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STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

**OBJECTIVES** 

HYPOTHESES

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY** 

**RESULTS & DISCUSSION** 

INDINGS

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#### **IMPACT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ON MSMEs IN INDORE REGION**

### PARUL SHARDA RESEARCH SCHOLAR MEDI-CAPS INSTITUTE OF TECHNO-MANAGEMENT INDORE

### DR. M. D. PANGA DIRECTOR MEDI-CAPS INSTITUTE OF TECHNO-MANAGEMENT INDORE

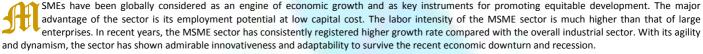
#### ABSTRACT

The Micro, Small and Medium scale enterprises (MSMEs) today playing a pivotal role in the economic and social development of Indian economy, contributing through industrial outputs, employment, exports, investment, innovations etc. Though MSME sector in India is highly heterogeneous in terms of the size of the enterprises, variety of products, and services, and levels of technology with a total of 30 million MSME units. MSMEs contribution towards GDP was 17% in year 2011, and raised to 22% in year 2012. in today's era of Indian globalization MSMEs are facing new challenges and some are struggling hard to survive due to lack of modernization, non-availability of suitable technology, inability to identify new markets etc, these shortcomings can be workout through technology improvement and skill enhancement with the help of Information technology (IT) infrastructure. Through this paper I have attempted to investigate the relationship between MSMEs competitiveness and Information Technology in Indore region.

#### **KEYWORDS**

ICT (Information and communication technology), Micro, Small and medium enterprises.

#### INTRODUCTION



**MSME-** Development Institute, Indore is a field level agency of Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) to take care of the needs of the MSME Sector in the state of M.P. in the area of Techno-economic and managerial consultancy service. MSME , headed by the Development Commissioner , under the ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME). Government of India, is an apex body as well as the nodal agency for formulating, co-coordinating and monitoring the policies and programmes meant for promoting and development of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) throughout the country.

MSME DI, started in 1958 (Formerly known as SISI), is one of the field level agencies of MSME and is the only one of its kind in M.P. Apart from offering various consultancy service, this institute also offers various technical and management training programmes for the benefit of prospective/ existing entrepreneurs. To assist the sector, having Field Testing Station at Bhopal and Branch MSME DIs at Gwalior & Rewa under the administrative control of MSME DI, Indore.

#### SERVICES OFFER BY MSME DI

**MSME-DI** offers a wide variety of consultancy services as well as training programmes for the promotion and development of Micro, Small & Medium industries. The major services in brief are listed below:

#### PROJECT ASSISTANCE

Identification of product Preparation of project Report and pre-feasibility report Appraisal and evaluation of projects for banks and other agencies. Selection of plant and machinery and raw materials Technology and process Know-how Quality improvement and standards Drawings and plant lay-out Common facility, workshop facility-job work undertaken Capacity assessment Assistance for hire purchase of machinery from NSIC.

MODERNIZATION AND TECHNOLOGY UP GRADATION

Technology Up gradation studies/In plant studies.

Production-cum-process development Diversification of project

#### SENET (SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND RESOURCE CENTER NETWORK)

**SENET** is an intranet project launched by the Office of the Development Commissioner (**MSME**) in April 1997 and is a small enterprise information resource center network. (Small enterprise mans small-scale industries and small-scale services and business activities)

**SENET** Objectives are: To Create - an electronic intranet for small enterprises - databases for small enterprise To Provide - technical know-how and package assistance to small information servers - Training inputs - Limited financial assistance to information providers To Promote - a network alliance among the information services provides (to small enterprise), including both the public and private sector.

#### **TRC (TECHNOLOGY RESOURCE CENTER)**

TRC is a 'TECHNOLOGY RECOURSE CENTER' which is made functional from October, 2001. It is major drive to create a friendly and conducive environment for entrepreneurs. Entrepreneurs can asses the latest available technology and industry related information on the spot. Though it is stared in a humble way, it is expected to hit in a big way in future by equipping itself to provide technology-related using the latest IT tools.

#### **UPTECH (INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY)**

#### UP GRADATION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

UPTECH is launched by Development Commissioner (MSME-DI), Government of India. The objective of the project is to implement an integrated Technology Up gradation and Management programme addressed to the smaller skills based enterprises The programme is organized around clusters of enterprises and is designed to provide for the promotion cost that are inherent in transfer of technology from its producer to the end user .

#### MSME DI – SDTI (MICRO, SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSME -DI) – SELECTIVE DISSEMINATION OF TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION)

Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME- DI)-has been launched by the office of DC in collaboration With Technology bureau of small Enterprises (TBSE), is a joint venture of small industries Development bank of India(SIDBI) and Asia pacific Center for transfer of technology (APCTT) The objective of the project is to build up a database On the technologies that are available indigenously With technology institution and with industry, and also to build up a parallel database of

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the technology requirements of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME -DI). The project provides an excellent opportunity to both the small enterprises As well as those institutions and units that have technologies for offer /sale.

The sector not only plays a critical role in providing employment opportunities at comparatively lower capital cost than large industries but also helps in industrialization of rural and backward areas, reducing regional imbalances and assuring more equitable distribution of national income and wealth. MSMEs complement large industries as a ancillary units and contribute enormously to the socioeconomic development of the country.

#### **DEFINITION OF MSME**

Enterprises are broadly classified in two categories:

i) Manufacturing and,

ii) Those engaged in providing/ rendering of services

Both categories of enterprises are then classified into Micro, Small and Medium scale enterprises based on their investments on plants and machineries (for manufacturing enterprises) or on equipments (in case of enterprises providing or rendering services). The present ceiling on investments to be classified as micro, small or medium enterprises is as under:

TABLE-1: CLASSIFICATION OF MSMES BASED ON THE MSMED ACT 2006					
Classification	INVESTMENT CEILING FOR PLANT, MACHINERY OR EQUIPMENTS				
	Manufacturing enterprises	Service Enterprises			
Micro	Up to USD 62500	Up to USD 25000			
Small Between USD 60000 to USD 1.25 million		Between USD 25000 and USD 0.5 million			
Medium	Between USD 1.25 million & USD 2.5 million	Between USD 0.5 million and USD 1.25 million			

Information technology initiatives that do not capture business requirements may not achieve the estimated benefits and may face unexpected problems. Managers in MSMEs must understand and evaluate IT's potential impact to obtain numerous benefits. Thus by aligning IT with their business environments, they can avoid failure. IT infrastructure provides opportunities to increase revenue, reduce costs, and improve customer responses through e-businesses. IT infrastructure can develop new products and services that have a high degree of knowledge component therein with addition of skill enhancement may lead to significant improvement in productivity and competitiveness.

Basic IT infrastructure such as Internet, websites, free to use application software (Open Office) can make them more competitive. Internet provided numerous and inexpensive opportunities for MSMEs to compete with large companies. Internet enable them to communicate with their customers and suppliers both at national & international level, they also can perform timely update or renew their brochures for products and services via websites and communicating through e-mails. Numerous MSMEs have adopted IT infrastructure for conducting business.

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

Annual reports of Ministry of MSME, Government of India have been reviewed for growth statistics, support system and incentives for MSMEs in India. The body of knowledge related to the research area has been explored through research papers, books and relevant web sites. The domains covered during the review of literature include information technology adoption, Productivity Analysis, and micro, small and medium scale enterprises.

Mali Paul, Morrison and McKee, (1978). has described 12 causes responsible for decline of productivity of organizations in general. He includes Rapid Technological changes and High Costs of manufacturing in the list of12 causes. Technology Factor has been seen as predominant determinant with maximum contribution in Productivity Enhancement. The contribution of Capital, Labor and Technology is found to be enhancements.

Kelmer and Wanghman D. W.(1995) has concluded Regarding the technological needs of MSMEs, technology process is important, but the ability to utilize and capitalize on the advantage of technology through invention and innovation subsequently achieving through synergy is considered more important in running and survival of unit. It has been observed that the synergy plays very vital role in mobilizing the useful resources. Also the need of developing technical entrepreneurship has been strongly realized.

Patricia R. Todd, Rajshekhar (Raj) G. Javalgi, (2007) "Internationalization of SMEs in India: Fostering entrepreneurship by leveraging information technology" in International Journal of Emerging Markets,, concluded that "Advancements in information technology and improvements in communication infrastructure have resulted in opportunities for SMEs to participate in global markets in both developing and developed countries. Since, governmental reforms in 1991, SMEs in India have been faced with new competitive intensity. Improvements in resource utilization make it possible to sell a variety of products and services from anywhere in the world, around the clock. This paper calls attention to ways in which Indian can become competitive.

Vimlesh kumar soni, Vijay.p.Wani, (2010), "Productivity Growth in MSEs through Technology Incubation" in a journal concluded that "Having technical background of education and exposure to entrepreneurship programmes both support in productivity growth of the enterprise. Those who do not posses technical qualification may keep them updated with latest technology related knowledge through regular interaction with incubator organization. The technological and entrepreneurial competence such developed will facilitate in better performance of enterprise.

Prof. (Dr.) S. K. Baral, (2013), "An empirical study on changing face of MSME towards emerging economies in India". With its agility and dynamism, the sector has shown admirable innovativeness and adaptability to survive the recent economic downturn and recession. A growing recognition has been felt throughout the world such that SMEs have a vital role to play in the present context given their greater resource-use efficiency, capacity for employment generation, technological innovations for economic growth of any country across the globe.

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

To find the impact of Information and communication Technology (ICT) on MSME in Indore region, also to find out the factors responsible for it. With the help of reviewed literature we can come up with the Internal factors (enterprises sector, size and age) and three External factors (information requirements, competition intensity & Government incentive schemes) that can affect the adoption of information technology by MSMEs as follows:-

#### **EXTERNAL FACTORS**

#### INFORMATION REQUIREMENT

Information Requirements is concerned with requirements derive from promoting products and services to customers and communicating with business partners and hence facilitating the information to them. Internet can immediately and simultaneously provide information to employees, customers, and suppliers. To summarize, information exchange requirements (with customers & suppliers) motivate enterprises to provide IT based services, setting up inhouse Automated Query center to provide answers to queries and requirements of the customers, developing dynamic web sites to provide product and service information, updating product brouchers, information regarding design changes, feedback from customers etc.

#### COMPETITION INTENSITY

The stepping up of competitors to adopt new technology and the intense industry competition will influence the attitudes of managers towards accepting the new technology. In this highly competitive market, competitors or business partners may place pressure on firms to adopt new technologies. In order to compete more effectively, MSMEs managers require advanced information exchange methods for acquiring and sustaining competitive advantage. Thus it can be concluded that Information Technology Adoption allows MSMEs to improve their competitiveness.

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#### **GOVERNMENT INCENTIVES SCHEMES**

Pressure may come from Government business partners and associates for adopting the Information Technology .During the earlier days of IT, it was recognized that MSMEs rarely realize the importance and requirements of advanced IT technology, therefore, some of their needs to use the innovated IT technology are not effectively translated into demand. A decade after, it was found that creating user friendly environment and awareness of adopting advanced IT could be enhanced by government support such as provision for incentives and rebates in taxes along with aggressive support from business partners and associates.

#### INTERNAL FACTORS: ENTERPRISE SECTOR, SIZE AND AGE

Researchers have demonstrated that a positive relationship exists between IT adoption and firm size. Some researchers have demonstrated that firm size positively influences firm commitment IT infrastructure & E- commerce. Furthermore, other researchers identified significant links between business size and level of IT adoption. Few asserted that size represents ability to assume risk, with bigger size facilitating the adoption and diffusion of new technology. Finally specific sector or to cluster in which enterprise is operating is also under some influential factor and it was found that negative relationship exists between enterprise sector and Information Technology Adoption. Besides, the age of an enterprise may lead to conservative ideas and thinking owing to the existence of mature and accepted work types in the longer established organizations.

#### BASED ON THE ABOVE INFERENCES STUDY PROPOSES THE FOLLOWING SIX HYPOTHESES:

H-1 A positive relationship exists between information requirements and IT Adoption.

- H-2 A positive relationship exists between intense competition and I T Adoption.
- H-3 A positive relationship exists between Government incentives scheme and IT Adoption.
- H-4 A positive relationship exists between enterprise size and Information Technology Adoption.
- H-5 A negative relationship exists between enterprise age and Information Technology Adoption.

#### Also from above inferences the conceptual model is developed, shown in Table below:

#### TABLE 2

Enterprise Sector		Information Requirement			
Enterprise Size	Information Technology Adoption	Competition Intensity			
Enterprise Age		Government Incentives Schemes			

#### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND DATA COLLECTION**

Since IT infrastructure may require a considerable part of the budget of MSMEs, it is reasonable to expect that MSMEs that do not perform well may decide not to put too many resources into their IT development. This study focuses on the MSMEs which do have the financial ability to cover the cost of a IT infrastructure. This study selects outstanding Indore MSME companies with after- tax surpluses and continuing sale revenue growth for the past three years as samples. We attempt to explore the determinants of Information Technology Adoption for the MSMEs financial performance and used regression coefficient test as a tool for testing hypothesis.

#### DATA COLLECTION

Apart from the information collected from MSME-DI Indore, This study collects data from two sources: personal inquiry and a mail questionnaire survey. Firm sector, age and size were obtained from personal inquiry. The adoption of Information Technology, information requirements, intensity of competition, and incentives and supports, are obtained from the self-report questionnaire. We examined Internet sources and personal meeting to identify the names of MSMEs firms which shown considerable growth in financial performance. 50 MSMEs were identified and Questionnaires were mailed to them.

#### HYPOTHESIS TESTING

#### **TESTING OF HYPOTHESIS HI (INFORMATION REQUIREMENT)**

Hypothesis H-1 was stated as "A positive relationship exists between information requirements and Information Technology Adoption". The regression coefficient (re) was positive and significant (rc=1.08, p<0.01). Therefore, we can conclude that there is a statistically significant relationship between the dependent variable "Information Technology Adoption" and the independent variable "information requirement". That is, firms with information requirements are more likely to have Information Technology. Adoptionally, the independent variable of "information requirement" was comprised of three items, information with customers, partners (suppliers). This study placed three items of the information requirement into the regression to identify the influence of these three items on Information Technology Adoption. The regression model calculation revealed that only the information requirement with customers exhibits a positive relationship with Information Technology Adoption (rc=1.44, p<0.01). The information requirements with partners (suppliers) did not exhibit any statistically significant relationship with Information Technology Adoption.

#### TESTING OF HYPOTHESIS H2 (INTENSITY OF COMPETITION)

All of the regression coefficients of the four regression models are positive and significant (p<0.05) for Hypothesis H2,"A positive relationship exists between competitive intensity and Information Technology Adoption,". Therefore, we can conclude that there is a statistically significant relationship between the dependent variable "Information Technology Adoption" and the independent variable "of competition". That is, in a higher competitive environment, firms were more likely to develop comprehensive websites.

#### **TESTING OF HYPOTHESIS H3 (SUPPORT AND INCENTIVES)**

The regression coefficient is positive and significant (rc=0.68, p<0.01) for Hypothesis H3, "A positive relationship exists between 'support and incentives' and Information Technology Adoption, therefore, we can conclude that there is a statistically significant relationship between the dependent variable "Information Technology Adoption" and the independent variable "support and incentives". That is, firms with "government incentives schemes" are more likely to conduct Information Technology calculation also reveal that government support and incentives were significantly and positively related to Information Technology Adoption (rc=1.07, p<0.01), while support and incentives from business partners were not.

#### **TESTING OF HYPOTHESIS H4 (FIRM SIZE)**

All of the regression coefficients of the four regression model are positive and significant (p<0.05) for Hypothesis H4, "A positive relationship exists between enterprise size and Information Technology Adoption," Therefore, we can conclude that there is a statistically significant relationship between the dependent variable "Information Technology Adoption "and the independent variable "firm size". That is, the larger sized firms are more likely to have comprehensive websites than the smaller ones.

#### **TESTING OF HYPOTHESIS H5 (FIRM AGE)**

All of the regression coefficients of the four regression models are negative and significant (p<0.01) for Hypothesis H5, "A negative relationship exists between enterprise age and Information Technology Adoption,". Therefore, we can conclude that there is a statistically significant relationship between the dependent variable "Information Technology Adoption" and the independent variable "firm age". That is, the longer established firms are more likely to have comprehensive websites than younger ones.

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#### CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION

This study used a sample of Indore MSMEs to investigate the factors influencing the Adoption of their Information Technology Adoption. According to empirical surveys, information requirement, intensity of competition, and support and incentives, size and age influence the Information Technology Adoption. This study proves that there is a relationship between environmental factors and the adoption of ICT. Information Technology Adoption increases with increasing information requirements. Highly competitive environments drive enterprises to adopt the IT to acquire first mover advantages, or to avoid being driven out of markets. MSMEs in highly competitive industries have no choice but to follow their competitors in adopting information technology. Government Support and incentives from the external environment also lead enterprises to pursue Information Technology Adoption. Since the1990s,to improve national competitiveness, countries like Singapore, Korea, Japan, Germany, and Canada have endeavored to develop their digital economies. Government of India can opt for development of e- MSMEs project. The e-MSMEs project encompasses several sub-projects: Knowledge Management Plan, e-Learning Project, e-Business Operation Plan, Broadband to MSMEs, and e-Market. All of these projects are important in helping MSMEs develop their IT strategy. The effectiveness of partnerships between government and MSMEs is empirically demonstrated in this study.

#### SCOPE FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

As far as scope of ICT on MSMEs in Indore is concerned, it cannot be wrapped in words or figures as the growth of IT sector w.r.t MSMEs will be going to make a mile stone in INDORE .New hopes came with IT park, also the big companies like TCS,INFOSYS have shown a great interest in Indore market which will surely going to help MSMEs to grow with more faster rate. Research can then be done as to what percentage the skilled labor with skilled management had contributed to the growth of MSMEs .

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#### WEBSITE

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