

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR- 59063

Title: Business Incubation Centre Support, Entrepreneurial Mindset, Creativity, And Entrepreneurial Self-Efficacy as Predictors of Entrepreneurial Intention: A Social Cognitive Career Theory Perspective.

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 is significant because it integrates institutional, psychological, and individual determinants of entrepreneurial intention among higher education students. Its Kerala context adds useful evidence from an Indian setting where incubation research remains comparatively limited. The focus on entrepreneurial self efficacy can inform entrepreneurship education, incubation design, mentoring, and institutional policy, offering practical relevance for strengthening educational entrepreneurship ecosystems.
- Strength:** The main strength is the integration of business incubation centre support, entrepreneurial mindset, creativity, and entrepreneurial self efficacy within one structural framework. The study uses established constructs, reports satisfactory reliability and convergent validity, and obtains significant direct relationships. The model explains 52.8% of entrepreneurial intention variance, while results identify self efficacy as the strongest direct predictor, providing a useful foundation.
- Key Insight:** The key insight is that entrepreneurial intention depends on institutional conditions and students' psychological capabilities. Business incubation support predicts entrepreneurial self efficacy, while self efficacy, mindset, and creativity predict entrepreneurial intention. This suggests that universities should combine infrastructure and mentoring with experiential activities that build confidence, opportunity recognition, innovative thinking, and entrepreneurial competence rather than relying solely on entrepreneurship courses.

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Reviewer's Comment / Report

The paper titled “*Business Incubation Centre Support, Entrepreneurial Mindset, Creativity, And Entrepreneurial Self-Efficacy as Predictors of Entrepreneurial Intention: A Social Cognitive Career Theory Perspective.*” investigates how business incubation support, entrepreneurial mindset, and creativity drive entrepreneurial intention among higher education students in Kozhikode, Kerala. Grounded in Social Cognitive Career Theory, the research analyzes survey data from 246 students using Structural Equation Modeling. Findings demonstrate that incubation support significantly boosts entrepreneurial self-efficacy. In turn, self-efficacy, mindset, and creativity all positively impact entrepreneurial intention, with self-efficacy identified as the primary predictor. Ultimately, the study underscores strengthening institutional incubation to cultivate student confidence.

Suggestions for Improvement:

1. Reduce excessive contextual statistics and strengthen the scholarly argument.
2. The introduction should move more logically from entrepreneurship importance toward the specific unresolved relationships examined by the proposed conceptual framework.
3. Align every research objective explicitly with tested hypotheses.
4. Strengthen synthesis rather than presenting studies individually.
5. The literature review should critically compare conflicting findings rather than predominantly using previous studies to justify expected positive relationships.
6. Greater attention should explain why SCCT provides superior theoretical justification compared with alternative entrepreneurship-intention theories such as TPB.
7. Provide stronger theoretical justification immediately before every hypothesis.
8. Correct hypothesis numbering inconsistencies across the manuscript.
9. The mediation hypothesis requires explicit explanation of the underlying causal mechanism connecting incubation support, self-efficacy, and entrepreneurial intention.
10. Provide complete methodological details to enhance reproducibility.
11. Clearly identify the specific SEM estimation technique employed.
12. Explain whether the analysis used covariance-based SEM or PLS-SEM, since terminology and reported statistics should consistently reflect the chosen approach.

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The manuscript addresses an important entrepreneurship issue and presents a coherent model integrating incubation support, mindset, creativity, and self efficacy. However, substantial revisions are necessary, particularly regarding theoretical alignment, mediation testing, methodological transparency, statistical reporting, language quality, and interpretation. The unexplained H5 is a major concern because mediation is central to the stated objectives. I recommend minor revision before the manuscript can be considered for publication and evidence-based editorial assessment. Addressing the identified weaknesses will make it suitable for publication in IJAR.

I recommend this paper for publication after minor revision.