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RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

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AN EMPIRICAL STUDY ON RELATIONSHIP OF SUPERVISION, INNOVATION & CHANGE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE (ORGANIZATIONAL CLIMATE) WITH RESILIENCE

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ABSTRACT

Positive psychological resources had emerged as a new competitive advantage to leverage upon among organizations. Resilience is one such positive psychological resource. Relationship of resilience with supervision, innovation & change and customer service, which were taken to represent organizational climate in the present study would pave way to develop sustainable competitive advantage for future organizations. This study is an attempt to explore the relationship of supervision, innovation & change and customer service (organizational climate) with resilience. Results of sample drawn from employees of information technology sector depict positive correlation of resilience with supervision, innovation & change, and insignificant correlation with customer service. Results also support another hypothesis of the study that resilience puts significant impact on supervision, innovation & change, and insignificant impact on customer service. Implications and findings of the study conclude the paper.

KEYWORDS

resilience, supervision, innovation & change, customer service, organizational climate.

INTRODUCTION

hanging paradigm of market structure and fluctuating economic conditions directs organizations to develop competitive advantage that will last long. Globalization had no doubt opened numerous opportunities for corporate world but at the same time put forth unimaginable challenges in front of even top notch organizations. This uncertain environment gets supported by Changing demographics, growing two-income families and an educated workforce who likes to maintain control over their careers (Pearce & Randel, 2004). All these changes induced organizations to act and think in different way. Organizational climate gets affected a lot by events taking place outside organization as individuals who are members of society bring effects of outside changes in organizations in the form of employees. Turbulent changes in corporate world as well as in society left employer and employee both with feelings of insecurity. Employee is facing regular job insecurity and employer is struggling for sustainable competitive advantage. Thus organizations are looking forward to search and invest in unique resources that are hard to replicate. Positive psychological resources could emerge as unique resources that organizations are looking for.

As per studies on intervention of positive psychological resources in organizational behavior, employees do not come alone in organizations they carry their psychological resources along with him. Recent studies report that positive psychological resources could be a contributor towards building competitive advantage among organizations. Resilience is a psychological resource being state like it could be developed among employees. Psychological resources play vital role in developing organizational climate. Organizational climate is a construct for describing or expressing the way people experience their work settings. It is important as it is the bridge between employer and employee working towards achievement of common goal. Many factors contribute in development of climate. Different studies exhibit different dimensions of organizational climate. In present study supervision, innovation & change and customer service were taken as three dimensions to represent organizational climate.

Present study attempts to explore relationship of supervision, innovation & change and customer service (organizational climate) with resilience. It also attempts to examine the impact of resilience on supervision, innovation & change and customer service (organizational climate) among employees of information technology.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

ORGANIZATIONAL CLIMATE

Organizational climate topic is decades old topic in organization behavior and organization psychology. Lewin, Ronald Lippitt, and Ralph White (1939) (Seen in Schneider et al. 2011) were the first, who used the climate term in psychological research. Organizational climate may be defined as the shared perceptions of and the meaning attached to the policies, practices, and procedures employees experience and the behaviors they observe getting rewarded and that are supported and expected (Ostroff et al. 2003, Schneider et al. 2011). Organizational climate plays vital role in employees attitude and performance. The amount of organizational support received by individual from their own organization puts direct impact on employees performance (Eisenbergeret.al.,1990)

Organizational climate encompasses various factors within it. Interpersonal communication is one such factor that plays important role in different processes and policies. Supervisors within organizations act as not only communicators as well as and guide to employees, and thus contributes in developing work environment. Traditionally, supervisors are expected to develop roles and expectations of organizational employees (Garen & Scandura, 1987). Organizational leader is important in effecting followers' performance by creating a learning work environment, which develops employees commitment towards organizational objectives (Avery, 2004. Patterson et al., (2005) also found that supervisory support mediated by job satisfaction is found as significant predictor of productivity.

The acceptance of unconventional ideas/practices and behaviors by top management initiate innovations in organizations (Damanpour, 1991). Many studies reported the relationship of organizational climate with innovation such as positive association between organizational climate and innovation support (Montes et, al. 2004).

Customer service is the most important part for every organization. Schneider et al. (1998) depicts a significant relationship of service climate with customer's perception towards service among bank employees. Rogg et al, (2001) found a significant relationship between climate variables and customer service variables among franchise dealers of a large automotive manufacturer. Thus it could be deduced that human resource practices put significant influence on organizational climate which in turn effects customer satisfaction.

RESILIENCE

Resilience is the extent to which individuals are able to bounce back from negative experiences and adapt to changing and stressful life demands (Tugade & Fredrickson, 2004). Luthans (2002a) define resilience as the "positive psychological capacity to rebound, to 'bounce back' from adversity, un-certainty, conflict, failure, or even positive change, progress and increased responsibility". An individual could be classified as resilient on two types of judgments. First, the individual

should have experienced some kind of adverse or threatening event(s). Second, is the degree to which the individual was able to overcome and/or thrive (Master 1999).

Studies show positive relationship of resilience with performance outcomes (Luthans, Avolio, et al., 2006; Luthans et al., 2005; Youssef, 2004). Luthans et al. (2005) depicts significant relationship among resilience and rated performance of Chinese workers. Resilience was found significantly related with job satisfaction among factory workers (Larson & Luthans, 2006)

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

In the light of present scenario of dynamic changes in marketplace, organizations are looking towards developing sustainable competitive advantage. Positive psychological resources could be one such example for future organizations. Thus present study is an attempt to examine relationship and impact of resilience on supervision, innovation & change and customer service representing organizational climate in the study.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- 1. To study relationship between Supervision, Innovation & Change, Customer Service (Organizational Climate) and Resilience among employees of Information Technology Sector.
- 2. To study the impact of Resilience on Supervision, Innovation & Change, Customer Service (Organizational Climate) among employees of Information Technology Sector.

HYPOTHESES

- 1. There is significant relationship between Supervision and Resilience among employees of Information Technology Sector.
- 2. There is significant relationship between Innovation & Change and Resilience among employees of Information Technology Sector.
- 3. There is significant relationship between Customer Service and Resilience among employees of Information Technology Sector.
- 4. There is significant impact of Resilience on Supervision among employees of Information Technology Sector.
- 5. There is significant impact of Resilience on Innovation & Change among employees of Information Technology Sector.
- 6. There is significant impact of Resilience on Customer Service among employees of Information Technology Sector.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

SAMPLE AND PROCEDURES

Indore was always a famous destination for companies of all sectors. During last decade Information technology sector has grown rapidly in Indore. Many new Indore based information technology based enterprises had made their mark not only in India but also outside India. Many talented employees are working in these information technology companies. A convenient random sample of 100 information technology company employees was drawn for present study. Personal interaction and e-mails were used to coordinate with respondents. Out of 100 only 70 complete in all respects and usable questionnaires were received back for analysis.

TOOLS FOR DATA COLLECTION

RESILIENCE MEASURE

For measuring resilience self-designed questionnaire of 6 items was developed and used. Expert views and literature review supported in developing items for scale. Six items of the scale represent Resilience measure of a respondent. The Cronbach's alpha value of scale has been found as .860, as per literature alpha value of more than .60 is good for measurement. Scale varies from strongly disagree -1 to strongly agree-6. Resiliency measure has shown accepted reliability and validity.

SUPERVISION MEASURE

Supervision measure was developed using a self-designed questionnaire for the present study. Initially 6 items were drawn from literature review and expert view. Later on the basis of Cronbach's alpha, it was reduced to 5 item version to meet research needs. The Cronbach's alpha value of scale has been found as .767. The scale varies from definitely false =1 to definitely true =4.

INNOVATION & CHANGE MEASURE

A self-designed questionnaire of 8 items was developed to measure innovation & change. Questionnaire was developed with the help of literature review and expert view. The Cronbach alpha coefficient of innovation & change measure was found as approximately.809. Innovation & change measure has shown accepted reliability and validity. The scale varies from definitely false =1 to definitely true =4.

CUSTOMER SERVICE MEASURE

Customer service measure was measured using a self-designed questionnaire in the study. Customer service scale consists of 5 items was developed with support of literature review and expert views. The Cronbach's alpha value of scale has been found as 796. The scale varies from definitely false =1 to definitely true =4.

TABLE 1: RE	I IARII ITV	STATISTICS	OF SCALES

Scale	Cronbach's Alpha	Cronbach's Alpha Based on Standardized Items	N of Items
Resilience	0.86	0.867	6
Supervision	0.767	0.759	5
Innovation & Change	0.809	0.817	8
Customer Service	0.796	0.786	5

STATISTICAL TOOLS USED

To access the relationship of supervision, innovation & change, customer service (organizational climate) with resiliency Co-relation analysis was used. In addition, to examine the hypothesized relationships regression analysis was used to access the impact of resiliency on supervision, innovation & change, customer service (organizational climate).

RESULTS

The participants included 44 males and 28 females, with an average age of 30-40 (n=31) years. Participants also includes above 40 years (n=30) and 20-30 years (n=11). The highest educational degree earned by participants included postgraduates (n = 30), graduates (n =22), and undergraduate (n =20). Participants have monthly income of above 5 Lakhs (n=33), 2-5 Lakhs (n=24) and below 2 Lakhs (n=15). Respondents have an experience of less than 1 year (n=8),1-5 years (n=24),6-10 years (n=26) and more than 10 years (n=4).

TABLE 2: PEARSON COEFFICIENT CORRELATION BETWEEN RESILIENCY AND ORGANIZATIONAL CLIMATE

		Resiliency
	Pearson Correlation	.593**
Supervision	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000
	N	70
	Pearson Correlation	.387**
Innovation & Change	Sig. (2-tailed)	.001
	N	70
	Pearson Correlation	.156
Customer Service	Sig. (2-tailed)	.197
	N	70

^{**.} Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

(Con-

stant)

Resili-

ency

1

10.818

1.872

.071

						Mod	lel Summary			
			Adjusted R	Std. Error of				Change St	atistics	
Model	R	R Square	Square	the Estimate	R Square Change F		F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change
1	.593a	.351	.342	2.270	.351		36.822	1	68	.000
a. Predi	ctors: (Co	nstant), Resili	iency							
				ANOVA						
		Sum of								
Model		Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig	<u>g</u> .			
1	Regres- sion	189.693	1	189.693	36.822	.0	00p			
	Resid- ual	350.307	68	5.152						
	Total	540.000	69							
a. Depe	ndent Var	iable: Superv	ision			•				
b. Predi	ctors: (Co	nstant), Resili	iency							
					Coeffici	entsa				
8.4 a al a l		Unstandard cients	lized Coeffi-	Standardized C	oefficients		c:-	95.0% Con	fidence Interval for B	
Model		В	Std. Error	Beta			Sig.	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	
1	(Con- stant)	7.632	1.244			6.134	.000	5.149	10.114	
1	Resili- ency	.287	.047	.593		6.068	.000	.192	.381	
a. Depe	ndent Var	iable: Superv	ision							

							Model Su	ımmar	v								
						Change Statistics											
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R S	quare	Std. Err	Std. Error of the Estimate		R Square Ch		guare Change		ge (lf1	df2	Sig. F Cha	Sig. F Change	
1	.387a	.150	.137		3.693			.150			11.962	1	L	68	.001		
a. Predic	tors: (Const	ant), Resili	ency		•			•		•				•			
			-		ANOV	Aa											
Model		St	ım of Squares	df	1		Mean So	iquare F			Sig	Sig.					
	Regressio	n 16	53.182	1			163.182		11.962 .		.00	.001b					
1	Residual	92	927.618				13.641										
	Total	10	1090.800														
a. Deper	ndent Variat	le: Innovat	tion & Change								•						
b. Predic	tors: (Const	ant), Resili	ency														
						С	oefficient	Sa									
Model		Unsta	ndardized Coe	dized Coefficients Sta			dardized Coefficients .				c:	95.0%	95.0% Confidence Interval for B				
Model		В	B Std. Error			Beta			τ			Sig.	Lower	Bound	Upper Bound		
1	(Constant	17.76	6 2.02	5						8.775	·	.000	13.72	6	21.806		
1	Resilience	.266	.077			.387				3.459		.001	.112		.419		
a. Deper	ndent Variab	le: Innovat	ion & Change														

TABLE 5: REGRESSION ANALYSIS - IMPACT OF RESILIENCE ON CUSTOMER SERVICE

				Model Surr	nmary								
			Adjusted R	Std. Error of the Esti-	Change Statistics								
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	mate std. Error of the Esti-	R Square Change		F Change	df1	df2	Sig. Change	F		
1	.156ª	.024	.010	3.416	.024		1.699	1	68	.197			
a. Predi	ctors: (Const	ant), Resiliency	•				•	•	•	•			
			ANO	/Aª									
Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.							
4	Regres- sion	19.823	1	19.823	1.699	1.699 .197 ^b							
1	Residual	793.377	68	11.667									
	Total	813.200	69										
a. Depe	ndent Variab	le: Customer Serv	rice										
b. Predi	ctors: (Const	ant), Resiliency								_			
				Coefficients ^a									
		Unstandardized	d Coefficients	Standardized Coefficie			Sig	95.0% Confid for B	dence Interval				
Model		В	Std. Error	Beta	t		Sig.	Lower Bound	Upper Bound				

a. Dependent Variable: Customer Service Resilience is taken as independent variable and supervision, innovation & change and customer service (organizational climate) as dependent variable in the study. Hypothesis 1,2 and 3 focuses on correlation between supervision, innovation & change, customer service (organizational climate) and resilience among employees

5.778

1.303

.000

.197

7.082

-.049

14.554

.234

of information technology sector. Result of Pearson correlation coefficient in Table 2 indicate that at the level of 5% error there is significant positive correlation exists between resilience and supervision (r= 0.593), resilience and innovation & change (r= 0.387), but there exists insignificant correlation between resilience and customer service (r= 0.156 at significance value of.197) Thus hypothesis 1 and 2 is accepted while 3 is not accepted and it reveals that resilience shows significant positive relationship with supervision and innovation & change variables of organizational climate but insignificant relationship with customer service among employees information technology companies.

Hypothesis 4 focuses on impact of resilience on supervision. For hypothesis testing regression Model was created where resilience as independent variable and supervision as dependent was entered. Model with resilience as independent variable is found significant with R²=.351, F= 36.822, b=.287, t=6.068, p=.000 (Table 3). F statistics has the value of 36.822 at significance of.000 this indicates that model is significant. The t statistics value for resilience is 6.068 at significance level of.000. As p value is less than.005, this indicates that resilience has shown significant impact on supervision. R square values indicate that resilience explained 35.1% of the variance in supervision. Thus as per results Hypothesis 4 is accepted and it shows that resilience puts significant impact on supervision among employees of information technology sector.

For hypothesis 5 testing, regression Model was created where resilience as independent variable and innovation & change as dependent was entered. Model was found significant with R²=.150, F= 11.962, b=.266, t=3.459, p=.001 (Table: 4). F statistics has the value of 11.962 at significance of.000 this indicates that model is significant. The t statistics value for resilience is 3.459 at significance level of.000. As p value is less than.005, this indicates that resilience has shown significant impact on innovation & change. R square values indicate that resilience explained 15.0% of the variance in supervision. Thus as per results Hypothesis 5 is accepted and it reveals that resilience puts significant impact on innovation & change among employees of information technology sector.

Regression model was created to test hypotheses 6 where resilience as independent variable and customer service as dependent was entered. Model was found insignificant with R²=.024, F= 1.699, b=.093, t=1.303, p=.197 (Table:5). The t statistics value for resilience is 1.303 at significance level of.197. As p value is more than.005, this indicates that resilience has shown insignificant impact on customer service. Thus as per results Hypothesis 6 is not accepted and it depicts that resilience puts insignificant impact on customer service among employees of information technology sector.

DISCUSSION

Results of the Table 2 indicate that resilience is significantly correlated with supervision and innovation & change variable of organizational climate while shown insignificant correlation with customer service. This indicates that as resilience increases, it will put positive effects on supervision as well as on innovation & change in information technology sector. This positive relationship indicates advantage of having resilient employees at workplace. Results supports resilience importance and development among employees of information technology sector. This result is in line with Masten, 2001; Masten & Reed, 2002 study that considerable increase in an asset intensity (e.g. promotion, high increment) decreases perceived risk (fear of layoff). So by developing an employee's personal asset through knowledge, skills, ability or by information, risks could be decreased.

Findings from Table 3 and 4 depicts that there is significant impact of resilience on supervision and innovation & change variables of organizational climate. While Table 5 reveals that there is insignificant impact of resilience on customer service. This indicates that employee's capacity to bounce back from negative experiences (resilience) contributes in working effectively within organization. Employees with high level of resilience might contribute in generating positivity within organization as resilience is a positive psychological resource (Luthans, 2002a). But study also indicates that in external relations like customer service resilience has shown insignificant impact. Thus resilience plays important role within organizational functions as compared to external functions. Positive psychological resources contribute effectively in enhancing productivity and well-being of organization and in coming future organizations would leverage this potential for their sustainable competitive advantage. This positive impact of resilience calls for psychological resource development at workplace. Research reports that resilience is state-like in nature and hence could be developed (Luthans & Avolio, 2006). Data for present study was drawn from information technology employees who belongs to widely distributed service sector, thus results indicates importance and role of resilience among service sector employees. Organizational climate is reflection of employee's perception towards organization and its positive development is crucial for contemporary organizations. As per Srivastava, (2010) Employee's motivation and behavior get significantly influenced by organizational climate in service industry also. Results revel that employee's resilience contributes significantly towards supervision as well as towards innovation & change, both are good signals for service sector. Positive impact on supervision might reduce supervision cost as employees with high level of resilience would understand on their own effectively and thus reflecting organization citizenship. Similarly, resilient employees would contribute in innovation and development as reported by results and might again support in cost reduction for organizations. As information and technology industry strives for continuous innovation and new change in such scenario positive contribution of resilience would pave the way for future selection and promotion policies in service sector organizations. Results obtained might be the reflection of aggressive competitiveness ample development opportunities present widely in service sector and specifically in information technology sector. Study had taken supervision, innovation & change and customer service as variables to represent organizational climate to generate a comprehensive result with generalized implication across wider geographical areas. Result of present study provides wider implications of psychological resources like resilience development at workplace.

RECOMMENDATIONS/SUGGESTIONS

- 1. Organizations should design new effective selection and placement methods in the light of positive psychological resources importance among workforce.
- 2. Resilience development training interventions should be implied in service sector organizations.
- 3. Future research could focus more on external factors of organizational climate like customer service or quality to attain fruitful results.
- 4. Future research should incorporate more organizational variables to reveal impact of positive psychological resources on organization as a whole.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

- 1. Data for present study was drawn from only Indore region and thus results obtained does not depicts a generalized outcome.
- 2. Lack of context accounting due to time bound. As data was collected only once for the study thus result reflects respondents view at the time of questionnaire filling only and not other time. While employees work in different situations and impact of their psychological resources varies accordingly. Thus study taken in to account only one-time context.
- 3. Questionnaire method many times serves for response biasness; our study could also be influenced by it though length of the instrument was kept fair for the same reason.

CONCLUSION

Positive psychological resources development has emerged out as an important factor to leverage on in coming future for contemporary organizations. Intervention of positive psychology in human resource management since last decade had proved beneficial as well as remarkable. Present study is a contribution towards importance of positive psychological resources in organizations. Study suggests resilient employee's puts positive impact on supervision and innovation & change variables of organizational climate among service sector employees, but resilience was found to put insignificant impact on customer service. Thus study reports that resilience contributes significantly towards organizational internal functions as compared to external functions. For competitive advantage organizations should focus on Psychological resources like resilience development. Present study supports resilience development for organizational effectiveness.

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