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ISED SMALL ENTERPRISE OBSERVATORY

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Reserve Bank Pat for ISED Maharashtra in Focus RBI Raises Fundamental issues on MSME Role Doyens Laud ISED Role.



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EDITOR'S DESK FROM THE

Globally, enterprises are undergoing a period of rapid changes. Technology, markets, and changes in the financing scene, have implications on the prospects of small and medium enterprises.

While the London Economist has predicted a global recession to get shape in the year 2016, India cannot remain complacent with its relatively favourable macroeconomic fundamentals. Therefore, it is important to discuss Micro Small and Medium Enterprises from a futuristic perspective. This issue of the Observatory Mirror is devoted to a discussion on the story that has been built-up by the India MSME Report 2015.

While the ISED Small Enterprise Observatory has its eagle eyes on the emerging scene, it is too important that these observations are annually documented and brought out into the public domain. The intention is that, this publication must act as an icon for public debates.

The focal themes of India MSME Report 2015 are, skill, empowerment, entrepreneurship and start-ups. These themes go along with the focal theme of India's official development policy today. The analysis and interpretation of the Report, we hope, narrows down the above policy perspectives into a more actionable form. At the end of the day, that is what the entrepreneur wants.

I am thankful to the Reserve Bank of India for honouring us with its support in this difficult task. This issue of the Observatory Mirror is devoted to offer a snapshot of the event held at the World Trade Centre, Mumbai, on November 26, 2015. My special word of thanks to the Reserve Bank of India, the World Trade Centre ,and to the All India Association of Industries.

Should the India MSME Report 2015 help to trigger a debate on some of the hither to less discussed aspects of enterprise development policy and strategy, we, at the ISED, would be most happy.

Anne

P.M Mathew

India MSME Report 2015: A Snapshot

- The India MSME Report 2015 has a futuristic vision of MSMEs. A balanced view of MSME development, in terms of its macroeconomic and local linkages, is crucial for triggering an effective policy process. The country needs to dream on the future role of the MSME sector; it need to also introspect on macro policies, as they affect MSMEs
- Given the spectrum of issues , and considering the constraints associated with a quick exercise of twelve months' reporting, the discussion is focused on



the following five focal themes: Skills, Start -up, Entrepreneurship, Linkage with Flagship Programmes ,Size, Growth, Definition, Institutional Framework, Co operative Federalism, Manufacturing thrust, focus on inclusion and micro sector, and broad basing of finance and institutionalisation

- 3. The study puts the public policy thrusts of the year 2015 at the centre stage, and examines the state of the MSME constituency in relation to that. This policy thrust, according to the Government of India is the 'Make in India'. Within the 'Make in India' framework, being implemented on a campaign mode, skills form a strategic priority. The success of 'Make in India' depends largely on the entrepreneurship base of the country. Therefore, it is important to analyse and establish the relation between skills, achievement motivation, entrepreneurship and start up.
- 4. Skilling is geared to enhanced employability. Increased employability also leads to attitudinal changes achievement motivation. Therefore, it only leads to enhanced wage employment, as also self employment. The result is enhanced entrepreneurial attributes, which in turn, leads to the springing of new start-up initiatives into the entrepreneurial stream.
- 5. While seeing start-up as a critical area from the point of view of sustainable development, it also has limitations. Start up ,by itself, cannot lead to sustainable enterprise development, unless: 1)it is supported by employability enhancement interventions in the labour market; and 2) it is of a critical minimum size .This logic and experience questions the very logic of the so-called investment promotion melas, or Investment Meets, and quick-fix interventions such as incubators and accelerators. Such strategies, therefore, need to be carefully chosen and implemented. There are limitations of the so-called "Chilicon Valley" model. India's newly announced start-up agenda is more broad based; however, in order to ensure its sustainability, it need to have a forward linkage.





- 6. The role of growth and innovation are critical. It points out that, these cannot happen through an island-like intervention. India need to develop its national innovation system, in order to take the growing firms into a stage of maturity, and to trigger the spirit of innovation.
- 7. Skills are a means of empowerment for the resource poor. (dispelling the popular perception that business is meant for the rich man)It provides, and must provide achievement motivation, the most fundamental human trait that drive him into action. Entrepreneurship is all about the consistent crave for action, based on informed decisions. It empowers the human being, and drives such empowerment into constructive lines of action. Entrepreneurship is the fundamental driving force of any economy. It leads to creation of value, and throw up wider opportunities, to be emulated by others. The entrepreneur need to be an innovator as well. And, innovation drives the economy and society into new heights. A perspective on these lines demand three major policy initiatives: 1) recognition of entrepreneurship, (though too abstract a trait), as a critical national resource ; and 2) introduction of an auditing system for entrepreneurship; and 3)governance reforms that put entrepreneurship resources at the centre stage of programmes and schemes.
- 8. The above statements are true of any society, and therefore, it is possible to have a global view of how the creativity of human beings get translated into entrepreneurship, and the driving force of continuous changes, giving birth to a better society and economy. On this logic, the discussion on India's MSME economy is grounded on the global reality as we see towards the fag end of 2015.
- 9. There are important techno economic trends in the global economy that influence the performance and prospects of SMEs around the world today. These trends drive the SMEs towards, a 'new economy' environment. For reasons of survival, one cannot escape from the influence of this 'new economy'. But, governments, around the world, mostly use SMEs as an icon of employment generation.
- 10. Regarding the growth and transition of SMEs globally,, the emerging picture is a mixed one. Growth and transition characteristics are pervasive, but the pains of growth also are significant. Unemployment is a mounting problem, wherein, the MSME role is both preventive as well as curative. Growth and transition in a positive direction is expected to lead to enhanced welfare through additional incomes and employment creation.
- 11. Given the global changes, a focus on innovation must necessarily be at the centre stage of any SME development policy. Where India tries to establish its manufacturing hegemony through 'Make in India', the country need to focus on strengthening its national innovation system.
- 12. The Indian economy in 2015, remains largely insulated from the global crisis. However, having such a reasonably favorable position offers both opportunities and challenges for the country.



- 13. Though start up as a policy priority has been announced, the country is yet to evolve a sound and realistic labour market policy. It is important that the hitherto least attended concepts of skills and entrepreneurship have been adequately deliberated upon. But they need to move above stand -alone policies, and must get integrated with the macroeconomic policy of the country.
- 14. Enterprise development in India has been discussed as part and parcel of the subject of rural development. The experiments in this area need to be discussed under twelve key issues. It is important that, having a significantly large network of rural institutions, these issues need to be addressed on a priority basis by the relevant institutions. It also demands, policy reforms that helps to redefine the activities, as also the relevance of the institutions.
- 15. The growth and transition agenda often take a back seat in most developing countries, as also in India. The MSME geography of India demonstrates some traditional 'magnets of manufacturing', which themselves, face challenges against the recent developments in the economy. The major challenge (and opportunity) come from the so called 'new economy', having its own rules of the game. The recent policy reforms of the government of India triggers the need for much more important reforms strengthening the national innovation system.
- 16. 'Subsector' as the focus of examination, has great relevance in the context of MSMEs. The traditional view of stand-alone MSMEs has become increasingly unsustainable. The imperative for situating them as part of larger value chain, has become all the more important. The experience of the electronics and auto components subsectors provide important learnings on subsector based development strategies.
- 17. Globally, the worst problem of SMEs today is of finance. India has taken some initiatives on broadbasing finance at the base of the enterprise pyramid .The MUDRA experiment and small banks are yet to be evaluated. However, there still remains some critical areas of concern, such as the relevance of new institutional initiatives, neglect of business related services, poor knowledge base, unhealthy competition among banks, weak monitoring system, and lack of investment promotion.
- 18. The year 2015 has witnessed significant initiatives towards policy reforms, as also efforts to put in place, policy institutions. The MSME and skill development and entrepreneurship policies, and changes in the same, need to be situated against the major macro policy shifts during 2014-15. Broad basing micro lending through new polices and institutional structures brings in an important dimension to the credit market. This policy environment need to get reflected both into concrete strategies and governance. Besides, an integrated labour market policy , at the macro level, is vital for the management of the macro economy.



- 19. The importance of 'gender and enterprise' has not gained an orderly form in macroeconomic policy so far. There are several gender related factors that can be effectively harnessed for inclusive growth. However, 'gender in enterprise', armed with effective knowledge systems, must emerge as a policy thrust.
- 20. Unlike in many other countries, India's MSME diversity offers it significant market opportunities. However, policies of the State governments, so far, have tried to follow a national pattern, rather than to grab the local opportunities. The perspective brought in by NITI Aayog paves the way for an alternative line of thinking. A true spirit of cooperative federalism can help to strengthen, at a time, the national economy, as also the economies of the States, through region-specific strategies for MSME development.

Having completely come out of the 'reservation' era, India's MSMEs will, hereafter, have to work fully on par with the corporate sector. While most countries of the world have passed through such a phase, what is unique about India is that , the country has not yet been fully successful in having a meaningful switch over from the regulatory era to a promotional era. Therefore, the policy imperatives emerging from this discussion relate to four areas: (a) governance; (b) institutional development; (c) capacity building; and (d) policy reforms. The following policy options have been suggested:

- Governance Reforms
- India Smart SME Programme
- Skills Bridge Strategy (2016-2021)
- India MSME Knowledge Mission
- National MSME Innovation Policy 2016
- Innovation and Standards Regime
- A New Space for Social Enterprises
- Finance Park
- Participation in Low Cost Funds
- Staff Training for Banks
- Restructuring of Start-up Programme
- Business Birth rate Strategy and 'India Start up Mission'
- Rural Services Observatory
- MSME Growth Programme
- National Local Economic Development Fund (NLEDF)
- · 'Catch them Young Programme' for Schools
- Export Capability Enhancement Fund
- Strengthening the National Innovation System
- Fine tuning the Government Machinery
- Tapping the Opportunities with Udyog Aadhar
- Development Finance Network- India
- New Financial Products and Special Initiatives

Policy Brie



The time for a healthy competition in the banking industry has come , along with the government's strategy of broad basing small loans. Bringing in more of rural based entities, such as co operatives, and small banks into the stream, would mean the market appreciating a business case for MSME lending. Germany's model of SME financing offers some good lessons for India.

In every democracy, the developmental outcomes are decided by people's aspirations, to begin with. These aspirations need to be articulated through effective platforms. Institutions are reflective of these aspirations. People's mandate legitimizes the actions of institutions. Unless public policy, evolved through the democratic process, gives the signals, one cannot expect India to realize its aspirations on the MSME front.

ISED Release India MSME Report

Mr. S.S.Mundra, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank, released India's unique annual stock-taking report on SMEs. The India MSME Report 2015 forms the eighteenth in a series. This development scan has been brought out by the ISED Small Enterprise Observatory, the country's premier SME knowledge system, housed at the Institute of Small Enterprises and Development.

ISED director Dr.P.M. Mathew introduced the findings of India MSME Report 2015, and pointed out that, 'Start up India', 'Make in India' and 'Skill India' are forward looking policies. But their success is conditional on a variety of complementary activities, where the government and the RBI and also financial institutions must work together on a consultative platform.

Mr. Vijay Kalantri, President, All India Association of Industries, and Vice chairman of the World Trade Centre (WTC), welcoming the Deputy Governor and the audience, suggested that the 'Make in India' agenda needs a closer look, putting MSMEs at its centre stage.



India MSME Report 2015 being launched (L to R) Rupa Naik, S. S. Mundra, Vijay Kalantri, P. M. Mathew

Policy Brief

The launch event held at the World Trade Centre(WTC), Mumbai, on November 26, was marked by the wide participation of different stakes, including Ministries of the Union and State governments, representatives of Diplomatic Missions, international organisations, financial institutions, and industry.

ISED Small Enterprise Observatory which brings out this national report, has also been supporting the State governments to set up such knowledge base for effective coordination of SME programmes.



Seen in the picture(L toR) are: Ms., PR China, Mr. Andrey U Zhidkov, Russian Federation, Mr. S.M. Goel, Industries Department, Government of Punjab, and French Consulate Member.

'Chilicon Valley Model'

'Hubonomics', the latest form of globalisation, and the so-called " Chilecon Valley model" are not going to be the success path for India's MSMEs, says India MSME Report

This new phase of globalisation implies the emergence of hubs that will service the needs of the growing local trade. It is expected to shift how and where businesses operate and their products consumed.

Chile's emergence as a foundry of start-ups has been driven partly by its government's recognition that tech-based entrepreneurship can serve as a driver for the knowledge economy and a catalyst for economic growth, particularly by attracting and retaining young talent. In addition to funding the successful 'Startup- Chile' program, its government has also implemented other policies - such as a recent law empowering individuals to register firms online, for free, and in one day - that aim to reduce barriers to innovation.

Even in India, State governments are after experiments of hubs like 'Start up Villages', where incubation facilities are offered to novices. Incubation is important, but its strategy need to be set in a larger policy context. Incubation models can indicate the way; but they are not the way forward. By no means, it can be India's path, perhaps, India's model can be the innovation policy and infrastructure of Europe, says Dr.Mathew.

The picture on India, painted by the World Bank sponsored Global Innovation Index, and the Bloomberg Innovation Index, are indicative. India attracts a mere 2.7% of the global R&D spending ,as against China's



17.5%. India scores poorly in commercialising R&D from its universities, and its regulators often create antitrust and taxation hurdles in the effective exploitation of foreign-owned patents on Indian soil. Where is the problem? If India fails to incubate innovative ideas at home or creates a reputation of failing to protect ideas of others, ambitious programmes such as 'Make in India' would be hampered, the Report warns.

Udyog Aadhar can Reform

While the Government of India has announced several reforms that may affect Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises(MSMEs), Udyog Aadhar Memorandum (UAM) can train a series of changes in the sector says, India MSME Report 2015

A unique identification number for all MSMEs in the country has been a constant demand by the Institute since 2001, where the idea was mooted by Dr.P.M.Mathew, ISED Director, as Member of the Dr.S.P.Gupta Committee on Development of Small Enterprises at the Planning Commission. As the new government came to power, the idea was again pushed by the Institute in a Memorandum to the Prime Minister, along with recommendation for a major Start-up Programme. The Government has accepted both the recommendations.

The introduction of UAM is an opportunity in waiting. Registration of MSMEs has become voluntary. Ever since the passing of the MSME Department Act 2006, there is no compulsion or incentive for entrepreneurs to approach the government network , which means , the government is increasingly in darkness on what is happening at the "bottom of the pyramid" of enterprises. Even the five yearly mandatory Census of MSMEs is trailing for the last several years.

Government outfits like the District Industries Centres can and must now increasingly concentrate on development oriented activities, such as advisory, handholding and information, and proper maintenance of importance. Such incentivising is crucial for attracting increasing number of entrepreneurs into the Aadhar net, and new start-ups created in the country, says the Report.

RBI Compliments ISED

MSME need a focused Policy approach, says Reserve Bank Deputy Governor Mr. S. S. Mundra

While there has been continuous debates on the problems of the MSMEs in relation to development policy in genera and credit in specific, it is really a complex task to implement policies. MSMEs are a complex basket involving problems and characteristics specific to each segment of it. Problems of the micro units are different from that of the small units, and



that of the small units are different from the ones, the medium sector is having. Besides, regionally, the problems are again different. This implies that financing strategies need to be specifically based on a close understanding of these basic grounds. Moreover, the bank staff need to be imparted the necessary skills and capabilities to deal with such situations and to take appropriate decisions.

In the above context, RBI has taken some important steps to enhance the capacity of banking personnel. The Central Bank has initiated an important Mission of capacity building in the banking sector. The RBI College of Agricultural Banking, Pune, has been entrusted with the task of implementing this program. In this context, it is important to have the support of knowledge Institutions like the Institute of Small Enterprises and Development(ISED) and industry associations. The Deputy Governor Mr. Mundra complemented the India MSME Report 2015, brought out by the initiative of the ISED, said Mr. Mundra

Maharashtra MSMEs in Focus

India MSME Report 2015 specially discusses the MSME and skill development scene of its host State, Maharashtra. The State has 35 lakh registered unemployed youth. According to a detailed survey, there is a requirement of 5.46 crore skilled workers in nine critical sectors.

A report by the NSDC has pointed out that between 2012 and 2022, Maharashtra is likely to have an incremental demand for 1.55 crore people, and an incremental supply (only of local candidates) of 1.06 crore persons. This, the NSDC has held, would lead to a shortage of supply of 0.49 crore persons.

The government has announced to set up a full-fledged university in Maharashtra to impart an integrated skill development training in specialised sectors. It has set up an empowered committee for effective implementation of the 'Pramod Mahajan Skill and Entrepreneurship Development Campaign.'

NPA Creation not a sin; banks should do hand-holding: says RBI Deputy Governor Mr. Mundra

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Deputy Governor Mr. SS Mundra said, that the creation of non-performing assets (NPAs) is not a sin, and when an account becomes non-performing, bankers and agencies concerned should do some hand-holding. This comment comes from him at the India MSME Report 2015 Launch Address at the World Trade Centre, Mumbai, on the 26th of November last.



Credit decisions need to be informed decisions. Informed decisons decisions need two imperatives: On the one hand, there need to have research and knowledge systems that offer a flow of knowledge and information. It is here that , reporting exercises, as initiated by the Institute of Small Enterprises and Development, become relevant. Secondly, there is need for capacity building of bank staff. That's why RBI has initiated a major programme of capacity building of bank staff at various level, beig organised by the College of Agricultural Banking, Pune.

Small Enterprise *Guru* Compliments ISED Reporting Initiative



The continuing good work of reporting at the ISED, on behalf of India's enormous community of micro, small and medium businesses, is laudable. We hear a great deal these days, all around the world, of the Indian giants, Tata, Infosys, Reliance, and many more; but their combined impact on the Indian economy, and most importantly, on the livelihoods of the country's hundreds of millions of disadvantaged people, is very little in comparison to the impact of India's MSMEs. Best wishes for the MSMER 2015 launch, and for the Institute's continuing efforts.

Malcolm Harper, small enterprise expert, Professor Emeritus, Cranfield School of Management, U.K.

India- Start ups, skills and Entrepreneurship

Unlike this global trend, India as an emerging economy, has significant opportunities in expanding its base of self employment- induced employment generation, which the country has neglected from time to time. Beyond a social goal, entrepreneurship is a critical resource in waiting for India. However, to tap this potential



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effectively, the country need to have a concrete labour market policy. A discussion on these issues form the compass of this study.



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India-MSMEs Under Co operative Federalism

A unique feature of the MSME sector in India is its diversity. This, unlike in many other countries, is a reflection of the geographical and cultural diversity of the country. This significant latent opportunity, which probably, China alone enjoy globally. India's MSME diversity also offers it significant market opportunities. The State governments need to evolve region specific strategies, rather than try to copy national level models and strategies relating to MSME



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development. This study discuss the issues and opportunities relating to investment promotion and enterprise development in a regional setting. It also gives signals on the way forward for the state governments.

MSMEs in India Focal Themes in 2015

The 2014 General Elections came up with an absolute majority for a coalition, making it possible for the government in power to initiate radical changes in economic policy in general. The focal themes that influence and affect MSMEs must be understood against such an objective background. The above focal themes, as discussed by this document, are often cross-cutting and overlapping. However, they are

important in understanding the direction in which policy and practice on MSMEs move today. Therefore, a detailed discussion on these issues is, of course, vital.

MSMEs-The Growth and Transition Agenda

Since the beginning of the planning era, the effectiveness of small industry program was essentially considered in relation to number of units registered. Not only start-up, it is important to focus on growth and sustainability. While start-up is most visible, growth and sustainability are more invisible in a democracy, as they often do not speak in terms of numbers. However,

while a country has moved on with flagship programs $\frac{1}{Price}$

such as 'Make in India', it is important that the growth aspects of enterprise development is accorded a top priority. This document gives important indications for formation of strategies for enterprise development and innovation.



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