

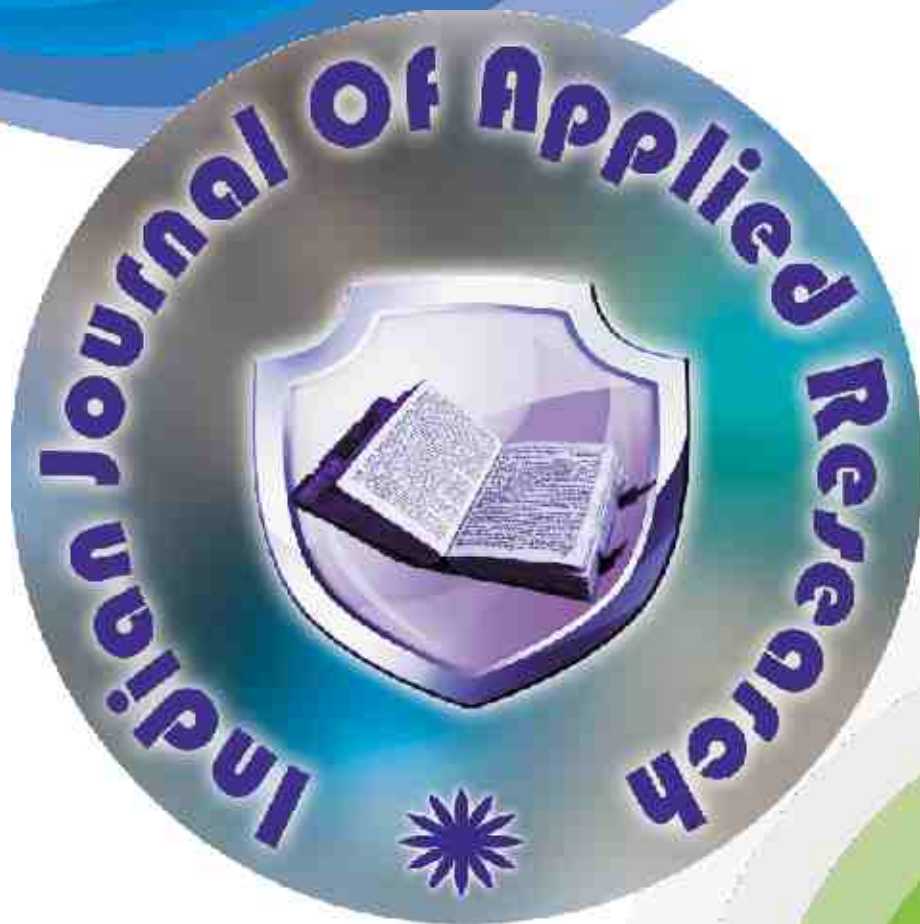
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Small Scale Industries In India: An Evaluation Of Productivity In The Post-Liberalized Scenario

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ABSTRACT

The small scale industry which plays a key role in the Indian economy in terms of employment and growth has recorded a high rate of growth since independence. Till 1956, the number of small scale units was 6195. Today it stands at 123.4 lakhs. Today, there is a global recognition for the small enterprises as they could very well be or become the backbone of the economy. The central discussion of this paper highlights the role and performance of small-scale industries in the economy with the parameters of Productivity i.e. number of units, production, employment and exports.

Keywords : Industrialization, Small-Scale Industries (SSIs), Employment, Manufacturing Output

Introduction:

The small scale industry (SSIs) in India has emerged as a dynamic and vibrant sector of the economy. There has been a tremendous growth of these industries in the country during the last two hand half decades. The number of small scale industries, both registered and unregistered, increased from 4.16 lakh in 1973-74 to 19.38 lakh in 1990- 91. The volume of production at current prices rose from Rs.7200 Cr. to Rs.1, 55,340 Cr. At the end of the Seventh Plan period, it accounted for nearly 35 percent of the gross value of output in the manufacturing sector. It also provided employment opportunities to 31.2 million people in the country. During 1990-91 direct export from the small scale industrial sector was at Rs. 44041.80 Cr. It accounted for over 34 percent of the total export from the country.

Objectives and Scope of the Study:

This study primarily aims at evaluating Productivity of SSI sector with Geographical Distribution, Industry Division and Type of Ownership in terms of Gross Output, Fixed Investment, and Employment in The Post-Liberalized Scenario. Specifically, we would look into:

- What are the scale, scope, and spread in terms of the numbers, geographical distribution, product groups, employment, capital, output, exports, ownership characteristics, etc.
- How important is the unorganized component across different industry segments in terms of share of output and employment?

Productivity of SSIs by Geographical Distribution:

Third Census has brought out the hard reality that there is very high concentration of SSI unit in seven states, viz., Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal. These states accounted for 55 per cent of total employment, 68 per cent total investment and about 60 per cent total production (Refer Table 3).

Table -1 provides some important parameters of SSI. It may be noted that fixed investment per unit is the highest in Haryana (Rs. 6.76 lakhs), followed by Maharashtra (Rs. 3.48 lakhs) and Punjab (Rs. 3.15 lakhs) this broadly indicates the fixed investment levels of the units in various states.

Table 1: Some Parameters of SSI in 7 States at the Top in SSI Production (2001-02)

States	No. of Units (lakhs)	Employment (lakhs)	Fixed Investment (Rs. Cr.)	Production (Rs. Cr.)
Maharashtra	8.03	20.51	27,981	41,019
Uttar Pradesh	17.08	40.02	17,288	27,423
Punjab	3.76	9.08	11,833	26,010
Haryana	2.23	5.53	15,091	19,971
Tamil Nadu	7.88	20.18	10,989	18,274
Andhra Pradesh	8.75	21.39	12,370	18,259
West Bengal	7.71	21.69	5,601	17,679
Sub-total	55.44 (52.7)	138.40 (55.5)	1,01,153 (65.5)	1,68,635 (59.7)
All India	105.21 (100.0)	249.32 (100.0)	1,54,348 (100.0)	2,82,270 (100.0)

Source: Estimates from 3rd All India Census of SSI's, 2001-02

Note: - Arranged in the descending order on the basis of production in SSI sector.

From Table 2, it may be noted that fixed investment per unit was the lowest in West Bengal, employment per unit was the highest (2.81), followed by Tamil Nadu (2.560, Maharashtra (2.55) and all the other states in the range of 2.34 to 2.47. However Some states were able to equip the small scale units with better fixed capital as compared with other states. The range is 1:9.4 between West Bengal on the one extreme (Rs. 0.72 lakhs) to Haryana (Rs. 6.76 lack) on the other (Refer Table 4).

Table 2: Some Important Parameters of SSI (2001-02)

States	Fixed Investment Per Unit (lakhs)	Output Investment Ratio	Investment Unit of labor	Output Employment Ratio	Per Unit Employment
Maharashtra	3.48	1.47	1.36	2.00	2.55
Uttar Pradesh	1.01	1.59	0.43	0.68	2.34
Punjab	3.15	2.20	1.30	2.86	2.41
Haryana	6.76	1.32	2.73	3.61	2.47
Tamil Nadu	1.39	1.66	0.54	0.54	2.56
Andhra Pradesh	1.41	1.48	0.58	0.58	2.44
West Bengal	0.72	3.16	0.26	0.82	2.81
All India	1.47	1.83	0.62	1.13	2.37

Source: Estimates from 3rd All India Census of SSI's, 2001-02

Output-Investment Ratio is the highest for West Bengal (3.16) and lowest for Haryana (1.32). This appears to be in contrast with fixed investment per unit. This implies that Haryana with a higher fixed investment per unit is not able to obtain a higher output per unit of investment. Capital productivity, i.e. output per unit of investment is higher for West Bengal (3.16) followed by Punjab (2.2), Tamil Nadu (1.66), Uttar Pradesh (1.59), Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra (1.48 and 1.47).

Output-Employment Ratio indicates Labor Productivity. This was the highest for Haryana (3.61) followed by Punjab (2.86) and was the lowest in the case of Tamil Nadu (0.54) Higher labor productivity was the result of higher capital intensity, i.e. investment per unit of labor. Capital intensity was Rs. 2.73 lakhs per unit of labor in Haryana, but as against it, it was merely Rs. 0.26 lakhs in West Bengal. Two other states with higher capital intensity were Maharashtra (1.36) and Punjab (1.30). However, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh indicated very low capital intensity (Range Rs. 0.43 to Rs. 0.58 lakhs). There is, therefore, a great need to improve capital intensity in SSI sector in various states (Refer Table 4).

Productivity of SSIs by Industry Division:

Table- 3 shows the spread of SSIs according to the type of items they manufacture. The maximum number of SSIs -- close to 19 per cent -- in our data set belongs to the food product and beverage manufacturing industry. The next highest share over 14.6 per cent consists of SSIs making fabricated metal products, followed by other non-metallic mineral products. Small textile units have a share of 8.7 per cent. Chemicals and chemical products, machinery and equipment and other fabricated equipment account for around seven per cent.

Table 3: Number of Registered SSI units across Industry Divisions (NIC-1998), All India (2001-02)

NIC 98	Industry Names	Percentage Distribution of SSI Units (%)	Actual No. of SSI Units	Percentage Distribution of Employment of SSI units (%)	Percentage Distribution of Gross Output of SSI units (%)
15	Food Products & Beverages	18.21	164,107	15.08	21.19
16	Tobacco Products	0.28	2,510	0.77	1.14
17	Textiles	6.63	59,777	8.31	6.83
18	Apparel	4.78	43,042	4.87	4.02
19	Leather & Products	3.65	32,921	2.60	2.44
20	Wood & Products	5.73	51,604	3.76	1.59
21	Paper & Products	1.2	10,795	1.75	1.93
22	Recorded Media	4.1	36,962	3.20	2.03
23	Energy/Fuel	0.39	3,473	0.49	0.75
24	Chemicals & Products	4.45	40,072	7.40	10.01
25	Rubber & Plastic	4.07	36,656	5.13	6.98
26	Non-Metallic Min. Products	6.94	62,561	10.82	4.17
27	Basic Metals	2.57	23,135	4.17	9.6
28	Fabricated Metal	14.69	132,409	12.09	8.38
29	Machinery & Equip. N.E.C.	4.74	42,701	4.90	5.5
30	Office & Computing Machinery	0.11	953	0.17	0.46
31	Electrical Mach. & App. N.E.C	2.3	20,708	2.54	3.58
32	Radio, TV, Comm. & App.	0.4	3,635	0.61	0.95
33	Instruments	0.43	3,853	0.56	0.63
34	Motor Vehicles & Trailers	0.76	6,847	1.45	1.67
35	Other Transport Equip.	0.49	4,453	0.76	1.1
36	Furniture; Manufacturing N.E.C.	9.63	86,774	5.97	2.63
37	Recycling	0.06	526	0.08	0.18
40	electricity, Gas, Steam And Hot Water Supply	0.04	330	0.06	0.18
41	Collection, Purification and Distribution of Water	0.01	106	0.01	0.01
50	Construction	0.8	7,249	0.58	0.48
52	Sale, Maintenance And Repair of Motor Vehicle And Motorcycle; Retail Sale	1.43	12,877	0.77	0.35
63	Wholesale Trade And Commission Trade, Except of Motor Vehicle and Motorcycles	0.14	1,244	0.22	0.26
64	Retail Trade, Except Of Motor Vehicle and Motorcycles; Repair of Personal and Household Goods	0.06	542	0.04	0.03
7	Hotels and Restaurants	0.02	177	0.03	0.02
72	Land Transport; Transport Via Pipelines	0.48	4,324	0.46	0.61
74	Water Transport	0.35	3,188	0.30	0.18
85	Air Transport	0.01	118	0.01	0
92	Supporting And Auxiliary Transport Activities; Activity of Travel Agencies	0.01	95	0.01	0.01
93	Post And Telecommunications	0.04	389	0.04	0.06
	Missing	0.02	178	0.03	0.05
	Total	100.00	901,291	100.00	100.00

Source: Estimates from 3rd All India Census of SSI's, 2001-02
In keeping with their share in numbers, food product and

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beverages SSIs also matched their share in total employment. These SSIs, with the highest share in numbers employed as much as 20 per cent of the total number of people (Table 3). The big departure is by the tobacco products SSIs -- despite their small 2.2 per cent share in the total number, they had a disproportionately large share of the employment at 13.2 per cent. This can probably be explained by the fact that these units are country cigarette or bidi making units and since this is a hand-rolled product, a large number of people are needed to make products of seemingly much less value.

Looking at the output across industry divisions we find that food and beverages SSIs again rule the roost. The share in total output of food etc is over 21 percent as evident from Table 5. This is followed by chemical and chemical products at just over 10 percent. Other important industry divisions in terms of contribution to output are Basic Metals, Fabricated Metal, Rubber & Plastic, Textiles and Machinery & Equip. N.E.C.

Productivity of SSIs by Type of Ownership:

Table 4 shows that the majority of SSI units are partnership followed by those which are wholly owned by individuals. Close to 89 percent of units in SSI sector fall in the privately owned category though type of organization might differ. About 29 percent are individual proprietary and 41 percent are in partnership. The data are from ASI where the ownership characteristics of the units are reported. Since the ASI data are from a sample of small units these figures should only be taken as indicative.

Table 4: Share in Number of SSIs & Share in Employment In SSIs in 2001-02 (in percent)

Type of Ownership	Share in Number of SSIs (%) In 2001-02		Share in Employment In SSIs (%) In 2001-02	
	Non- SSI	SSI	Non- SSI	SSI
Individual Proprietorship	0.73	28.77	0.26	17.96
Joint family (HUF)	0.15	2.78	0.17	2.15
Partnership	2.58	40.92	1.34	38.92
Public Limited Company	50.97	4.42	64.23	12.63
Private Limited Company	41.37	20.48	21.55	23.82
Govt. Departmental Enterprise (Incl. Khadi and Handlooms)	0.43	0.44	0.89	0.72
Public Corporation by Special act of Parliament	1.66	0.31	6.73	0.97
Co-operative Society	1.91	1.26	4.56	2.13
Others (incl. Trusts, wakf board, etc)	0.19	0.63	0.26	0.71
Missing	00	00	00	00
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Estimated from Annual Survey of Industries data

In case of employment the distribution is somewhat different. Though the private units continue to have the largest share in employment, it is Private Limited SSIs that have higher share than their share in the number of units. Once again, the source of data used for this analysis is ASI. Therefore, the distribution reported here is for registered units only.

Overall the SSI sector is spread across the country, but not evenly. In terms of activities as well, we find that almost all types of industry sub-sectors have some SSI presence. However, here as well a few manufacturing sub-sectors account for the bulk of the units, output and employment. This is not a negative aspect, and will in fact make it easier for policy to address the problems of the SSI sector.

Conclusion:

Today, there are around 10% of the 32 lakh SSI units facing sickness as per the records but the actual figure is more than 40%. No doubt, the government of India is making all the efforts to developing the SSIs while trying to find solutions to problems coming in to the way of development. However, more efforts have to be made to see the sector achieve success.



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