



IIMS Journal of Management Science

Vol.2, No.1, January-June 2011

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Explaining Interoperable Technologies Assimilation in Government: Technology, Organization and Environmental Perspective

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ABSTRACT

Role of interoperable technologies in government to provide on-stop government services is well recognized. However, assimilation of interoperable technologies in government is not very encouraging. This article uses Technology-Organization-Environment (TOE) framework to provide a theoretical foundation for exploring assimilation of interoperable technology in government. Within this broad framework, various factors influencing technology adoption decision are selected from literature. For selecting environmental factors help of Institutional Theory is taken. A theoretical model and related propositions are provided to guide future research.

KEYWORDS: Technology-Organization-Environment Framework, Institutional Theory, Interoperable Technology, Technology Assimilation, e-Government.

JEL CLASSIFICATION: 014

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An Integrated Framework for Environment Management System for Indian Food Packaging Industry

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ABSTRACT

Industrialization and Globalization has proved that traditional regulatory approaches regarding environment protection has become incapable to attain the decided objectives. Environment management practices in India have been limited to acquiring accreditations and present themselves as green in the market without actually knowing the term "Environment Management". Moreover India has weak norms and regulation as far as environment is concerned. This paper attempts to present research gaps in the area of Environment Management System (EMS) through the process of literature survey and also identifies the critical variables and develop an integrated framework for EMS in Indian Food Packaging Industry, in particular

KEYWORDS: Environment Management System, Food packaging.

JEL CLASSIFICATION: Q56, Q59

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A Study on Self-help Group based Microfinance Impacting Poor Rural Households

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ABSTRACT

This paper examines empirically the impact of Self-help Group based microfinance on the socio-economic characters like income, employment, literacy and migration of the rural households of Orissa state of India. An attempt is made to carry out a quantitative study to supplement a large number of past qualitative researches, and to find out how Self-help microfinance programs impact households under different livelihood portfolios. A multi-stage stratified random sampling is employed and data collection is made through structured household schedules. Impact assessment is made by comparing a control group with the target group, and the test of significance is done through the paired t-test. Econometric models like logistic regression and profit model are used to analyse the data. The study came out with the result that the Self-help Group based microfinance has a positive impact on increasing the income, employment days and number of literate family members of the participating households; and decreased in the number of family members migrating and number of migration days. Also the Self-help Group based microfinance programmes have higher impact on households under the primary occupation of micro-enterprise & trading activity than that of the agriculture & allied activity across various household characteristics.

KEYWORDS: Microfinance, Impact, Self-help Groups

JEL CLASSIFICATION: G21, O10

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Retailers Behavior towards Saliency of Mature Product Brands –An Empirical Study on a Major Cola Brand in a Developing Economy

Shivendra Kumar Pandey *, O.P Wali *

ABSTRACT

The effectiveness of displays is proven beyond doubt in impulse buying, however, the quantification of the effect has some differences of opinion. Role of retailers to enhance the saliency of brands is a major influence in purchase decisions of mature product categories. Many researchers have emphasized the importance of POP (Point of Purchase) displays to stretch the saliency high especially in low involvement products like soft drinks. Cola giants like Pepsi and Coca Cola have long been drawn in the war of displays in nearby local mom and pop stores called kirana shops in India. Many of these companies give POP materials free of cost to retailers and try to have shops selling only their products exclusively. However, a large number of shops still sell competing brands of colas. Cola companies have also given many visi - coolers (the transparent refrigerators in which the inside contents are visible to the consumers from a distance) to the shop keepers, free of cost. It's expected that it will increase the sales of their brand and the shopkeeper is expected to keep only the company's product for cooling/display and not that of competitors. This study is aimed at finding the behavior of retailers toward providing saliency of a major cola brand through the display of its brands by visi coolers.

KEYWORDS: Saliency, Display, Visi Cooler, Retailer

JEL CLASSIFICATION: M37

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What Next for MGNREGA?

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ABSTRACT

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is a major policy undertaken by the Indian government. It is a unique and an innovative program. It is expected that the program will sustain for several years. However, whether MGNREGA will continue to yield the same positive benefits that it brought forth in the first three years of its implementation is a vital question that needs to be examined. The paper attempts to respond to this critical issue by portraying various aspects of MGNREGA's advancement. The paper begins by explicating the details of the Act, its innovative characteristics, and the factors that support its future viability. Next, opportunities for policy actions are scrutinized and presented. Finally, the paper proposes a mechanism for identifying new and relevant projects. This mechanism includes novel information architecture and a decentralized method of project identification and allocation. The paper is a timely contribution to social and policy science disciplines. It is a contribution because it paves the way for a solution to a historically unsolved socio-economic evil.

KEYWORDS: MGNREGA, Unemployment, Rural-urban Migration, Poverty, Child Labor.

JEL CLASSIFICATION: J08, J64, J68, R23, P36

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Enhancement of Production through Strategic Decision Making: A Case Study of Diesel Locomotive Works (DLW)

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ABSTRACT

This paper aims to summarize the strategic decisions taken to double the production level of DLW in four years of time. The paper enumerates the possibilities up to which strategic and radical decisions can be taken in a government-owned industrial setup in India. Diesel Locomotive Works (DLW) manufactures diesel electric locomotives primarily for Indian Railways. To increase the output, strategic decisions are taken to purchase/outsource large number of items which used to be manufactured in-house. Achievement of loco production targets is the result of concerted efforts by all departments. Each department improved their working to dovetail their efforts to the loco production targets. Staff and unions of DLW are very supportive in implementing strategic decisions. The strategic decisions have transformed DLW, from an integrated locomotive manufacturer, to more of an assembler of locomotives.

KEYWORD: Outsourcing, Strategic Decisions, Productivity, Staff Utilization, Multi-Skilling.

JEL CLASSIFICATION: M11, M110

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3G Technology in India: Critical Success Factors

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ABSTRACT

Presently, the primary telecommunication technology being used in India is 2G technology. However, with the advent, 3G technology was launched in India in February, 2009. 3G has not shown consistent success in all the previous countries it has been launched. Thus, it would be difficult to conclusively comment on the 3G implementation in India. The paper focuses on both supply and demand side factors of 3G implementation which are likely to impact the performance. The strategy adopted is to study 3G implementation in various countries and draw a comparative sketch followed by a study of the consumer purchasing behavior. Factor analysis is used to identify the most critical factors for success of 3G technology in India.

KEYWORDS: 3G Mobile Technology, India, Spectrum Licensing, Consumer Perception.

JEL CLASSIFICATION: M15, O3

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Towards a Model of Knowledge Transfer Measurement: A Review of Related Literature

Mary Basaasa Muhenda*

ABSTRACT

This paper reviews literature that highlights the different definitions and knowledge transfer measurements in organizations. The discussion reveals that knowledge transfer is very problematic to measure as there are many challenges posed by the differing measurements. We propose a four stage model of knowledge transfer that draws from Nonaka and Takeuchi (1995), and recommend that knowledge transfer could be measured at each of the four stages, namely Activation - events that trigger a decision to transfer, Transmission - actual exchange of information from the transferor to the transferee, Utilization - the recipient starts utilizing the transferred knowledge, and finally, the Institutionalization of best practices.

KEYWORDS: Knowledge, knowledge Transfer, knowledge Transfer Measurement.

JEL CLASSIFICATION: D02, D83, O31, O32, O33

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Patterns of Knowledge Acquisition by Emerging Asian Firms in the Biotechnology: an analysis of their business partners

Tariq Malik *, Sajal Kabiraj *

ABSTRACT

Presently Asians firms are emerging in high technological arena. The exploratory evidence on alliances between the firm from emerging economies and technology suppliers from industrialized economies suggests that most of emerging economies are building explorative (upstream discoveries) alliances to acquire the new technology. At the same time, large emerging economies, that is, India and China form exploitative (downstream) alliances by providing market opportunities to their foreign technology partners. Individual alliance countries provide some interesting insight in the context of knowledge flow from the industrialized to emerging economies and newly industrialized economies of Asia. However, little attention is directed at biotechnology sectors in emerging economies, Asia. It is important to understand their evolution by understanding their business activity-based technology partners from the advanced economies. So keeping this in view, this paper explores how Emerging Asian biotechnology systems are shaping their resource partners in the industrialized economies

KEYWORDS: Emerging Economies, Biotechnology Innovation System, Newly Industrialized Economies, Technology Alliance Partners.

JEL CLASSIFICATION: L22

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