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HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT CLIMATE: A NEW ANTECEDENT OF OCB

DR. SAIMA MANZOOR COUNSELLOR IGNOU REGIONAL CENTER GANDHI MEMORIAL COLLEGE SRINAGAR

ABSTRACT

The globalization of industrial world makes it imperative for organizations to attach greater importance to the human resources as they have proved to be the key source of competitive advantage. Since every organization's success is based on the healthy participation and good efforts of its workforce, therefore they should be provided with the congenial Developmental Climate so that employees contribute to the success of their organization enthusiastically. Although, the main reason for the interest in Organizational Citizenship Behavior (OCBs) is its emerging stage in India as a whole and in J&K state in particular. Organizational citizenship behavior has been recognized as shaping the social and psychological context and contributing to the overall performance, where core job responsibilities are accomplished willingly by the employees who are ready to go beyond their formal job descriptions in the developmental work climate facilitated by their organizations. A stream of studies has veered into the exploration of the relationship between OCB with different antecedents but its relation with the Human Resource development Climate (HRDC) is yet unclear and untouched. The very aim of this study is to provide an empirical examination of exploring relationship between HRDC and OCB along with its dimensions. The present paper further intends to investigate the impact of Human Resource development Climate as an antecedent of Organizational Citizenship Behavior as a whole as well as for its individual dimensions. The study is based on the responses collected from the 170 employees drawn from two private sector banks. The findings of the present study divulged that there exists a significant and positive relationship between HRDC and OCB. The present study will add to the knowledge of growing literature examining relationship between HRDC and OCB. Further efforts are required to explore the undertaken topic in other banking sector as well.

KEYWORDS

banks, human resource development climate, organizational citizenship behavior.

INTRODUCTION

In the current challenging environment, the organizations are striving hard to fulfill the changing demands of creativity, efficiency, and adaptability for their survival. The factors like globalization, liberalization, economic de-regularization, responsiveness to customers, building organizational capability, and transformation, implementing technology, attracting and developing Human Capital, and ensuring fundamental and long-lasting change compel today's organizations to keep abreast with changes (Ulrich, 1997). Hammonds (2005) stressed upon the need for corporations to cultivate a productive work environment which according to him should be considered as one of their most important tasks. Human Resource Development climate as a sub-element of organizational climate also has a power of influencing the perception, attitude and behavior of employees within an organization. It is an antecedent of citizenship behavior and intention to stay with or leave an organization (Podsakoff et al. 2000).

The key to the success for the service oriented organizations is its employees particularly those dealing and handling customers directly. The most burning issue a service oriented organization strives for is the concern of encouraging and motivating its employees to carry out their job roles with zest so as to ensure that customers perceive superior and eminent quality service. Thus, enabling the organization to retain its existing customers by delivering distinguished quality services simultaneously help in attracting new potential customers. The service oriented organizations like banking industry is no exception to the above mentioned statement. The banking sector plays an important role in the economic development of the country. Their contribution in building up the nation gives them more importance in the country like India. Therefore, it becomes imperative for the Banking organizations to motivate and prepare their employees for the delivering eminent quality services to their customers with an aim of retaining and attracting new customers. For this, banking organizations need to provide their employees with a work environment which could induce and boost them to put forth extra efforts in enhancing and developing organizational fame and image without any expectation for reward. Furthermore, having a strongly motivated workforce prepared to go beyond formal job descriptions, and actively participating in organizational matters as a result of favorable working climate are termed as 'good citizens' and which in an aggregate and ultimately contributes to the organizational effectiveness (Organ, 1997). On the other hand, employee's expectations and demands are changing and organizations must respond to their calls so as to induce in them the sense of belonging. It is expected that more positive the perception the employees have about the HRD climate, more probable they will display Organizational citizenship behavior.

The present study aims to fill up the lacunae in research field by examining the role of Human Resource Development Climate in encouraging organizational Citizenship Behavior in the Organizational setting by deploying a rigorous evaluation of the constructs including a delve into three dimensions of HRD Climate i.e. General Climate, OCTAPACE Culture and HRD Mechanisms as well as the five dimensions of OCB namely, altruism, conscientiousness, courtesy, sportsmanship and civic virtue.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

OCB has become one of the most appealing subjects in the field of organizational behavior in recent years and has called upon the attention of critical concern from both scholars and practitioners (Grant and Mayer, 2009; Hongyu et al., 2012; Cohen et al., 2012; Cun, 2012; Mayfield and Taber, 2010). OCBs are referred to as extra-role and pro-social behaviors (Chen and Kao, 2012). Numerous research studies have been carried out in the search for the causes of an employee's decision to display OCB. However, there is a paucity of studies concerning Human Resource Development Climate and Organizational Citizenship Behavior. Despite of this paucity, researcher tried to provide an easy look at the work done on the concerning topic in this chapter.

The concept of Human Resource Development (HRD) was formally introduced by Prof. Dr. Leonard Nadler way back in year 1969 in a conference organized by American Society of Training and Development as a series of organized activities within the specific period of time and designed to produce behavioral change. In the revised definition by Nadler (1984) states that, HRD is an organized learning experience in a defined time period to increase the possibility of job performance and growth. In Indian context, the concept of Human Resource Development Climate was proposed by T.V. Rao (1999) and explained HRD Climate as, the environment provided by organizations for the learning and development of its employees. According to Manzoor and Shah (2015), when employees perceive a congenial Human Resource Development climate they tend to demonstrate Organizational Citizenship Behavior (OCB). The Organizations that have individuals who exhibit Organizational Citizenship Behaviors are more likely to have enhanced effective and efficient overall performance (Podsakoff, Ahearne, & Mackenzie, 1997). In the literature, one of the most cited definition for OCB is given by its pioneer 'Organ', in year 1988 as an: "individual behavior that is discretionary, not directly or explicitly recognized by the formal reward system, and in the aggregate promotes the efficient and effective functioning of the organization".

In a study carried out by Akinyemi Benjamin in 2012 examined the HRDC's role in fostering employees' citizenship behavior and their intention to stay with their organizations, by examining the relationships among human resource development climate (HRDC), organizational citizenship behavior (OCB) and voluntary turnover intentions (VTI) in the banking sector. The results indicate that the HRDC has a significant relationship with OCB and VTI. However, OCB shows no significant relationship with VTI. The said study was carried out over the 233 executive and non-executive members of staff working in the selected commercial banks in

south western Nigeria. Similarly, Nadeem Ahmad et al., (2012), carried out a study that aimed to explore OCB and its relationship with Job satisfaction and commitment, employee engagement and human resource development climate (HRDC) in the banking sector. The study proposed that well established predictors of OCB may lead to promote required behaviors among employees for improved performance and negative voluntary intentions. The results of the study revealed that banks can reduce turnover and promote citizenship behavior by ensuring that a favorable developmental climate occurs within their organizations. In the same way, a study "Human Resource Development Climate and Organizational, Citizenship Behavior: A study on the mediating effects of perceived organizational support in the manufacturing sector of Pakistan", undertaken by Sabri (2014), found that perceived organizational support positively and significantly relates to Human Resource Development Climate and organizational citizenship behavior. Manzoor and Shah (2015), also investigated the extent of impact of Human Resource Development Climate (HRD C) on organizational Citizenship Behavior (OCB) and came up with the result, indicating a significant positive correlation between these two and also found that, about 34% of Variance in OCB is caused by HRD Climate.

Thus, understanding the concept of Organizational Citizenship Behavior and its related factors can help the organizations to assess what kind of environment to provide their employees so that they demonstrate and engage themselves in OCB.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- 1. To find out the relationship between Human Resource Development Climate and Organizational Citizenship Behavior.
- 2. To explore the impact of Human Resource Development Climate on Organizational Citizenship Behavior.
- 3. To analyze the impact of HRDC on the dimensions of OCB.

HYPOTHESES

- H1: There exists a significant relationship between HRD C and OCB.
- H2: HRD Climate is a good antecedent of OCB.
- H3: HRD Climate does contribute in the prediction of OCB dimensions.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Sample and data collection

The sample for the present study was drawn from the two private sector banks prevailing in the Jammu and Kashmir state, namely, HDFC bank and J&K Bank. All the respondents were informed about the academic purpose of this study. A total of 200 survey instruments were distributed among Branch Heads of the selected bank organizations, and only 170 valid responses were retained for final analysis, representing a response rate of 85 percent. The respondents were assured of confidentiality and secrecy of their returned questionnaires. For the present study partial least square (PLS) approach was undertaken to test the proposed structural relationship. It (PLS) is a soft modeling approach to SEM with no assumptions about data distribution (Vinzi et al., 2010). The kind of benefits offered by PLS influenced the researcher for its utilization for the present study. PLS is very much in demand because of its ability to avoid factor indeterminacy and inadmissible solutions (Chin,1998), thus offers a high suitability for small data sets. For the use of PLS, Chin (1998) suggests that 10 cases per the largest number of predicting constructs in the conceptual model is required in order to determine the adequate sample size. However, in the present study model, the OCB is having the highest predicting constructs, therefore, sample size of 170 is far sufficient than the required PLS sample size of 50.

Measures

For the present study, questionnaires have been adopted from the literature. 38 statements, comprehensive questionnaire on HRD Climate Survey developed by Rao and Abraham (1990) at Centre for HRD Xavier Labor Relations Institute, Jamshedpur encircling three dimensions (namely, General Climate, OCTAPACE Culture, and HRD Mechanisms), And 24 items scale encompassing five dimensions (i.e. Altruism, Conscientiousness, courtesy, Sportsmanship, and Civic-Virtue) developed by Podsakoff, et al. (1990) was utilized to assess five dimensions of OCB proposed by Organ (1988). The HRD Climate was measured on five point Likert scale and OCB was analyzed on seven point Likert Scale.

DATA ANALYSIS

Results

Demographic Profile of Respondents

Out of 170 respondents, a total of 128 (75.3 percent) were male while 42 (24.7 percent) were Female. The age group of the respondents from 47-50 (73 percent), 41-46 (44 percent), >50 (26 percent) account for biggest portion of the sample followed by age group of 36-40 (21 percent) and 30-35 (6 percent) respectively. The majority of respondents who have been with their organization for >20-30 (76 percent) years participated heavily in the present study followed by those who have worked for their organizations for >30 years (66 percent) and >10-20 years (28 percent) respectively. Further, those respondents who have been branch head for >6-9 (47 percent) years participated in abundance than those of >9-12 years (38 percent), above 12 years (33 percent), followed by 1-3 years (30 percent) and >3-6 years (22 percent) respectively.

Measurement model

Following the suggestions of Anderson and Gerbing (1988), analysis of data using PLS was carried in two step approach i.e first, assessment of the measurement model and then followed by the assessment of structural model (Hair et.,al, 2011). The first approach i.e assessment of measurement model was carried in two successive steps. First of all the convergent validity and reliability was assed as shown in table 1.1 and followed by the discriminant validity as reported in table 1.2. Convergent validity was ascertained if the loadings were greater than 0.4 (Bagozzi and Yi, 1991), composite reliability greater than 0.6 and the average variance extracted greater than 0.5 (Fornell and Lacker, 1981). Thus, in nutshell the psychometric properties of the survey instrument in terms of internal consistency, reliability, convergent and discriminant validity were all analyzed.

TABLE 1.1: RESULTS OF MEASUREMENT MODEL

	LE 1.1: RESULTS			41.7=#
Model Constructs	Items	Loading	Composite Reliability	AVE*
General Climate	GC11	0.613		
	GC13	0.705	0.916	0.523
	GC2	0.797		
	GC3	0.828		
	GC36	0.716		
	GC4	0.601		
	GC5	0.811		
	GC6	0.659		
	GC7	0.699		
	GC8	0.764		
HRD Mechanisms	HRDM12	0.582		
	HRDM14	0.565	0.927	0.502
	HRDM16	0.505	1000	
	HRDM17	0.574		
	HRDM21	0.648	-	
	HRDM24	0.650	-	
			-	
	HRDM26	0.658	-	
	HRDM33	0.612	-	
	HRDM34	0.623	-	
	HRDM35	0.625	-	
	HRDM37	0.614		
OCTAPACE Culture	OCTAPACE10	0.590		
	OCTAPACE19	0.509	0.924	0.504
	OCTAPACE20	0.580		
	OCTAPACE22	0.550		
	OCTAPACE25	0.530		
	OCTAPACE27	0.601		
	OCTAPACE28	0.596		
	OCTAPACE30	0.518		
	OCTAPACE9	0.510		
Altruism	ALT1	0.670		
	ALT10	0.770	0.852	0.536
	ALT13	0.661		
	ALT15	0.783		
	ALT23	0.767	1	
Civic Virtue	CIVIC11	0.900		
	CIVIC12	0.864	0.925	0.754
	CIVIC6	0.894	1	
	CIVIC9	0.813	1	
Conscientiousness	CONSC18	0.821		
	CONSC21	0.835	0.911	0.673
	CONSC22	0.833	1 -	
	CONSC24	0.793	1	
	CONSC3	0.733	1	
Courtesy	COURT14	0.771		
Courtesy			0.917	0.688
	COURT17	0.838	0.317	0.000
	COURT20	0.833	-	
	COURTS	0.832	-	
	COURT8	0.803		-
Sportsmanship	SPORT16	0.843		
	SPORT19	0.726	0.939	0.755
	SPORT2	0.939]	
	SPORT4	0.937]	
	SPORT7	0.883		

*Average Variance Extracted

Note: Few Items were deleted because of their low loadings below 0.40.

The table 1.1 divulges that, the constructs used in the present study possess convergent validity and reliability as all the estimated indices are above the threshold of 0.6 for Composite Reliability (CR), loadings 0.50 and 0.5 for Average Variance Extracted (AVE) (Bagozzi& Yi, 1991;Fornell & Larcker, 1981).

TABLE 1.2: DISCRIMINANT VALIDITY OF CONSTRUCTS

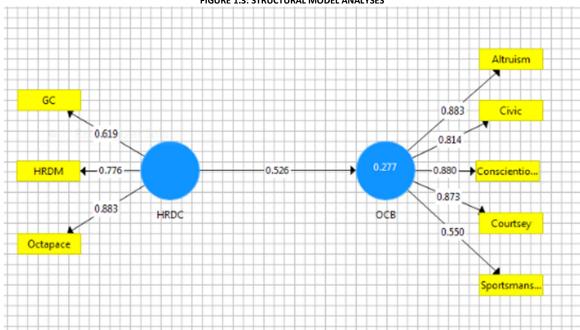
	Latent variable correlation off-diagonal versus the square-root of AVE*							
Constructs	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Altruism	0.732*							
Civic-Virtue	0.273	0.868*						
Conscientiousness	0.601	0.228	0.820*					
Courtesy	0.388	-0.029	0.416	0.829*				
General Climate	0.155	-0.005	0.139	0.049	0.723*			
HRD Mechanisms	0.359	0.099	0.294	0.176	0.200	0.709*		
OCTAPACE	0.268	0.037	0.154	0.154	0.190	0.347	0.710*	
Culture								
Sportsmanship	0.156	0.101	-0.023	0.070	0.039	-0.010	-0.043	0.869*

Note: Diagonals represent the square root of the average variance extracted while the other entries represent the correlations.

Similarly, the discriminant validity of the model was verified using the Fornell and Lacker (1981) criterion whereby the average variance shared between each construct and its measures should be greater than the variance shared between the construct and other constructs. As is evident from Table 1.2, the correlations for each construct is less than the square root of the average variance extracted by the indicators measuring that construct signifying existence of adequate discriminant validity.

STRUCTURAL MEASUREMENT MODEL

FIGURE 1.3: STRUCTURAL MODEL ANALYSES



The figure 1.3 above demonstrates the path coefficients of the conceptual model of the present study. All the path coefficients are significant supporting all the pre set hypotheses.

TABLE 1.4: PATH COEFFICIENTS

Hypothesis	Relationship		Coefficie	ent	R ²	t value	Q ²	Р	
H1	HRDC	ОСВ	0.526		0.277	9.86	0.172	0.000	

The explanatory power of HRDC in the determination of OCB and its Dimensions are explained by the coefficient of determination (R^2), which is a measure of the model's predictive accuracy and is calculated as the squared correlation between a specific endogenous construct's actual and predicted values. The determination coefficient (R^2) reflects the level or share of the latent construct's explained variance and therefore measures the regression function's "goodness of fit" against the empirically obtained manifest items (Backhaus et al., 2003). The results of structural model as presented in Table 1.4 above and Figure 1.3, reveal that as per the value of R^2 of the modeled variable, it can be said that HRDC can explain about 27.7 percent of the variance of the respective dependent variable i.e OCB. The Geisser statistic (Q^2) is 0.172 for OCB thereby, indicating that the model has a moderate predictive relevance.

Furthermore as hypothesized, the results indicated that, the HRDC strongly predicts Altruism (R² = **0.465**), Conscientiousness (R² = **0.463**), and Courtesy (R² = **0.459**), followed by Civic-virtue (R² = **0.428**) respectively. However, it was found that HRDC is a weak predictor of Sportsmanship (R² = **0.2.89**).

Thus, it can be concluded that HRD Climate significantly correlates OCB (**R= 0.526**) as it is evident from the figure 1.3, hence accepting the first assumption that there exists a significant relationship between HRD Climate and OCB. Also, it was found that HRD Climate significantly predicts OCB but the R² value (**R²= 0.277**) signifies that HRDC is a weak predictor of OCB as it could explain only 27.7 Percent of OCB. In the same way other hypotheses were tested and the analysis indicated that, HRDC is a strong predictor of Altruism, Conscientiousness, Courtesy, and Civic-virtue as mentioned above. However, HRDC was found a weak predictor of Sportsmanship. As the paucity of studies concerning the present undertaken research problem is concerned, with almost no such studies available concerning the analysis of impact of HRD Climate in predicting OCB (as far as the researcher's search for literature is concerned), the present study is considered to be the first in its approach in the undertaken area.

CONCLUSION

As mentioned above the present study proposes a new approach of analysis and thus less support could be found in the literature where mainly the focus of researchers have been to estimate the relationship between the two undertaken constructs. The present study re-examines the relationship between HRD Climate and OCB by proposing HRD Climate as a strong antecedent of OCB. The results of this study support the findings in the literature that HRD Climate has a positive correlation with OCB (Nadeem Ahmad et al., 2012, Akinyemi Benjamin in 2012, Sabri, 2014 and Manzoor and Shah. 2015). This study also provided empirical

evidence that HRD Climate has a positive effect on OCB and eventually has a positive influence on OCB dimensions. Therefore, banks should make extra efforts in encouraging OCB among their employees. As more the employees display OCB more it will impact the customer perception of service quality at banks, thus more success will be attained.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY

Banks should focus on establishing a congenial HRD Climate in their respective organizations and should show benevolence towards the exhibition of OCB by their employees so as to sow a seed of feel among customers that the service provider is interested and is acting in the best interests of them. The private banks in the existing society should develop strategies for the earning of competitive advantage over its competitors. This could be done by encouraging the display of OCB by its employees by providing them with the supportive work climate, as this will elevate customer attention and customer binding. In conclusion, this study should be carried out further and results could be further validated by involving participation from various other banks. This is expected to lead to a better generalization for the banking sector. The undertaken model can also be improved to include other antecedents of OCB and with the investigation of mediating and moderating effects of other related constructs.

LIMITATIONS AND FUTURE RESEARCH

The present study like other studies is not flaw free. First and foremost limitations of the present study is that only two private sector banks namely J&K bank and HDFC were taken into consideration keeping in view the time and money constraint. Also only two constructs were taken in the light of present endeavor. However, researcher highly feels that the present study should be extended by taking other relevant constructs into kind consideration.

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