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ORGANISATIONAL CULTURE OF BHARATIYA MAZDOOR SANGH: IDENTIFYING THE DIMENSIONS OF OPINIONS ON THE OFFICE BEARERS

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ABSTRACT

Organisational culture has attained the shape of a critical lever in the success chain for the organisations. In this paper an attempt has been made to identify the dimensions of opinions on the organisational culture of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) separately for office bearers of organisation. For this, 26 statements relating to organisational culture of BMS have been identified and important dimensions were extracted with the help of Factor Analytical Technique.

KEYWORDS

Organisational Culture, Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh, Factor Analysis.

INTRODUCTION

In the present scenario, office bearers of BMS are well aware about the need to elicit the best efforts from members towards the achievement of organisational goals. Organisational theorists and corporate leader have produced voluminous material on organisational culture and its offspring-symbol, language, ideology, belief, ritual, and myth (Pettigrew, 1979). Organisational culture one of the latest concepts in the field of management and organisation theory has derived metaphorically from the idea of cultivation of soil. As human beings, we are continually activating the process of culturing, that is, producing and reproducing social realities in the ways that are liberating, inhibiting, puzzling, boring or exciting (Smircich, 1983).

ORGANISATIONAL CULTURE

Organisational culture is described by Robbins & Coulter as the shared values, beliefs, or perceptions held by employees within an organisation or organisational unit

Organisational culture has become a focus of contemporary research. This has been stimulated by two main factors. One is the realisation that leadership and culture are closely interrelated and thus two sides of the one coin (Schein, 1984; Schein, 1992). This is especially important in the area of leadership development for if leadership is to be enhanced from a practical point of view then attention also needs to be directed simultaneously at modifying organisational culture.

BHARATIYA MAZDOOR SANGH

The Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) is the largest Central Trade Union Organisation. The learned economist and visionary, Mananiya Dattopantji Thengdi who has dedicated his life to the service of the society, along with some like minded nationalists, founded it on auspicious Lokmanya Tilak Jayanti 23 July 1955. Starting from zero in 1955, BMS is now a well-knit organisation in all the states and in private and public sector undertakings. Several organisations of the State and Central government employees are also affiliated to the BMS. The Sangh also enjoys the premier position in several industries.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

BMS is the largest nation-wide Central Trade Union Organisation in India. . The researcher has brought out the, its organisational culture analysed the dimensions of its organisational culture based on the opinions of office bearers of BMS.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

In the light of the above discussion the researcher has undertaken the present study with the following objectives:

- 1) To identify the dimensions of organisational culture of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh;
- 2) To analyse the opinions of office bearers of BMS.

METHODOLOGY

For the present study, secondary data were collected from the books, journals, websites, publications of Labour Ministry, Government of India, National Productivity Council, International Labour Organisation and Bharatiya Labour Research Centre and annual reports of BMS.

To gather opinions of office bearers of unions affiliated to BMS, the researcher has adopted the survey method. Survey is conducted through questionnaire.

SAMPLING PLAN

For the purpose of primary data collection, sample respondents are selected systematically on the following basis. In order to select sample respondents for the present study, convenience sampling method has been adopted.

In total there are 92 All India office bearers. Out of them 54 have been selected for the present study. There are 340 state level office bearers. 155 district level office bearers have been selected for the study.

With the assistance of the Presidents and General Secretaries of all state level units of BMS and all BMS federations, the researcher has selected the respondents. In total 399 sample respondents have been selected. They consist of 339 office bearers of unions affiliated to BMS.

The researcher has taken sufficient care in the selection of sample respondents.

TOOLS OF ANALYSIS

In order to identify the organisational culture of BMS, factor analysis has been adopted.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The study suffers from certain limitations:

- 1. The researcher has followed mailed questionnaire method for getting the opinion of the office bearers of BMS.
- 2. The time and fund constraint in personally approaching the office bearers of unions affiliated to BMS throughout India.

THE ANALYTICAL FRAME WORK

The technique adopted to identify and analyse the opinions of office bearers of BMS is Factor Analysis. The principal factor analysis method is mathematically satisfying because it yields a unique solution to a factor problem. Its major solution feature is the extraction of maximum amount of variation as each factor is calculated. In other words, the first extracts the most variance and so on.

Most of the analytical methods produce results in a form that is difficult or impossible to interpret. Thurstone argued that it was necessary to rotate factor matrices if one wanted to interpret them adequately.

He pointed out that original factor matrices are arbitrary in the sense that an infinite member of reference frames (axes) can be found to reproduce any given "R" Matrix.

There are several Methods available for factor analysis. But the principal factor Method with orthogonal variance rotation is mostly used and widely available in factor analysis computer programme.

Further orthogonal rotations maintain the independence of factors that is, the angles between the axes are kept at 90 degrees. One of the final outcomes of a factor analysis is called rotated factor matrix, a table of co-efficient that expresses the ratios between the variable and the factors that have been prepared. The sum of squares of the factor loadings of variable is called communalities (h²)

The communality (h²) of a factor is its common factor variance. The factors with factor loadings of 0.5 or greater are considered as significant factors. This limit is chosen because it had been judged that factors with less than 50 percent common variation with the rotated factor pattern are too weak to report.

In the present study, the Principal Factor Analysis Method with Orthogonal Varimax rotation is used to identify the significant dimensions of opinions of office bearers and members of BMS.

TESTING FOR SAMPLING ADEQUACY

Before extracting the factors, to test the appropriateness of the factor model, Bartlett's test of sphericity was used to test the null hypotheses that the variables are inter correlated in population. The test statistics of sphericity is based on a Chi-Square transformation of the determinant of the correlation matrix.

Another useful statistics is the Kaiser-Meyer Oklin (KMO) test of sampling adequacy. Small value of the KMO statistic indicates that the correlation between parts of variable cannot be explained by other variables and that factor analysis may not be appropriate. Generally, a value greater than 0.5 is desirable.

The correlation matrix was examined carefully and the two tests namely Bartlett's test of sphericity and Kaiser – Meyer Oklin test were undertaken to test if it was judicious to proceed with factor analysis in the present study. The computed results are given in Table 1.1.

IDENTIFYING THE DIMENSIONS OF OPINIONS OF OFFICE BEARERS OF BMS ON ORGANISATIONAL CULTURE

The analysis of 26 variables through factor analysis among office bearers of BMS revealed five factors. The suitability of the data for factor analysis was analysed through Kaiser – Meyer Oklin (KMO) Measures. The results of the Tests are presented in Table 1.1.

TABLE 1.1: MEASURES OF SAMPLING INADEQUACIES - OFFICE BEARERS

Measures		Estimated Value
Kaiser – Mayer Oklin Measur	0.9218	
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approximate Chi-Square	3364.3738
	Degrees of Freedom	325
	Significance	0.0000

KMO test indicates the proportion of variance in the variables might be caused by the underlying factors. The test result is a high value (0.9218) and it indicates that the factor analysis can be used in the study.

Bartlett's test of Sphericity indicates whether the correlation Matrix is an identity Matrix. Since the resulting significance level is less than 0.5 it can be concluded that there is a significant relationship among the variables identified. Hence, it shows that the factor analysis can be suitably employed in the study.

Table 6.1.6 shows the factor loadings of 26 variables of opinions of office bearers of BMS on organisational culture. The factor analysis reduced the 26 variables (statements) into five factors namely F1, F2, F3, F4 and F5.



	TABLE 1.2: ROTATED FACTOR MATRIX FOR THE OPINIONS ON ORGANISA	TIONAL CUL	TURE OF B	MS – OFFICI	E BEARERS		
SI.	ariables Factor Loadings						
No.		F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	h²
1	Meeting together, thinking together, deciding together and working together is the practice of BMS	0.6792	0.1417	0.1088	0.2939	0.0144	0.50
2	BMS has effective strategies for recruitment and development of talents	0.6108	0.1995	0.1124	0.3191	0.1401	0.44
3	Encourage active support and participation in corrective measures from those involved	0.5871	0.3314	0.4210	-0.0375	0.0522	0.50
4	There is Team Spirit among the office bearers of BMS	0.5750	0.1212	0.1208	0.3283	0.1795	0.58
5	Decision making is carried out with more emphasis on group participation and consensus	0.4922	0.2749	0.3961	0.2409	0.1082	0.54
6	Suggestions and ideas coming from other organisations are considered with due respect	0.2393	0.6629	0.1472	0.0451	0.1122	0.64
7	When co-workers express doubts, concerns and feelings , understand them supportively and work with them in complete faith	0.3723	0.6300	0.0984	0.1266	0.1566	0.47
8	The office bearers express doubts, concerns and feelings in an open, natural way and also encourage co-workers to follow the same method	0.1560	0.5948	0.0136	0.2394	-0.0276	0.62
9	The union fulfils the interests of the workers and not the office bearers	-0.0708	0.5496	0.2014	0.3960	0.1024	0.55
10	During talks / negotiations BMS never allows hatred to assume an upperhand	0.0107	0.5435	0.3176	0.3912	0.1096	0.46
11	There is an openness to suggestions from people at all levels of the organisation	0.4369	0.4822	0.1680	0.0360	0.2969	0.44
12	An ordinary member of BMS has a say in the organization	0.2882	0.4363	0.4023	0.1600	0.1076	0.59
13	BMS instils patriotism among its members	-0.0235	-0.0300	0.7470	0.2428	0.0815	0.53
14	The emphasis is on labourisation of industry	0.1068	0.2259	0.6690	0.1871	0.0837	0.54
15	The goal is to industrialise India by utilising huge manpower	0.1650	0.1171	0.5808	0.1278	0.2644	0.58
16	The objective is collective performance	0.4001	0.1026	0.5689	0.0352	0.0922	0.55
17	Share credit among co-workers for successes; assume the bulk of responsibility for criticism of the organisation	0.2981	0.2769	0.4734	0.1744	0.1343	0.62
18	The cadre of BMS are self disciplined	0.2716	0.0634	0.2294	0.6727	0.1861	0.57
19	Union's money is used only for the organisation and not for personal gains	0.1889	0.1900	0.1047	0.6373	0.2815	0.56
20	The agitations are disciplined	0.1676	0.2895	0.3905	0.5555	0.0202	0.57
21	Full- time workers are required to keep strict accounts of their expenses and should submit their accounts every month	0.2132	0.2035	0.1555	0.5546	0.0843	0.43
22	In BMS, there is mutual confidence, mutual trust and communication among members	0.4401	0.1879	0.1308	0.5488	0.1769	0.51
23	BMS is a non-political organisation	-0.0708	-0.0102	0.1693	0.3206	0.7182	0.50
24	BMS is a family type of organisation	0.3241	-0.0010	0.0928	0.2307	0.6309	0.65
25	BMS does not collect money from business people or factory owners for organisational work, office construction, conference etc.,	0.0329	0.3220	0.2923	0.0735	0.5475	0.56
26	Elections at all levels of BMS are by consensus and for three terms of 3 years each.	0.3249	0.3642	0.0496	-0.0202	0.5470	0.54
	Variance explained	8.9861	1.4562	1.3293	1.1545	1.1253	
	Cumulative variance	8.9861	10.4423	11.7716	12.9261	14.0514	

Note: The principal factors method with orthogonal variance rotation is used to extract factors.

Factor I (F1)

Factor I includes the variables namely meeting together, thinking together, deciding together and working together is the practice of BMS (0.6792); BMS has effective strategies for recruitment and development of talents (0.6108); encourage active support and participation in corrective measures from those involved (0.5871); there is team spirit among the office bearers of BMS (0.5750) and decision making is carried out with more emphasis on group participation and consensus (0.4922). These five variables have a higher factor loading in the rotated component matrix. Since these variables are related to team spirit, they are is characterised as "Team spirit".

Factor II (F2)

F2 represents suggestions and ideas coming from other organisations which are considered with due respect (0.6629); when co-workers express doubts, concerns and feelings, understand them supportively and work with them in complete faith (0.6300); the office bearers express doubts, concerns and feelings in an open, natural way and also encourage co-workers to follow the same method (0.5948); the union fulfils the interests of the workers and not the office bearers (0.5496); during talks / negotiations BMS never allows hatred to assume an upperhand (0.5435); there is an openness to suggestions from people at all levels of the organisation (0.4822) and an ordinary member of BMS has a say in the organisation (0.4363). These variables relate to open mindedness and it is renamed as "Open mindedness".

Factor III (F3)

The third factor includes the variables namely BMS instils patriotism among its members (0.7470); the emphasis is on labourisation of industry (0.6690); the goal is to industrialise India by utilising huge manpower (0.5808); the objective is collective performance (0.5689) and share credit among co-workers for successes, assume the bulk of responsibility for criticism of the organisation (0.4784). These items have higher factor loading in factor three. These variables are related to clear goals and it is named as "Clear goals".

Factor IV (F4)

The fourth factor includes the variables the cadre of BMS are self disciplined (0.6727); union's money is used only for the organisation and not for personal gains (0.6373); the agitations are disciplined (0.5555); full- time workers are required to keep strict accounts of their expenses and should submit their accounts every month (0.5546) and in BMS, there is mutual confidence, mutual trust and communication among members (0.5488). These are the items with high loading on factor four. The above items refer to criteria self discipline and welfare of workers and it is characterisd as "Self discipline and Welfare of workers".

Factor V (F5)

In factor five, BMS is a non-political organisation (0.7182); BMS is a family type of organisation (0.6309); BMS does not collect money from business people or factory owners for organisational work, office construction, conference etc.,(0.5475) and elections at all levels of BMS are by consensus and for three terms of 3 years each (0.5470) have the highest factor loading. These variables are related to type of organisation and it is renamed as "Type of organisation". The newly named dimensions and the variables with highest loadings are given in Table 1.3.

Factor	TABLE 1.3: VARIABLES WITH HIGHEST FACTOR LOADINGS WITH DIMENSIONS OF OPINIONS OF OFFICE BEARERS Factor Newly extracted dimension Selected variable with highest factor loading						
Factor		Selected variable with highest factor loading	Factor loadings				
	(Factor)						
F1	Team spirit	Meeting together, thinking together, deciding together and working together is the	0.6792				
		practice of BMS					
F2	Open mindedness	Suggestions and ideas coming from other organisations are considered with due respect	0.6629				
F3	Clear goals	BMS instils patriotism among its members	0.7470				
F4	Self discipline and Welfare of	The cadre of BMS are self disciplined	0.6727				
	workers						
F5	Type of organisation	BMS is a non-political organisation	0.7182				

It is inferred from Table 1.3 that the variables (statements), meeting together, thinking together, deciding together and working together is the practice of BMS (0.6792); suggestions and ideas coming from other organisations are considered with due respect (0.6629); BMS instils patriotism among its members (0.7470); the cadre of BMS are self disciplined (0.6727) and BMS is a non-political organisation (0.7182) are the statements with highest loading under the dimensions namely Team spirit, Open mindedness, Clear goals, Self discipline & Welfare of workers and Type of organisation.

Hence, these are the identified dimensions of office bearers on the basis of their opinions about organisational culture of BMS.

FINDINGS

The factor loadings of 26 variables of opinions of office bearers of BMS on organisational culture are analysed. The results of factor analysis revealed that it extracted out of 26 variables five significant dimensions namely, Team spirit, Open mindedness, Clear goals, Self discipline & Welfare of workers and Type of organisation.

The statement with highest loading for each factor was meeting together, thinking together, deciding together and working together is the practice of BMS (0.6792); suggestions and ideas coming from other organisations are considered with due respect (0.6629); BMS instils patriotism among its members (0.7470); the cadre of BMS are self disciplined (0.6727) and BMS is a non-political organisation (0.7182) (Table 1.3).

SUGGESTIONS

It is concluded that BMS has a strong organisational culture. The researcher puts forth the following suggestions to sustain and develop it further:

- More young activists of BMS with character, capability and organisational understanding are to be recruited and trained by organising regularly the study classes at various levels to improve organisational culture as originally envisaged by the founder of BMS.
- There are reputed workers/office bearers in other CTUOs. They may also be invited in the BMS study classes and their views also may be heard patiently.

CONCLUSION

The results of this study suggest that organisational culture does have a positive effect on attitudes of office bearers of BMS. A strong culture creates a feeling of belonging and increases job satisfaction and commitment. The central focus of this research maintains that organisations can have a positive effect on the creation and internalisation of the organisational culture. One of the most effective ways for organisations to accomplish this is through their training. Training is obviously used to impact the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to successfully meet the organisation's objectives.

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