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CONTENTS

Sr. No.	TITLE & NAME OF THE AUTHOR (S)	Page No.
1.	CUSTOMER SATISFACTION TOWARDS KINGFISHER BEER IN PULICHERLA MANDAL DR. DUGGANI YUVARAJU, DR. DUGGANI SUBRAMANYAM & DR. S. DURGA RAO	1
2.	AN IMPROVED CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT (CTM) SYSTEM RAKESH GUPTA, SUBHASH K. GUPTA, RAMESH KUMAR BATRA & ASHUTOSH TRIVEDI	5
3.	USAGE PATTERNS OF COSMETIC (FASHIONABLE) HERBAL PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS (HPCP): A MICRO LEVEL FIELD STUDY IN MYSORE AND BANGALORE GITY SAKI & B. SHIVARAJ	11
4.	PROFITABILITY PERFORMANCE OF NAGARJUNA FERTILIZERS AND CHEMICALS LIMITED: A CASE STUDY S. SHOBHA & DR. P. MOHAN REDDY	14
5.	IMPEDIMENTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN TOKE KUTAYE WOREDA/DISTRICT/, WEST SHEWA ZONE, OROMIYA REGION, ETHIOPIA ASSEFA GEBRE HABTE WOLD	18
6.	WORKPLACE FRIENDSHIP: IT's COMPLICATED DR. MEGHA SHARMA	29
7.	LIGHT ENGINEERING UNITS IN NORTH MALABAR, KERALA, AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION DR. PREMAVALLI P.V	31
8.	PUBLIC Vs. PRIVATE INSURANCE PLAYERS IN INDIA K. PRASAD & V. SRAVANTHI	37
9.	IMPACT OF OPTION INTEREST AND PUT- CALL RATIO INFORMATION IN DERIVATIVES MARKET: AN EMPIRICAL STUDY OF OPTION AND FUTURE MARKET, NSE (NATIONAL STOCK EXCHANGE OF INDIA) SWATI MEHTA & NILESH PATEL	40
10.	FINANCIAL HEALTH OF HOUSING FINANCE INSTITUTIONS IN INDIA: AN EMPIRICAL EVALUATION DR. S. THENMOZHI & DR. N. DEEPA	45
11.	ROLE OF SCB's IN REACHING THE UNREACHED THROUGH FINANCIAL INCLUSION: AN INDIAN OVERVIEW PRAVEEN A. KORBU	49
12.	INFLATION MANAGEMENT IS THE KEY TO DEFLATE INFLATION PRESSURE DR. ACHUT P. PEDNEKAR	53
13.	RETRENCHMENT AND STRIKES IN SICK UNIT: A CASE STUDY ON LML GURPREET KAUR SAINI	57
14.	PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL SYSTEM IN A GARMENT MANUFACTURING ENTERPRISE, TIRUPUR K. MANIKANDAN, R. VIJAYA RAJYA SYNTHIA & S.R. DHIVYA LAKSHMI	64
15 .	THEORETICAL AUDIT FRAME WORK FOR MEASURING BRAND LOYALTY IN DAIRY INDUSTRY N.GEETHA & DR. R. SUBRAMANIYA BHARATHY	67
16.	EFFECTIVENESS OF TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IN PHARMACEUTICAL SECTOR WITH A CASE STUDY ON DIFFERENT INDUSTRIES SHIKHA BATRA, DR. AMBIKA BHATIA & ANKITA GAUTAM	73
17.	SELFISH NODE HANDLING IN THE CONTEXT OF REPLICA ALLOCATION IN MANET'S K.NAVATHA, N.SRAVANTHI, L.SUNITHA & E. VENKATA RAMANA	80
18.	TECHNICAL EFFICIENCY IN TEFF PRODUCTION BY SMALL SCALE FARMERS IN TIGRAY (CASE OF RAYA ALAMATA WEREDA) TEFERA KEBEDE, GEBEREMESKEL BERHANE & MENASBO GEBRU	85
19.	IMPORTANCE OF BRANDING FOR SOCIAL ENTERPRISES SHIVANI VAID & SWATI GUPTA	98
20.	BITCOIN: AN OVER VIEW IN INDIAN CONTEXT PRIYANKA MEHTANI	101
	REQUEST FOR FEEDBACK & DISCLAIMER	103

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USAGE PATTERNS OF COSMETIC (FASHIONABLE) HERBAL PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS (HPCP): A MICRO LEVEL FIELD STUDY IN MYSORE AND BANGALORE

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ABSTRACT

The present study focuses on the usage patterns of Herbal Personal Care Products (HPCP). In this research paper an attempt has been done to understand the impact of selected herbal cosmetic Products on Indian women in and around the cities of Mysore and Bangalore. The study has been undertaken with the anticipation to find the association between varied age groups and fashionable cosmetic products and to assess the frequency of usage patterns of the herbal cosmetic products among the study sample undertaken. One hundred women respondents were chosen through stratified random sampling, Where the strata chosen was the age factor. Women aged between the ages of 16 to 60 were addressed with Close-ended Questionnaires. The SPSS (v20) for windows was incorporated for the analysis. Prevalence of Conventional and traditional cosmetic usage patterns are derived and tabulated.

KFYWORDS

Herbal cosmetics, fashionable cosmetics, traditional patterns.

1. INTRODUCTION

erbal cosmetics are in existence from when the men started to use the cosmetic products. So they are the oldest products used by mankind. Some common cosmetics include creams, face packs, scrubs, hair oils, hair colors, shampoos, hair conditioners, lipsticks, blush-on or rouge as it is sometimes known, eyeliners, mascaras, foundations and eye shadow, perfumes and fragrance, soaps, etc. The formulation of all these cosmetic products addition of various natural additives like oils, waxes, natural colour, natural fragrances and parts of plants like leaves, flowers etc by specific formulation includes methods.(Pandey Shivanand et all, 2010)

The history of cosmetics relates back to at least 6,000 years of human civilization. In the Western world, the use of cosmetics became prominent in the Middle Ages, typically among members of the 'Posh' classes, and then gradually it spread through the world including India (Bhattacharya, 2006). The study of non-industrial cultures indicates the use of cosmetics in every part of the world. The general term cosmetics is applied to all preparations used externally to condition and beautify the body, by cleaning, coloring, softening, or protecting the skin, hair, nails, lips, or eyes (Kapoor, 2005).

Herbal Cosmetics, here in after referred as Products, are formulated, using various permissible cosmetic ingredients to form the base in which one or more herbal ingredients are used to provide defined cosmetic benefits only, shall be called as "Herbal Cosmetics". Herbals are used more in cosmetic products for several reasons, which are natural origin, low price and user friendly too. The cosmetical industry has responded to the afore mentioned reason by delivering the products of natural ingredients, though there is a argument about the authenticity of these natural ingredients (Marcoux, 1999).

The new "active ingredients" are derived from nature for unique marketing stories and to reduce the risk of side effect. Today, there is growing consumer demand for personal care products containing natural and/or organic ingredients (Antignac et al., 2011).

The growth of cosmetics and beauty products markets have surged significantly as consumers are increasingly becoming aware about appearance, beauty, grooming and choice of personal care products. A wide range of active principle ofvarious plants and animals including vitamins, hormones, phytohormones, bioflavonoids, enzymes, tannic acid, fruit acids, amino acids, sugars, glycosides, essential oils and dye stuffs are being considered useful in herbal cosmetic formulations. The use of phyto-chemicals from a variety of botanicals has dual function, (i) They serve as cosmetics for the care of body and its parts and (ii) the botanical ingredients present influence biological functions of skin and provide nutrients necessary for the healthy skin or hair.

The usage of herbal cosmetics has interested many folds in Cosmetic and personal care industry and it has been growing at an average rate of about 15%

for the last few years. Herbal Cosmetics, here in after referred as Products. are formulated, using various permissible cosmetic ingredients to form the base in which one or more herbal ingredients are used to provide defined cosmetic benefits only, shall be called as "Herbal Cosmetics". The history of the herbal cosmetics industry includes very dark chapters in European and Western countries from about six centuries back. Mixtures and pastes were then used to whiten the face, a practice which remained popular till over four hundred years later (Robertson et al. 2008).

The cosmetic and personal care products industry has been growing at an average rate of about 15% for the last few years. This is mainly accounted from low and medium priced category products, which comprises of about 90% of cosmetic market, in terms of volumefor example, mall culture, better purchasing power, concern for looking better, nature of the job, development in advertisement technology and in general, availability of a wide range of cosmetic products (tailor made for different skin types, hair types, etc.). According to one estimate published by US Commercial Services, American Embassy, New Delhi, the per capita expenditure on cosmetics in India is approximately Rupees Thirty (Rs. 30/-) as compared to Rupees One Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty (Rs.1650/-) in some other Asian countries.

The behavior of the consumers and the persisting trend in the market of herbal care and cosmetics can be the key feature to identify the point of action in bringing the more suitable and age agreeing product to the market. Women today are constantly being reminded of what is considered beautiful (Bloch & Richins1992). There are thousands of advertisements that promote this elusive beautiful image to women of all ages, shapes, and sizes. By placing a few naturally blessed beautiful women and models in advertisements, society has built up impossible standards of beauty, which has led to feelings of inadequacy among women (Beausoleil, 1992). More often, it is the behavior of the consumer which leads to more accurate type of product to be launched and to assess the present need and to deliver the same. More and more companies dwell on the same basic idea but many fail to compel, but end up damaging the reputation of its own company's PR value and may even scar the consumer for life. (Jalalkamali & Nikbin, 2010). Therefore; this study aims to study the roles of herbals in cosmetic products and to study the perception of women of different ages.

ANALYSIS

TABLE 1: USE PATTERNS OF HERBAL PERSONAL CARE PRODUCT: EYE MAKEUP

Age groups		Eye Makeup				
		Eyebrow pencil	Eyeliner	Mascara	Eye makeup remover	
		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Less than 20 years	F	6	7	7	1	
	%	26.1%	30.4%	30.4%	4.3%	
20-30years	F	15	16	13	5	
	%	32.6%	34.8%	28.3%	10.9%	
30-40years	F	8	4	4	2	
	%	44.4%	22.2%	22.2%	11.1%	
Above 40	F	3	2	2	0	
years	%	23.1%	15.4%	15.4%	.0%	
Total	F	32	29	26	8	
	%	32.0%	29.0%	26.0%	8.0%	
Test statistics	X ²	X ² =4.00;	$X^2=0.16$;	$X^2=23.04$;	$X^2=43.56$;	
		P=.046	P=.689	P=.000	P=.000	
	CC	CC=.145;	CC=.151;	CC=.111;	CC=.150;	
		P=.545	P=.505	P=.741	P=.513	

Note: X²= Chi-Square; CC= Contingency Co-efficient; p= Significance.

Source: Field data

As Far as the *Eye makeup* was considered, of the selected sample, a majority 32.0% of the respondents preferred Eyebrow pencil, a moderate 29.0% of the respondents preferred *Eyeliner*, while a similar 26.0% of respondents preferred *mascara* over others products, and very nominal 8.0% of them used *eye makeup remover*. Chi-Square test revealed a significant difference in all the groups except in *'Eyeliner'* having (X²=0.16; P=.689). Further when these responses were associated with that of age groups, none of them exhibited a Significance association and similarity of preferences between age groups and their preferences was evident.

TABLE 2: USE PATTERNS OF HERBAL PERSONAL CARE PRODUCT: FACIAL MAKEUP

Age groups		Facial Makeup				
		Cheek colour	Face powder	Lip colour	Foundation	
		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Less than 20 years	F	2	10	5	2	
	%	8.7%	43.5%	21.7%	8.7%	
20-30years	F	9	14	17	8	
	%	19.6%	30.4%	37.0%	17.4%	
30-40years	F	7	3	5	1	
	%	38.9%	16.7%	27.8%	5.6%	
Above 40	F	4	3	2	1	
years	%	30.8%	23.1%	15.4%	7.7%	
Total	F	22	30	29	12	
	%	22.0%	30.0%	29.0%	12.0%	
Test statistics	X ²	$X^2=27.04$;	$X^2=5.76$;	$X^2=4.84$;	$X^2=25.00;$	
		P=.000	P=.016	P=.028	P=.000	
	CC	CC=.240;	CC=.192;	CC=.176;	CC=.154;	
		P=.107	P=.282	P=.364	P=.486	

Note: X²= Chi-Square; CC= Contingency Co-efficient; p= Significance.

Source: Field data

In Facial Makeup Category, of the sample, a moderately high 30.0% of the respondents preferred Face Powder, 29.0% of them responded as their choice to be Lip Colour, while 22.0% of them preferred Check Colour to be as their Facial makeup, and a mere 12.0% of the respondents chose Foundation to be there preferred makeup. Further when Chi-Square test was applied, it revealed a significance difference among all the groups of frequencies present. However when Contingency Co-efficient was applied to check the association with the different age groups, a non-significant association was evident in all the groups of facial makeup choices.

TABLE 3: USE PATTERNS OF HERBAL PERSONAL CARE PRODUCT: FRAGRANCE

Age groups		Fragrance					
70.		Fragrants	Perfumes	Body powder	Dusting powder		
		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Less than 20 years	F	2	11	6	1		
	%	8.7%	47.8%	26.1%	4.3%		
20-30years	F	13	21	8	2		
	%	28.3%	45.7%	17.4%	4.3%		
30-40years	F	6	4	3	2		
	%	33.3%	22.2%	16.7%	11.1%		
Above 40 years	F	6	5	1	0		
	%	46.2%	38.5%	7.7%	.0%		
Total	F	27	41	18	5		
	%	27.0%	41.0%	18.0%	5.0%		
Test statistics	X ²	X ² =31.36;	X ² =1.00;	X ² =36.00;	X ² =84.64;		
		P=.000	P=.317	P=.000	P=.000		
	CC	CC=.251;	CC=.184;	CC=.140;	CC=.145;		
		P=.081	P=.319	P=.575	P=.540		

Note: X²= Chi-Square; CC= Contingency Co-efficient; p= Significance.

Source: Field data

As far as the Fragrance was considered, On the Whole, a majority of 41.0% of the respondents preferred *Perfumes* as their choice of Fragrance, while a 27.0% of them preferred fragrant, a 18.0% of them preferred Body Powder and a mere 5.0% of the respondents chose Dusting Powder as to be there preferred choice of

Fragrance. Further Chi-Square test revealed the presence of a Significant Difference between all the groups except that of Perfumes having (X^2 =1.00; P=.317). However, when these preferences were check against age groups, none of the groups exhibited any significance association among the cross section.

TABLE 4: USE PATTERNS OF HERBAL PERSONAL CARE PRODUCT: HAIR COLOURING

Age groups		Hair Colouring				
		Colours/dyes	Hair tints	Hair rinses	Hair bleaches	
		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Less than 20 years	F	8	4	2	0	
	%	34.8%	17.4%	8.7%	.0%	
20-30years	F	24	6	2	2	
	%	52.2%	13.0%	4.3%	4.3%	
30-40years	F	5	7	0	0	
	%	27.8%	38.9%	.0%	.0%	
Above 40	F	4	2	3	0	
years	%	30.8%	15.4%	23.1%	.0%	
Total	F	41	19	7	2	
	%	41.0%	19.0%	7.0%	2.0%	
Test statistics	X ²	X ² =0.36;	$X^2=40.96$;	$X^2=54.76$;	X ² =88.36;	
		P=.549	P=.000	P=.000	P=.000	
	CC	CC=.210;	CC=.235;	CC=.258;	CC=.153;	
		P=.203	P=.120	P=.068	P=.494	

Note: X²= Chi-Square; CC= Contingency Co-efficient; p= Significance.

Source: Field data

When *Hair Colouring* fashionable attribute was considered, of the sample, a great majority 41.0% of them preferred *dyes*, while a moderate group of 19.0% preferred *Hair Tints*, and 7.0% of them preferred *Hair rinses*, and lastly a mere 2.0% of them chose to prefer *Hair Bleaches*. Chi-Square test revealed the presence of a significance difference between all the groups of frequencies except in *Dyes*, where (X²=0.36; P=.549). And when Contingency Co-efficient was applied to verify the association of age groups with that of Preferences, None of the groups exhibited any significance association among them, thus establishing a similarity in the preferences in varied age groups.

MAIN FINDINGS

- As far as the Eye Makeup is considered, all the correspondents (Eye brow pencil, Eyeliner and Mascara) had almost similar usage patterns.
- Very little difference was seen among Face Powder and Lip Colour, hence were preferred more. While the other two (Check powder and Foundation) were less popular among consumers.
- Fragrants and dyes were undoubtedly the most preferred choices among every other fragrances and Hair colour.

CONCLUSION

Herbal cosmetic also known as "natural cosmetics", with the beginning of the civilization, mankind had the magnetic dip towards impressing others with their looks. The Knowledge of Herbal ingredients used in cosmetics by people so far seen to be intersected with versatile groups of women, with some exceptions based on the product and use. In the present study, it was observed that many of the women inclined towards traditional trends and age inclination was ambiguous. The Herbal Cosmetics had the very impact deserved for natural cosmetics in the modern world. There is a wide gamut of the herbal cosmetics that are manufactured and commonly used for daily purposes. It was studied that the usage pattern of women while using eye liner, Mascara, Fragrants, Lip Colour and Face powder were more, and were highly acclaimed by masses.

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