# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF RESEARCH IN COMMERCE, ECONOMICS & MANAGEMENT



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**REVIEW OF LITERATURE** 

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STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

**OBJECTIVES** 

**HYPOTHESES** 

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

**RESULTS & DISCUSSION** 

**FINDINGS** 

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 Schemenner, R.W., Huber, J.C. and Cook, R.L. (1987), "Geographic Differences and the Location of New Manufacturing Facilities," Journal of Urban Economics, Vol. 21, No. 1, pp. 83-104.

#### **CONFERENCE PAPERS**

• Garg, Sambhav (2011): "Business Ethics" Paper presented at the Annual International Conference for the All India Management Association, New Delhi, India, 19–22 June.

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FDI IN E-COMMERCE: GOOD OR BAD

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Internet has brought significant changes in the way businesses are conducted today. Owing to busy lifestyle "On the Go" shopping formula has become need of the hour. People today can shop anywhere within minutes, be it their homes or offices, and at any time of the day at their leisure. The online market sector is mushrooming in terms of offerings ranging from travel, hotel reservations movies and books to matrimonial services, electronic gadgets, fashion accessories and groceries. Indian E-commerce sector has shown a very exciting growth trend in past few years and is expected to show even better growth in coming years with more users coming online by increase in internet penetration through laptops, smartphones, tablets and dongles. Growth in Indian E-Commerce sector seems to be explosive in nature. Thus this sector offers huge unharnessed potential. Every nation on the global map is trying to integrate its economy with rest of the world. E-commerce sector is one of the pillars of Indian Economy and many global players are willing to invest in it. The present paper makes an attempt to study the current scenario of Indian E-commerce sector and highlighting the positive and negative impacts of FDI inflow in E-commerce on the Indian society and economy as a whole. The research approach is exploratory in nature. This paper has major implications for investors who intend to reap the benefits of FDI and Government who need to frame suitable policies. They can look deeper into upcoming trends and potential opportunities.

#### **JEL CODE**

F21

#### **KEYWORDS**

E-Commerce, Foreign Direct Investment, Inventory based model, M-commerce, Market Place Model.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

nternet has become a key ingredient of strenuous and busy lifestyle. 'Internet' has become the central-hub for communication, explorations, connecting with people or for official purposes. Resultantly, Internet growth has led to a plethora of new developments, such as decreased margins for companies as consumers turn more and more to the internet to buy goods and demand the best prices.

E-Commerce means buying and selling of goods or services is conducted over electronic systems such as the Internet and other computer networks. Electronic commerce comprises of online transaction processing, electronic funds transfer, online marketing, etc. It also includes 'M-commerce' which means buying and selling goods and services through use of various mobile devices or smart phones. It means "the delivery of e-commerce capabilities directly into the consumer's hand, anywhere, via wireless technology." The various services available on M-Commerce are Mobile Money Transfer, Mobile ATM, Mobile ticketing, Mobile vouchers, coupons and loyalty cards, News, Stock Quotes, shopping apps, Mobile brokerage etc. Launching of Google Wallet Mobile App is one of the recent developments.

E-commerce is about two decades old, yet due to its fascinating dimensions, it remains a challenging area for researchers and professionals.

#### Ecommerce can be sub-divided into four main categories given below:

#### B2B COMMERCE

It encompasses all those activities in which one business builds relationships with other businesses for efficiently managing several of their business functions. Thus it involves commerce transactions between businesses, such as between a manufacturer and a wholesaler, or between a wholesaler and a retailer. IndiaMART.com is one such B2B online market place which provides a platform for businesses to find other competitive suppliers.

#### **B2C COMMERCE**

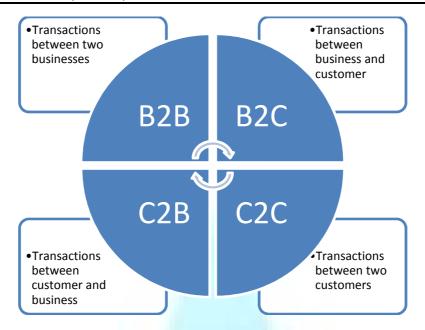
It include all those activities in which Businesses sell to the general public typically through catalogues utilizing shopping cart software. Thus manufacturer or the intermediary directly trade with the consumer.

#### C2C COMMERCE

In this model consumers have dealings with other consumers. E-commerce has made it possible to bring together strangers and providing a platform for them to trade on. For example, eBay, olx and Quikr enable consumers to transact with other consumers.

#### C2B COMMERCE

A consumer posts his requirements with a set budget online and within hours companies review the consumer's requirements and bid on the project. The consumer reviews the bids and selects the company that will complete the project.



#### **MODELS OF E-COMMERCE**

#### MARKET PLACE MODEL

It serves as a platform for business transactions between buyers and sellers to take place and earns commission from sellers of goods/services, in return for the services provided. Ownership of the inventory in this model lies with the firms who advertise their products on the website and are ultimate sellers of goods or services. Thus Market Place works as a facilitator of e-commerce.

#### INVENTORY BASED MODEL

In this model, ownership of goods and services and market place lies with the same entity. This model is engaged in e- commerce directly.

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

Devajit Mahanta in his paper —"Impact of foreign direct investments on Indian economy" stated that Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is a strategic component of investment needed by India for its sustained economic growth and development through creation of jobs, expansion of existing manufacturing industries, projects in the field of healthcare, retail, education, research and development.

Sharma Reetu and Khurana Nikita in their paper "Role of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Different Sectors" examined the sector wise FDI inflows in India during post reform period and showed that FDI is related positively with real GDP. FDI provides a sound base for economic growth and development by improving the financial position of the country. They concluded that government should focus on simplifying and relaxing entry barriers for business activities and providing investor friendly laws and tax system for foreign investors.

Alka Raghunath & Murli Dhar in their paper- "Problem and Prospects of E-Commerce" stated that rapidly changing technology is continually bringing new goods and services to the market accompanied by new strategies to sell them. They concluded that in order to increase consumer adoption of e-services, the sources of consumer confusion, apprehension and risk need to be identified, understood and alleviated.

Renuka sagar and Lalitha in their paper "Sectoral trends and patterns of FDI in India" analyzed the FDI flows in the country and also discussed the direct proportionate effect in economic growth of the country. According to them FDI has helped the Indian economy grow and the government should continue to encourage more investments of this sort. Attracting foreign direct investment has become an integral part of the economic development strategies for India. FDI has been a booming factor that has bolstered the economic life of India.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- 1. To scrutinize the need of FDI in E-commerce in India.
- 2. To analyse the current trends and patterns of growth of Indian E-Commerce sector.
- 3. To examine the opportunities & challenges in online business.
- 4. To study the implications of bringing in FDI in Indian E-Commerce sector.
- 5. To compare the state of Indian E-Commerce sector with that of other developing nations.
- 6. To suggest the removal of various barriers for FDI in Indian E-Commerce sector.

#### METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

The kind of research conducted here is exploratory research. Information was collected from various secondary sources to explore potentiality of E-commerce market and study the impact of FDI in E-Commerce sector on Indian Economy. Further statistics published by Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Economic Surveys of India and Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Bulletin of Reserve Bank of India, Department of Telecommunications, Internet and Mobile Association of India, IMF, etc. have also been accessed to justify the above mentioned objectives.

#### **E-COMMERCE IN INDIA**

India is at the cusp of digital revolution. Many Indian portal sites are now selling a diverse range of products and services from flowers, apparels, hotel reservations jewellery, greeting cards, and movie tickets to groceries, matrimonial services, cosmetics, electronic gadgets, and computers. People turn to the Internet to buy everything from electronics to books, houses, cars and even groceries, pushing e-commerce revenues. More and more companies are opting for selling wares through the internet route, offering numerous gift coupons and discounts to buyers.

Besides electronics, customer grip grew considerably in categories like fashion and jewellery, home and kitchen and lifestyle accessories like watches and perfumes.

With stock exchanges coming online the time for true e-commerce in India has finally arrived. On the darker side there are many challenges faced by e-commerce sites in India. Relatively small credit card population create payment challenges. Delivery of goods to consumer by couriers and postal services is not very reliable in rural areas. However, the speed post and courier system has improved tremendously in recent years. Modern computer technology like secured

socket layer (SSL) helps to protect against payment fraud, and to share information with suppliers and business partners. With further improvement in payment and delivery system it is expected that India will soon become a major player in the e-commerce market.

A report by the Internet and Mobile Association of India has revealed that India's e-commerce market is growing at an average rate of 70% annually and has grown over 500 % since 2007. 4

There have been profound changes in the e-commerce industry in recent years. An important entry in the Indian online market was that of one of the world's largest online player Amazon.com. It got launched in India as 'Junglee.com'. One of the largest player in India's E-commerce- Flipkart acquired Letsbuy. Healthkart had acquired Madeinhealth. TravelGuru, which was acquired by Travelocity in 2009, once again got acquired by Yatra in 2012. FashionAndYou acquired UrbanTouch. Myntra.com acquired SherSingh.

Internet usage continues to grow in India. According to the Internet & Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) the low cost of broadband has helped increase Internet usage. High demand for".in" domain registrations are also factors for the increase in online users. According to a research report published by IAMAI (INTERNET AND MOBILE ASSOCIATION OF INDIA) in October 2013 the number of internet users reached 205 Million. The number of internet users in urban India is 137 Million in October 2013 and In Rural India, there are 68 Million Internet users in October 2013. Total percentage of online buyers to internet users is 18%.

The penetration of e-commerce is low compared to markets like the US and the UK but is growing at a much faster rate with a large number of new entrants.

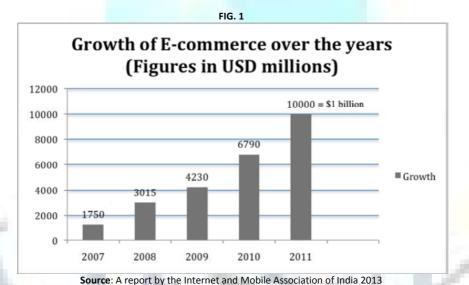
#### **KEY DRIVERS IN THIS GROWTH**

- Declining broadband subscription prices and thus Increasing use of broadband Internet
- 3G services penetration into Indian market. . Moreover, the likely launch of 4G services is expected to augment the country's internet user base further.
- Rising standards of living and a burgeoning, upwardly mobile middle class with high disposable incomes
- · Availability of much wider product range compared to what is available at brick and mortar retailers.
- Busy lifestyles, urban traffic congestion and lack of time for offline shopping
- · Lower prices compared to brick and mortar retail driven by disintermediation and reduced inventory and real estate costs.
- Availability of more payment options boosted the e-commerce industry like credit/debit cards, cash on delivery.
- Building consumer confidence and overcoming concerns about the risk of fraud is essential. The enhanced security measures introduced by the Reserve Bank of India through second factor authentication were an important development, making transactions safer by reducing fraud and risk.
- the proliferation of internet-enabled devices likewise Smartphone, tablets, i-pad, dongles
- Favourable demographics
- Increased usage of online classified sites, with more consumers buying and selling second-hand goods
- Evolution of the online marketplace model with sites like eBay, Flipkart, Snapdeal, Infibeam, qnetindia.in and Tradus.
- Online services such as banking, ticketing (including airlines, bus, railways), bill payments, hotel booking etc. have been of tremendous benefit for the customers. Most experts believe that overall e-commerce will increase exponentially in coming years.

Low cost of personal computers, a growing installed base for Internet use, and an increasingly competitive Internet Service Provider (ISP) market will help fuel ecommerce growth in World's second most populous nation. Most experts believe that overall e-commerce will increase exponentially in coming years. Indian middle class of 288 million people is equal to the entire U.S. consumer base. This makes India a real attractive market for e-commerce.

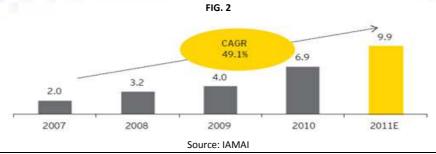
Although the trend of e-Commerce started in India some 15 years back, but the appropriate ecosystem has now started to fall in place. The e-Commerce market in India has enjoyed phenomenal growth of almost 50% in the last few years.

The following figure depicts the growth of E-commerce in India in the last couple of years:

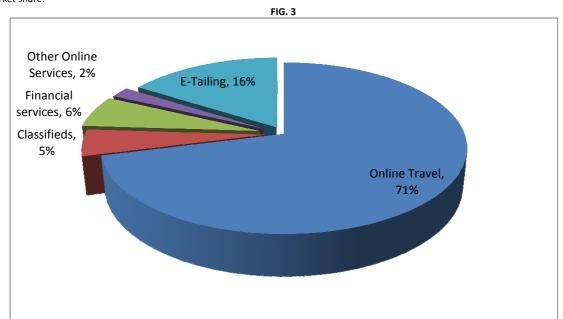


According to "Digital Commerce" IAMAI reports, March 2011 India's consumer facing e-Commerce market (B2C-C2C) grew at a whopping CAGR of 49.1% from 2007 to 2011 to reach a market size of US\$9.9 billion. Online travel, the largest domestic B2C e-Commerce segment, accounted for 81% revenues in 2011.

CONSUMER FACING E-COMMERCE MARKET SIZE (US\$ BILLIONS)



The e-commerce market in India was largely dominated by the online travel industry with 80% market share while electronic retail (E-Tailing) held second spot with 6.48% market share.



Source: IAMAI

As we can see above E-commerce market in India is skewed in favour of online travel (71% of the market). Online travel transactions mainly comprise of online booking of airline tickets, railway tickets and hotel bookings. The biggest players in the online travel sector are Makemytrip.com, Yatra.com and the IRCTC website for railway bookings.

Internet has become an integral part of lifestyle of people, for remaining connected with friends, accessing and sending emails, buying movie tickets and ordering food. The changing lifestyles of people force them rely on the internet for their shopping needs because of the ease of shopping from one's home and that too 24x7. Convenience is the key driving force and people around the world sitting in comfort of their homes, can accomplish what they desire through a few mouse clicks, taps on keyboard or touch on their Smartphone and tablets. Further having an extensive product assortment online to choose from has brought about increased dependence on the online medium. They can choose from variety of products and services through virtual e-catalogues. Ecommerce helps customer to avoid problem of stock, time and distance. Browsing, adding to shopping cart and paying online has simplified shopping. Buyer does not have to face crowd or parking problems.

The trend of online shopping in India is set to see greater heights in coming years, not just because of India's increasing internet population, but also due to supporting elements in ecosystem. Players have made rigorous efforts to improve areas such as logistics and payment infrastructure. Moreover, the Indian consumer's perception of online shopping has undergone a radical change, and only for the good. These developments have opened the floodgates for a whole host of professionals to find their niche in this industry. Foreign investors are taking a keen interest in the country's e-Commerce market.

#### **MARKET SIZE & GROWTH**

Today the number of internet users in the world is more than 2 billion.<sup>2</sup> Out of this, India has a total of 13.30 million broadband connections.<sup>3</sup> This penetration of internet coupled with the increasing confidence of the internet users to purchase online, has led to nearly 40% of such users (which is close of 7.4 million users) purchasing products.<sup>4</sup>

The number of users making online transactions in India is expected to grow from 11 million in 2011 to 38 million in 2015

It is not surprising; therefore, that India is in a prime position for the growth and development of the e-commerce sector. India is being ranked as Facebook's third largest audience after the US and Brazil. Social media networks such as Facebook are likely to increasingly become channels for sales and consumer engagement.

Factors responsible for the sudden burst in growth of E-commerce in India are:

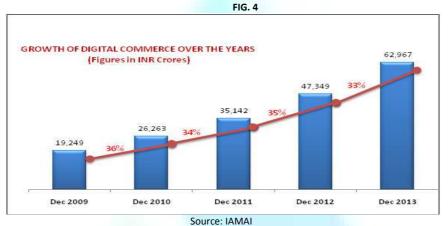
- Rapidly augmenting Internet user base Technological advancements such as Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP) have traversed the gap between buyers
  and sellers online.
- The emergence of blogs as an avenue for information dissemination and two-way communication for online E-Commerce vendors.
- Improved fraud prevention technologies that provide a secure business environment and help prevent credit card frauds, identity thefts and phishing.
- Bigger web presence of Small and Medium Enterprises (SME's) and Corporate because of lower marketing and infrastructure costs.

#### **CLOUD SURROUNDING E-COMMERCE MARKET IN INDIA**

- There are no specific e-Commerce laws in India. The sector is governed by the IT Act 2000, which regulates the legal obligations of sellers and buyers of goods and services in cyberspace. Apart from the IT Act 2000, e-Commerce in India needs to comply with other statutory laws in force in India, like Indian Contract Act, Consumer Protection Act 1986, Indian Penal Code and Foreign Investment Regulations. E-Commerce companies also require complying with banking and financial laws, wherever applicable. Laws regulating e-Commerce in India are still evolving and lack clarity. This poses a challenge for potential entrants and existing players. Furthermore, the lack of law firms or lawyers specializing in e-Commerce laws compounds the problem.
- There is a lack of proper distribution channels particularly in tier 2 and tier 3 cities. Missing gaps in supply chain infrastructure is limiting the access to far flung areas where a significant portion of the population resides.
- The element of "fun" in the shopping experience is missing in case of online shopping.
- There are worries in the minds of customers about the personal security and that the financial details entered while shopping online will be misused.
- In some cases customers are sceptical about the quality of the product.
- Low average broadband speed and flat average internet speed is another negativity attached.
- Online payment landscape is further marred by low penetration of credit and debit cards, especially in smaller cities, towns and rural areas.

#### E-COMMERCE IN INDIA IN COMPARISON TO OTHER EMERGING ECONOMIES

- Middle class in many of the developing countries, including India, is rapidly embracing online shopping. However, India falls behind not only US, China and
  Australia in terms of Internet density, but also countries like Sri Lanka and Pakistan. Sri Lanka has an internet penetration of 15%. Better internet
  connectivity and the presence of an internet-savvy customer segment have led to growth of e-commerce in Sri Lanka with an existing market size of USD 2
  billion. Pakistan, with an internet penetration of 15% has an existing market size of consumer e-commerce of USD 4 billion. Incidentally FDI in inventorybased consumer ecommerce is allowed in both these countries. (IAMAI-KPMG report, September 2013).
- As per IAMAI report October 2013, India has 205 million active internet users. Total percentage of online buyers to internet users is 18%. Compared to India, China, Brazil, Sri Lanka and Pakistan have internet population of 538 (40%), 79 (40%), 3.2 (15%) and 29 (15%) millions respectively. Therefore, lower internet density continues to remain a challenge for e-commerce in India.
- According to a NASSCOM report, the IT-BPO industry is expected to account for 10% of India's GDP by 2020, while the share of telecommunication services
  in India's GDP is expected to increase to 15 percent by 2015. With these supporting factors, the e-commerce industry is also expected to contribute much
  more to the GDP.
- The share of B2B transactions in global e-commerce transactions are is about 90%. Indian E-commerce market is based on market placed model. Thus large number of manufacturers, traders and Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises will benefit by advertising their goods & services on this market placed model.
- E-commerce industry in India is one of the fastest growing segments in the Asia region. According to an Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) report With a astounding CAGR of 34.49% from 2009 to 2013, the Industry has expanded from INR 19249 Crore (US\$ 3.49 billion) to INR 62,967 Crore (US\$ 8.60 billion) depicted in following figure.



Segment-wise, B2C segment dominated the sector with a 56.0 % share in 2010–11. Together, the B2C and C2C segments have shown momentous growth; their aggregate market size stood at US \$ 9.9 billion in 2011, whilst that for B2B segment was estimated at around US \$ 48.8 million. B2B segment's acceptance is on a rising trend due to its growing awareness amongst Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), which are close to 13 million in number.

• According to a report of Comscore, India is the fastest growing market among BRIC nations. 18 million users got added in Indian online market, showing annual growth rate of 41% (shown in following figure):



#### INDIA'S ONLINE RETAIL IN COMPARISON TO THE WORLD'S ONLINE RETAIL

The world's E-Retail sector has observed Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 17% during year 2007-12 globally as shown in following figure:

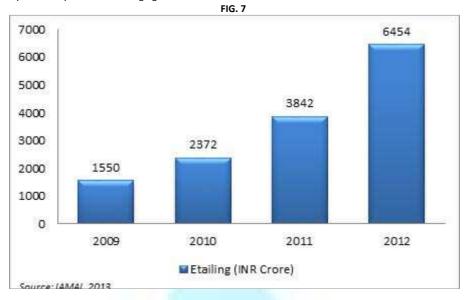


Note: Online retail sales exclude sales tax and are at constant 2012 exchange rates.

Source: Euromonito

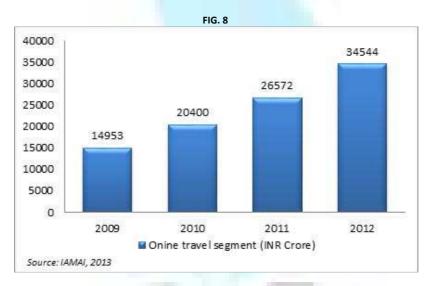
Globally over the past three years, online retail has grown at The Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 20.60% from 2009-2012.

However, Indian online retail sector is witnessing a much rapid growth. The Indian E-tailing market grew at an incredible Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 60.88% in the last 3 years as depicted in following figure:



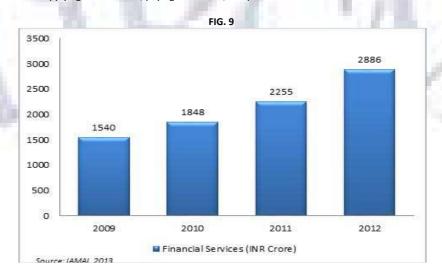
#### **ONLINE TRAVEL SEGMENT**

Online travel constitutes a sizeable portion of E-commerce market. The online travel segment has seen a healthy CAGR of 55.5% during 2007-2012. This is due to rise of disposable income, surge in demand for domestic travel and the boom of the tourism industry. Domestic travel contributed to as much as 50% of the total market, followed by railways tickets, international air tickets, hotel bookings and bus tickets. The online travel segment market is expected to grow at a CAGR of 32% for the next 5 years and will remain a leading contributor to the total e-commerce revenue.



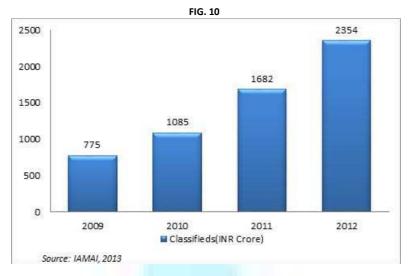
#### **ONLINE FINANCIAL SERVICES**

The financial services segment includes applying for insurance, paying online bills, and premiums and online transactions for financial services.



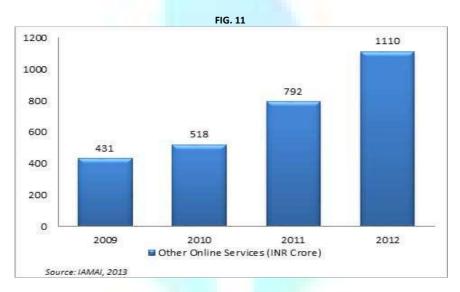
#### **ONLINE CLASSIFIEDS**

Online classified segment has also observed 40% growth over the last few years. The growth is mainly fuelled by services like online placement services, online matrimonial services.



#### **OTHER ONLINE SERVICES**

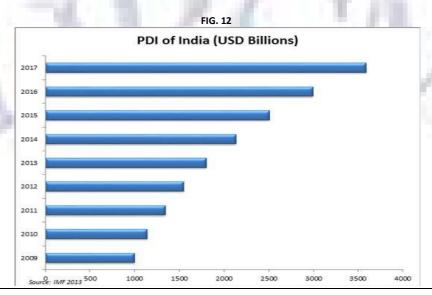
These include offering online services like buying entertainment tickets, food and grocery items. Bookmyshow.com is a major player in the segment.



#### SUPPORTING MACRO-ECONOMIC FACTORS

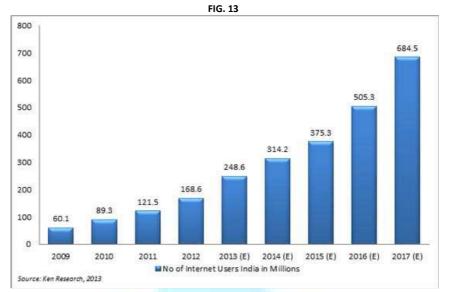
#### RISING PERSONAL DISPOSABLE INCOME

According to the IMF, personal disposable income has grown by 15.8% annually from 2007 to 2012 reaching to US\$ 1546 billion in 2012. As personal disposable income rise, it indicates that the standard of living has improved. Resultantly, demand for goods and services are expected to rise further. With more disposable income, the benefits offered by e-commerce will lead to growth in this sector further.



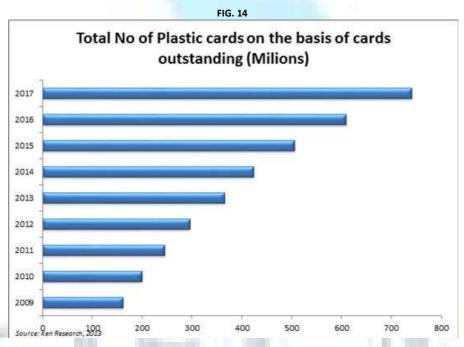
#### **INCREASE IN INTERNET USER BASE IN INDIA**

Internet penetration has increased by a CAGR of 30% from 2007 to 2012. There has been an increase in number of active internet users and such trend is expected to continue.



#### **INCREASE IN USE OF CREDIT & DEBIT CARDS**

Almost every bank these days provide facility of online banking and debit card facility. With the financial inclusion crusade of RBI, the number of bank accounts will rise and hence number of debit cards will also shoot up. This will invariably lead to more online transactions.



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#### **CURRENT SCENARIO OF REGUALTIONS ON FDI IN E-COMMERCE**

As per existing FDI policy, FDI up to 100% is permitted in B2B e-commerce activities under the automatic route. Retail trading through e-commerce is not permissible, for companies with FDI, engaged in the activity of single brand retail trading or multi-brand retail trading. Thus existing FDI policy does not permit FDI in B2C e-commerce.

#### **FAVOURABLE SIDE OF PROMOTION OF FDI IN E-COMMERCE**

- Foreign investors investing in e-commerce will bring in the much-needed investments in the ecosystem, e.g., in logistics, payments, to drive market growth.
- Earlier to access foreign capital, some players used to set up a separate entity for activities where 100% FDI is allowed. This covers back-end operations such as logistics, inventory and technology, which enables 100% Indian-owned and controlled front-end entities to leverage on the capabilities of these back-end operations. With this new directive, future investments would be routed through the same path as earlier.
- Domestic players will work harder to build their capabilities while facing competition from the arrival of global players in India.
- FDI in E- commerce will have positive spillover effects on associated industries such as logistics, online advertising, media, telecommunications and Information Technology Enabled Services (Call centres and BPO's).
- It will give a boost to India's infrastructural development. Increased capital will help to fill gaps in supply chain, distribution system and warehousing.
- It will act as a catalyst to manufacturing sector. Overall growth in retail sector will have cascading effect in manufacturing sector which will positively contribute to overall growth of economy
- It will reduce the need for middlemen lowering the transaction costs, reduced overhead and reduced inventory and labour costs.
- Adopting business strategies of global standards will lead to better work culture and customer service.

- With increased access to buyers and sellers, Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises will reach out to customers far beyond their immediate location, both locally within India and abroad.
- It shall also create new job opportunities in India.
- It will lead to better traceability and transparency in the whole system. It will not only empower consumers with information and data but will also help in better compliance of regulatory framework.
- A higher order of customer satisfaction can be ensured because of more responsive order taking, improved after-sales services, wider variety to choose from and competitive pricing.

#### DARKER SIDE OF PROMOTION OF FDI IN E- COMMERCE

- This initiative will be against the spirit of FDI policy in Multi Brand Retail Trading. As allowing FDI in E-commerce will provide foreign players complete geographical reach and FDI in multi brand retail trade is being restricted to cities with a population of more than one million or any other city as per the choice of consenting states.
- It will gravely debilitate small time trading of brick and mortar stores. Small shopkeepers are not highly qualified and will not be able to compete with sound e-retail business format.
- Because of large scale of economic operations, foreign players in the proposed inventory based model will have more bargaining power and may resort to predatory pricing.
- Further global players will have detrimental impact on our domestic industry. It will lead to creation of monopolies in E-commerce, manufacturing, logistics and retail sector.
- Allowing the entry of foreign E-retailers may shrink Indian entrepreneurship and may adversely affect Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Nowadays, consumers are becoming sophisticated. Sellers have to be creative and skilful. Success will largely depend upon innovation on part of retailer. They have to take care of customer expectations from pre-purchase to delivery of product or service. E-commerce in India is still in nascent stage but is rapidly growing; even the most-pessimistic projections indicate a boom. India being the second most populous country of the world has huge online market and tremendous potential. Once Indian Government will roll out its National Optical Fibre Network Plan, internet penetration is expected to increase. Foreign players are looking to tap the opportunity in the sector.

Foreign investors are closely eyeing opportunity in the E-commerce hub of India to capitalise on the anticipated growth potential. Government needs to focus on the regulatory front. Unlike many other countries, India still does not have dedicated e-Commerce laws. E-Commerce will continue on its growth path combined with support from the Government of India. The onus is, therefore, on the government to formulate dedicated e-Commerce laws so that current issues in the sector's legal environment can be addressed. Further we need robust backend infrastructure, i.e., a safe platform with integrated payment solutions and the logistics. We require technologies coupled with higher internet density. India needs to work on these areas to realize true potential of e-commerce business in the country.

A limit for minimum capitalization should be laid down for foreign entrants and also a limit for percentage of sourcing from domestic manufacturers should be fixed up. FDI in E-commerce is one of the best options available in quest of India's overall growth. E-commerce sector in India will explode in coming years and Growth rate of India's GDP will bolster with the welcome of this initiative. Thus the Indian E-commerce industry is all set for flourishing in the future with foreign players entering into it.

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