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A Comparative Study of Government and Non-Government Entrepreneurship Development Programmes in Promoting the Transformation of Businesses

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Abstract

This paper discusses the importance of Entrepreneurship Development Programmes and their influence on business transformation. The purpose of the paper is to assess the role of Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) in entrepreneurial transformation and to compare and evaluate the effectiveness of Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) offered by Government and Non-Government organisations. Successful entrepreneurial activities are assisted by the supportive entrepreneurial ecosystems in society. The support is extended to the entrepreneurs through initiatives like Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs). Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) act as an essence to boost entrepreneurial culture in the economy. Several government and non-government organisations (NGOs) encourage entrepreneurial activities through Entrepreneurship Development Programs. These programs motivate individuals to set up and upgrade their ventures. Empirical evidence was gathered from entrepreneurs on the business transformation that appeared after being part of the Entrepreneurship Development Programmes. The study also focuses on enabling and limiting socio-economic factors responsible for business sustainability. The quasi-experimental design was used to select the entrepreneurs for the study. The purpose of the study is to measure and compare the achievement level of beneficiaries of Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) and their contribution towards building a strong entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Keywords: Business Transformation, Entrepreneurship Development, Programmes, Governments, Non-Government, Achievement Level.

Introduction

Poverty and unemployment are the major obstacles in the process of economic growth and development. These problems emerge mainly through a lack of employment opportunities. Human capital is considered the wealth of the nation. India is abundant in terms of manpower. While evaluating the economic growth of India over the years, little attention has been paid to manpower planning. In the economic aspect, the existence of a large number of inactive manpower means a terrible waste of human resources. This problem of tragic waste of human resources is mainly because of the lack of job opportunities. People are not able to acquire their desired job even after having accordant qualifications. It is an understandable fact that the whole population can't attain wage employment because the rate of the population is

more than the employment opportunities in the country. The problem can be solved by promoting entrepreneurial culture in the country. The countries that lay entrepreneurship at the core of their policies are those most disposed for sustainable development. Start-ups are considered as an essence for all the ills of a developing economy like India. It is important to build an entrepreneurial ecosystem in the country with the help of public and private partnerships. It is important to create and nurture entrepreneurial abilities among the young generation in the form of numerous initiatives, schemes, and programmes. The government's multiple programs and policies support entrepreneurship throughout the nation. (Jindal & Bhardwaj, 2016). The entrepreneurship development programmes are one such initiative to boost the entrepreneurial ecosystem at the regional level. These initiatives have shown to be crucial in helping India become more industrialized and reduce unemployment. (Melwani, 2018). The entrepreneurship development programmes help first-generation entrepreneurs to startup and sustain their businesses.

Literature Review

Several studies have examined and highlighted the role of Entrepreneurship Development Programs (EDPs) in building entrepreneurial ecosystems in the country.

J.S. Saini and B.S. Bhatia (1996) they outlined the origins of entrepreneurship development programs (EDPs) in their paper on the Impact of Entrepreneurship Development Programs. The study's main focus is on programs related to training programs for entrepreneurs.

Matthias Glaub and Michael Frese (2011) have highlighted the contribution that entrepreneurship education makes to the growth of entrepreneurship. Performance in entrepreneurship is positively impacted by it. The study emphasizes how important it is to have efficient entrepreneurial education programs. These initiatives have a real-world effect on the enterprise's pre- and post-launch stages.

Meenu and Jai (2011) highlighted the initiatives done by the government and non-governmental organizations to support the country's entrepreneurial development through

the Entrepreneurial Development Program (EDP) in their article on women's entrepreneurship development. The program's significance is found in its ability to persuade prospective applicants to seize fresh business possibilities and launch new ventures. These courses are designed to assist prospective students in launching new businesses and advancing their professional development as current business owners. Pre-training, training, and post-training are the three phases of the entrepreneurial development program that the study identified. The government's and non-governmental organizations' roles in fostering entrepreneurship in the nation were covered in the research.

Veena K.P, C. Mahadeva Murthy and Sandeep R.S. (2014) examined how the Rural Urban Development and Self Employment Training Institute (RUDSETI) contribute to the development of entrepreneurship. Additionally, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) contribute to the development of entrepreneurial ecosystems.

Balaji Bhovi (2016) displayed the importance of institutions in offering Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs). The aim of these institutions is to encourage young people to set up their own business by enhancing their skills and competency spirit. The study highlights the role of government in boosting entrepreneurship at the national, regional and local levels. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises was the first institution to develop an entrepreneurial development program (EDP) model in India.

H. M. Kumar (2017) focused on the role of Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) in the growth of entrepreneurship. The programme is an effective human resource development programme with economic and industrial implications.

Objectives

1. To assess the role of Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) in entrepreneurial transformation.
2. To compare and evaluate the effectiveness of Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) offered by Government and Non-Government organisations.

Research Method

A total of 100 entrepreneurs were selected as participants, with 50 entrepreneurs benefiting from Government Entrepreneurship development programs and another 50 from non-governmental organizations (NGO) Entrepreneurship development programs. The participants were randomly selected from different regions to ensure diverse representation in both groups. A quasi-experimental design was implemented to select entrepreneurs who had completed Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs). The study aims to assess the role of Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) in entrepreneurial transformation and to compare the effectiveness of Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) offered by Government and Non-Government organisations. Data was collected through primary sources. The study followed ethical guidelines and used structured questionnaires and interviews.

Demographic Analysis and Results

A total of 100 participants, 50 from Government Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) and 50 from non-government EDPs were surveyed in Dakshina Kannada District, Karnataka.

Table 1 Age-Wise Distribution of the Respondents

S. No	Age	Frequency	Percent
1	21-25	3	3.0
2	26-30	13	13.0
3	31-35	40	40.0
4	36-40	36	36.0
5	41-45	8	8.0
	Total	100	100.0

Source: Primary Data

Table 1 provides information on the age structure of the respondents. 40.0 per cent of respondents fall under the age group of 31-35 years, followed by 36.0 per cent under the age group of 36-40 years, around 13.0 per cent of the respondents fall under the age group between 26-30, 8.0 per cent of respondents fall under the age group of 41- 45, and 3.0 per cent fall under 21-25 years age group.

Table 2 Geographical background of the Respondents

S. No	Geographical Area	Frequency	Percent
1	Rural	17	17.0
2	Semi-Urban	7	7.0
3	Urban	76	76.0
	Total	100	100.0

Source: Primary Data

Table 2 represents the geographical background of the respondents. It is observed that 76.0 per cent of the respondents belong to urban areas. The reach of EDPs is more in the case of urban areas compared to rural and semi-urban areas.

Table 3 Gender-Wise Distribution of the Respondents

S. No	Gender	Frequency	Percent
1	Male	45	45.0
2	Female	55	55.0
	Total	100	100.0

Source: Primary Data

Table 3 shows the gender-wise distribution of respondents. More of the EDP beneficiaries are women entrepreneurs 55.0 per cent of the respondents are female, around 45.0 per cent are male.

Table 4 Educational Wise Distribution of the Respondents

S. No	Education	Frequency	Percent
1	SSLC	15	15.0
2	PUC	26	26.0
3	Diploma	7	7.0
4	Graduation	41	41.0
5	Post-Graduation	9	9.0
6	Professionally Qualified	2	2.0
	Total	100	100.0

Source: Primary Data

Table 4 represents the educational level of the respondents. The majority of the respondents are highly qualified with 41.0 per cent being graduates, 26.0 per cent qualified with pre-university level

qualification, around 15.0 per cent are qualified with secondary school, and 9.0 per cent and 2.0 per cent are post – graduates and professionally qualified individuals respectively.

Table 5 Business Type of the Respondents

S. No	Type of Business	Frequency	Percent
1	Manufacturing	42	42.0
2	Trading	18	18.0
3	Service	40	40.0
	Total	100	100.0

Source: Primary Data

Table 5 represents the kind of business of the respondents. The majority of 42.0 per cent of respondents are from the manufacturing sector, around 40.0 per cent from the service and 18.0 per cent from the trading sector.

Table 6 Business Ownership Type of the Respondents

S. No	Type of Ownership	Frequency	Percent
1	Sole proprietorship	94	94.0
2	Partnership	6	6.0
	Total	100	100.0

Source: Primary Data

Table 6 represents the ownership kind of the respondents, the majority of 94.0 per cent of respondents own sole proprietorship and only 6.0 per cent of the respondents runs their business in partnership.

Table 7 Kind of EDP Attended by the Respondents

S. No	EDP Kind	Frequency	Percent
1	General EDP	80	80.0
2	Product specific EDP	17	17.0
3	Gender EDP	3	3.0
	Total	100	100.0

Source: Primary Data

Table 7 shows the type of EDP participated by the respondents. The majority of the respondents were part of general EDPs.

Table 8 Business Ownership Type of the Respondents

S. No	Nature of program	Frequency	Percent
1	Paid EDP	8	8.0
2	Free EDP	92	92.0
	Total	100	100.0

Source: Primary Data

The Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) nature is represented in Table – 8, where most of the respondents were part of free Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) around 92.0 per cent of the respondents participated in free Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs).

Table 9 Opinion of Entrepreneurs on Entrepreneurial Initiatives

Indicators	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Entrepreneurial education	100	4.73	.510
Youth Skill Development Programmes	100	4.73	.510
Training programs	100	4.73	.510
Job oriented skills	100	4.73	.510
Building a business network	100	4.70	.560
Overall Entrepreneurs opinion	100	4.7240	.51230

Source: Primary Data

Table 9 represents the descriptive statistics for entrepreneurs' opinions on entrepreneurial initiatives revealing an overall mean score of 4.7240(SD = 0.51230). This shows a positive perception among participants towards entrepreneurial initiatives. The role of Entrepreneurial education, Skill Development Programmes, training programs, Job oriented skills, and network Building are important factors to success in the entrepreneurial journey. The factor network building has the least mean value compared to other factors.

Table 10 Expectation Level and Achievement Level of Participants of Government-sponsored EDPs

Levels	N	Median Score	Z-score	P-value
Expectation Level	50	5.00	-.878	.380
Achievement Level	50	5.00		

Source: Primary Data

Table 10 reveals the expectation level and achievement level of entrepreneurs of government EDPs. The Wilcoxon signed-rank test shows that there is no significant difference between pre-program expectation level (Md=5.00, n=50) and post-program achievement level (Md=5.00, n=50), $z = -0.878$, $p = 0.380$.

Table 11 Expectation Level and Achievement Level of Participants of Non – Government sponsored EDPs

Levels	N	Median Score	Z-score	P-value
Expectation Level	50	5.00	-1.716	.086
Achievement Level	50	4.00		

Source: Primary Data

Table 11 reveals the expectation level and achievement level of entrepreneurs of Non – Government organisation-sponsored EDPs. The Wilcoxon signed-rank test shows the scores are non-significantly lower for post-programme achievement level (Md= 4.00, n = 50) compare to pre-programme expectation level (Md=5.00, n=50), $z = -1.716$, $p = .086$.

Table 12 Effectiveness of Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) Offered by Government and Non-Government Organisations

Variable	N	Median Score	U-score	Z-score	P-value
Government-sponsored EDP	50	4.00	1129.500	-.856	.392
NGO sponsored EDP	50	4.00			

Source: Primary Data

Table 12 indicates that entrepreneur resilience scores are equal between Government (Md=4.00, n=50) and Non = Government Organisations (Md=4.00, n=50) $U = 1129.500$, $z = -.856$, $p = .392$.

Mann-Whitney U test reveals that entrepreneur's resilience is measured based on the Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) beneficiary's mindset and skill set obtained after being part of Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) offered by Government and Non -Government Organizations. There is no difference in the mindset and skillset of the Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) beneficiaries of both Government and Non -Government Organizations. The indicators taken into consideration are Business ambitious, product development, marketing strategies, business ideation, business budgeting, financial soundness, SWOT analysis, financial management, risk management, and job creation.

Table 13 Descriptive Statistics for Entrepreneur Resilience among EDP Beneficiaries of Government and Non-Government Organisations

Indicators	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Business ambitious	100	4.49	.595
Product development	100	4.37	.691
Marketing strategies	100	4.22	.786
Business ideation	100	4.37	.661
Business budgeting	100	4.32	.750
Financial soundness	100	4.41	.668
SWOT analysis	100	4.42	.638
Financial management	100	4.31	.720
Risk management	100	4.37	.677
Job creation	100	4.11	.886
Overall Mean	100	4.3390	.64493

Source: Primary Data

Table 13 represents the descriptive statistics for entrepreneur resilience revealing an overall mean score of 4.3390 (SD =.64493). This shows a positive perception among beneficiaries of Entrepreneurship Development Programmes of both Government and Non-Government organisations. The indicator Business ambitious had the highest mean value,

indicating that the Entrepreneurship Development Programme positively influences participant's confidence level to run their business successfully in future. The least mean value is observed for job creation.

Findings

Analysis of the results showed that there is a positive perception among participants towards entrepreneurial initiatives and youth development. Entrepreneurial initiatives such as Entrepreneurial education, Skill Development Programmes, training programs, Job oriented skills, and network Building are important factors to success in the entrepreneurial journey.

The study results indicate that there was no statistically significant difference observed between the pre-program expectation level ($M_d=5.00$, $n=50$) and the post-program achievement level ($M_d=5.00$, $n=50$) of beneficiaries who took part in the Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP) provided by government agencies ($z= -0.878$, $p= 0.380$). Further, the pre-program expectation level and post-program achievement level of the Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP) beneficiaries of Non – Government Organisations indicate non-significantly lower achievement level ($M_d= 4.00$, $n = 50$) compare to expectation level ($M_d=5.00$, $n=50$), $z = -1.716$, $p = .086$. The results indicate that the participants who received the Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP) from Government agencies were able to meet their initial expectations upon completing the program. In contrast, the beneficiaries who underwent a similar program from Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) did not achieve the same level of expected outcomes.

Furthermore, the result shows that there is no difference in the mindset and skillset of the Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) beneficiaries of both Government and Non-Government Organizations. The indicator Business ambitious had the highest mean value, indicating that the Entrepreneurship Development Programme positively influences participants' confidence level to run their business successfully in future. The least mean value is observed for job creation.

Suggestions

Based on the results obtained, it is recommended that it is very important to assess the progress of entrepreneurs from time to time. The success of the program is primarily depending upon proper risk evaluation and management. The publicity campaign would go a long way in making entrepreneurship development programs more effective and popular especially among economically backward classes. There is a need for substantial improvement within the grievance redressal mechanism. Effective grievance redressal helps to solve problems and queries raised by beneficiaries. Timely inspection of business, guidance about the exertion of credit facilities and periodical sessions of counselling to motivate entrepreneurs will help to accelerate business. Arrangement of progressive training and market-oriented courses is required in connection with current market demands in various fields this helps the entrepreneurs to upgrade their business.

Conclusion

This study offers insightful information about the connection between business transformation and entrepreneurship development initiatives. The main effort to encourage people to launch and grow their enterprises is the Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP). The goal of the entrepreneurship development program (EDP) is to raise the living standards of the impoverished while gradually reducing their poverty through the creation of jobs through entrepreneurship.

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