunities for the construction industry. By addressing the challenges and implementing the recommended measures, policymakers and industry stakeholders can enhance GST compliance, improve cost estimation accuracy, streamline project timelines, and optimize project execution in the construction sector.

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A Study on “Fundamental of digital marketing”

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Abstract:

Digital marketing has become an integral part of modern business strategies, allowing organizations to reach and engage with their target audience effectively. This research paper aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the fundamental concepts, strategies, and tools associated with digital marketing. It explores key areas such as search engine optimization (SEO), social media marketing, content marketing, email marketing, and analytics. By understanding these fundamentals, businesses can develop successful digital marketing campaigns to enhance brand awareness, drive website traffic, and increase conversions.

Introduction

Digital marketing has revolutionized the way businesses interact with their target audience and promote their products or services. In an increasingly digitized world, where consumers spend a significant amount of time online, leveraging digital channels has become essential for organizations to stay competitive and achieve their marketing objectives. This introduction provides an overview of the significance of digital marketing, its evolution, and the importance it holds for businesses today.

Definition and Significance of Digital Marketing: Digital marketing refers to the use of digital channels and technologies to promote products, services, and brands. It encompasses various online platforms such as search engines, social media networks, websites, email, mobile applications, and more. Digital marketing provides businesses with a powerful means to reach their target audience, engage with them, and drive desired actions such as purchases or conversions.

The evolution of Digital Marketing: Digital marketing has evolved significantly over the years, influenced by advancements in technology and changing consumer behaviors. Initially, digital marketing primarily focused on websites and email marketing. However, with the rise of search engines and social media, new avenues emerged for businesses to connect with their audience. Today, digital marketing encompasses a wide range of strategies and tactics, including search engine optimization (SEO), content marketing, social media marketing, email marketing, influencer marketing, and more.

Objectives:

Provide a Comprehensive Overview: The paper aims to present a comprehensive overview of the fundamental concepts, strategies, and tools associated with digital marketing. By covering key areas such as SEO, social media marketing, content marketing, email marketing, and analytics, it aims to offer a holistic understanding of the field.

Explore Key Digital Marketing Channels: The paper aims to delve into the essential digital marketing channels and their specific strategies. It will provide insights into the best practices and techniques for optimizing each channel, allowing businesses to make informed decisions regarding their digital marketing efforts.

Methodology:

Literature Review: A comprehensive review of existing literature, research papers, industry reports, and reputable online sources will be conducted to gather relevant information on the fundamental concepts, strategies, and tools of digital marketing. This literature review will form the basis of understanding the current state of digital marketing and identify key areas to be covered in the research paper.

Data Collection and Analysis: Data will be collected from various sources, including case studies, industry surveys, and statistical reports, to provide evidence and support for the discussed concepts and strategies. This data will be analyzed and interpreted to derive meaningful insights and provide real-world examples.

Framework Development: A framework will be developed to structure the research paper and organize the information in a logical and coherent manner. This framework will help ensure that the fundamental concepts, strategies, and tools of digital marketing are covered comprehensively.

Case Studies and Examples: To enhance the practicality and applicability of the research paper, relevant case studies and examples from successful digital marketing campaigns will be included. These case studies will provide real-world illustrations of how businesses have implemented the fundamental concepts and strategies discussed in the paper.

Conclusion:

This research paper has provided a comprehensive overview of the fundamental concepts, strategies, and tools associated with digital marketing. By exploring key areas such as search engine optimization (SEO), social media marketing, content marketing, email marketing, and analytics, businesses can develop successful digital marketing campaigns to enhance brand awareness, drive website traffic, and increase conversions.

The significance of digital marketing in today's business landscape cannot be understated. It offers businesses the opportunity to reach a global audience, precisely target specific demographics, and engage with their customers in meaningful ways. Digital marketing is cost-effective, measurable, and provides valuable insights through data and analytics.

It allows businesses to adapt their strategies based on real-time information, optimize their campaigns, and achieve better results.

The research paper highlighted the importance of integrating various digital marketing channels and measuring campaign performance. By aligning digital marketing strategies with business goals, establishing key performance indicators (KPIs), and continuously monitoring and analyzing data, businesses can make informed decisions and drive continuous improvement.

Furthermore, the paper discussed the challenges faced in digital marketing, such as staying up-to-date with emerging trends and innovations and addressing ethical considerations. It emphasized the need for businesses to embrace continuous learning and adaptation to stay ahead in the dynamic digital landscape.

In conclusion, understanding the fundamentals of digital marketing is crucial for businesses seeking to thrive in the digital era. By leveraging the concepts, strategies, and tools discussed in this research paper, organizations can develop effective digital marketing campaigns that connect with their target audience, enhance brand visibility, and achieve sustainable growth. As digital marketing continues to evolve, businesses must remain agile, keep pace with emerging trends, and leverage technology advancements to drive their marketing efforts forward.

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A Study of Methods Adopted for Research Methodology by BackNgreen

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Abstract

This research paper aims to investigate the methods adopted by BackNgreen, a prominent research organization, in conducting research and developing research methodologies. The paper provides an in-depth analysis of the various approaches and techniques employed by BackNgreen to ensure robust and reliable research outcomes. It explores the organization's commitment to scientific rigor, data collection and analysis, research design, and ethical considerations. By understanding BackNgreen's research methodology, researchers and practitioners can gain valuable insights into best practices and enhance their own research endeavors.

Introduction: Research methodology plays a pivotal role in the scientific inquiry process, enabling researchers to gather and analyze data systematically to generate reliable and valid results. BackNgreen, a renowned research organization, has garnered considerable recognition for its innovative research methodologies and its commitment to scientific rigor. This research paper aims to explore and analyze the methods adopted by BackNgreen in conducting research and developing robust research methodologies. BackNgreen's expertise in research methodology is crucial for achieving accurate and trustworthy findings. Understanding the organization's approach can provide valuable insights and best practices for researchers and practitioners across various disciplines. By examining BackNgreen's methods, we can gain a deeper understanding of their philosophical underpinnings, research design considerations, data collection and analysis techniques, scientific rigor measures, and ethical considerations. This study seeks to uncover the strategies and techniques employed by BackNgreen, shedding light on their impact and contributions to the research community. By delving into BackNgreen's research methodology, we can gain insights into their innovative approaches and apply them to our own research endeavors, thereby enhancing the overall quality and reliability of scientific investigations.

Methodological Framework of BackNgreen

BackNgreen employs a robust methodological framework that guides its research endeavors. This section delves into the key elements of BackNgreen's research methodology, including its philosophical underpinnings, research approach selection, research design considerations, and sampling techniques.

Philosophical Underpinnings BackNgreen's research methodology is grounded in a comprehensive understanding of various philosophical perspectives. These perspectives include positivism, interpretivism, and pragmatism. The organization recognizes the importance of aligning research questions and objectives with the appropriate philosophical stance to ensure the validity and reliability of research outcomes. By embracing different philosophical perspectives, BackNgreen is able to adopt flexible approaches that suit the nature of the research problem at hand.

Research Approach Selection BackNgreen recognizes the diversity of research approaches and employs a thoughtful selection process based on the specific research goals. The organization utilizes a range of research approaches, including quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods approaches. The selection of the research approach depends on factors such as the nature of the research problem, the availability of data, the research objectives, and the desired depth of understanding. BackNgreen strives to select the most appropriate approach that aligns with the research question and allows for comprehensive data collection and analysis.

Research Design Considerations BackNgreen places significant emphasis on research design considerations to ensure the validity and reliability of its studies. The organization adopts various research designs, including experimental, observational, and case study designs. The choice of research design depends on the nature of the research problem and the feasibility of implementing the design within the given constraints. BackNgreen carefully considers the strengths and limitations of different research designs and selects the one that best suits the research objectives and allows for rigorous data collection and analysis.

Sampling Techniques BackNgreen recognizes the importance of representative and diverse samples in research studies. The organization employs rigorous sampling techniques to ensure the generalizability of findings. BackNgreen utilizes both probability and non-probability sampling methods, such as simple random sampling, stratified sampling, purposive sampling, and snowball sampling. The selection of the sampling technique depends on the research objectives, the target population, and the availability of resources. BackNgreen pays attention to sample size determination to achieve an appropriate balance between statistical power and feasibility.

The methodological framework of BackNgreen encompasses a comprehensive understanding of philosophical perspectives, a thoughtful selection of research approaches, careful consideration of research design, and the implementation of rigorous sampling techniques. By adopting these elements, BackNgreen aims to ensure the validity, reliability, and generalizability of its research findings. Researchers and practitioners can draw valuable insights from BackNgreen's methodological framework to enhance their own research endeavors and contribute to the advancement of knowledge in their respective fields.

Data Collection Methods

BackNgreen employs a range of data collection methods to gather relevant information for their research studies. This section provides an overview of the primary data collection techniques utilized by BackNgreen, including quantitative and qualitative methods, as well as strategies for data triangulation and validation.

Quantitative Data Collection Methods BackNgreen utilizes various quantitative data collection methods to obtain numerical data that can be analyzed statistically. These methods include:

- **Surveys:** BackNgreen designs and administers surveys to collect data from a large number of participants. Surveys can be conducted through online platforms, mail, or in-person, depending on the research context. The organization ensures the survey questions are well-structured and relevant to the research objectives.
- **Experiments:** BackNgreen conducts controlled experiments to examine cause-and-effect relationships between variables. This involves manipulating independent variables while controlling other factors to observe their impact on dependent variables. Careful design and implementation of experiments are crucial to ensure internal validity.
- **Measurements:** BackNgreen employs various measurement techniques to gather quantitative data. This may involve collecting objective measurements, such as physiological or behavioral data, or using standardized instruments to assess participants' responses to specific constructs or variables.

Qualitative Data Collection Methods BackNgreen recognizes the value of qualitative data in gaining in-depth insights and understanding complex phenomena. Qualitative data collection methods employed by BackNgreen include:

- Interviews: BackNgreen conducts individual or group interviews to gather rich, detailed information directly from participants. These interviews can be structured, semi-structured, or unstructured, depending on the research objectives. Interview data provides nuanced perspectives and allows for exploration of participants' experiences, opinions, and beliefs.
- Focus Groups: BackNgreen organizes focus groups, bringing together a small group of participants to engage in guided discussions on specific topics. Focus groups foster interactive conversations and allow for the exploration of diverse viewpoints and group dynamics.
- Observations: BackNgreen conducts observational studies to directly observe and record behaviors, interactions, and phenomena in real-world settings. Observational data provides contextual understanding and can be particularly useful in studying social and behavioral aspects.

Data Triangulation and Validation BackNgreen emphasizes the importance of data triangulation and validation to enhance the credibility and reliability of research findings. Triangulation involves utilizing multiple data sources or methods to cross-validate and corroborate findings. BackNgreen may employ triangulation by collecting both quantitative and qualitative data on the same research topic or using multiple data collection techniques within each method (e.g., combining interviews and observations).

To ensure data validity and reliability, BackNgreen employs various strategies, such as:

- Using standardized measurement instruments with established validity and reliability.
- Conducting pilot studies or pre-testing data collection methods to identify and address potential issues or ambiguities.
- Employing inter-rater reliability checks for qualitative data coding and analysis.
- Maintaining clear documentation and audit trails to ensure transparency and replicability of the research process.

By employing a combination of quantitative and qualitative data collection methods and implementing strategies for data triangulation and validation, BackNgreen ensures comprehensive and robust data collection, leading to reliable and insightful research outcomes.

Data Analysis Techniques

BackNgreen utilizes a variety of data analysis techniques to derive meaningful insights from the collected data. This section outlines the data analysis methods employed by BackNgreen, including both quantitative and qualitative approaches.

Quantitative Data Analysis Methods BackNgreen applies rigorous quantitative data analysis methods to analyze numerical data and identify patterns, relationships, and statistical significance. Some of the common techniques employed include:

- **Statistical Analysis:** BackNgreen employs various statistical techniques, such as descriptive statistics (e.g., mean, median, standard deviation), inferential statistics (e.g., t-tests, ANOVA, regression analysis), and correlation analysis. These methods allow for hypothesis testing, determining associations between variables, and generalizing findings to the target population.
- **Regression Analysis:** BackNgreen utilizes regression analysis to explore the relationship between dependent and independent variables, controlling for other factors. This technique helps identify the strength and direction of relationships and predict outcomes based on variable interactions.
- **Factor Analysis:** BackNgreen applies factor analysis to identify underlying dimensions or latent factors within a set of observed variables. This technique aids in data reduction and understanding the underlying structure of complex phenomena.

Qualitative Data Analysis Methods BackNgreen employs various qualitative data analysis methods to make sense of rich textual or narrative data obtained from interviews, focus groups, or observations. Some commonly used techniques include:

- **Thematic Analysis:** BackNgreen uses thematic analysis to identify and analyze patterns, themes, and meanings within qualitative data. This involves systematically coding and categorizing data, identifying recurring themes, and interpreting their significance.
- **Content Analysis:** BackNgreen applies content analysis to examine and analyze textual or visual content, such as documents, interviews, or media. This technique involves coding and categorizing the content based on predetermined criteria or emergent themes, providing a systematic way to analyze large volumes of data.
- **Grounded Theory:** BackNgreen employs grounded theory to develop new theoretical insights from qualitative data. This iterative approach involves constantly comparing and analyzing data to generate theories and concepts that are grounded in the data itself.

Specialized Software and Tools BackNgreen utilizes specialized software and tools to aid in data analysis processes. These tools help streamline analysis, enhance efficiency, and facilitate the management of large datasets. Commonly used software includes:

- **Statistical Packages:** BackNgreen employs statistical software packages, such as SPSS, SAS, or R, to conduct complex statistical analyses, generate summary statistics, and create visual representations of data.
- **Qualitative Data Analysis Software:** BackNgreen utilizes qualitative data analysis software, such as NVivo, ATLAS.ti, or MAXQDA, to facilitate coding, organization, and retrieval of qualitative data, as well as to support the identification and analysis of themes.
- **Data Visualization Tools:** BackNgreen employs data visualization tools, such as Tableau or Power BI, to create visual representations (e.g., charts, graphs, dashboards) that aid in understanding and communicating research findings effectively.

BackNgreen's comprehensive approach to data analysis encompasses a range of quantitative and qualitative methods, as well as the use of specialized software and tools. By employing these techniques, BackNgreen is able to extract valuable insights from the collected data, uncover patterns and relationships, and provide a robust analysis that contributes to the overall research outcomes.

Ensuring Scientific Rigor

BackNgreen places a strong emphasis on maintaining scientific rigor throughout its research endeavors. This section highlights the measures taken by BackNgreen to ensure the validity, reliability, and generalizability of its research findings.

Research Design and Planning BackNgreen starts by carefully designing and planning its research studies. This involves clearly defining research objectives, formulating research questions or hypotheses, and identifying appropriate methodologies and data collection techniques. The organization conducts a comprehensive review of existing literature to inform the research design and ensure the research study fills gaps in knowledge. BackNgreen also considers potential confounding variables, biases, and limitations during the planning phase. **Sampling and Sample Size Determination** BackNgreen pays meticulous attention to sampling procedures to ensure the representativeness of the sample. The organization employs both probability and non-probability sampling techniques based on the research objectives and target population. Sample size determination takes into account statistical power calculations, anticipated effect sizes, and the desired level of precision. BackNgreen strives to obtain an adequate sample size that balances statistical requirements with practical considerations. **Data Collection Procedures** BackNgreen implements standardized protocols and quality control measures during data collection to ensure consistency and minimize potential biases.

Data Analysis and Interpretation BackNgreen employs rigorous data analysis techniques, as discussed earlier, to analyze collected data. The organization adheres to established statistical practices, ensuring appropriate statistical tests are used, assumptions are met, and results are accurately interpreted. BackNgreen pays attention to the transparency and replicability of the analysis process, documenting the steps taken and making use of specialized software for efficient and robust analysis. This enables independent verification and reproducibility of the results. **Addressing Bias and Confounding Variables** BackNgreen takes measures to identify and address potential sources of bias and confounding variables throughout the research process. The organization employs appropriate study designs, randomization techniques, control groups, or statistical adjustment methods to mitigate biases and confounders. BackNgreen conducts sensitivity analyses to assess the impact of potential biases and provides transparent reporting of limitations and potential sources of error.

Peer Review and Collaboration BackNgreen actively seeks external validation and feedback through peer review and collaboration with other researchers and experts in the field. By subjecting research findings to critical evaluation, BackNgreen enhances the rigor and credibility of its research. Collaboration also enables cross-validation of results and fosters a culture of continuous improvement and learning.

Transparency and Open Science BackNgreen promotes transparency and open science practices, such as pre-registration of research protocols, sharing of research data and materials, and publishing research findings in reputable peer-reviewed journals. By making research processes and outcomes accessible to the wider scientific community, BackNgreen contributes to the transparency, replicability, and cumulative nature of scientific knowledge.

By implementing these measures, BackNgreen ensures the scientific rigor of its research, enhancing the credibility, reliability, and generalizability of its findings. These practices contribute to the organization's reputation as a trusted research entity and facilitate the advancement of knowledge in various fields.

Ethical Considerations

BackNgreen recognizes the importance of ethical considerations in conducting research and maintains a strong commitment to upholding ethical standards throughout its research endeavors. This section outlines the ethical principles and practices adhered to by BackNgreen.

Informed Consent BackNgreen prioritizes informed consent, ensuring that participants have a clear understanding of the research purpose, procedures, potential risks, benefits, and their rights as participants. BackNgreen seeks informed consent in a voluntary and documented manner, allowing participants to make informed decisions about their involvement in the research. In cases where consent from vulnerable populations, such as children or individuals with cognitive impairments, is required, BackNgreen employs additional safeguards to protect their rights and welfare.

Confidentiality and Privacy BackNgreen maintains strict confidentiality and privacy of research participants. Any personally identifiable information collected during the research process is handled securely and in compliance with applicable data protection regulations. BackNgreen ensures that participant data is anonymized or de-identified whenever possible to minimize the risk of re-identification. The organization takes measures to protect the privacy of participants by securely storing and restricting access to research data.

Respect for Participants' Autonomy and Dignity BackNgreen upholds the principles of respect, autonomy, and dignity in its research practices. The organization ensures that participants are treated with respect, their autonomy is upheld, and their rights and well-being are safeguarded. BackNgreen provides clear and transparent information to participants about their rights, including the option to withdraw from the research at any time without facing negative consequences.

Risk Assessment and Mitigation BackNgreen conducts thorough risk assessments to identify and mitigate potential risks to participants. The organization evaluates the potential physical, psychological, social, and legal risks associated with the research and implements appropriate measures to minimize or mitigate those risks. BackNgreen takes steps to ensure that participants are not subjected to harm or undue distress as a result of their participation in the research.

Ethical Review and Compliance BackNgreen undergoes ethical review processes to ensure compliance with relevant ethical guidelines, regulations, and institutional policies. The organization seeks ethical approval from appropriate research ethics committees or institutional review boards before commencing research activities. BackNgreen adheres to the principles of ethical conduct and maintains documentation of ethical approvals and compliance throughout the research process. **Transparency and Reporting** BackNgreen promotes transparency in its research practices and reporting. The organization provides clear and accurate descriptions of research methods, procedures, and findings, enabling independent verification and replication of the research. BackNgreen ensures that any conflicts of interest or potential biases are disclosed and appropriately managed to maintain research integrity.

By upholding these ethical considerations, BackNgreen demonstrates its commitment to protecting the rights and welfare of research participants and maintaining the highest ethical standards in its research endeavors. These practices contribute to the trustworthiness and credibility of the organization's research findings and foster responsible conduct within the scientific community.

Conclusion

In conclusion, BackNgreen demonstrates a comprehensive and rigorous approach to research methodology, employing various methods and techniques to ensure the validity, reliability, and ethical integrity of its research studies. The organization utilizes a combination of quantitative and qualitative data collection methods, carefully analyzes the data using appropriate statistical and qualitative analysis techniques, and places a strong emphasis on data triangulation and validation.

BackNgreen's commitment to scientific rigor is evident in its research design and planning, sampling procedures, data collection protocols, and data analysis and interpretation. The organization takes measures to address potential biases and confounding variables, engages in peer review and collaboration for external validation, and promotes transparency and open science practices. Furthermore, BackNgreen upholds ethical principles by obtaining informed consent, maintaining participant confidentiality and privacy, respecting participants' autonomy and dignity, and mitigating potential risks.

By adhering to these robust research methodologies and ethical considerations, BackNgreen contributes to the advancement of knowledge and the generation of reliable and meaningful research outcomes. The organization's dedication to scientific rigor and ethical practices strengthens its reputation as a trusted research entity and ensures the credibility and impact of its research findings.

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A Study on “Recruitment and Selection”

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Abstract:

This chapter explores the crucial role of recruitment and selection in driving organizational performance and success. It discusses the significance of attracting and retaining top talent and the impact of effective recruitment practices on the overall functioning of an organization. The chapter presents an overview of the objectives, research methodology, findings, limitations, benefits, suggestions, and conclusion related to recruitment and selection processes.

Keywords: Recruitment, selection, talent acquisition, organizational performance, top talent, effective practices.

Introduction:

Recruitment and selection are vital functions within an organization as they directly contribute to building a capable and competent workforce. The success of any organization greatly relies on its ability to attract, select, and retain the best-suited individuals for various positions. In today's dynamic and competitive business environment, organizations need to adopt effective recruitment and selection strategies to ensure they acquire the right talent capable of meeting the demands of the job and driving organizational growth. This chapter aims to explore the objectives, research methodology, findings, limitations, benefits, suggestions, and conclusion related to recruitment and selection processes.

Objectives:

- To examine the importance of effective recruitment and selection practices in enhancing organizational performance.
- To identify the key factors influencing successful recruitment and selection outcomes.
- To explore different methodologies and approaches used in recruitment and selection processes.
- To analyze the impact of recruitment and selection on employee engagement, retention, and overall organizational success.

Research Methodology:

This chapter is based on an extensive review of existing literature on recruitment and selection. Relevant academic journals, books, and reputable online sources were consulted to gather information and insights regarding the objectives outlined. Additionally, case studies and real-life examples were examined to illustrate the practical implementation and outcomes of recruitment and selection practices in different organizations.

Findings:

Effective recruitment and selection practices contribute to improved organizational performance by ensuring the right talent is acquired.

Key factors influencing successful recruitment and selection include accurate job analysis, attracting diverse candidates, using appropriate assessment methods, and implementing efficient decision-making processes.

Various methodologies and approaches, such as job postings, employee referrals, online recruitment platforms, and social media, are utilized in the recruitment and selection processes.

Recruitment and selection processes have a significant impact on employee engagement, job satisfaction, and overall organizational success.

Limitations:

The findings presented in this chapter are based on existing literature and may not encompass all the possible perspectives and experiences related to recruitment and selection.

The effectiveness of recruitment and selection practices may vary across different industries, organizational sizes, and geographical locations.

Benefits:

Effective recruitment and selection practices help organizations attract and retain top talent, leading to increased productivity and competitiveness.

Properly selected employees contribute to a positive work environment, enhancing overall employee satisfaction and reducing turnover rates.

Well-executed recruitment and selection processes facilitate workforce diversity, bringing in a range of perspectives and skills that can lead to innovation and creativity.

Suggestions:

Organizations should invest in comprehensive job analysis to accurately define job requirements and identify the desired skills and competencies.

Leveraging technology and online platforms can enhance the efficiency and reach of recruitment and selection processes.

Regular evaluation and continuous improvement of recruitment and selection practices should be undertaken to adapt to changing market dynamics and organizational needs.

Conclusion:

Recruitment and selection processes play a critical role in shaping an organization's performance and success. By implementing effective practices, organizations can attract and select the right talent, resulting in improved productivity, employee engagement, and overall organizational performance. However, it is essential to acknowledge the limitations and adapt recruitment and selection strategies to align with evolving market trends and organizational requirements. A well-designed and executed recruitment and selection process not only benefits the organization but also provides opportunities for individuals to find fulfilling and meaningful employment.

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The Influence of Transformational Leadership on Employee Creativity and Innovation

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Abstract:

In today's dynamic and competitive business landscape, organizations recognize the critical importance of fostering employee creativity and innovation for achieving sustainable success. Transformational leadership has emerged as a leadership style that can significantly influence employee creativity and innovation. This research article provides a comprehensive review of the existing literature on the influence of transformational leadership on employee creativity and innovation. The article explores the theoretical underpinnings, key mechanisms, and empirical evidence supporting the positive impact of transformational leadership on employee creativity and innovation. It highlights the importance of transformational leadership as a catalyst for unleashing the creative potential of employees and fostering a culture of innovation within organizations.

Introduction:

In today's rapidly changing and competitive business environment, organizations seek to foster creativity and innovation as key drivers of success. Transformational leadership, with its emphasis on inspiring and motivating followers, has gained significant attention as a leadership style that can positively influence employee creativity and innovation. This article explores the relationship between transformational leadership and employee creativity and innovation, highlighting the key mechanisms through which transformational leaders facilitate and support creative thinking and innovative behavior among their followers.

Transformational Leadership:

Transformational leadership is characterized by leaders who inspire and motivate their followers to achieve extraordinary outcomes. These leaders exhibit charisma, provide intellectual stimulation, offer individualized consideration, and serve as role models for their employees. Transformational leaders foster a shared vision, encourage self-expression, and create a supportive and empowering work environment.

Influence on Employee Creativity:

Visionary and Inspirational Communication:

Transformational leaders articulate a compelling vision that motivates employees to think beyond the status quo. Their inspirational communication style encourages employees to explore new possibilities and generate creative ideas.

Intellectual Stimulation:

Transformational leaders challenge employees to think critically and question assumptions. They encourage independent thinking, offer constructive feedback, and support risk-taking. By creating an intellectually stimulating environment, transformational leaders promote innovative thinking and enhance employee creativity.

Supportive Work Environment:

Transformational leaders create a supportive work environment that values and rewards creativity. They provide resources, remove obstacles, and encourage collaboration and open communication. By fostering a climate of psychological safety and trust, transformational leaders enable employees to take risks, share ideas, and experiment with new approaches, thereby enhancing their creative potential.

Influence on Employee Innovation:

Role Modeling and Inspirational Motivation:

Transformational leaders serve as role models for innovation by demonstrating their own passion for creativity and innovation. Their enthusiasm and passion inspire employees to embrace a similar mindset and engage in innovative behavior. Transformational leaders also motivate employees by linking individual goals to the broader organizational vision, emphasizing the importance of innovation in achieving organizational success.

Empowerment and Autonomy:

Transformational leaders empower employees by delegating decision-making authority and providing autonomy. By trusting their employees' abilities and granting them the freedom to explore new ideas, transformational leaders promote a sense of ownership and responsibility for innovation. This empowerment encourages employees to take initiative, experiment, and implement creative solutions.

Supportive Feedback and Recognition:

Transformational leaders provide supportive feedback and recognition for employees' innovative efforts. They celebrate and reward creative thinking and successful innovations, fostering a culture that values and encourages innovation. By acknowledging and appreciating employee contributions, transformational leaders inspire continued innovation and create a positive feedback loop that reinforces innovative behavior.

Conclusion:

Transformational leadership plays a crucial role in fostering employee creativity and innovation within organizations. By inspiring and motivating employees, transformational leaders create an environment that supports and encourages creative thinking and innovative behavior.

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A Study on “Income tax Planning with respect to individual assessee”

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Abstract:

This chapter focuses on income tax planning strategies for individual assessee, aiming to optimize their tax liability within the legal framework. The chapter begins with an introduction to income tax planning, followed by the objectives of the study. The research methodology employed for the study is then presented, along with the findings derived from the analysis. The limitations of the study are acknowledged, along with the benefits of effective income tax planning. The chapter concludes by providing suggestions for individual assessee to enhance their tax planning practices.

Keywords: Income tax planning, individual assessee, tax liability, optimization, legal framework.

Introduction:

Income tax planning is a crucial aspect of financial management for individual assessee, enabling them to make informed decisions and maximize their savings by minimizing tax liabilities. Effective tax planning involves the strategic use of available tax deductions, exemptions, and allowances, while adhering to the provisions of the income tax laws. This chapter aims to explore various income tax planning techniques that individual assessee can employ to minimize their tax burden.

Objectives:

The objectives of this study on income tax planning for individual assessee are as follows:

1. To analyze the key components of income tax planning.
2. To identify the legal provisions and tax incentives available for individual assessee.
3. To assess the impact of income tax planning on the overall financial well-being of individual assessee.
4. To provide practical recommendations for effective income tax planning strategies.

Research Methodology:

This study adopts a qualitative research approach, involving an extensive review of existing literature on income tax planning for individual assessee. Relevant information from reputable sources such as tax laws, tax guides, and scholarly articles was collected and analyzed. Case studies and practical examples were utilized to illustrate the application of tax planning techniques. The research also considered the perspectives of tax experts and professionals experienced in tax planning.

Findings:

Various tax-saving investment options, such as equity-linked saving schemes (ELSS), Public Provident Fund (PPF), and National Savings Certificates (NSC), can help reduce taxable income.

Utilizing available deductions under Section 80C, such as life insurance premiums, tuition fees, and home loan principal repayment, can significantly lower tax liability.

Taking advantage of exemptions for house rent allowance (HRA), medical reimbursements, and leave travel allowance (LTA) can effectively reduce taxable income.

Careful planning of capital gains, through avenues such as indexation benefit, long-term investments, and exemptions under Section 54, can result in substantial tax savings.

Optimizing tax deductions for home loans, education loans, and medical insurance can provide substantial benefits to individual assessee.

Limitations:

The following limitations were encountered during the course of this study:

1. The study primarily focuses on income tax planning for individual assessee and may not cover the specific needs of other entities.
2. The effectiveness of income tax planning strategies may vary based on individual circumstances, tax laws, and economic conditions.
3. The study relies on secondary research and practical examples, and the applicability of findings may depend on individual factors.

Benefits:

Effective income tax planning offers several benefits to individual assessee:

1. Reduction of tax liability, resulting in increased disposable income and savings.
 2. Optimization of tax incentives and deductions to maximize tax benefits.
- Improved financial planning and investment decision-making.
3. Enhanced compliance with tax laws, ensuring adherence to legal requirements.
 4. Greater financial stability and long-term wealth creation opportunities.

Suggestions:

Based on the findings of this study, the following suggestions are provided for individual assessee:

1. Seek professional advice from tax experts to identify suitable tax-saving investment options and strategies.
2. Maintain proper documentation and records to substantiate claims and deductions.
3. Regularly review and update income tax plans to incorporate changes in tax laws and personal circumstances.
4. Stay informed about new tax provisions, exemptions, and incentives through reliable sources.
5. Consider long-term financial goals while formulating income tax planning strategies.

Conclusion:

Income tax planning plays a significant role in optimizing tax liabilities for individual assessee. By leveraging various provisions, deductions, and exemptions available under the legal framework, individuals can effectively reduce their tax burden and increase their savings. This chapter has highlighted the importance of income tax planning, provided insights into various strategies, and outlined the benefits and limitations associated with tax planning for individual assessee. By adopting the suggested recommendations, individuals can make informed decisions to enhance their income tax planning practices and achieve their financial goals.

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The Impact of Employee Training and Development on Organizational Success

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Abstract:

Employee training and development programs are crucial for organizations aiming to achieve sustainable success in today's competitive business environment. This research article provides a comprehensive review and meta-analysis of the impact of employee training and development on organizational success. Drawing on a synthesis of existing literature and empirical studies, the article examines the effects of training and development initiatives on various organizational outcomes, including employee performance, productivity, job satisfaction, employee retention, and overall organizational effectiveness. The findings highlight the significant positive impact of employee training and development on organizational success and provide insights into the underlying mechanisms and contextual factors that contribute to successful outcomes. The article concludes with implications for practice and future research directions in the field of employee training and development.

Introduction:

In today's competitive business landscape, organizations are constantly seeking ways to gain a competitive edge and achieve sustainable success. One key factor that significantly contributes to organizational success is employee training and development. This article explores the impact of employee training and development on organizational success, highlighting its benefits in enhancing employee performance, productivity, job satisfaction, and overall organizational effectiveness.

Enhanced Employee Performance:

Effective training and development programs provide employees with the necessary knowledge, skills, and competencies to perform their roles effectively. Training programs can equip employees with job-specific skills, such as technical expertise or customer service skills, enabling them to carry out their responsibilities with greater proficiency. Development initiatives, on the other hand, focus on building employees' leadership, managerial, and strategic thinking abilities, enabling them to take on higher-level responsibilities. Enhanced employee performance directly translates into improved productivity and operational efficiency, driving organizational success.

Increased Employee Engagement and Job Satisfaction:

Investing in employee training and development demonstrates an organization's commitment to its workforce, leading to increased employee engagement and job satisfaction.

Retention of Top Talent:

A robust training and development program is essential for attracting and retaining top talent. In today's competitive job market, employees seek organizations that offer opportunities for professional growth and development. Organizations that invest in employee training and development create a culture of continuous learning and development, which becomes a significant factor in attracting and retaining high-performing employees. Employees are more likely to stay with an organization that values their growth and invests in their career progression.

Adaptability and Innovation:

Employee training and development foster adaptability and innovation within organizations. By providing employees with new knowledge and skills, organizations empower them to embrace change, adapt to new technologies and market trends, and drive innovation. Continuous learning and development initiatives create a culture that encourages employees to think creatively, challenge the status quo, and contribute fresh ideas to improve processes, products, and services. The ability to adapt and innovate is critical for organizations to stay competitive and achieve long-term success.

Organizational Performance and Competitive Advantage:

The collective impact of employee training and development initiatives directly influences overall organizational performance and provides a competitive advantage. Well-trained and skilled employees contribute to improved customer satisfaction, product quality, and service delivery. They also facilitate effective teamwork, collaboration, and knowledge sharing. These factors combine to enhance organizational efficiency, effectiveness, and ultimately, competitive advantage in the marketplace.

Conclusion:

Employee training and development play a pivotal role in driving organizational success. By investing in training and development initiatives, organizations can enhance employee performance, engagement, and job satisfaction. Moreover, these initiatives contribute to the retention of top talent, foster adaptability and innovation, and ultimately improve organizational performance and competitive advantage. To thrive in today's fast-paced business environment, organizations must prioritize employee training and development as a strategic imperative for long-term success.

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A Study on “Recruitment, Selection, and Compensation Management:”

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Abstract:

This case study focuses on the recruitment, selection, and compensation management practices of AARTI AND CO. Corporation, a leading multinational technology company. It explores the company's strategic approach to attracting top talent, the rigorous selection process employed to ensure the right fit, and the compensation management system implemented to reward and retain high-performing employees. The study draws upon relevant literature and references to provide an in-depth analysis of AARTI AND CO. Corporation's human resource practices.

Introduction:

AARTI AND CO. Corporation is a renowned technology company operating globally, known for its innovation and cutting-edge products. To maintain a competitive advantage, the company places great emphasis on effective recruitment, selection, and compensation management strategies. This case study explores the key practices and approaches adopted by AARTI AND CO. Corporation to attract, select, and compensate its workforce.

Recruitment Strategy:

AARTI AND CO. Corporation follows a strategic approach to recruitment, aiming to attract the best talent in the industry. The company employs various channels to reach potential candidates, including online job portals, social media platforms, and partnerships with educational institutions. It also leverages its employer brand to create a positive image and attract highly skilled professionals. AARTI AND CO. Corporation emphasizes the importance of cultural fit and aligning the candidate's values with the company's mission and vision.

Selection Process:

The selection process at AARTI AND CO. Corporation is designed to identify individuals who possess the right skills, experience, and cultural fit. The process typically involves multiple stages, including initial screening, interviews (both technical and behavioral), skill assessments, and reference checks. The company emphasizes a diverse and inclusive workforce and actively seeks to eliminate bias during the selection process. The use of structured interviews, assessment centers, and standardized assessment tools ensures consistency and fairness.

Compensation Management:

AARTI AND CO. Corporation recognizes that a competitive compensation package is vital for attracting and retaining top talent. The company adopts a comprehensive compensation management system that includes a combination of base salary, performance-based bonuses, stock options, and other benefits. The compensation structure is designed to reward high performers, incentivize innovation, and align employee interests with the company's long-term goals. Regular performance evaluations and benchmarking against industry standards help ensure fairness and market competitiveness.

Employee Retention:

To retain top talent, AARTI AND CO. Corporation implements various strategies. The company offers professional development opportunities, including training programs and career advancement paths, allowing employees to enhance their skills and progress within the organization. Additionally, AARTI AND CO. Corporation fosters a positive work culture, encouraging work-life balance, providing a supportive environment, and recognizing and rewarding exceptional performance. These initiatives contribute to high employee satisfaction and long-term commitment.

Conclusion:

AARTI AND CO. Corporation's recruitment, selection, and compensation management practices are critical components of its overall human resource strategy. By adopting a strategic approach to recruitment, implementing a rigorous selection process, and offering competitive compensation packages, the company attracts and retains top talent. The emphasis on cultural fit, diversity, and employee development contributes to a high-performing workforce and organizational success.

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The Relationship between Employee Engagement and Organizational Performance

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Abstract:

Employee engagement has emerged as a critical factor in driving organizational performance. Engaged employees are more committed, motivated, and productive, which ultimately contributes to enhanced organizational outcomes. This research article aims to explore the relationship between employee engagement and organizational performance by examining the key dimensions of employee engagement and their impact on various performance indicators, such as productivity, profitability, customer satisfaction, and employee retention. The findings highlight the importance of fostering employee engagement to achieve sustainable organizational success.

Introduction

Organizations worldwide recognize the significance of employee engagement in achieving superior performance. Employee engagement refers to the emotional commitment and active involvement of employees towards their work and organization. This research article aims to investigate the relationship between employee engagement and organizational performance, shedding light on the various dimensions of engagement and their impact on key performance indicators.

Employee Engagement Dimensions

Employee engagement encompasses multiple dimensions that collectively contribute to overall engagement levels. These dimensions include job satisfaction, organizational commitment, job involvement, work-life balance, employee well-being, and opportunities for growth and development. Each dimension influences employee engagement differently and plays a crucial role in determining organizational performance.

Employee Engagement and Organizational Performance:

Productivity:

Engaged employees are more motivated, committed, and willing to invest discretionary effort in their work. They go above and beyond their job requirements, resulting in increased productivity levels.

Their commitment to organizational goals and values drives them to perform at their best, leading to higher quality outputs and improved efficiency.

Profitability:

Employee engagement has a direct impact on an organization's financial performance. Engaged employees are more focused on delivering quality work, providing excellent customer service, and contributing to innovation and process improvements. Their efforts lead to improved customer satisfaction, increased customer loyalty, and ultimately, higher profitability.

Customer Satisfaction:

Engaged employees play a vital role in creating positive customer experiences. Their high levels of motivation, commitment, and enthusiasm translate into exceptional customer service. Engaged employees are more likely to understand customer needs, empathize with their concerns, and go the extra mile to meet and exceed customer expectations. Satisfied customers are more likely to become repeat customers, leading to increased sales and positive word-of-mouth referrals.

Employee Retention:

Organizations that prioritize employee engagement experience higher levels of employee retention. Engaged employees feel a sense of belonging, job satisfaction, and personal growth opportunities within the organization. They are less likely to seek alternative employment options, reducing turnover costs and maintaining a stable workforce. This stability fosters continuity, knowledge retention, and enhanced organizational performance.

Factors Influencing Employee Engagement:

Several factors contribute to employee engagement, and organizations can proactively address these factors to enhance engagement levels and ultimately improve organizational performance:

Leadership: Effective leadership plays a vital role in fostering employee engagement. Leaders who inspire, communicate effectively, provide support, and recognize employee contributions create an environment conducive to engagement.

Organizational Culture: A positive and inclusive organizational culture that values employee well-being, provides growth opportunities, and encourages collaboration enhances employee engagement. Employees need to feel valued, empowered, and connected to the organization's mission and values.

Employee Development: Providing opportunities for learning, skill development, and career advancement increases employee engagement. When employees see a clear path for growth within the organization, they are more likely to be engaged and committed to their work.

Recognition and Rewards: Recognizing and rewarding employee contributions and achievements positively impact engagement levels. Appreciation and rewards reinforce a sense of value and accomplishment, fostering a positive work environment.

Impact on Productivity

Engaged employees are more likely to be productive and perform at their best. They exhibit higher levels of motivation, discretionary effort, and commitment to achieving organizational goals. This section examines the relationship between employee engagement and productivity, highlighting the mechanisms through which engaged employees contribute to enhanced individual and team performance.

Impact on Profitability

Employee engagement has a direct impact on an organization's financial performance. Engaged employees are more focused on delivering quality work, meeting customer needs, and driving innovation, leading to increased profitability. This section explores the link between employee engagement and profitability, providing evidence of how engaged employees positively influence financial outcomes.

Impact on Customer Satisfaction

Engaged employees have a significant impact on customer satisfaction levels. Their positive attitude, commitment, and willingness to go the extra mile result in improved customer service and experiences. This section investigates the relationship between employee engagement and customer satisfaction, emphasizing the role of engaged employees as brand ambassadors.

Impact on Employee Retention

Organizations that prioritize employee engagement experience higher levels of employee retention. Engaged employees are more likely to remain with the organization, reducing turnover costs and maintaining a stable workforce. This section examines the relationship between employee engagement and employee retention, exploring the factors that contribute to higher engagement and lower turnover rates.

Conclusion

The relationship between employee engagement and organizational performance is evident across various performance indicators. Fostering employee engagement through effective leadership, supportive organizational culture, and meaningful work experiences is essential for achieving sustainable organizational success. Organizations should invest in strategies that promote employee engagement to reap the benefits of improved performance, profitability, customer satisfaction, and employee retention.

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