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Schemenner, R.W., Huber, J.C. and Cook, R.L. (1987), "Geographic Differences and the Location of New Manufacturing Facilities," Journal of Urban Economics, Vol. 21, No. 1, pp. 83-104.

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• Garg, Sambhav (2011): "Business Ethics" Paper presented at the Annual International Conference for the All India Management Association, New Delhi, India, 19–22 June.

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• Kumar S. (2011): "Customer Value: A Comparative Study of Rural and Urban Customers," Thesis, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra.

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## IMPULSIVE BUYING BEHAVIOUR OF RURAL PEOPLE: WITH REFERENCE TO FMCG PRODUCTS

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Traditionally, the marketing framework regarding the consumer decision making process mainly focusses on needs recognition, searching for information, evaluation of alternatives, purchasing and post-purchasing evaluations. Impulse buying is considered as relevant in today's shopping scenario with the innovative sales promotions, creative messages and appropriate use of technologies in the retail stores (Schiffman, 2010). Impulse buying is seen as unplanned and unintended in-store behaviour. The study is descriptive in nature and a sample size of 50 respondents were chosen on the convenience sampling basis in arasur village. This paper aims to identify the impact of socio economic factors that affect the impulse purchasing behaviour of the consumers during the purchase of select categories of fincg goods. Socio economic variables used in the study included gender, age, educational qualification, occupation, monthly income, marital status and nature of family. Mean test and regression test were performed to find the most preferred reason to go for impulse buying and it shows that nature of family influences the impulsive buying behaviour of the respondents.

#### **KEYWORDS**

impulsive buying behaviour, rural customer, FMCG products.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

mpulsive buying is an important phenomenon for researches in consumer behaviour and retailing. Impulsive buying is the degree to which an individual is likely to make un intended, immediate and un reflective purchases and is the result of an exposure to a stimulus, decided on the spot.

Jit accounts for as much as 62% of supermarket sales and 80% of all sales in certain product categories.(Dr. Tauseef Ahmad)

Recent marketing and retail researchers have classified impulse behaviour as a very powerful and real time influence in the consumer buying behavior process (Bayley and Nancarrow, 1998; Hausman, 2000; Crawford and Melewar, 2003).

The study of consumer behaviours has lead to conclusions as to why consumers act as they do when it comes to shopping (Underhill, 2006)

The rural consumer is likely to exhibit different purchase behavior as compared to his urban counterpart. This is basically due to the unique characteristics of rural markets. Impulse buying may be influenced by internal states or traits experienced by consumers, or by environmental factors (Sharma, Rajesh)

A change in society is also shown in the decreasing amount of free time outside of work. Consumers spend less time planning before shopping but with the attitude of a life-style shopper and an increased income by which consumers are encouraged to buy more, impulse buying is a fact (Williams et al, 1972).

Impulse buying disrupts the normal decision making models in consumers' brains. The logical sequence of the consumers' actions is replaced with an irrational

Impulse buying disrupts the normal decision making models in consumers' brains. The logical sequence of the consumers' actions is replaced with an irrational moment of self-gratification.

A study published in the June 2008 issue of the Journal of Consumer Research suggests that consumers are more susceptible to making impulsive purchases for one brand over another if they are distracted while shopping.

While shoppers with impulsive buying tendencies may view an impulse purchase as negative and successfully resist the temptation, at other times they are more likely to rationalize the negative feeling and makes the purchases any way. This indicates that, although impulsive shoppers may deliberate about the purchase on a cognitive level, at some point in the decision making process, the shoppers affective state overcomes their cognitive will power. (Alizera)

VALUE GROWTH IN 'IMPULSE' CATEGORY PRODUCTS BY CHANNEL								
Grocers	Gen Stores	>Chemists	Food Stores	Modern Trade				
18	10	16	18	13	38			
28	23	29	30.	19	30			
19	11	18	28	20	49			
14	8	12	12	12	56			
	18 28 19	18 10 28 23 19 11	18     10     16       28     23     29       19     11     18	18     10     16     18       28     23     29     30.       19     11     18     28	18     10     16     18     13       28     23     29     30.     19       19     11     18     28     20			

Stern (1962) provides to the research by subdividing impulse purchase into four categories. They are based on the above mentioned definitions where the purchase is unplanned.

#### PURE IMPULSIVE BUYING

(defined as classic impulsive buying), is a purchase that breaks the normal planned shopping pattern. This category is strongly connected to emotions and the impulsiveness is very high. Low price is a common trigger to this category.

#### SUGGESTION IMPULSIVE BUYING

(Defined as a suggestion impulsive buying), because when seeing a new product for the first time; a need develops in the shopper that can only be satisfied by buying it. This purchase can turn out to be a rational or functional purchase decision but the purchase is not a planned one. That is why visualization in the store is the key factor for the purchase.

#### REMINDER IMPULSIVE BUYING

(Defined as reminder impulsive buying), is when a product suddenly reminds the consumer that they need it because they are out of it back home. There already exists an unconscious need for the product which implies that the consumer has previous knowledge about the product. It helps them remind them about a particular advertisement or information previously noticed by the consumer, which now makes the consumer take the opportunity of purchasing.

#### PLANNED IMPULSIVE BUYING

(defined as planned impulsive buying), because when entering a shop the consumer has in mind to buy something or some sort of good but the choice of what kind of product, brand, size or price etc. has not been determined. Instead special offers and other stimuli such as salespersons, influence the decisions inside the shop. The actual decision is made at the point of sale. This makes it different from planned purchase when a more specific kind of product is in mind e.g. a blouse instead of clothes.

The four type of consumer buying behavior are:

#### ROUTINE RESPONSE/PROGRAMMED BEHAVIOR

--buying low involvement frequently purchased low cost items; need very little search and decision effort; purchased almost automatically. Examples include soft drinks, snack foods, milk etc.

#### LIMITED DECISION MAKING

It means buying product occasionally. When you need to obtain information about unfamiliar brand in a familiar product category, perhaps. It requires a moderate amount of time for information gathering. Examples include clothes—know product class but not the brand.

#### **EXTENSIVE DECISION MAKING/COMPLEX HIGH INVOLVEMENT**

It refers to unfamiliar, expensive and/or infrequently bought products. High degree of economic/ performance/psychological risk. Examples include cars, homes, computers, education. Spend a lot of time seeking information and deciding. Information from the companies MM; friends and relatives, store personnel etc. Go through all six stages of the buying process.

#### IMPULSE BUYING, NO CONSCIOUS PLANNING

The purchase of the same product does not always elicit the same buying behavior. Product can shift from one category to the next. For example going out for dinner for one person may be extensive decision making (for someone that does not go out often at all), but limited decision making for someone else. The reason for the dinner, whether it is an anniversary celebration, or a meal with a couple of friends will also determine the extent of the decision making.

#### **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

This paper explores the process by which four store environment (music, light, employee, and layout) and two individual characteristics, shopping enjoyment tendency(SET) and impulse buying tendency(IBT) influence impulse buying behaviour through positive and negative affect, and urge to buy impulsively. The data was obtained from 733 respondents in a mall survey conducted in Chennai, South India. - In the structural model tested with AMOS, it was found that store environment drove impulse buying through positive affect and urge. Results also showed that the personality variables (SET and IBT) influenced impulsive buying through positive affect and urge. It was suggested that retail managers should invest in improving the store environment to increase the level of impulse buying in their stores. Specifically, they need to focus on enhancing friendliness of store employees, playing appropriate music, designing proper layouts and having well-lit stores to encourage impulse buying. (Geetha Mohan et al 2013)

This study was done to understand consumer impulse buying choice in different consumption situations through the identification of both external and individual determinants of impulse buying behaviour. A questionnaire was developed based on BPM (behavioural perspective model) and a survey was done on 414 consumers in UK and Taiwan. The research shows that routine shopping situation and its utilitarian reinforcements triggers the highest rate of impulsive buying choices and individual cultural back ground were also found to predict different types of impulse buying patterns. (Wei Chan)

The study was to identify the main factors influencing impulse purchasing behaviour of the rural people. A sample of fifty rural people was selected randomly from 5 villages. The tools used were multiple regressions and it was found that 94% of the people have done impulse purchasing. Cloths and plastic items were the main items they had bought without a purchasing plan. Gender and income level show positive relationships and education level is negatively related with impulse buying. There are no direct relationships between impulse buying with civil states and age of the people. The study revealed that impulse buying has contributed significantly to rural poverty as the rural farmers were being weak financial managers. (D. n. w.Gamage)

In a study by Abratt and Goodey (1990), higher income is suggested as one of several factors that can account for the higher level of impulse buying. A study by Mogelonsky (1994) logically suggests that impulse buying is reserved for those consumers who can afford it. In this study we fail to reject the hypothesis that Impulsive buying tendencies are same between different income groups of adolescents. One of the possible reasons may be that adolescent's pocket money may not be truly reflective of the family income. The future research may therefore focus upon family income rather than pocket money.

The study is based on the primary data collected from Shopping malls, Handlooms and marts from the area of JODHPUR. It is found through factor analysis that since income of the individual is increasing and more people are moving towards western culture, the purchasing power of the people has gone up and the impulsive buying of the commodities is on a great increment due to the pricing strategies festival offers of the players. ( Dr. Tauseef Ahmad)

## **NEED FOR THE STUDY**

Customers make decision based on a large number of factors and although it is impossible to influence them all, successful marketers strike a balance between appealing to the emotional and rational sides to our personality. Human being is not completely practical, nor do they make decision based on their feelings. The amount of emotional desire varies according to the product, but rational decision varies according to circumstances. Rational decision making involves logical thought processes in making purchasing decisions, while emotional works upon the brain wave. People have both logical and emotional buying motives .Some recent survey shows that 20% of the decision to make a purchase is logical and 80% is emotional. (Byshi Panikar)

This study is an attempt to find out whether rural people exhibit impulse buying behaviour towards fmcg goods and what factors promotes them to go for impulse buying.

The categories taken for the study in fmcg includes house hold products, personal products and food & beverages.

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

- To know the level of influence of factors that motivates to make impulsive purchase towards fmcg goods .
- To identify the impact of socio economic variable on impulse buying behaviour.

# **RESEARCH DESIGN**

Area of the study: To fulfill the stipulated objective, study was under taken in Arasur village in sulur taluk of Coimbatore district. For the survey purpose, 50 households were selected based on convenience sampling interview schedule method was adopted to conducted the research. It also required focused group interview to elicit answer from the respondents.

#### **DATA COLLECTION**

To fulfill the objectives of the study, both primary and secondary data are collected. Primary data was collected from each house hold with the help of pre tested questionnaire. The secondary data was collected with the help of various books, journals and web sites.

Weighed arithmetic mean was used to identify the important feature that influences the purchase of fmcg goods. Regression model was performed to evaluate the influence of buying behaviour towards fmcg and nature of family.

Hypothesis which was tested by regression test in order to satisfy the relationship between the variable and brand selection is mentioned below.

Ho: Nature of family of rural consumer's setup directly influences their impulsive buying behaviour.

#### **FACTORS INFLUENCING IMPULSE BUYING**

There are many factors which affect Consumers Impulse Buying Behaviour in FMCG market but only the following factors are considered for the present study.

- Price and discount
- Advertising and sales promotion
- Visual merchandising
- **Emotional attachment**
- Company
- Income
- Festival season

#### **ΠΔΤΔ ΔΝΔΙ ΥSIS**

#### **DEMOGRAPHIC DETAILS**

The following table indicates the socio economic profile of the respondents.

TABLE 1: SOCIO ECONOMIC PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENTS

Variables		No. of Respondents	Percentage	
Gender	Male	6	12.00	
	Female	44	88.00	
	Total	50	100	
Age	Age Below 25 years		38.00	
	26-30 years	19	38.00	
	36-40 years	6	12.00	
	41-45 years	6	12.00	
	Total	50	100	
Educational qualification	Illiterate	13	26.00	
	Middle school	19	38.00	
	Higher secondary	12	24.00	
	Graduate	6	12.00	
	Total	50	100	
Occupation	Private employee	37	74.0	
	Shop owner	7	14.00	
	Others		12.00	
	Total	50	100	
Monthly income	Less than Rs. 5000	26	52.00	
	Rs. 5000-10000	24	48.00	
	Total	50	100	
Marital status	Married	37	74.00	
	Unmarried	13	26.00	
	Total	50	100	
Nature of family	Joint family	31	62.00	
	Nuclear family	19	38.00	
	Total	50	100	

In this table, out of 50 respondents, 88 % (44) of the respondents are female and 12 % (6) of the respondents are male.

Regarding the age category, 38 %(19) of respondents are below 25 years of age and the same number of respondents belong to the age category between 26-30 years. The rest of 12% (6) belong to each of the category 36-40 years and 41-45 years of age.

Among all the respondents, 26% (13) respondents are illiterates, 38 % (19) of respondents had studied till middle school, 24 % (12) of the respondents have completed their higher secondary and 12 %( 6) of the respondents are graduates.

Regarding the occupation, 74% (37) of respondents work in private concerns, 14% (7) of respondents owns shop.

52% of respondents have their monthly income less than 5000, 48 % of respondents have their monthly income between Rs. 5000 and 10,000.

Among 50 respondents, 74% are married and 26 % are unmarried.

62% of the employees live in joint family and 38 % of respondents live in nuclear family.

The successive table narrates the buying behaviour towards FMCG. Various factors that influence the impulsive buying behaviour are taken for the discussion and the mean values were calculated. Based on it, ranks were assigned to the criteria.

**TABLE 2: PLACE OF PURCHASE** 

Variables	Local shops	Main bazaar	Shops of nearby villages	Shops of nearby towns
Household	26(52.00)	12(24.00)	0(0.00)	12(24.00)
Food and beverages	32(64.00)	6(12.00)	0(0.00)	12(24.00)
Personal care products	26(52.00)	12(24.00)	0(0.00)	12(24.00)

Source: Primary Data

The variables given in the parenthesis represents the percentage value. The above table reveals that majority of the people purchase their products in the local shops. 52 % buy house hold and personal care products in local shops, 64 % buy food & beverages in local shops.

#### TABLE 3: SOURCE OF INFLUENCE TOWARDS PURCHASE OF PRODUCT

SI. No	Purchase of products	No. of respondents	Percentage					
1.	Self	6	12.0					
2.	Family	6	12.0					
3.	Friends and neighbors	25	50.0					
4.	Print media	13	26.0					
	Total	50	100					

Source: Primary Data

Nearly 50% of the people say that they are influenced mostly by their friends and neighbours in purchasing FMCG products followed by print media (26%). 12 % of people's opinion is that they take the decision by own self and 12% of consumers are influenced by their family members.

TABLE 4: FACTORS INFLLIENCING IMPLIESIVE BLIVING BEHAVIOUR

TABLE 4. TACTORS IN ECCINGING INFOESIVE BOTTING BETTAVIOOR								
Factors	Strongly	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly	Total	Mean	Rank
	Agree				Disagree	sum		
Price and discount motivates my impulse behaviour.	25(50.00)	12(24.00)	6(12.00)	0(0.00)	7(14.00)	198	3.96	4
Advertisement and sales promotion induces my impulse buying.	18(36.00)	25(50.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	7(14.00)	197	3.94	5
Visual merchandising induces my buying behaviour.	25(50.00)	19(38.00)	6(12.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	219	4.38	1
Emotional attachment with product motivates me to buy the product.	31(62.00)	6(12.00)	6(12.00)	7(14.00)	0(0.00)	211	4.22	2
The person with whom you are going affects my buying Behaviour positively.	18(36.00)	12(24.00)	7(14.00)	6(12.00)	7(14.00)	178	3.56	6
Requirement of product in festival season and special occasion prompts me to buy.	31(62.00)	12(24.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	7(14.00)	210	4.20	3

Source: Primary Data

From the study we can find that, visual merchandising carries maximum mean value as 4.38 and was given rank 1 followed by the emotional attachment of the product with the mean value 4.22, assigned with rank 2, special occasion impulsive purchase has the mean value 4.20 which was assigned rank 3, price off and discounts with the mean value 3.96 was assigned rank 4, advertisement and sales promotion with the mean value 3.94 was assigned rank 5. Finally the criteria companionship has the mean value 3.56 was assigned the 6 th rank.

#### REGRESSION TEST

### Ho: Nature of family of rural consumers' setup directly influences their impulsive buying behaviour.

The regression model was performed to evaluate the influences of buying behaviour towards FMCG and nature of family. The dependent variable was regular investment habit and the independent variable are:  $X_1$ - Price and discount motivates my impulse behaviour,  $X_2$ - Advertisement and sales promotion induces my impulse buying,  $X_3$ - Virtual merchandising induces my buying behaviour,  $X_4$ - Emotional attachment with product is a motivational,  $X_5$ - The person with whom you are going affects my buying behaviour and  $X_5$ - Requirement of product in festival season and special occasion prompts me to buy.

TABLE 5: CO-EFFICIENT OF BUYING BEHAVIOUR TOWARDS FMCG AND NATURE OF FAMILY

Variables	Unstandardized Coefficients		t-value	Sig	R <sup>2</sup>
	В	Std. Error			
Constant	3.545	.162	21.591	.000	.963
Price and discount motivates my impulse behaviour	0.658	.035	18.563	.000	
Advertisement and sales promotion induces my impulse buying	0.376	.111	-3.385	.002	
Virtual merchandising induces my buying behaviour	0.923	.135	9.079	.000	
Emotional attachment with product is a motivational one	0.505	.127	3.979	.000	
The person with whom you are going affects my buying behaviour	0.628	.108	5.838	.000	
Requirement of product in festival season and special occasion prompts me to buy	0.455	.122	2.088	.043	

Level of Significance: 5 per cent

Regression fitted:  $Y = 3.545 + 0.658X_1 + 0.376X_2 + 0.923X_3 + 0.505 X_4 + 0.628X_5 0.455X_6$ 

TABLE 6: RESULT OF ANOVA: BUYING BEHAVIOUR TOWARDS FMCG AND NATURE OF FAMILY

Source	Sum of Square	DF	Mean square	F	Sig
Regression	11.023	6	1.837	104.393	.000
Residual	.757	43	.018		
Total	11.780	49	-		

Level of Significance: 5 per cent

The multiple regression models indicate that explanatory variables have significant contribution to price and discount which motivates impulse behaviour, advertisement and sales promotion induces my impulse buying, visual merchandising induces my buying behaviour, emotional attachment with product is a motivational, the person with whom you are going affects my buying behaviour and requirement of product in festival season and special occasion prompts me to buy. The coefficient of determination R<sup>2</sup> value showed that these variables put together explained the variations of Y to the extent of 96.30 per cent.

It has been further observed that probability value (0.000) of F establishes significance relationship between the variables tested in the hypothesis. Thus it is concluded that the Nature of family of rural consumers' setup directly influences their impulsive buying behaviour. The measure of regression establishes 96.30 per cent of association between the variables tested.

# CONCLUSION

The study shows that the rural consumers are more concerned about the visual merchandising which they feel that it stimulates the impulsive buying behaviour. This coincides with the fact that buying impulses can be induced when a consumer encounters a relevant visual stimulus in the retail environment, or some promotional stimuli (Piron, 1991). People feel that emotional attachment with the product makes them prefer a product. These emotions may be specific to certain things for example, the features of the items, customer self-interest, consumer's gauge of evaluating items and the importance they give to their purchasing at a store which coincides with what Babin and Babin (2001) found that in stores consumer's purchasing intentions and spending can largely be influenced by emotions.

The study also reveals that the factors like price discounts, visual merchandising, emotional attachment with the products, sales promotion activities of the manufacturers, festival offers have a positive influence on the impulsive buying behaviour of the rural consumers. So it has become essential on the part of the manufacturers to give importance to these factors to improve sales in these areas.

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