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RESEARCH

Time Discount Rate of Forest-Dependent Communities: Evidence from Andhra Pradesh, India Sundar Balakrishna and Vineet Virmani

This study presents evidence on the time discount rate of forest-dependent communities (FDCs) in the backdrop of the joint forest management programme launched by the Government of India in 1990. The study uses data from two regions of the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh – Rayalaseema (a relatively dry forest region with low income) and the coastal region (relatively fertile forest and with higher income). We also identify socioeconomic determinants of their patience levels and factors which distinguish the two regions. To elicit individual discount rates of FDCs members and their determinants, we use the choice task design methodology.

Online Service Quality Determinants and E-trust in Internet Shopping: A Psychometric Approach Suhail Ahmad Bhat and Mushtaq Ahmad Darzi

The study is aimed to analyze the impact of e-service quality determinants on perceived usefulness and e-trust in e-retailing. It also investigates the mediating role of perceived usefulness between e-service quality dimensions and e-trust. A consumer survey was carried out on a sample of 660 respondents with a questionnaire in Jammu and Kashmir. The questionnaire was empirically standardized and validated by employing confirmatory factor analysis. Structural equation modelling was used to validate the proposed research model and test the hypotheses formulated. The study contributes to theory by evaluating the mediating role of perceived usefulness across various relationships among the different study variables.

Social and Cognitive Aspects of Women Entrepreneurs: Evidence from India Mohd Yasir Arafat, Javed Ali, Amit Kumar Dwivedi, and Imran Saleem

To design a better policy to foster women entrepreneurship, it is important to understand what factors mobilise or prevent women from becoming entrepreneurs. Recently, social capital and cognitive perspectives have gained currency in explaining entrepreneurship. Through the lenses of social capital and cognition, this research examines the factors affecting the propensity of women to become an entrepreneur by using a sample of 1305 Indian women. Results show that both the social capital and cognitive factors significantly influence the entrepreneurial propensity of women. This study contributes to the literature by explaining the social and cognitive aspects of women entrepreneurs in the context of a developing country.

MANAGEMENT CASE

BHEL Smart Wall Blowing System: New Product Development in Manufacturing Industry Abhishek Kumar, R. Dhanuskodi, R. Kaliappan and K. Nandakumar

The smart wall blowing system (SWBS) is ranked among the top five products developed in-house by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL). SWBS is an automatic, need-based slag deposit removal system for boiler furnaces. products. It ensures optimum heat transfer to the water walls to produce the desired quantity and quality of steam. Its use led to significant savings. There were reduced boiler shutdowns, and also an optimal use of the water tubes, steam, and fuel. The system could establish an identity for itself by creating demand in the market independent of the boiler purchase.

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