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## A STUDY ON THE ROLE OF MICRO ENTERPRISES IN PAURI GARHWAL DISTRICTS OF UTTARAKHAND & PROBLEMS FACED BY THEM

ASHU TOMAR Ph.D. RESEARCH SCHOLAR DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE KUMAUN UNIVERSITY D.S.B. CAMPUS NAINITAL

Dr. VIJAY KUMAR ASST. PROFESSOR DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE KUMAUN UNIVERSITY D.S.B. CAMPUS NAINITAL

Dr. RAJENDRA PRASAD BADONI ASST. PROFESSOR V.S.K.C. GOVERNMENT P.G. COLLEGE DAKPATHER

PANKAJ BHATT Ph.D. RESEARCH SCHOLAR DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE KUMAUN UNIVERSITY D.S.B. CAMPUS NAINITAL

#### ABSTRACT

This paper aims to explore the role of Micro Enterprises & problems faced by them in Pauri Garhwal in Uttarakhand. MSMEs continue to be the backbone of the economy for countries like India where the problem of unemployment is steadily escalating and the agriculture land holdings continue to shrink. And less scope for large scale industries due to many reasons like lack of marketing, technology, credit facility, raw material, limited access to market, shortage of capital and undeveloped infrastructure. Micro enterprises can generate sustainable livelihoods for the community in the hills as well as promote entrepreneurship and use local resources which otherwise would have been left idle to growth the economy. This study based on primary data collected from 72 Micro enterprises in Pauri Garhwal district for role of micro enterprises and to know the what problems faced by them. Findings of the study is that Micro enterprises playing a very important role for generating employment. And major problems faced by micro enterprises limited access to credit, long process of paperwork, excess cost of transportation, bad roads, lack of market demand.

#### **KEYWORDS**

MSMEs, micro enterprises, growth, employment.

#### JEL CODES

014, L26, L42, L43.

#### INTRODUCTION

icro enterprises have played a significant role in the economic and social development of the nation. The entire nation has realized that an inclusive and sustainable growth of any country is possible only by encouraging the stakeholders for undertaking new venture creation. 6-3 crore MSMEs in India contribute 33% of the GDP of the country but in comparison to other countries it is still low. Micro, small & medium enterprises have always played a vital role in the Indian economy. And also provide employment (45% of total employment) to a large segment of the population. The Government of India also Acknowledge the importance of MSMEs sector. It has purpose MSMEs sector would account for 50% of India GDP and add 50 million fresh jobs over the next five years. With focus on COVID PANDEMIC and emphasis on ATMANIRBHAR BHARAT, MSMEs have become even more significant to our economic and financial strategy. Micro enterprises have not only played an important role in the overall economic development of the nation but have also led to the economic advancement of remote and hilly area like Uttarakhand which have less scope infrastructure gap, lack of proper market information, less innovation actions, unavailability of high quality of inputs, problems of specialized training and skilled management etc. Moreover, due to limitations in the hills in generating employment, MSMEs can generate sustainable livelihoods for the community in the hills as well as promote entrepreneurships and use local resources to developed the economy. Almost all the regions have realized the importance of MSMEs in pushing the local economy and the regional development. The state with its different resources have have a very significant role to write the growth strong of the state. In spite of witnessing spurt in growth of micro enterprises in Uttarakhand these small-scale industries face various kinds of challenges like lack of capital, lack of skilled labor, lack of infrastructural, lack of proper market information.

#### DEFINITION OF MICRO ENTERPRISES

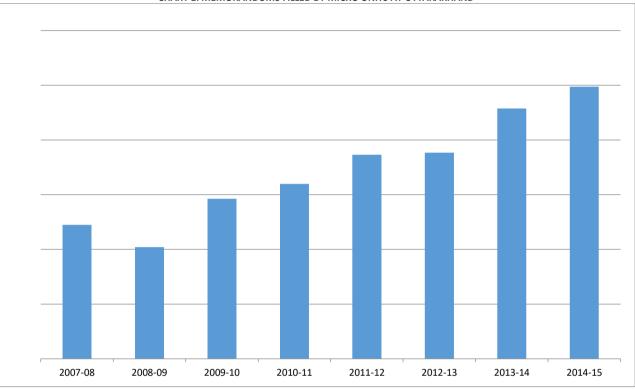
A micro enterprise is an enterprise where investment in plant & machinery does not exceed Rs. 1 crore and Turnover limit does not exceed Rs. 5 crore.

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TABLE A				
ENTERPRISES	INVESTMENT LIMIT	TURNOVER LIMIT		
Micro Enterprises	1 crore	5 crore		
Small	10 crore	50 crore		
Medium	50 crore	250 crore		

#### STATUS OF MICRO ENTERPRISES IN UTTARAKHAND STATE

The state of Uttarakhand is divided into 13 districts i.e., Nainital, Udham Singh Nagar, Almora, Pithoragarh, Champawat, Bageshwar, Dehradun, Pauri Garhwal, Chamoli, Uttarakhand, Rudraprayag, Tehri & Haridwar. According to Industry Association of Uttarakhand (IAU), more than 19000, registered micro, small & medium enterprises causing an estimated Rs. 612.05 crores loss to the sector, were hit in the natural disaster which ruined the Uttarakhand state in 2013. More than 90% of units registered are under micro sector emphasizing the need for focused micro enterprise growth.



#### CHART 1: MEMORANDUMS FILLED BY MICRO UNITS AT UTTARAKHAND

Data source: State Directorate of Industries, Uttarakhand

The state government of Uttarakhand announced a special hill policy in 2008 for promoting and enhancing growth in the backward region of the state specially in the hilly terrains. Marketing and distribution are one the key challenges for micro enterprises. This policy also focusses on skill development among the youth of the state.

#### ABOUT STUDY AREA

Pauri Garhwal hill district of Uttarakhand. It bound an area of 5230 square kilometers. And population almost 6,86,527 and sex ratio of 1103 females for every 1000 males and literacy rate of 82.59%. Due to lack of required infrastructure and the geography of the area there are no major industries. The districts have divided into 9 tehsil and 15 blocks. Some micro & small industries units have been established around the districts.

## OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of this study are as per following:

- 1. To examine the improvement & achievement of micro enterprises in Pauri districts of Uttarakhand.
- 2. To understand the problems faced by them.
- 3. To examine micro enterprises participation in employment Generation.

#### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

- 1. Online survey technique was used to gather primary data. For this purpose, a questionnaire was prepared through google. And it is mixed of both MCQs & descriptive in nature.
- 2. For this research purpose the 72 micro enterprises units have been studied from 5 blocks of Pauri districts of Uttarakhand. For this purpose, the blocks have been selected 5% of the total no. of micro enterprises have been selected proportionately as samples for the purposive study.
- 3. Descriptive statistical tool of frequency analysis has been used to analyses and conclude the data using MS-excel. Data were analyzed with the help of graphs, pie charts and percentage method.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

#### ROLE OF MICRO ENTERPRISES IN PAURI DISTRICTS IN EMPLOYMENT GENERATION:

72 micro enterprises studied in Pauri district of Uttarakhand, the contribution of these 72 micro enterprises in employment generation based on the type of enterprises in Pauri through the table below:

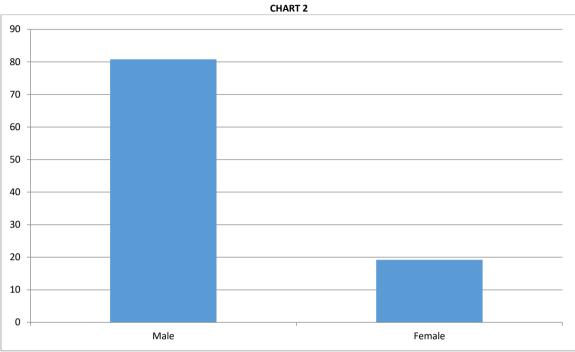
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		-
ABLE 1: CONTRIBUTION OF MICRO ENTE	ERPRISE IN EMPLOYMENT GENERATION	

•••			
	Category	Micro Enterprises	
	Male employment	101	
	% of male employment	80.8	
	Female employment	24	
	% of Female employment	19.2	

From the above table it can show that micro enterprise account for 80.8% of the male employment and 19.2% of the female employment in Pauri districts.

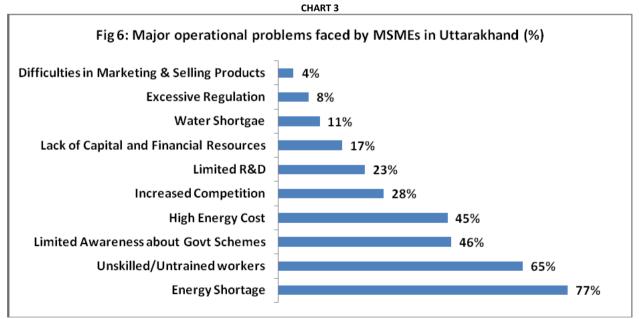


Source: Primary Data

From the analysis above we can say that micro enterprises account for highest employment contribution in case of males as compared to females. Thus, we can say that micro enterprises play an important role in employment generation.

#### MAJOR ISSUES RELATED TO MICRO ENTERPRISES IN PAURI DISTRICTS OF UTTARAKHAND

Uttarakhand has been able to attract industry investment, but manufacturing industries have maintained distance from the backward areas due to poor connectivity and lack of infrastructure in hills.



#### Source: PHD Research Bureau PHDCCI (July-September 2013)

The power distribution arm of Uttarakhand is reeling under financial losses but now the state has signed a statement of reforms in the power sector with the Central Government which is expected to ramp up power generation and procurement as well as harness local energy sources and renewable energy. With good institutional setup and high literacy rates, the states have the ability to address the issue of skill development so that youth population can find opportunities away from traditional sectors.

#### FINANCIAL CHALLENGES FACED BY MICRO ENTERPRISES IN PAURI DISTRICT

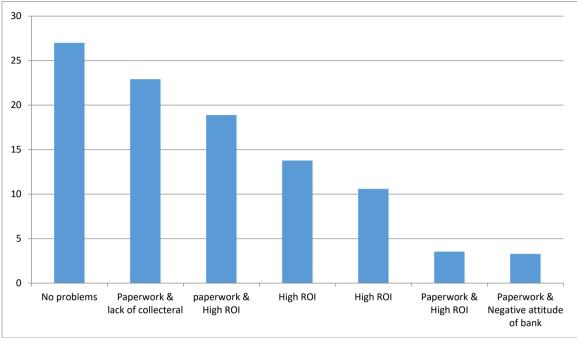
According the survey, a large share of the respondents (26.99%) said that they faced no problems in procuring finance but on the other hand (22.92%) of the respondents held long process of paperwork, shortage of collateral and negative attitude of banks faced by them followed by (18.89%) of the respondents facing lengthy paper work and high interest rate as a major problem. Another (13.78%) of the respondents said that only lengthy paperwork as the problems faced while (10.59%) of the respondents said that only high rate of interest as the problem faced by (3.54%) of the respondents facing problems of paperwork, lack of collateral

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as well as high rate of interest and another (3.29%) opted for problems of paperwork, high rate of interest as well as negative attitude of banks as the problems faced by them in procuring finance.

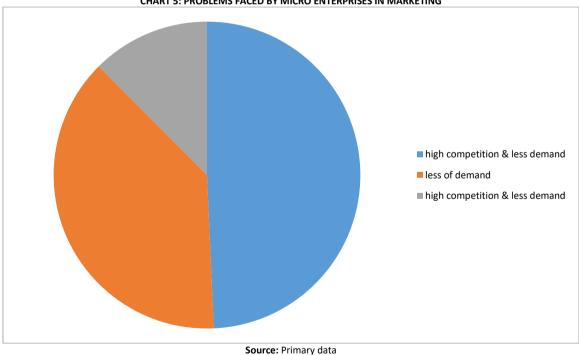




#### MARKETING PROBLEMS FACED BY MICRO ENTERPRISES IN PAURI DISTRICTS

Encouraging enhancement of budget under MDA (Market Development Assistance) schemes. Micro Enterprises should be given international platforms to promotes themselves and their products. For example: trade fairs. There should be reduction of income tax for marketing expenditure and E-Commerce. According to this study, a more share of respondents (49.29%) suggests that both lack of demand as well as high competition were the biggest marketing threats faced by them, followed by (38.24) of the respondents who said that only insufficient demand as the main threats faced by them whereas (12.47%) of the respondents opted that only for high competition as the main issue faced by them.

Source: Primary data



#### CHART 5: PROBLEMS FACED BY MICRO ENTERPRISES IN MARKETING

#### CONCLUSION

Migration of residents from hilly areas to plains has led to societal crisis in the hills and increased stress on resources & infrastructure in plains. The most crucial factor for the development of any business is the development of entrepreneurial skills. According to this study the findings it can be concluded that micro enterprises in Pauri districts play an important role in employment generation for both male and female and development of the domestic economy. And to accelerate the growth of micro enterprises in Pauri districts of Uttarakhand for the stakeholders in the economy to come forward and take initiatives like providing infrastructure, developing SEZs (Special Economic Zone), developing technology and other relevant assistance, provide easily finance and raw material.

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## TAX STRUCTURE: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF INDIAN VS UNITED STATES

## Dr. PANKAJ JAIN ASST. PROFESSOR DYAL SINGH COLLEGE UNIVERSITY OF DELHI DELHI

## ARYAN SEHRAWAT STUDENT OAKVILLE TRAFALGAR HIGH SCHOOL OAKVILLE ONTARIO CANADA

#### ABSTRACT

India and US both have a progressive tax structure. The present study is an attempt to have a broader understanding of the Indian tax structure in comparison with the tax structure prevailing in the US. It is a conceptual paper whereby efforts have been made to have an analysis of the tax structure prevailing in both nations and which one is considered better. A comparative analysis is been made between India and the US based on a few tax parameters like GDP ratio, number of payments, etc. India has an advanced structure of taxes prevailing but it needs modification in comparison to the US for the overall growth of the nation.

#### **KEYWORDS**

India, US, compliance, comparison of tax, tax structure.

**JEL CODES** H20, H25, K34.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

ax is the major source of revenue for the government, the development of any country largely depends on the tax structure prevailing in a country. Any tax structure that motivates business to progress or provides ease of doing business leads to prosperity of the country. Taxes play a crucial role in overall the development of a nation. As on date majority of nations have a well-developed structure of taxes.

The tax structure of a country is a set of various rules and regulations being imposed on corporations and citizens/residents for the purpose of revenue collection by the federal, state or municipal authorities which is then used by these authorities for covering expenses incurred to run the nation, state or city. Higher taxes are designed to generate higher revenue stream for the authorities but at the same time it also leads to tax evasion. This creates an unfavorable environment for businesses. Every government tends to find an optimal tax rate.

The effectiveness of the tax system affects how strong an economy is. A fair tax structure can boost a nation's economy and result in its success. This ultimately leads to happier and more productive citizens. GDP increases as a result of effective taxes; a tax policy is deemed sound if it serves the economic functions of allocation, distribution, and stabilization.

India has a well-established tax system with distinct lines of responsibility between the Central and State Governments and local entities. The central government imposes various direct and indirect taxes on people and goods, accordingly. Sales tax, excise duty, custom duty, and service tax are examples of indirect taxes. Direct taxes include personal income tax, wealth tax, and corporation tax.

State governments impose VAT, stamp duty, state excise, land revenue, and profession taxes. Property, octroi, and utility taxes, such as those for water supply, drainage, and other public facilities, can be levied by local bodies.

Over the past ten years, India's taxation structure has undergone significant changes. Tax regulations have been streamlined and the tax rates rationalized, which has improved compliance, made paying taxes easier, and improved enforcement. In India, the task of streamlining tax administration is still in progress.

In This Study, we are Comparing the Indian Tax Structure with the US Tax Structure in order to analyze the Indian tax structure's strengths and weaknesses. How despite the presence of various tax reforms India is still at a developing stage.

#### 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Jha (2013), emphasized on Tax structure in India& its effect on corporate and individuals in India and suggests that high dependence on indirect taxes should be reduced and direct taxes should be increased on the super-rich to compensate for the losses. He also states that corporate tax evasion techniques like transfer pricing should be checked.

Agarwal (2017), studied the tax structure of India and compared it with the tax structure of developed economies (United States, Singapore, and China) based on GDP, tax payments and ease of doing, etc. In comparison to other nations, the Indian tax structure lags in comparison to the tax structure of other nations.

Yadav (2018) made a comparison of the tax structure of BRICS countries and emphasized India figuring out possible reasons for slow development and progress in India. How the companies in India are paying more taxes compared to other BRICS nations.

#### 3. OBJECTIVES

- 1. To study the tax structure of India with respect to the tax structure of the US.
- 2. To compare the structure of tax with respect to rate structure and implications in India and US.
- 3. To analyze both tax structures and make a comparison of which among the two is better.

#### 4. METHODOLOGY

This is a descriptive study based on secondary data obtained through various secondary sources including journals, articles, and the website of the world bank. The sample size comprises of India and US only a comparative analysis between the two nations. In the present study, an attempt has been made to show the tax structure comparison based on some key parameters identified by the world bank.

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## 5. OVERVIEW OF TAX STRUCTURE: INDIA & US

The following is a basic tax structure being followed in India and US.

## INDIA

India has a well-developed structure of taxes. The power to levy taxes is distributed among the three tiers of government, in accordance with the provisions of the Indian constitution. The major taxes imposed by the government include Income tax, Custom duty, central excise, VAT, and GST.

Broadly, taxes in India are classified into two types, direct taxes, and indirect taxes.

Direct taxes are those, which are paid by the individual or organization to the authority imposing it. They are mainly levied on incomes and profits.

Indirect taxes are collected a bit differently from direct taxes and these are consumption-based taxes that are applied to goods or services when they are bought and sold.

The government receives indirect tax payments from the seller of the good/service.

Let's have a look at taxes prevailing in India in brief:

	TABLE A DIRECT TAX
Income tax	It is levied on the income earned by the individuals, Hindu undivided families or other legal people.
income tax	
	<ul> <li>if the total income exceeds Rs 50 lakh and it is below Rs 1 Crore then a Surcharge of 10% of income tax will be levied additionally.</li> <li>if the total income exceeds Rs 1 Crore then a Surcharge of 15% of income tax will be levied additionally.</li> </ul>
Cornora	
Corpora- tion tax	They are levied on the income of corporate firms or industries.
	<ul> <li>For taxation purposes, a company is considered as a separate entity, therefore, they have to pay a separate tax apart from the person is compared to a separate tax apart from the person</li> </ul>
	income tax of its owner.
N 41 - 1	All Companies registered in India under the companies act 1956 are liable to pay corporate tax.
Minimum	The concept of Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) was introduced to ensure that companies with large profits and substantial dividends to the value of the unit of t
Alternate	shareholders who were not contributing to the government through corporate tax by taking advantage of the various incentives ar
Тах	exemptions provided in the Income-tax Act paid a fixed percentage of book profit as minimum alternate tax.
	• As a result, the government charges a Minimum Alternate Tax, or MAT, on these businesses as an advance tax. As a result, businesses and the second
	required to pay at least a certain amount of tax.
	As of January 2022, MAT is at a rate of 15 %
Indirect tax	
Customs	It is a type of indirect tax.
duty	It is a duty levied by the government on exports and imports of goods.
	Import duty is not only to act as a source of revenue for the government but also used to regulate trade.
	They are mainly levied on ad valorem basis.
	Similar to custom duty, octroi is meant to ensure that goods crossing state borders are taxed appropriately. It is levied by the state go
	ernment.
Excise duty	• It is basically a commodity tax as this is levied on the production of goods in India. They are not levied on the sale of the product, unlil
	GST.
	• It is explicitly levied by the central government for all manufactured products except for alcoholic liquor and narcotics.
	It is different from customs duty as it is applicable only to things produced in India.
	It is also known as the Central Value Added Tax or CENVAT.
GST	It is a multi-point, destination-based indirect tax with set off for tax paid on purchases of inputs.
	• There is no cascading (tax on tax) effect since there is a deduction or credit mechanism for taxes paid for the earlier inputs.
	• it is a value-added tax and consumption-based tax. Thus, the total burden of the tax is exclusively borne by the domestic consumer.
	It is a comprehensive indirect tax levy on the manufacture and sale of goods as well as services.
	• Integration of GST in its indirect tax structure gave India a world-class tax system. It improves tax collections and enhances its tax base.
	also ends the long-standing distortions of differential treatments of manufacturing and service-sector.
	• The Union Government has exempted the following indirect tax from the ambit of GST and it also has the exclusive power to levy excis
	duty on the manufacture or production of the following:
	• Petroleum Crude
	<ul> <li>Natural Gas</li> </ul>
	• Aviation Turbine Fuel
	<ul> <li>High-Speed diesel</li> </ul>
	o Petrol
	<ul> <li>Tobacco and Tobacco Products</li> </ul>
VAT	It is a type of indirect tax introduced in the 2000s.
	Various committees like the Indirect Taxation inquiry committee on taxation recommended 'Value Added Tax' because
	<ul> <li>India's indirect tax structure is weak.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>It produces cascading effects.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>uncertainty and complexity in its structure.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>its administration was also difficult.</li> </ul>
	• It is a self-monitoring mechanism thus making the work of tax administrators easier and <b>removing distortions.</b>
	• VAT was then introduced in India by other states and UTs (except UTs of Andaman Nicobar & Lakshadweep) by replacing the Sales Tax
	States.
	<ul> <li>States.</li> <li>It was levied on various goods sold in the state, and the amount of the tax is decided by the state itself.</li> </ul>

#### UNITES STATES [US]

In the United States of America, Taxes are imposed on both the federal and state level. Both the structures federal and state are entirely different from each other and have their own authority of charging taxes. The federal system has no interference in the state structure. Similarly, each state also has its own tax structure. Within every state, there is also separate jurisdiction that may also charge taxes. Local government bodies like municipalities, regional municipalities, and local service districts impose their own taxes like property tax, license fees, etc whereas individual income tax, payroll tax, and corporate income taxes are the main source of revenue.

There are so many taxes levied in the US, some of the major ones are discussed below:

	TABLE B			
Sales tax	<ul> <li>Commonly used by States and Local Governments to raise revenue,</li> </ul>			
	States without general sales taxes are Alasa, Delaware, Montana, New Hampshire, Oregon			
Sin Tax	<ul> <li>Levied upon luxury goods, luxury cars, Jewelry, and vice items dangerous to one's health,</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Imposed to discourage patronizing certain products like alcohol, tobacco, etc.</li> </ul>			
Travel tax	Government Mandated Transport Tax For Travelers in the US,			
	• Used to fund the federal aviation administration (FAA),			
	Airlines Charges 7.5% On Base Airfare.			
Capital Gain tax	<ul> <li>Imposed on profit made on investment, sale of rent estate properties,</li> </ul>			
	Long term capital gains are taxed at a lower rate			
	<ul> <li>Short term capital gains are taxed at the same rate as Income tax</li> </ul>			
Inheritance tax	<ul> <li>Paid on the transfer of properties from a deceased person to his heirs,</li> </ul>			
	Paid by Heirs,			
	Prevent the transmission of tax-free wealth in America's most affluent families.			
Income tax	Required of all workers regardless of employment status			
	Largest souse of revenue for the government			
Payroll tax • Payroll tax is not a single tax, but a blanket term used to refer to all taxes paid on the wa				
	It includes a contribution to Medicare, Social Security, disability, unemployment, retirement			
Property tax	Another main source of government income			
	Levied upon the real- estate or personal properties			

## 6. COMPARISON OF INDIAN VS US TAX REGIME

#### a) Tax revenue to GDP ratio

Tax revenue is the amount imposed by the government on the taxpayers of a country for the social and economic welfare of the public. The major source of revenue has been compulsory penalties being imposed on taxpayers including fines, and social welfare contributions.

#### TABLE 1: TAX REVENUE TO GDP RATIO

India	11.7%			
US	33.5%			
Source: OECD				

The tax revenue to GDP ratio is computed majorly to indicate the growth factor of the nation. A higher the GDP higher will tax revenue for the nation. Table 1 it clearly states that the Indian GDP [11.5%] is much lower than the GDP of US [33.5%].

The reasons behind the low tax revenue to GDP ratio in India are evasion of tax, exemptions and relaxations provided on various types of incomes, and the low per capita income of country. This further leads to low socio-economic development in India due to budgetary constraints.

#### b) Number of tax payments

The number of tax payments includes the total taxes paid by a businessman of a country including electronic fillings. In India, this number is 11 in comparison to the US at 11. Both the nations are at parity in terms of tax payments made by businessmen.

#### TABLE 2: NUMBER OF TAX PAYMENTS

	India	11	
	US	11	
Source: W	orld Ban	k indi	rator 2019

#### c) Time is taken for tax compliance

Time taken for tax compliance refers to the time taken by business houses in terms of filling out taxes and making payments. This is judged based on the total hours spent by a businessman in fulfilling tax complaints.

#### TABLE 3: TIME TO PREPARE TAX FILES AND PAY TAXES IN HOURS

India	252
US	175

#### Source: World Bank indicator 2019

Table 3 shows a total of 252 hours taken by India in filling tax compliance in comparison to the US, which takes approx. 175 hours. There is a huge difference in the tax compliance procedure of India and the US. India despite the existence of so many tax reforms still need to simplify its tax structure.

d) Profit tax paid by business houses [% of commercial profit]

Profit tax is the percentage of profit that is paid by business houses out of its profits.

#### TABLE 4: PROFIT TAX [% OF COMMERCIAL PROFIT]

 	1 . 1.	
US	20.7	
India	21.6	

Source: World Bank indicator 2019

Table 4 shows Indian companies are paying a profit tax of 21.6% in comparison to companies in the US, which are paying 20.7%. However, the difference is not very huge. Any country that pays a huge amount of profit tax faces a problem in terms of investment and expansion required in business concerns. e) Labour tax and contribution Tax Paid

Labour and contribution taxes are those mandatory nature of taxes to be borne by the nation for the development of labor and their welfare.

#### TABLE 5: LABOUR TAX AND CONTRIBUTION PAID [% OF COMMERCIAL PROFIT]

#### India 20.2 US 9.8

Source: World Bank indicator 2019

In India, 20.2% of taxes are being as labor taxes which is much lower in US i.e., 9.8%. Again, reflecting a huge tax burden on corporates.

f) Other taxes payable by the business In the current study, we have also incorporated other taxes also paid by businessmen including property tax, municipality fees, vehicle and fuel taxes etc.

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#### TABLE 6: OTHER TAXES PAYABLE [% OF COMMERCIAL PROFIT]

#### India 7.9 US 6.1

#### Source: World Bank indicator 2019

Table 6 shows that in India 7.9% profit goes off in paying for these other taxes which is much higher in comparison to amount being paid in US i.e. 6.1%. It clearly reflects the lower percentage of taxes helps businesses to grow and expand; they can diversify their business as well.

#### g) Total tax and contribution rate

Total tax rates paid by businesses are the amount of taxes and mandatory contributions payable by businesses. Taxes withheld (like personal income tax) or collected and remitted to the government (like - VAT, and sales tax) are not included.

#### TABLE 7: TOTAL TAX & CONTRIBUTION RATE [% OF COMMERCIAL PROFIT]

	India	49.7	Ĺ.
	US	36.6	
Source: V	Vorld Ba	nk indica	ntor 2019

Indian corporates pay approx. 49.7% tax in this category compared with the US at 36.6. Table 7 clearly states that in India, corporate nearly pays 50% of their taxes which is a huge loss in terms of growth and expansion for them.

#### 7. CONCLUSION

Taxes have both advantages and disadvantages, but no one can deny that they are important to generate revenue. The above analysis states despite the progressive taxation structure in India, there is still a need for modification. The tax to GDP ratio of India is much lower than the US, and taxes paid in India is also on the higher side as compared to the US. Further total tax rate of Indian corporate is counting to be 50% which is directly going as taxes, which is alarming. There is still a need for India to remodify the tax structure, check the implications and figure out possible flaws affecting its growth and development. We need to reduce the compliance cost and in order to do that we can adopt a structure of administration adopted by the US government; it would not only reduce the cost of tax collection but would also reduce the time involved in doing so.

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