

## **Downtrodden's Entrepreneurship Problems, Awareness of Role Played by Social Welfare Department and Social Entrepreneurship - A Study with Reference to Bengaluru Urban and Rural District**

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### **Abstract**

Even after a lapse of 72 years of Independence the life of downtrodden in our country continue to be worst. They are not brought to the mainstream and innumerable divides still exists and presenting innumerable problems to the planners, people and country. Of course, the reservation helps dalits OBC's and minorities development but unfortunately the reservation concept or reservation but unfortunately the reservation concept or reservation quota can not be a complete solution. Downtrodden are marginalised section of the society having historically been poor, deprived of basic human rights, and treated as social inferiors in India (Radhakrishna Gowda V., et al 2018). Downtrodden's entrepreneurship will bring more benefits to the nation than downtrodden. The law of the country guarantees equality to all citizens and this guarantee also applies to socio-economic life of the downtrodden. Downtrodden entrepreneurship is an opportunity for the downtrodden to participate in nation building in a more meaningful manner. Dalits and other downtrodden have run and managed a number of traditional and cottage industries such as handicrafts, pottery and leather work for countries. The skills have been transferred from one to another generation. These entrepreneurs has to be revived with more latest technology. Now downtrodden are aspiring to the higher levels of entrepreneurship like engineering, electronics and energy. They should be given due priority and allow them to join mainstream.

**KEYWORDS :** Downtrodden, entrepreneur, innovation, cottage industries, technology, mainstream, dalits, social welfare.

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### **2.Introduction**

Entrepreneurship is the strong driver of socio economic change. The development in the area of technology and globalisation has made the world to become a global village with severe growth in national business. Entrepreneurship helps to face the global competition and assist in keeping survivability and growth.

The existing socio-economic divide and downtrodden remaining as toiling and mooling as work force drives the need for the development of affirmative entrepreneurship. There is an urgent need for the policy makers and government executives to include downtrodden and neglected class of the population in the main stream of economic development for the purpose of achieving the constitutional ideas of equality, fraternity and liberty.

In its endeavour towards ensuring “faster, sustainable and more inclusive” the government of Karnataka has taken up many schemes to improve the capability and productive endowments among the economically disadvantaged and socially marginalised sections. But so far government spent excluding others Rs. 2000 lakhs for SCs under self employment scheme during the year 2015-16 and amount spent on skill development Rs. 237.43 lakhs during year 2015-16. Under D. Devaraj Urs Backward Classes Development Corporation, an amount of Rs. 534.34 lakhs against a target of Rs. 1700 lakhs was spent during 2015-16 benefitting 1833 people in Chaithanya Scheme and under self employment scheme 115.93 lakhs were spent benefitting 7036 persons. Further, 5749 artisans and occupational groups were benefitted and Rs. 2059.72 lakhs spent. Karnataka Minorities Development Corporation through schemes assisting entrepreneurs. Under Swavalamban scheme the government spent Rs. 1184.77 lakh benefitting 2686 persons, and under Shramashakthi scheme Rs. 2365.50 spent benefitting 11007 persons. Micro-loans supporting petty business in urban and rural centers spent Rs. 1462.20 lakhs benefitting 14622 persons, under Christian Development programme under Shramashakthi Rs. 1191.45 lakhs spent benefitting 5.57 people, and Rs. 329.70 lakhs spent during 2015-16 benefitting 3297 persons.

The account spent on entrepreneurship based schemes is very less and may not touch even 1% of the downtrodden in Karnataka. In order to create more employment to the downtrodden, reducing socio-economic divide, promoting of regional development, to improvise standards of living, and to encourage innovativeness government should plan and execute affirmatively aiming of overall development of untouchables, under blessed, marginalised, depressed and less cared people.

### **3. Review of Literature**

Granovetter (1985) concluded that economic activities take place within a social context and consequently a firm's economic activities are effectively the cultural context in which it is rooted. Social entrepreneurship can be mapped to business enterprises to identify the opportunity.

Cai and Sun (2012) gave 4 propositions that were complementing the research that they had carried out. They are prior knowledge, previous experience, social networks and entrepreneur alertness of social entrepreneurs in totality have constructive and encouraging effects on opportunity recognition.

Hedge. B. (2013) found that Dr. Ambedkar gave an inspiring self confidence to the untouchable who were blind, deaf, and dumb. Some of the people called him Mosses, some Abraham Lincoln and some other Booker T. Washington. The author further says that Ambedkar began movements to give an identify to the untouchable. He has been regarded as a ray of hope for downtrodden in India.

Lokhande, M. A. (2015) expressed that entrepreneurial skills are associated with education, social and occupational environment. The entrepreneurs as the study disclosed have a very strong will to achieve, to be ahead of others, self reliance and creation of separate identity coupled with making money. These category of entrepreneurs are numerous emerging from growth centers in rural and semi rural areas and entrepreneurial activities are undertaken.

Dar, B.A. (2015) viewed that entrepreneurship is essential for rapid and sustained economic growth and development. It creates the required manpower and skill necessary for accelerated growth, reduce unemployment and poverty. Government should create an investor friendly environment in Jammu and Kashmir and needs to address and poor infrastructure facilities.

Vijaya Baharathi, G. et al. (2011) found that vast number of government programme, schemes and financial services, entrepreneurship development awareness and trading camps, there is tremendous scope of start enterprise in all areas. Banks government and NGOs are supposed to play a crucial role in developing the entrepreneurship.

Hoque et al. (2014) stated that Islam fully supports the women entrepreneurship from the very beginning of Islam say early life of Hazrat Mahammad. The highly significant impacting factors of women entrepreneurship has to be identified. Further, the researchers have stated that entrepreneurship in Bangladesh and corresponding barriers also identified.

#### **4. Objectives of the study**

The major objectives of the present study is as follows.

- (1) To study the demographic profile of respondents.
- (2) To analyse the problems faced by downtrodden entrepreneurs.
- (3) To analyse the awareness level of respondents about role played by social welfare department.
- (4) To study the respondents awareness of social entrepreneurship.
- (5) To analyse the factors influencing SC/ST, OBCs and minorities entrepreneurs to avail MSME schemes related to assistance of government.

#### **5. Hypotheses**

- (1) Demographic factors of respondents is not supporting the study.
- (2) There are no problems to be faced by downtrodden entrepreneurs.
- (3) Respondents are not aware of role played by said welfare department.
- (4) Respondents are not aware of social entrepreneurship.
- (5) There are no factors influencing SC/ST, OBC and minority entrepreneurs about availing MSME schemes assistance provided by government.

#### **6. Research Methodology**

The present study is carried with the objective of testing the stated hypotheses and to probe the hypothetical relation between dependent and independent variables. Down entrepreneurship being depended variable is influenced by independent variables like, demographic profile, problems faced, social welfare department, awareness of social entrepreneurship and motivating factors impacting the downtrodden to take up

entrepreneurship and motivating factors impacting the downtrodden to take up entrepreneurship and to avail MSME benefits. According to Sekaran and Bougie (2010) careful methodology increases where a researcher moves towards a hypotheses testing. The present study collects the data on a natural setting in order to study the research problem in detail. Different downtrodden entrepreneurs were met while they work in Bengaluru urban and rural district. This type of research is aptly called as “cross sectional” i.e., constituting a typical or similar or representative sample of a large group (Cavana et al. 2001).

### 6.1 Questionnaire design :

The present research is carried with the help of well prepared and structured questionnaire which was administered as schedule in order to save time and to avoid non response. Umashekaran (2006) expressed that questionnaire method is appropriate for the present study since it is more cost effective also enhanced response rate.

### 6.2 Universe of the study

The present research study is confined to two district viz., Bengaluru Urban and Bengaluru Rural

### 6.3 Sample of the study

Using Bill Godden formula where population exceeds 50000, the 600 sample as decided.

$SS = \text{infinite where population is } > 50,000$

$SS = Z^2 \times (P) \times (i-p)/c^2$

Z = Z valueA (e.g. 1.96 for a confidence level)

P = Percentage of population picking a choice, expressed as decimalB.

C = Confidence interval, expressed as decimal.

(e.g. 0.04 = +/- 4 percentage points)

AZ values (Cumulative Normal Probability Table)

1.645 = 90% Confidence level

1.96 = 95% Confidence level

2.576 = 99% Confidence level

$SS = 3.8416 \times 0.5 \times 0.5 / 0.0016 = 0.9604 / 0.0016$

= 600.25 or 600.

### 6.4 Sample technique

A total of 600 sample as suggested by Bill Godden is considered for the study. Convenient sample technique is followed in the study.

Sampling Table	No. of Respondents
Bengaluru Urban	400
Bengaluru Rural	200

### 6.5 Source of Data

The present research considers both primary and secondary data. A well drafted questionnaire was administered as schedule taking into factors of time and avoid of non-response to collect primary data. Secondary sources include journals, books, and different websites.

### 6.6 Statistical tools

The collected data from different sources were computed, classified, tabulated and analysed and interpreted. The statistical tools like Chi-square and ANOVA test are used to measure the variation in the data and to test the good fit of data. Bipolar opinions expressed by respondents are recorded using Likert 4 point of scale and then ANOVA test was performed.

### 7. Limitations of the study

1. The sample taken is not large to the nature of the study.
2. The study gives cross sectional data and lengthy and detailed study may provide better insights into the data.
3. Transportation is a problem and often mad traffic in Bengaluru and surrounding areas are full of traffic and many a times data collection programme was put to difficulty.

### 8. Survey findings

Table - 1 highlights development demographic profile of downtrodden entrepreneurs. There 280 respondents (46.67%) belonging to the age group of 35.45 years followed 150 belonging to 45.55 years group. There are 130 respondents (21.67%) possessing degree followed by 110 post graduation, 100, 10th standard, 80 each PUC and professional. 230 respondents (38.33) income per month is Rs. 10K to 20K followed by 180 below 10K, 120 between 20K-30K and to respondents monthly income is above Rs. 30K. 300 entrepreneur respondents belongs to SC category, 180 ST category and 120 backward and minorities. There are 480 (80%) males and 120 (20%) female respondents.

#### Chi-square Test

	Age	Education	Monthly Income
Calculated Value	171.998	65.0032	134
Table Value	7.815	12.592	7.815
Degree of Freedom	3	6	3
Significance Level	5%	5%	5%
Conclusion :	H0 rejected H1 accepted	H0 rejected H1 accepted	H0 rejected H1 accepted
Therefore there exist significant variation in the data			

Table - 2 reveals data about problems faced by downtrodden entrepreneurs. Variation analysis revealed that 276 respondents out of 600 strongly over the problems faced followed by 240 agree, 36 stood neutral and 48 said some what agree. Out of 270 who said strongly agree, a majority of 52 said about problem of marketing, 50 said about tight

repayment schedule, 45 expressed about lack of exposure, 44 felt about social constraints, 43 stated about scarcity of raw materials. Out of 240 who said agree 47 said about problem of marketing, 45 felt about lack of technical skill, 43 stated about social constraints. Out of 36 who stood neutral, 8 said about problems of marketing and 7 about social constraint and 6 each about scarcity of raw materials about tight repayment schedule. Out of 48 who said some what agree, 13 said about problem of marketing 9 felt about social constraints and 8 stated lack of technical skill. ANOVA statistical test fails to accept H<sub>0</sub> and accept H<sub>1</sub> and hence it can be concluded here that there exist significant variation in the data.

Table - 3 reveals data about respondents awareness of role played by social welfare department. Variation analysis of data reveals that 300 respondents strongly agree over the awareness drivers followed by 260 agree, 40 stand as neutral and 50 expressed some what agree. Out of 300 said strongly agree, 64 said about heavy competition, 63 spoke about unnecessary delay, 61 felt about non cooperation by banks, 58 stated about partiality in approving projects, and 54 said about non cooperation by the officers. Out of 210 who said agree 52 spoke about heavy corruption, 45 stated regarding banks non-cooperation, 40 expressed about unnecessary delay, 38 highlight about partiality and 35 voiced about non cooperation of the officers. Out of 40 who stood neutral 10 said about heavy corruption, 9 about banks non cooperation 8 about partiality. Out of 50 who said some what agree 15 spoke about heavy corruption and 11 said about banks noncooperation. ANOVA statistical test fails to accept H<sub>0</sub> and accepts H<sub>1</sub> and hence it is concluded here that there exist significant variation in the data.

Table - 4 reveals data about respondents awareness of social entrepreneurship benefits. 325 respondents out of 600 expressed strongly agree followed by 200 agree, 35 neutral and 40 some what agree. Variation analysis reveals that out of 325 respondents who said strongly agree over the benefits social entrepreneurship, 70 each felt about employment development and equity promotion, 63 felt about development innovativeness, 60 expressed about social capital formation. Out of 200 who said agree 50 spoke about employment development, 48 regarding society's transformation and awareness creation, 36 reporting social capital formation, 34 said about development of innovativeness and 32 expressed equity promotion. Out of 35 who stood neutral 11 spoke about employment development, 8 felt about society's transformation. Out of 40 who said some what agree, 10 said about employment generation, 9 about society's transformation and 8 felt about development of innovativeness. ANOVA fails to accept H<sub>0</sub> and accepts H<sub>1</sub> and hence it is concluded that there exist significant variation in the data.

Table - 5 reveals data about factors influencing the downtrodden to involve in entrepreneurship and to avail MSME scheme benefits. Variation analysis reveals that out of 600 respondents 334 said strongly agree about factors driving involvement followed by 189 agree, 42 stood neutral and 35 said some what agree. Out of 334 who said strongly agree, 60 said about identification in the society, 58 about securing self employment 51 about making money, 50 regarding government policy, 45 spoke about desire to be independent 38 voiced out creation of awareness and 32 about hereditary occupation. Out of 189 who said agree a majority of 35 spoke about securing self employment, 30 about each about making money and government policy, 27 spoke about identification by the society, 25 stated about desire to be independent, 24 expressed about

creation of awareness and 18 voiced about hereditary occupation Out of 42 who stood neutral, a majority of 9 said about identification in the society, 8 felt about making money and 7 spoke about creating awareness. Out of 35 who said some what agree 8 each said are making money and identification in the society, 6 felt of government policy. ANOVA fails to accept H<sub>0</sub> and accepts H<sub>1</sub> and hence it is concluded here that there exist significant variation in the data.

## 9. Conclusion

The rural development of downtrodden's entrepreneurship programmes is only possible when some affirmative action is taken up. Milind Kamble the Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DICCI) said that Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) would be using its training centers for the purpose providing training may be a good precedence in the development of downtrodden. Alleviation of poverty, unemployment among the downtrodden is an immediate solution for their development. It is necessary to probe the factors that kept the Dalits and other suppressed away from the main stream and encourage them to take up innovative entrepreneurship.

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**Table-1****Demographic Profile of Respondents**

Sl.No.	Demographic Profile	No. of Respondents	%
<b>1.</b>	<b>Age (in years)</b>		
	25 - 35	100	16.67
	35 - 45	280	46.67
	45 - 55	150	25.00
	> 55	70	11.66
<b>2.</b>	<b>Education</b>		
	Upto Secondary	60	10.00
	10th Standard	100	16.16
	PUC	80	13.34
	Degree	130	21.67
	Post Graduation	110	18.33
	Professional	80	13.33
	Any other (ITI, Diploma)	40	6.67
<b>3.</b>	<b>Monthly Income</b>		
	< 10,000	180	30.00
	10,000 - 20,000	230	38.33
	20,000 - 30,000	120	20.00
	> 30,000	70	11.67
<b>4.</b>	<b>Caste</b>		
	Scheduled Castes	300	50.00
	Scheduled Tribes	180	30.00
	Backward class and minorities	120	20.00
<b>5.</b>	<b>Gender</b>		
	Males	480	80.00
	Females	120	20.00

Source : Field Survey

**Table-2 : Awareness of problems faced by downtrodden entrepreneurs**

Problems faced	SA	A	N	SWA	T
Problem of marketing	52	47	8	13	120
Scarcity of raw materials	43	36	6	7	92
Lack of exposre	45	34	5	5	89
Tight repayment schedule	50	35	6	6	97
Lack of technical skill	42	45	4	8	99
Social constraints	44	43	7	9	103
Total	276	240	36	48	600

Note : SA = Strong Agree, A = Agree, N = Neutral, SWA = Some what agree

**Hypotheses**

H0	There exist no significant variation in the data	Reject
H1	There exist significant variation in the data	Accept

**ANOVA Table**

Source of variation	SS	d.f.	m-s	F-ratio	5% F Limit
Between the sample	7996	(4-1)=3	7996/3 =2665.33	2665.33/14.5 =183.81	F(3,20) =3.10
Within the sample	290	(24-4)=20	290/20 =14.5		
Total	8286	(24-1) = 23			

Source : Field Survey

**ANOVA Analysis**

The above ANOVA table reveals that the calculated value 183.81 being higher than TV = 3.10 @ 5% level of significance with df = v1 = 3 and v2 = 20 fails to accept null hypotheses and hence alternative may be accepted.

**Table-3 : Respondents awareness of role played by social welfare department**

Awareness drivers	SA	A	NSWA	T	
Unnecessary delay in finalising projects reports	63	40	7	9	119
Heavy corruption	64	52	10	15	141
Non cooperation by the officers	54	35	6	8	103
Profitability in deciding the approval of projects	58	38	8	7	111
Banks non cooperation in sanctioning loans	67	45	9	11	126
Total	300	210	40	50	620

Note : SA = Strong Agree, A = Agree, N = Neutral, SWA = Some what agree

**Hypotheses**

H0	There exist no significant variation in the data	Reject
H1	There exist significant variation in the data	Accept

**ANOVA Table**

Source of variation	SS	d.f.	m-s	F-ratio	5% F Limit
Between the sample	9640	(4-1)=3	9640/3 =3213.33	3213.33/16.29 =197.25	F(3,12) =3.24
Within the sample	342	(25-4)=21	342/21 =16.29		
Total	9982	(25-1) = 24			

Source : Field Survey

**ANOVA Analysis**

The above ANOVA table reveals that the calculated value 197.25 being higher than TV = 3.24 @ 5% level of significance with df = v1 = 3 and v2 = 21 fails to accept null hypotheses and hence alternative may be accepted.

**Table-4 : Respondents awareness of social entrepreneurship benefits**

Benefits of social entrepreneurship	SA	A	NSWA	T	
Employment development	70	50	11	10	141
Develops innovativeness and new goods & services	63	34	6	8	111
Social capital formation	60	36	5	7	108
Equity promotion	70	32	5	6	113
Society's transformation and awareness creation	62	48	8	9	127
Total	325	200	35	40	600

Note : SA = Strong Agree, A = Agree, N = Neutral, SWA = Some what agree

**Hypotheses**

H0	There exist no significant variation in the data	Reject
H1	There exist significant variation in the data	Accept

**ANOVA Table**

Source of variation	SS	d.f.	m-s	F-ratio	5% F Limit
Between the sample	8690	(4-1)=3	8690/3 =2896.67	2896.67/26.5 =109.30	F(3,16) =3.24
Within the sample	424	(20-4)=16	424/16 =26.5		
Total	9114	(20-1) = 19			

Source : Field Survey

**ANOVA Analysis**

The above ANOVA table reveals that the calculated value 109.30 being higher than TV = 3.24 @ 5% level of significance with df = v1 = 3 and v2 = 16 fails to accept H0 and therefore H1 is accepted. Here it is concluded here that there exist significant variation in the data.

**Table-5 : Factors influencing the downtrodden to include in entrepreneurship and to avail MSME schemes benefits.**

Factors driving involvement	SA	A	NSWA	T	
Making money and social status	51	30	8	8	97
Desire to be independent	45	25	4	4	78
Hereditary occupation	32	18	3	4	57
Securing self employment	58	35	5	3	101
Government policy	50	30	6	6	92
Creating awareness among downtrodden about benefits of entrepreneurship	38	24	7	2	71
Identification by the society	60	27	9	8	104
Total	334	189	42	35	600

Note : SA = Strong Agree, A = Agree, N = Neutral, SWA = Some what agree

### Hypotheses

H0	There exist no significant variation in the data	Reject
H1	There exist significant variation in the data	Accept

### ANOVA Table

Source of variation	SS	d.f.	m-s	F-ratio	5% F Limit
Between the sample	8607.8532	(4-1)=3	8607.8532/3 =2869.2844	2869.2844/ 34.48=83.15	F(3,24) =3.01
Within the sample	827.4287	(28-4)=24	827.4287/24 =34.48		
Total	9435.2818	(28-1)=27			

Source : Field Survey

### ANOVA Analysis

The above ANOVA table reveals that the calculated value 83.15 being higher than TV = 3.01 @ 5% level of significance with df = v1 = 3 and v2 = 24 fails to accept H0 and therefore H1 is accepted. Here it is concluded here that there exist significant variation in the data.