

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-56607

Title: Entrepreneurship Skills for Growth-Oriented MSMEs in Bihar State.

Recommendation:

Accept after minor revision.

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	✓			
Techn. Quality	✓			
Clarity	✓			
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Dr. Bishwajit Rout

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

(To be published with the manuscript in the journal)

The reviewer is requested to provide a brief comment (3-4 lines) highlighting the significance, strengths, or key insights of the manuscript. This comment will be Displayed in the journal publication alongside with the reviewers name.

- Significance:** The study contributes to the discourse on regional entrepreneurship development by examining the role of government-led initiatives in promoting MSMEs in Bihar. By highlighting institutional support systems, training programmes, and policy frameworks, the research underscores the importance of entrepreneurial skill development in fostering economic transformation, employment generation, and inclusive industrial growth within developing regional economies.
- Strength:** The primary strength of the manuscript lies in its comprehensive compilation of policy initiatives, statistical tables, and government programme data related to MSME development in Bihar. The study also highlights multiple skill development schemes and entrepreneurship initiatives, providing useful descriptive insights into institutional support mechanisms that influence the growth trajectory of small and medium enterprises.
- Key Insight:** The central insight of the study is that entrepreneurship skill development and institutional training programmes play a crucial role in strengthening MSME growth potential. However, the effectiveness of these initiatives depends significantly on training quality, institutional coordination, access to finance, and awareness among potential entrepreneurs, which remain critical structural challenges affecting enterprise expansion in Bihar.

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The paper titled “*Entrepreneurship Skills for Growth-Oriented MSMEs in Bihar State*” examines entrepreneurship development for growth-oriented MSMEs in Bihar, focusing on state schemes like Mukhya Mantri Udyami Yojana (MMUY, ~₹29 billion disbursed to 74,540 beneficiaries) and Bihar Laghu Udyami Yojana (BLUY, 56,248 proposals accepted). It highlights the role of training programs in skill-building and questions whether these initiatives catalyze broader entrepreneurship ecosystems. While timely and policy-relevant especially given Bihar's economic context the study remains largely descriptive, relying on scheme statistics without original empirical data, impact evaluation metrics, or rigorous analysis of training outcomes and business growth. A useful overview but limited in analytical depth.

Suggestions for Improvement:

1. Strengthen theoretical grounding by integrating entrepreneurship and MSME development frameworks.
2. Clearly articulate research gap linking policy initiatives and entrepreneurial skill development.
3. Avoid normative statements praising political leadership and focus on objective policy analysis supported by empirical evidence and peer-reviewed scholarly references.
4. Organize literature thematically around MSME growth, policy interventions, and entrepreneurship training.
5. Incorporate more recent international studies on MSME entrepreneurship ecosystems.
6. Specify data collection period, sampling framework, and criteria for selecting sources.
7. Clearly describe analytical techniques used to interpret secondary data.
8. Include methodological limitations and potential biases associated with reliance on secondary data to strengthen transparency and academic credibility of the study.
9. Provide analytical interpretation linking statistical tables with research objectives. Link findings directly with previously identified research objectives and questions.
10. Explain trends and patterns rather than merely presenting descriptive statistics. Integrate theoretical insights from entrepreneurship and regional development literature
11. Use simple statistical tools or trend analysis techniques to derive meaningful insights rather than relying solely on descriptive narration of tabulated data.

The manuscript addresses an important policy issue concerning entrepreneurship skill development and MSME growth in Bihar. The study compiles valuable secondary data and highlights the

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significance of training programmes and government initiatives. However, the paper requires substantial improvements in methodological rigor, analytical depth, and theoretical integration. Strengthening the research design, expanding the literature review, and incorporating deeper data analysis would significantly enhance the scholarly contribution and overall academic quality. Addressing the identified weaknesses will make it suitable for publication in IJAR.

I recommend this paper for publication after minor revision.