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# STRATEGIES FOR SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT: MICROENTERPRISE IN ORISSA: PRACTICES TO PROMOTE SUCCESS AMONG LOW-INCOME ENTREPRENEURS

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Unemployment is one of the most important challenges facing the poor people in our country. This has been made worse by the fact that over the last two decades, the formal economy has been shedding jobs and many workers were retrenched and it is accepted worldwide that the development and growth of small, microenterprises can play an important role in turning this situation around. The present article deals with microenterprises and their role in economic growth and employment generation in the Indian context. This article discusses about the programmes aiming not only development but also take care of livelihood sustainment. This paper analysis the work of promotional institutions for income generating activity and gives the most effective and desirable economic development strategy for many rural communities in small entrepreneurship development based on locally owned and owner operated small businesses, however, entrepreneurship stands as a vehicle to improve the quality of life for rural families and communities to promote healthy economy environment.

#### **KEYWORDS**

Anti-poverty programme, Community development, Microenterprise development, Unemployment.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

rissa is one of the poorest States of the country. Compared to coastal region, the incidence of poverty is more in northern and southern regions of the State. It is higher among the scheduled tribes as compared to scheduled castes and general castes. Furthermore, the percentage of rural families living below the poverty line is found to be much higher in the State, the living conditions of the people of the State are considerably lower than the national average. There are a number of remedial measures to reduce the incidence of poverty among the people in the State. Economic growth is necessary to improve the living conditions of the people. For this, development of Microenterprise play important role in economic development of the people, it provides a pathway for opportunity and achievement in financial growth, job creation, and self-sufficiency and makes them different from other antipoverty programs. Whereas the anti poverty programme like Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) aims at establishing a large number of micro-enterprises in the rural areas to provide sustainable income to the rural poor, how far these programmes are successful in checking the proliferation of poverty and reduce the magnitude of poverty is a big unanswerable question. Small business and microenterprise programs, on the other hand, are potentially efficient ways of helping people to help themselves. If the ownership society is to be expanded, small business and microenterprise are a natural, but not necessarily easy, place to start.

# **NEED OF THE STUDY**

Microenterprise makes an important contribution to economic and social development, in many states they have been the major engine of growth in employment. In developing countries they are seen as a major 'self-help' instrument for poverty eradication. So there is a need of institutional, organisational and regulatory framework to encourage entrepreneurs by the Government to create an enterprise culture, in addition to this necessary guidance and support from financial institution is highly essential.

# **OBJECTIVES OF STUDY**

- 1. Exploring opportunities in small business Microenterprise development according to availability of natural resources, raw material, market etc.
- 2. To analysis the work of promotional institutions for the development income generating activates, i.e. in establishing micro-enterprise.
- 3. To analysis the role of bank and Micro- Finance institution towards the development of micro-Enterprise.
- 4. To study the activities and Programmes being under taken by NGOs, & Government of India for Entrepreneur development.
- 5. To ascertain the strategies for small business development; Microenterprise in Orissa.

# **METHODOLOGY**

Eight backward district of southern Orissa has been selected for the purpose of study where number of BPL category is higher as compared to other district of the state which consists of 1,80,8473 BPL house hold families which is approximately 40% of the state, several anti-poverty programmes in the State are driven by banks, the Government, Non-Government agencies and social workers. In the present study, 200 Microenterprise have been selected randomly from the eight backward districts through structured schedule in order to examine the role of Microenterprise in livelihood sustainment.

Simple statistical tools such as percentage method have been used for the data analysis. Secondary sources of data viz. journals, newspapers, books and the internet have also been relied upon. The strategies are based on both primary and secondary data findings.

# CLASSIFICATION OF SAMPLE UNITS BY THE TYPE OF ENTERPRISE

## TABLE NO. 1.1: SECTORAL CLASSIFICATION OF MICROENTERPRISES

	Products	Types of Enterprise	No of Unit	% of unit
1	Forest Products Leaf Cups, Plate & Brooms Bamboo works/Floor mat Making Unit/Jute rope & coir foot mate making unit/Wood furniture making unit/Match box & Agarvati making Unit	Forest product unit	53	26.5
2	Vegetable Cultivation/Turmeric/ ginger Cultivation	Agriculture product unit	42	21
3	Appliqué & Tent Works/Dry Cleaning/Repairing & Servicing of Automobile/Saloon/Computer center DTP, Xerox, Screen Print & Job Works/Electric Repairing & motor winding unit	Service Unit	31	15.5
4	Ready-made Garment Shop/Village Pan-bidi Shop Foot wear Shop unit/Hardware shop/kirana	Retailing Unit	30	15
5	Chlorinated paraffin wax candle making unit/Steel Trunk & Allmirha making Unit/Ice candy making Unit/Bakery Unit/Chalk arryon Unit	Manufacturing Unit	27	13.5
6	Mini Floor & Spices Grinding Unit/Spices (Pickle & Papad) unit/Lia- Mudhi dobaja unit/Food processing Unit (Mixture)	Food & Agro processing unit	17	8.5
Tot	al .		200	100.0

Source: Field Survey

It can be inferred from the table no. 1.1 that nearly 26.5% of the established enterprise doing forest product unit small business because 47% of these backward districts are under forest cover where forests play a central role in the economic, cultural and socio-political systems and the entire lives and livelihoods of a majority of the people revolve around forest and forestry. Forest based microenterprises are mainly NTFPs (Non-timber forest products) such as sala seeds, kendu leaves, bamboo, Honey, sabai grass and mahua. About 21% of microenterprises are engaged in organic farming of turmeric, ginger, mustered, Cardamom, tamarind, Cumin Seed & chilli. With growing popularity of organic foods in Europe and North America, Kandhamal and Rayagada play important role in exporting these organic spices product by the help of KASAM's (Kandhamal Apex Spices Association for Marketing Kandhamal) & ORMS (Orissa Rural Development and Marketing Society). The analysis revels that out of 200 microenterprise 31(15.5%) units have generate sustainable income through service units as required by the locality and market area on the other hand 15%(30 Units) has made the investment in retailing unit. The study observed that 22% (44 units) were made small manufacturing and processing industry fully funded by the SGSY & PMRY scheme of Government.

#### **SOURCE OF WORKING CAPITAL**

TABLE NO. 1.2: ASSISTANCE OF PROMOTIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO RAISE ENTERPRISE INCOME

SI no	Financial Institution	No of Unit	%age
1	Bank-Linkage	104	52
2	MF (NABARD)	36	18
3	Informal Loan	34	17
4	Own	16	8
5	SFC	10	5
Total		200	100.0

Source: Field Survey

The above table deliberate that 52% (104) unit is having Bank- Linkage through various scheme of state and central government. About 18% (36) units get funds from NABARD microfinance for income generating activities. The data shows 25% (50) of microenterprise units has not availed any help from the promotional institutions

#### ROLE OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTION IN MICROENTERPRISE ESTABLISHMENT

Though majority of the microenterprise have felt that the promotional institutions have been found courteous in their dealings however there has been a feeling among a considerable number of them that there should be a change in the attitude of these institutions for the development of micro enterprise in the backward district of Orissa.

TABLE NO1.3: TYPE OF SERVICES RENDERED BY THE PROMOTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

SI No	Type of Services	No of units	% age
1	Excellent	84	42
2	Very good	26	13
3	Good	62	31
4	Fair	6	3
5	Bad	22	11
Total		200	100.0

Source: field survey

The above table express the feeling of the sample units regarding the nature of response from the promotional institutions when they approach for help. Out of 200 units 84 (42%) have felt that the institutions were excellent and others are also satisfied by the service which constitute of 47% (94) and 11% (22) units feel that there should be change in the approach of promotional institutions.

Success of any scheme depends upon the responsibility and dedication works in implementing the scheme by the promotional institutions in the absence of involvement the plan fail to achieve its purpose. The opinion of entrepreneurs covered in the present study about the involvement of promotional institutions is shown in the table given below.

TABLE NO. 1.4: INVOLVEMENT OF PROMOTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN DEVELOPMENT OF MICROENTERPRISE

SI No	Involvement	No of units	% age
1	Very significant	92	46
2	Partial	84	42
3	Insignificant	24	12
Total		200	100.0

Source: field survey

From the above table it is clear that among 200 entrepreneur 84 respondents 42% is at partial stage and that there is still scope for improvement in other hand 24 respondents 12 % expressed the involvement is insignificant so them there is a need of immediate action for the development of business enterprise in the district.

# **ROLE OF GOVT. & NGOS IN MICROENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENTS**

The success of microenterprise development depends upon the active participation and willing co-operation of Government, NGOs and voluntary agencies. In recent years the NGOs and voluntary agencies have greater importance and significance then before because the administration has not been able to reach the people especially the poor and weaker section. Govt, NGOs & voluntary agencies has designed several programmes in expanding and strengthening microenterprise for generation of both self-employment & wage employment some of these programmes are discussed below.

#### 1. SWARNJAYANTI GRAM SWAROZGAR YOJANA (SGSY)

SGSY is a self-employment programme of Ministry of Rural Development launched on 1st April 1999 aims at providing assistance to the BPL rural poor for establishing micro-enterprises through bank credit and government subsidy to acquire an income-generating asset. Credits are fixed every year by a Committee having representatives from the Ministry of Finance, NABARD, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), State Bank of India (SBI) and Ministry of Rural Development. Under this programme Self Help Groups (SHGs) consist of 10-20 persons are formed through a process of social mobilization, with their training and capacity building, infrastructure build up, technology, credit and marketing enabling them to take decisions on all issues concerning poverty eradication. SGSY is being implemented by the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) with the active participation of Panchayat Raj Institutions, the Banks, the line Departments, and Non-Governmental Organizations. Key activities are identified for each block in the district based on the resources, occupational skills of the people and availability of markets, key activities are given approval by Panchayat Samitis at block level and DRDA (District Rural Development Agencies)/ZP(Zilla Parishad) at the district level and forwarded district SGSY committee, after that proposal is scrutinize, individual and group members coming under poverty line are given financial assistance for the project proposal. Loans are given by the financial institutions comprising commercial banks, cooperative banks and regional rural banks. The loan amount is equal to the total project cost including the amount of subsidy admissible to the swarozgaris, Interest rates for the loans are notified by RBI/NABARD from time to time. SGSY emphasis on skill development through well designed training courses for the identified microenterprise projects.

In order to promote entrepreneurship SGSY provides Marketing promotions of goods produced by the Microenterprise which involves market intelligence, development of markets, consultancy services and institutional arrangements for marketing of the goods including exports. SGSY ensue reservation policy in the allotment of Swarozgaris 50% are given to SC/STs, 32% for women, 15% to Minorities and 3% to disabled in BPL Category.

NGOs & Voluntary agencies play the role of facilitators in providing training, capacity building and also formation of microenterprise.

#### 2. PRIME MINISTER'S EMPLOYMENT GENERATION PROGRAMME (PMEGP)

Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) is also a credit linked subsidy programme of Government of India. It has been introduced by merging the two schemes, namely, Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana (PMRY) and Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP). With an objective to generate employment opportunities in rural as well as urban areas of the country through setting up of new self employment ventures/projects/micro enterprises. Any individual above 18 years age and unemployment is eligible to get the assistance for setting of microenterprise projects under PMEGP; SHG (including those belonging to BPL provided that they have not availed benefits under any other scheme) are also eligible for assistance.

The scheme is implemented by Khadi and village Industries commission (KVIC), a nodal agency at national level and through district industries centres DICs in rural and urban areas.

<b>TABLE 1.5: FINANCIA</b>	L ASSISTANCE THROUGH PMEGP
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TABLE 2151 THAT WELL ALONG TARGET THE COURT THE CO					
Categories of beneficiaries under PMEGP	Beneficiary's contribution (of project cost)	Rate of Subsidy (of project cost)			
		Urban	Rural		
General Category	10%	15%	25%		
SC / ST/OBC/Minorities/Women, Ex-servicemen, Physically	15%	25%	35%		
handicapped,					

Source: www.kvic.org.in

#### SWARNAJAYANTI SHAHARI ROZGAR YOJANA (SJSRY)

The SJSRY came into operation in December 1997, through a restructuring and streamlining of the earlier urban poverty alleviation programs, the Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY), the Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP) and the Prime Ministers Integrated Urban Poverty Alleviation Programme (PMIUPEP). It seeks to provide employment to the urban employed or underemployed living below poverty line and educate up to IX standard through encouraging the setting up of self – employment ventures or provision of wage employment. It is funded by the Centre and States on 75: 25 bases.

#### 4. MICRO-FINANCE PROGRAMME

The main objective of the Scheme is to provide credit at the door step to the poor and low income category people in the country to enable them to carry on business or manufacturing activities. The Scheme is operate through NGOs and Self Help Groups, who provide credit at door step and also monitor the projects on regular basis. The Scheme is in operation from March, 2004. The scheme is implemented by SIDO through SIDBI, assistance is also provided by the Government of India for institution building through identification and development of 'intermediary organisations' which would help the NGOs/SHGs in identification of products, preparation of project reports, working out forward and backward linkages and in fixing marketing/technology tie-ups.

#### 5. TRADE RELATED ENTREPRENEURSHIP ASSISTANCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN (TREAD)

A revised scheme of TREAD was launched in May, 2004 In order to alleviate the problems faced by women entrepreneurs. The scheme envisages development of micro/tiny women enterprises in the country both in the urban and rural areas. The main objective of the scheme is to empower women through development of their entrepreneurial skills by eliminating constraints faced by them in their sphere of trade. For any kind of non-farm activity loan is provided through NGOs in making self-employment ventures. Under the scheme, NGOs, with the requisite experience in micro credit, prepare project proposals on behalf of individual women and submit the proposals to financial institutions in the prescribed form. Based on the appraisal by financial institutions, the project proposal is appraise in the Office of the DC (SSI) for final approval and release of grant to NGOs, which can be up to a maximum of 30% of project cost. The remaining amount will be provided by the financial institutions as loan. In terms of the existing guidelines in TREAD scheme, there is no monetary ceiling.

# **ASSESSMENT OF MICROENTERPRISE**

As the study carried out in eight backward districts of Orissa with the objective to assess the status of microenterprise and to identify opportunities for strengthening and improve the livelihood of their members. The findings of the study are summarized below.

- 1. While discussing with the entrepreneurs many of them feel that a lot of difficulties have been faced to obtain the loan from the financial institutions. Even when the loan is sanctioned financial institutions do not have a liberal policy for the entrepreneur in the repayment of loan. officials of the institutions fix the schedule for repayment of loan even before production commence due to this the unit is suffering from shortage of working capital which has to face loss of production.
- 2. In some cases it was found that the rate of interest on loan becomes compounded this put a lot of hardship on the entrepreneurs of the micro enterprise suffers heavily due to high rate of the interest
- 3. The infrastructure facilities provided by the promotional institutions are inadequate. When the entrepreneurs approached them for any additional loan to meet the contingency/ cost their request are simply rejected even genuine request from the entrepreneurs is not entertained by the institutions.
- 4. In the case of PMEGP scheme Lack of co-ordination between funding agency and Government agencies is the another problems for the Microenterprise at the time of sanctioning loan, registration of District industries center DIC is not taken seriously by the financial institutions due to which the entrepreneurs are left for getting financial assistance.
- 5. A large portion of the sample units expressed that they are not getting any institutional benefit from the funding agencies whereas they have approached so many times to the promotional institutions to get the financial assistance beside giving them any assistance the officials harass them by lot of documents and certificates for getting the loan from the promotional institutions are saying that the target for the year have been achieved and to apply for the coming year.
- 6. The marketing problems experienced by the microenterprise mostly relates to low volume of sales, competition, seasonal fluctuation, pressure of credit sales, difficulty in locating a suitable market place etc. Among all the problems encountered in operating small enterprises, marketing problems are generally the most critical, since the size of the market and potentiality are relatively smaller. The promotional institution says that they help the entrepreneurs in marketing of their products but actually this is only the words for kindness to encourage the entrepreneurs
- 7. Entrepreneur can't effort the inventory of finished products so they manufacture the products according to the selling capacity due to which they cannot expand their units of productions
- 8. Quality certificate & price fixation is not done by the government for the products for which they have to sale below the rate of competitors, if they have to stay in the market.

## STRATEGIES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF MICROENTERPRISE

- 1. Technical assistance to enhance the management skills of current and would-be entrepreneurs in business development services such as entrepreneurship training, management and planning advice, and improved market information and access, are likely to be needed. Assistance in making loan applications and advice on dealing with financing agencies will also be required.
- 2. Business/consultants or advisers should be appointed in each district to strengthen links between Microenterprise producers other market intermediaries such as traders, processors and transporters of rural and urban area.
- Develop simple enterprise models to illustrate the potential profitability and financial viability (cash flow generation) of sample Microenterprise
  investments; quantify potential job creation among the target group; work out appropriate lending conditions/grace periods and/or cater for the need for
  complementary small business-related financial instruments.

- 4. Assess, and reinforce as necessary, institutional capacities to provide specialised support to start-up and/or to existing entrepreneurs at national, regional or local level
- 5. Commercial banks, micro-finance institutions, micro-leasing companies, etc., also non-financial service providers such as business counselling, must provide adequate support for the growth of microenterprise in their area.
- 6. The microenterprise sector must produce the product which in designs- quality and price can compete with organized sector output. The product must be available in right time and place so that consumer normally purchases it. For each product a strong brand image should be built up and projected through advertising in mass media and other promotional measures.
- 7. A link between supply of raw materials and marketing should be maintained by the promotional institutions and 50% of the product should be lifted by marketing society established by Government, NGOs and Voluntary organization.

#### CONCLUSION

By scanning the entire responses of objectively conducted study, it is pertinent to draw a conclusion that Microenterprise development projects can serve four major objectives: Poverty reduction, Employment generation, empowerment of women and Enterprise development for which an effective delivery system has to ensure people's participation at various stages of the formulation and implementation of the self-employment programmes, transparency in the operation of the schemes and adequate monitoring. Creating awareness among the public as well as district authorities regarding implementation of these programmes is of prime importance. The administrative authorities, stake holders and members of civil societies have to be sensitised for promotion microenterprise in the state. Anti-poverty programme are by large found to be success in the present study it was founds that the SGSY & PMREG scheme run by Government is effective in providing self employment opportunities to the rural poor is one of the yardstick in last session of five years. Finally, the study concludes with the observation that Microenterprise has a significant impact on poverty alleviation and economic development in the backward districts of Orissa. But this is not enough to sustain their well being more support is needed from the Government, NGOs and Voluntary organization to revive the growth of Microenterprise.

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