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THE IMPACT OF HRM PRACTICES HAVING A MEDIATING EFFECT OF ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITMENT ON ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE

IFFAT RASOOL RESEARCH SCHOLAR MUHAMMAD ALI JINNAH UNIVERSITY ISLAMABAD

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of conducting this study is to observe the relationship of HRM practices having commitment as mediator with organizational performance in hotel industry of Pakistan. Having sample of eighty respondents of three five star hotels of Rawalpindi & Islamabad the hypothesized model is developed predicting the positive relationship between Human Resource Management and organizational performance through organizational commitment, which is proved true. At the same time the effect of organizational commitment is found less affective compared to HRM practices on organizational performance directly. The results indicate the need of improvement in HRM polices so that personal commitment can be enhanced for better organizational performance. The need of strategic HRM is felt in this industry in Pakistan because with out consulting each other the HR polices alone can not bring the desired results.

KEYWORDS

hrm practices, organizational commitment, organizational performance.

INTRODUCTION

In this era of dynamic and diversified economies the emergence of Human Resource Management practices has been proved as an essential part of organizational Structure. It is not any new concept but an extension of personnel Management. HRM started emerging and replacing the personnel management in 1980's (Storey 2001, Smith 2006) In the light of HR practices Human Resource Management seems to be more closer to the .Taylorism a concept of Frederick Taylor in 1911, where he showed more concern for training and better compensation for high performance of employees .with a notion of selecting right people for right job. According to (Smith, 2006) .The main difference among them is centralized and decentralized approach, where HRM is decentralized and soft approach.

Academician and HR practitioner are showing a great interest in it .The aggressive competition in the market and global industrial and technological changes are also causing them to explore more about it and to focus more on human resource than to physical resource as well as asset incentive to knowledge intensive approach (Rennie 2003) According to (Legge, 2001, Smith 2006) Human Resource Management was a hot issue among academician and HR practitioner in 1990's.. Management functions as Planning, Organizing, Staffing, Leading and Controlling are usually applied equally in every organization, while the function of staffing among these is the main function of HRM practices. This relationship of Management function and HRM practices prove that HRM is not separate from strategic decisions It follows the line of action forwarded to it by the senior Management. It facilitates the other department in dealing with its human resource component. It does not only deals with polices and procedures related to organization but also attracts, develops, motivates and compensates the talented people to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of organizations. Japanese organizations are the role model of effective management of people (Ouchi, 1982, Smith, 2006). Furthermore the paradigm of HR practices and theories are discussed and acknowledged time to time. (Storey, 1980, (Rennie 2003) first described hard and soft concept of HRM. Hard approach deals human resource as physical product and values its performance through out come while soft approach pays equal importance to human resource and its output. HRM is people centered management and proactive approach works effectively in organic type organizational structure (Rennie, 2003).

Though the main function of HRM is to focus on people and make them grow for competitive advantage but (Barney 1991, 1995) suggested focusing more on organizational strategy. While (Lado & Wilson 1994, (Shahnawaz & Juyal 2006) proposed HRM practices for sustained competitive advantage .HRM at different platform among different people is equally acknowledged. Its importune can not be denied however (Keenog, 1990, Shahnawaz & Juyal (2006) take HRM as hologram. which changes its directions time to time. Similarly HRM practices are devised and applied for organizational development differently according to their need and situation. It is not same for all situations because it deals with people not material only. As human feeling and emotions are not similar the practices can also not be retained the same. They are modified as per requirement and situation.

Despite of having a lot of importance of HRM practices it is not applied equally in every organization and economies especially in small organizations (Cappelli & New mark, 2001) and in developing countries like Pakistan. It has been observed through the evidences that during the last decade most of research on HRM is conducted in America, Europe and Asia and very little in Pakistan especially in Hotel Industry. By the change of time now the focus of HRM is more on financial position of organizations (Dr Ayesha Akbar, & Qureshi 2010) because economic activity beside capital and material resources Human is involved. Without people nothing can be generated and operated. Overall HRM is being held responsible for organizational financial growth (Hung 2006), however as a large number of people are involved in service sector the researcher and theories are trying to create link between HR strategies for competitive strategy in services (Boxalll' 2003)

RATIONALE OF STUDY

Hotel industry all over the world is considered the one of dynamic industry where a great customer care and deep consideration on novelty through human capital is must .As it is understood that even knowing the importance of this industry it is being ignored for research and no proper empirical research is conducted on it especially in Pakistan. HRM is applied, but in few of the five star Hotels where it is not fully operational. As performance is an indicator of quality so it is critical for hotel industry to maintain it for sustainable development in the current globe competitive environment for customer's satisfaction (Min,etr al 2002) There are different levels of hotel in the world from one bed to seven star but this study is done on five star Hotels in Pakistan Including Marriott, Serena and pearl Continental in Rawalpindi and Islamabad Region. As maintaining a competitive advantage is hard nut to crack in hotel industry so the maximum HRM practices are mandatory for its improvement. In the light of this study it is tried to observe how the HRM is working for the improvement of hotel industry in Pakistan.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Human Resource management practices are useless if they ignore the Human capital. Only the capital and material resource can not increase the productivity alone. Without human interaction progress is not possible. Not every individual but only the trained, skilled and qualified human resource is required. It is very easy to control the machines but not people because they have their emotions and feelings which make them decide to work. They can not be treated with same policy and be measured with same yardstick. So the need of HRM practices is being felt badly all over the world in every organization. Though the ultimate objective of both economic and HRM practices are profit maximization but HRM names it as organizational performance.

Despite the fact of HRM importance still it could not prove its position and clear role in the organizations. HRM is usually focused when there is surplus in organization otherwise the expenses are reduced on it quickly (Wright, Dunford & Snell 2001). However it got little importance when an economic Resource Based View theory paid attention to Human Capital as an asset. Similarly HRM is closer to RBV with a view of paying attention to internal resource of organization than to external (like industry position) for competitive advantage (Hoskisson, HGitt, Wan, Yiu, 1999, Wright &Snell 2001). The firms having emphasize on technology and research can retain competitive advantage for short time (like Sony) compared to those who retain Valuable, Rare, Inimitable and Organized skilled Human Resource. (Wright &Snell 2001)

In this changing time of global interaction and tough competition, the focus of HRM is moving toward organizational performance. The attention is laid down on both financial (profit, sales, and market share) and non financial (productivity, quality, efficiency) variables along with behavioral factors such as commitment, intention to quit, and satisfaction. (Dyer & Reeves, 1995, Asif Khan 2010). Different researchers have different point of view in term of research approaches. Similarly different cultures have different approaches for HRM practices., like Japanese are more focused as compared to Americans on HRM practices (Ichniowski and Shaw 1999, Asif Khan 2010)

Chang and Chen (2002 in Taiwanese high technology, Ngo et al., (1998), in a study in Hong Kong companies, Sing (2003) in India, BjorkmanIn and Xiucheng (2002) on Western firms' performance in China, in Korea, Bae and Lawler (2000) in New Zeeland, Guthrie (2003), Tsai (2006), in a study in Taiwan, Rizov and Croucher (2008)in European firms, (Arthur, 1994; Huselid et al., 1997;Youndt et al., 1996). Wright et al. (2005) proved the causal relationship between performance and HRM practices in America and Canada in 45 business organizations. Similarly numerous studies have proved the positive correlation between HRM practices and organizational and employee Performance.

As for as this study is concerned HRM Practices are taken as Independent variable which include: Selection, Training, Performance Appraisal, Career Planning, Employee Participation, Job Definition and Compensation. It is an understood fact that mismatch selection & recruitment decline the effectiveness of employee if the uniform practices are not applied (Houet al 2002). The right association of Performance Appraisal with compensation causes positive effect on organization performance.(Gerhart and Milkovich 1990Borman 1991) A study by Ngo, Turban, Lau and Lui (1998) showed that training and compensation had high involvement in organizational performance. (Hang and Buyens 2008) recognized the importance of training and development which results with high financial performance through higher knowledge ,skills and abilities of employees. Compensation is another factor. The satisfaction, loyalty and productivity of employee is always associated with compensation. Compensation (Aswathappa, 2008. An American study by (Ting 1997) proved the same. Huselid (1996) explained the relationship of bundle of HRM practices with organizational performance.

Organization Performance is taken as dependent variable with its facets: Satisfaction, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Innovation and Quality are involved .The agreement of (Ting, 1997, Appelbaum, Bailey, Berg and Kalleberg, 2000) proves that Job satisfaction ultimately leads to better organizational performance. Similarly (Green, Wu, Whitten and Medlin 2006) stated that positive response of employees & organizational performance is possible thorough vertical and horizontal alignment of management system and HRM practices. The variables used in this study like effectiveness, efficiency, innovation, and quality. are also proved positive as in (Huselid1995, Katou and Budhwar)2007.

Organizational Commitment is introduced as mediating Variable in this study. The main objective of mediating variable is to observe that to what extant the HRM practices help in organizational development. (Katou & Budhwar, 2006) As a result of various researches positive relationship of commitment and HR practices on organizational performance has been found. Commitment plays a key role in strengthening HR practices and enhancing organizational performance. Similarly there are some argument against by (Worsfold 1999, Shahnawaz2006) where they denied the participatory role of commitment in organizational performance and considered it as guide for performance development of organization through HRM practices, (Meyer &Allen 1997) used the concept of affective(value added) normative(obligation based) continuance(cost and benefit based) commitment in their study, (Gaertner &Nollen1989) and (Kinicki 1992)proved the positive correlation of commitment and both actual & perceived HR practice

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The study is carried out to find the answer of the question:

- To investigate the how HRM practices affect on organizational performance
- To investigate the Mediating effect of organizational commitment between HRM practices and organizational performance

HYPOTHESIS

H1: HRM practices including selection, Training Performance Appraisal, Career planning, Compensation, Employee Participation, Job Definition has a positive effect on the organizational performance.

H2. HRM practices including selection, Training Performance Appraisal, Career planning, Compensation, Employee Participation, Job Definition has a positive effect on the Organizational Commitment.

H3. Commitment affects positive on Organizational Performance as mediator.

H4. Commitment as mediator between HRMP and Organizational Performance has positive effect on OP.

Perceive Model



Independent variables Dependent variables

METHODOLOGY

The rationale of using methodology is to prove the status of hypothesis and perceived reach model, which perceives the relationship of HRM practices and organizational commitment through commitment as mediator. The methodology includes the following:

i. SAMPLE

The stratified sampling technique is used to collect the data which is simple and convenient in data collection method where a specific target market is selected instead of large number of people. Three star hotels of Rawalpindi Islamabad were selected .The questionnaire is adapted from Qureshi, Katu, abd Azba. Total 150 questionnaires were floated. Pick and drop method was applied.80 responses were received; The target audience was the managers and supervisors. In order to identify the best results of HRM practices in service industry the four and five star hotels are

The right choice (Hasynes&Fryer, 2000 and Hung, 2006) The employee were assured of confidentiality during the data collection.

ii. INSTRUMENTATION

On the light of various reaches commitment is significant impact on organizational performance. This study is conducted to understand the same in hotel industry if Pakistan where the major factor is Human resource which leads the organization to its good or bad condition. In this study the HRM practices including, Selection, Training, Performance Appraisal, Career planning, Employee performance, Job design& Compensation are taken as Independent variable along with commitment as mediator. While organizational performance. The responses are made on 1 to 5 likert scale from highly disagreed to highly agreed is taken as dependant variable.

iii. RESPONDENTS PROFILE

Gander	Male & Female
Age	Below 20 to 41 and above
Education	Matric to Masters
Salary	Below Rs. 10,000 to above Rs. 50, 000
Stay	<1 to >10 years

iv. MODEL TESTS

Among the several tests first of all the Reliably test is applied to check reliability of data against the each construct to check the relationship and reliability questionnaire and data collected .The results of cronbach Alfa are found almost above 70 are considered good as per opinion of (Sikaran 1992, Hendi2009).

Variable	Cronbach's Alfa
Selection	.855
Training	.850
Performance Appraisal	.870
Career Planning	.835
Employee participation	.858
Job Design	.747
Compensation	.86
Commitment	.873
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Organizational performance .909

Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA) test is applied to confirm the feasibility of questions all in each variable construct. The results of each construct are found highly significant, which are above .70.

Linear Regression Analysis is applied on hypothesizes to check the effect of HRM practices and commitment as mediator on organizational performance. H1: HRM practices including selection, Training Performance Appraisal, Career planning, Compensation, Employee Participation, Job Definition has a positive effect on the organizational performance.

DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS			
	Mean	Std. Deviation	Ν
Organization Performance	3.2284	.67428	80
HRMP	3.1191	.68612	80

Mean and S.D is significant and correlation between two variable is also significant at .000 level ., R is .729 , while beta is .729 which illustrates that unit 1 change in HRMP causes .729 change on organizational performance. The hypothesis stand true.

H2. HRM practices including selection, Training Performance Appraisal, Career planning, Compensation, Employee Participation, Job Definition has a positive effect on the Organizational Commitment

	DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS			
		Mean	Std. Deviation	Ν
_	Organizational Commitment	3.5125	.67624	80
	HRMP	3.1191	.68612	80

Mean and S.D is significant and correlation between two variable is also significant at .000 level., R is 0.58, Beta is .58. The hypothesis is acceptable. H3. Commitment affects positive on Organizational Performance as mediator. significant Mean and S.D with significant correlation between two variable at .000 level ., R is 0.729 and beta is 0.729 The hypothesis is true.

DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS

	Mean	Std. Deviation	Ν
Organization Performance	3.2284	.67428	80
Organizational Commitment	3.5125	.67624	80

H4. . Commitment as mediator between HRMP and Organizational Performance has positive effect on OP.

Descriptive Statistics				
	Mean	Std. Deviation	Ν	
Organization Performance	3.2284	.67428	80	
HRMP	3.1191	.68612	80	
Organizational Commitment	3.5125	.67624	80	

Mean and S.D is again and correlation is also significant at .000 level ., R is 0..72 Beta of HRM is 0.72 and commitment 0.007. The hypothesis stands true.

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DISCUSSION

Overall all the results found significant well accepted and strong .It seems true that all the previous researches conducted support these result. HRM practices have its own importance but unfortunately the people in organization specially in this industry are nit given an opportunity to participate in such kind of training which ate really beneficial for their carrier development. HR departments are hooded by those who themselves need training. It is observed through data collection no electronic information was available .Usually employees were not allowed to be interviewed directly, they wanted to explain their problems but the HR departments themselves were the hurdle. This was the reason that hypothesis 4. proves that commitment with HRMP does not bring any significant change As it Plays an important role in any organization and is related to people but at the same time it can not be important for the achievement of competitive advantage unless the hotel department make strong HR strategy and standards for achieving the employee satisfaction (HUNG 2006). The importance of HR practices can not be denied in hotel industry .It is a backbone of this industry. In Pakistan though it is not applied in small scale organizations with its full sprit but its application can be seen in a form of some other concepts. Having the same problem the only five star hotels were selected.

SUGGESTION AND CONCLUSION

This study suggests the HR department is required to pay attention to the strategic HRM. Only HRM polices can not solve the employees problems .There is need of positive alignment of higher authorities to involve the Human Resource Department as they set their future goals. They should not treat the employee like other material resources .Every time increase in capital and material can not expand the business. It is human relationship which binds the organization and customers. Which stands very much true for Hotel Industry especially in Pakistan where a lot of resources are getting wasted due to lack of behavioral training of Human Resource and Management.

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