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NEED/IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

**OBJECTIVES** 

**HYPOTHESIS (ES)** 

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

**RESULTS & DISCUSSION** 

**FINDINGS** 

RECOMMENDATIONS/SUGGESTIONS

CONCLUSIONS

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#### CUSTOMER SATISFACTION TOWARDS THE NATIONALIZED BANKS

# Dr. M. SENTHILRAJKUMAR HEAD DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AMBAI ARTS COLLEGE AMBASAMUDRAM

#### **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of the present study was to analyse the customer satisfaction towards the nationalized banks in Tirunelveli District. To achieve the purpose of the study, the total of 378 customers representing 7 from each of the 54 nationalized bank branches in Tirunelveli district were selected for the study for collection of data by adopting the convenient sampling method. In the light of the specific objective set, all information and data were collected from the sample respondents through direct personal interviews employing structured interview schedule. The application of one sample t-test is used to compare the computed mean value based on the perception of customers. In this one sample t-test, the computed mean value of the customer is compared with the hypothesized mean value 15 to obtain the significance or insignificance value. The primary data collected were analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS 21). The results revealed that most of the customers satisfied with the nationalized banks regarding its attitude of staff members and the products whereas they have not satisfied on the service provided and communications and after-care of the nationalized banks. Keeping in view of the above it is suggested that the nationalized banks should develop their services and communications and after-care with means of modern technologies.

#### **KEYWORDS**

Tirunelveli district, customer satisfaction, nationalized banks.

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#### INTRODUCTION

In the context of high fiscal regulation and global financial integration, the biggest challenge before public sector banks is to match market demand rather than encouraging government needs or regulation. Foreign banks and new private banks have embraced technology since the beginning of their operations, so they are easily adapted to technology changes. Organizing, liberalization, and globalization have created a stiff competition in the banking industry. As a result, the decline in traditional trade declined, cost cuts and increased risk. Market performance, intermediate and service delivery costs should be determined by banks' performance, depending on the competitiveness of banks. In the changed environment, creating new customers and maintaining existing ones has become a difficult task for the banks. To meet the competition, creating customer satisfaction has become the main goal of each bank (Jobber, 2004).

Cheerful customers cannot reject the importance of customer satisfaction, just like free advertisements for the banks. According to its strategies, events, and processes, the client should keep the customer in the center. In fact, it is easy to sell and more profitable to offer to customers than new ones. The banks have set up their strategies to ensure customer satisfaction and retention; so their employees should be customer-focused and service-based to satisfy their customers (Bose, 2002).

#### **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

Alok Kumar Srivastava and Chatterjee (2012) aimed to analyze the customer satisfaction of the commercial bank of the State Bank of India. SERVQUAL scale was used to determine customer satisfaction. Primary data have been calculated for persons having an account in SBI in Gorakhpur city by filling up a well-structured questionnaire and through personal meetings with a customer. The findings revealed that 'Responsiveness' were the main dimension governing customer satisfaction with SBI.

Deepti Kanojia and Yadav (2012) conducted a study on customer satisfaction in commercial banks. The study has been undertaken on the basis of sample surveys. The research approach was Qualitative and Quantitative Research design. A sample of 100 respondents was used in the research. The finding revealed that 60% of the customers are satisfied with the behavior of the staff and 28% are very satisfied and no one is highly satisfied. The customer reported that the behavior and attitude of the staff in the bank is the first reason for customer dissatisfaction.

Kingshuk Adhikari & Mounita Nath (2014) assessed the status of customers' satisfaction with respect to select dimensions of service quality in commercial banks operating in Silchar town of Assam. The rankings showed that the customers are on the whole satisfied with all the service quality dimensions selected for the study. According to the rankings, out of the five dimensions tabled above, it was evident that the customers are substantially satisfied with the assurance dimensions

#### **NEED OF THE STUDY**

The significance of customer satisfaction cannot be dismissed while happy customers are like free advertising for the banks. It is necessary to put the customer at the centre of the business, according to its strategies, events and processes. In fact, it is easier and more profitable to sell to present customers than find new ones. Banks are setting their strategies to ensure customer satisfaction, retention; therefore, their employees should be more customer-focused and service-oriented in order to satisfy their customers.<sup>6</sup>

#### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Nationalized banks have understood that customer satisfaction is imperative for their continued existence in the banking sector. By preserving good satisfaction with existing customers, banks can enhance the profit in the long-run. Keeping this point, the study intends to test the customer satisfaction in nationalized banks in Tirunelveli district in Tamilnadu. Moreover, most of the studies have analyzed the CRM practices in nationalized banks. There is no exclusive study on the customer satisfaction. Hence, a research on customer satisfaction in nationalized banks has been taken to fill up the research gap. The research focused on Tirunelveli district and analyzed the customer satisfaction in nationalized banks. Based on the needs and gaps in the domain of the customer satisfaction in nationalized banks, the objectives were framed. The foremost aim of this study is to expand the growing research customer satisfaction of banks.

#### **OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

The main objective of the study is to evaluate the customer satisfaction on nationalized banks in Tirunelveli district.

#### **HYPOTHESIS**

The following null hypothesis (H<sub>0</sub>) is framed to test the satisfaction of the customers on nationalized banks.

H<sub>0</sub>: There is no significant satisfaction of customers towards the Nationalized Banks.

#### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The researcher followed the descriptive and analytical approach in conducting the research. To achieve the purpose of the study, the total of 378 customers representing 7 from each of the 54 nationalized bank branches in Tirunelveli district were selected for the study for collection of data by adopting the convenient sampling method. In the light of the specific objective set, all information and data were collected from the sample respondents through direct personal interviews employing structured interview schedule. The application of one sample t-test is used to compare the computed mean value based on the perception of customers. In this one sample t-test, the computed mean value of the customer is compared with the hypothesized mean value 15 to obtain the significance or insignificance value. The primary data collected were analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS21).

#### **ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH FINDINGS**

Customer satisfaction is important for the long-term success of any banking sector. With the importance of customer satisfaction in mind, banks should maintain a stable and close relationship with customers. Customer satisfaction levels must be determined. Here in this study, the effort is given to study the customer satisfaction towards the nationalized banks in the study area. This study concentrates on 4 variables of customer satisfaction towards the nationalized banks such as services provided, the attitude of staff members, communications and after-care and products. The application of one sample *t*-test is used to compare the computed mean value based on the satisfaction of customers. In this one sample *t*-test, the computed mean value of the customer is compared with the hypothesized mean value 20 to obtain the significance or insignificance value. Further, to calculate an effect size, called *d* or Cohen's *d* is used. Cohen's *d* above 0.5 is very good, a value between 0.2 and 0.5 is good, and a value below 0.2 is fair. The result of the one-sample *t*-test is explained in table 1.

TABLE 1: ONE-SAMPLE t-TEST - CUSTOMER SATISFACTION TOWARDS THE NATIONALIZED BANKS

Customers Satisfaction	Test Value = 20				Ctd Dovintion	Effect Size Cohen's d		
Customers Satisfaction	t Value	df	p Value	Mean	Mean Difference	Stu. Deviation	Effect Size Coffers a	
Services Provided	1.92	377	.060	20.20	.20	1.99	0.10	
The attitude of Staff Members	4.46	377	.000**	20.64	.64	2.79	0.23	
Communications and After-Care	.51	377	.610	20.08	.08	3.02	0.03	
Products	7.14	377	.000**	21.10	1.10	3.01	0.37	
Overall Satisfaction	7.78	377	.000**	20.61	.61	1.53	0.40	

Source: Primary Data

A one-sample *t*-test was run to determine whether the customer satisfaction towards the nationalized banks score in recruited subjects was different to normal, as defined as a hypothesized mean value of 20. Table 1 reports the result of one sample *t*-test on the customer satisfaction towards the nationalized banks.

It is found in table 1 that the mean value of 'Service provided' ( $20.20 \pm 1.99$ ) was higher than the hypothesized mean value of 20 (Test value). But it is found that the t value of the variable 'Service provided' is statistically insignificant at 5% level (t (t (t (t (t )) = 1.92, t = 0.00 > 0.05, t = 0.10. Since the p-value is higher than 0.05, the null hypothesis (t ) can be accepted regarding the variable of 'Service provided'. There is enough evidence to conclude that there is a statistically insignificant satisfaction of customers towards the nationalized banks in case of service provided at the 0.05 significance level. It is found that the nationalized banks do not satisfy the customers by providing the services.

It is shown in table 1 that the mean value of 'Attitude of Staff Members' value (20.64  $\pm$  2.79) was higher than the hypothesized mean value of 20 (Test value). It is found that the t value of the variable 'Attitude of Staff Members' is statistically significant at the 5 % level (t (377) = 4.46, p <.05, d = 0.23). Since the p-value is less than.05, the null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) can be rejected regarding the variable of 'Attitude of Staff Members'. There is enough evidence to conclude that there is a statistically significant satisfaction of customers towards the nationalized banks in case of the attitude of staff members at the 0.05 significance level. Based on Cohen's d, it is found that the customers have good satisfaction towards the nationalized banks in case of the attitude of staff members.

The table 1 revealed that the mean value of 'Communications and After-Care' (20.08  $\pm$  3.02) was higher than the hypothesized mean value of 20 (Test value). But it is found that the *t* value of the variable 'Communications and After-Care' is statistically insignificant at 5% level (*t* (377) =.51, *p* =.610 >.05, *d* = 0.03). Since *the p*-value is higher than.05, the null hypothesis (H<sub>0</sub>) can be accepted regarding the variable of 'Communications and After-Care'. There is enough evidence to conclude that there is a statistically insignificant satisfaction of customers towards the nationalized banks in case of communications and after-care at the 0.05 significance level. It is found that the nationalized banks do not satisfy the customers by communications and after-care.

The table 1 explained that the mean value of 'Products' value ( $21.10 \pm 3.01$ ) was higher than the hypothesized mean value of 20 (Test value). It is found that the t value of the variable 'Products' is statistically significant at the 5 % level (t (377) = 7.14, p <.05, d = 0.37). Since the p-value is less than 0.05, the null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) can be rejected regarding the variable of 'Products'. There is enough evidence to conclude that there is a statistically significant satisfaction of customers towards the nationalized banks in case of products at the 0.05 significance level. Based on Cohen's d, it is found that the customers have good satisfaction towards the nationalized banks in case of products.

The overall satisfaction is measured by summarizing all variables. It is shown in table 1 that the mean value of 'Overall Satisfaction' value (20.61  $\pm$  1.53) was higher than the hypothesized mean value of 20 (Test value). It is found that t value of 'Overall Satisfaction' is statistically significant at the 5 % level (t (377) = 7.78, p <.05, d = 0.40). Since the p-value is less than 0.5, the null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) can be rejected regarding the 'Overall Satisfaction'. There is enough evidence to conclude that there is a statistically significant satisfaction of customers towards the nationalized banks in case of overall at the 0.05 significance level. Based on Cohen's d, it is found that the customers have good satisfaction towards the nationalized banks in case of overall.

The proposed null hypothesis (H<sub>0</sub>) was tested by one sample *t*-test. The significant level of confidence was fixed at.05. Using this significance level, it is possible to reach a decision with regard to whether to reject or accept the proposed null hypothesis. The decision made, based on this *p*-value, is presented in table 2.

TABLE 2: NULL HYPOTHESIS (H<sub>0</sub>) TEST SUMMARY

Null Hypothesis	Test	Variable	<i>p</i> -value	Decision
here is no significant satisfaction of customers towards the Nationalised Banks.	ple <i>t-</i> Test	Services Provided	.060	Accepted
		Attitude of Staff Members	.000**	Rejected
		Communications and After-Care	.610	Accepted
		Products	.000**	Rejected
	One-Sam	Overall Satisfaction	.000**	Rejected

<sup>\*\*</sup>Significant at 0.05 level

The table 2 revealed that the null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) is rejected at the 5% level of significance with regard to the attitude of staff members, products and overall due to the p-value is less than 0.05. The null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) is accepted at the 5% level of significance with regard to services provided and communications and aftercare due to the p-value is more than 0.05.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Significant at.05 level of confidence

#### **RESULTS & DISCUSSION**

The study found out that the customers of the study area have not satisfied on the nationalized banks regarding their service provided. This finding contradicts with the research works of Sunita Yadav and Ravindra (2017), which pointed out that most of the customers satisfied with the services provided by the bank like deposit services, ATM services, ECS, Fund transfer, online banking, card services, and loan. The study reported on its finding that the customers have good satisfaction towards the nationalized banks in case of the attitude of staff members. This finding agrees with the research report of Kainat Kapadia (2017) which noted that most of the customers of the nationalized bank are more satisfied with employees' attitude. It is found out that the nationalized banks did not satisfy the customers by communications and after-care. This finding is supported by the research work of Batra (2017) which revealed that communication was not satisfactory for respondents of private and foreign banks. It showed that the customers have good satisfaction towards the nationalized banks in case of products. This result is in line with the research report of Rifaya Meera (2012), which noted that the banks in Tirunelveli district satisfy its customers through the valuable, various products.

#### **FINDINGS**

The key findings of the study are as follows:

- 1. The customers of the study area have not satisfied on the nationalized banks regarding their service provided.
- 2. The customers have good satisfaction towards the nationalized banks in case of the attitude of staff members.
- 3. The nationalized banks did not satisfy the customers by communications and after-care.
- 4. The customers have good satisfaction towards the nationalized banks in case of products.

#### SUGGESTIONS

The following suggestions are recommended based on the result of the study.

- 1. The nationalized banks should make more concentrate on the service provided such as clean & well-cared facilities, efficient & no wait service, no long lineups at the counter, availability of information brochures, pleasant & attractive decor and automatic bank machines in convenient locations.
- 2. The nationalized banks should communicate to their customers in good manners such as sent out reliably and on time, a complete record of transactions, accurate and easy to read and understand.
- 3. They should take follow up care towards their customers as call handled promptly, kept on hold, courteous and professional manner and quickly connected to the right person.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Most of the customers satisfied with the nationalized banks regarding its attitude of staff members and the products whereas they have not satisfied on the service provided and communications and after-care of the nationalized banks. The research on customer satisfaction of nationalized banks is providing new insights and wisdom to the bank officials, employees and the policymakers in the banking sectors. The ultimate goal of the research in customer satisfaction of nationalized banks is to help to develop the business in the banking sectors, to improve the relationship of banking employee with customers, to retain and increase the customers, to enhance the customer relationship and to minimize the constraints for the development of the banks based on the results of the study.

#### LIMITATIONS

- 1. The research only focuses on nationalized banks, other banks like Foreign and Micro financial institutions have not been included in this research.
- 2. The sample size was limited due to the limited time period.
- 3. Permission to carry out the study in inside banks has not been given so the data collection was done in outside the banks.

#### SCOPE FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The followings can be researched in future in the connection with the present study.

- 1. Customer satisfaction may be analyzed based on the demographic characters.
- 2. Customer satisfaction may be analyzed based on the geographical regions.
- 3. Compare the customer satisfaction of public, private and foreign banks.

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