Chapter 4

State of MSME-based Entrepreneurship in Aspirational Districts of North- East India

4.1. Introduction

In the previous chapter, the extent of implementation of the Aspirational District Programme (ADP) in the study area has been discussed. The present chapter is developed to achieve the second objective of the present study – '*State of MSME based entrepreneurship in the study area'*. According to Cole (1959, 1968), entrepreneurship is the purposeful activity of an individual or a group of associated individuals, undertaken to initiate, maintain, or organize a profit-oriented business for the production or distribution of economic goods and services. Hence, MSME-based entrepreneurship is a purposeful activity of an individual or group of individuals undertaken to initiate and maintain a profit-oriented micro, small, or medium enterprise for the production and distribution of goods or services. Therefore, an enterprise belonging to MSME may be either a service-oriented or manufacturing-based enterprise. As mentioned in the first chapter, the present study considers all the 14 Aspirational Districts of North East India, and chapter three has clearly shown differences in the extent/ degree of implementation of ADP in the districts considered. Since the degree of implementation of ADP differs from one district to another, it is assumed by the researcher that the growth rate of the MSMEs in all the 14 Aspirational Districts of North East India will also be different. Further, it is also assumed that since the demographic as well as socio-economic characteristics of the 14 districts that are considered are not the same, the type of enterprises available as well as ownership of enterprises in terms of social category will also be different from one district to another district.

Hence, some research questions are put forward: Does a significant difference exist in the share of each group of enterprises in the total number of MSMEs in the study area? Does a significant relationship exist between the type of owners in terms of social category and the nature of the enterprise? Is there a significant difference between the service and manufacturing enterprises in terms of providing employment in the

study area? Is there a significant difference in the growth rate of MSMEs in the pre and post-implementation of ADP in the study area?

Hence, the present chapter attempts to investigate the following issues:

(a) share of each group of enterprises in the total number of MSMEs in the study area
(b) differences in the share of manufacturing and service enterprises
(c) ownership of enterprises in terms of different social categories
(d) number of employment generated by the MSMEs as well as the volume of employment generated by different types of enterprises in the study area
(e) differences in the growth rate of MSMEs amongst the Aspirational Districts

Based on the above objectives, three hypotheses are developed as:

Ho1: There is no significant association between 'the type of district and the type of owners in terms of different social categories.

Ho2: There is no significant difference amongst the types of owners in terms of different social categories in owning service and manufacturing enterprises.

Ho3a: There is no significant difference between the service and manufacturing enterprises in terms of providing employment in the study area.

Ho3b. There is no significant difference among the micro, small, and medium enterprises in terms of providing employment in the study area.

For the present chapter, both primary and secondary data have been used. Primary data were collected through questionnaires from two types of respondents. They are (a) the General Managers of DICC – to collect the number of MSMEs registered with their office (b) the owners of the MSMEs considered for the present study. Both descriptive and inferential statistics are applied to analyse data. To present data, both simple and cross tabulations are considered. Apart from frequency, simple percentage, annual percentage growth rate, and compounded annual growth rate are also considered to investigate the growth rate of MSMEs in the study area.

The chapter is presented in four parts. The first part presents an introduction which is followed by the findings based on the data collected from the DICCs regarding the type and ownership of MSMEs, employment generated by the MSMEs as well as the growth rate of growth of MSMEs from 2007 to 2022. The third part presents the hypothesis testing results. And the last part presents the conclusion to the chapter.

4.2.Share of each group of enterprises in the total number of MSMEs

In India, various studies (Jha & Kumar, 2020, Chanu, 2021, Mahalakshmi, 2021) reveal that the share of micro-enterprises is quite higher than the small and medium enterprises. The findings of the present study also clearly show that out of 46 290 enterprises, 98 percentare found to be Micro and 2 percent are found to be small enterprises respectively. 59 medium enterprises are also found in the study area, but, in terms of percentage share, its share in the total MSMEs is found to be 0.1 percent. The details are shown in table 4.1. To know, the distribution of each enterprise amongst the Aspirational Districts of North East India, cross-tabulation is also prepared (table 4.2), and found that out of 59 Medium enterprises, 24 enterprises which is the highest among the districts considered for the study is found in Rhi-boi district of Meghalaya and its share to the total is about 41 percent (that is 40.7 percent). It is followed by the Barpeta district of Assam with 6 enterprises. Baksa, Darang, Dhubri and Udalguri districts of Assam share the same number of medium enterprises (5 enterprises) having together which make together 52 percent of the total medium enterprises of the study area. It is followed by Hailakandi and Goalpara districts of Assam with 4 and 3 enterprises respectively; together both the districts share about 12 percent of the total medium enterprises. Out of 693 small enterprises, with 120 enterprises, again Rhiboi district records having the highest number of enterprises with 17.3percent of the total enterprises. It is followed by the Darrang, Udalguri, and Dhubri districts of Assam with 111, 99 and 95 enterprises respectively; their share of the total small enterprises is found to be 16 percent, 14.3 percent, and 13.7 percent respectively. It makes It is followed by Goalpara district with 86 (12.4 percent) and Barpeta with 84 (12.1) enterprises respectively. Out of 46168 micro-enterprises, the highest number of enterprises is found in Barpeta district in Assam with 8617 which is followed by Darrang with 8293 enterprises respectively. The share of these two districts is found to be 18.7 percent and 18 percent respectively. The share of other districts is as follows: Dhubri -13.5 percent,

Udalguri -8.4 percent, Hailakandi 8.2 percent, Dhalai – 4.2 percent Chandel – 2.6 percent, and Mamit -1.6 percent.

Table: 4.1 Distribution of MSMEs based on type of enterprises

Type	Frequency	percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
Micro	46168	98.4	98.4	98.4
Small	693	1.5*	1.5	99.9
Medium	59	.1	.1	100.0
Total	46920	100.0	100.0	

Source: DICC of 14 Aspirational Districts * rounded to 2 percent

District-wise distribution of MSMEs (table 4.2) further reveals that out of 3769 enterprises established in the Baksa district of Assam, 99.2 percent belong to micro, 0.6 percent belong to small and only 0.1 percent belong to medium enterprises. A similar case is also found in the Barpeta district. Out of the 8707 enterprises, almost 99 percent (98.9) of the total enterprises belong to micro, 1 percent belong to small and only 0.1 percent belong to medium enterprises respectively. In the case of Chandel district of Manipur, out of 1183 enterprises, 99.6 percent of the total enterprises belong to micro, and 0.4 percent belong to small enterprises respectively. Darang district of Assam and the Dhalai district of Tripura have the same findings with 98.6 percent of the total enterprises belonging to micro-enterprises. Both Dhubri and Goalpara districts of Assam present the same percentage share of micro-enterprises to the total enterprises (98. 4 percent). Except for one enterprise (belonging to small), all the enterprises of the Mamit district of Mizoram are found to be micro-enterprises, hence, the percentage share of micro-enterprises to the total enterprises of the district is 99.9 percent. A similar case is also found in the Kiphrie district of Nagaland. Out of 643 enterprises, the district has one small enterprise and the remaining are micro-enterprises, hence, the percentage share of micro-enterprises to the total enterprises is 99.8 percent. In the case of the Namsai district of Arunachal Pradesh, out of 101 enterprises, the share of micro-enterprises to the total enterprises is 99 percent; one enterprise in the district is found to be a medium enterprise. Regarding the Rhi-boi district of Meghalaya, out of 1647 enterprises, the share of micro, small, and medium enterprises are found to be 91.4 percent, 7.2 percent, and 1.4 percent respectively. Regarding the Soreng district of Sikkim, all the enterprises are found to be micro-enterprises. In the Udalguri district of

Assam, out of 3967 enterprises, the share of micro, small, and medium enterprises are found to be 97.4 percent, 2.5 percent, and 0.1 percent respectively.

Hence, from the above discussion, it can be derived that:

(a) The majority of the enterprises in the study are Micro enterprises.
(b) Rhibhoi district of Meghalaya has the highest number of both small and medium enterprises whereas Barpeta district in Assam has the highest number of micro enterprises.
(c) The percentage share of micro-enterprises of Barpeta district in Assam to the total micro enterprises is 18.6 percent which is the highest amongst all the districts.
(d) The percentage share of small and medium enterprises of Barpeta district in Assam to the total small and medium enterprises is 17.3 percent and 40.7 percent respectively.
(e) In some of the districts, all the enterprises are found to be micro-enterprises and, in some districts, no medium enterprises are operating.

Table: 4.2 District-wise distribution of MSMEs based on type of enterprises (cross-tabulation)

District		Type			Total
		Micro	Small	Medium	
BAKSA	Count	3739	25	5	3769
	percent within district	99.2percent	0.6percent	0.1percent	100.0percent
	percent within Type	8.1percent	3.6percent	8.5percent	8.0percent
	percent of Total	8.0percent	0.1percent	0.0percent	8.0percent
BARPETA	Count	8617	84	6	8707
	percent within district	98.9percent	1.0percent	0.1percent	100.0percent
	percent within Type	18.7percent	12.1percent	10.2percent	18.6percent
	percent of Total	18.4percent	0.2percent	0.0percent	18.6percent
CHANDEL	Count	1178	5	0	1183
	percent	99.6percent	0.4percent	0.0percent	100.0percent

	within district				
	percent within Type	2.6percent	0.7percent	0.0percent	2.5percent
	percent of Total	2.5percent	0.0percent	0.0percent	2.5percent
DARRANG	Count	8293	111	5	8409
	percent within district	98.6percent	1.3percent	0.1percent	100.0percent
	percent within Type	18.0percent	16.0percent	8.5percent	17.9percent
	percent of Total	17.7percent	0.2percent	0.0percent	17.9percent
DHALAI	Count	1930	27	1	1958
	percent within district	98.6percent	1.4percent	0.1percent	100.0percent
	percent within Type	4.2percent	3.9percent	1.7percent	4.2percent
	percent of Total	4.1percent	0.1percent	0.0percent	4.2percent
DHUBRI	Count	6233	95	5	6333
	percent within district	98.4percent	1.5percent	0.1percent	100.0percent
	percent within Type	13.5percent	13.7percent	8.5percent	13.5percent
	percent of Total	13.3percent	0.2percent	0.0percent	13.5percent
GOALPARA	Count	5444	86	4	5534
	percent within district	98.4percent	1.6percent	0.1percent	100.0percent
	percent within Type	11.8percent	12.4percent	6.8percent	11.8percent
	percent of Total	11.6percent	0.2percent	0.0percent	11.8percent
HAILAKANDI	Count	3786	39	3	3828
	percent within district	98.9percent	1.0percent	0.1percent	100.0percent
	percent within Type	8.2percent	5.6percent	5.1percent	8.2percent
	percent of Total	8.1percent	0.1percent	0.0percent	8.2percent
KIPHRIE	Count	642	1	0	643
	percent	99.8percent	0.2percent	0.0percent	100.0percent

	within district				
	percent within Type	1.4percent	0.1percent	0.0percent	1.4percent
	percent of Total	1.4percent	0.0percent	0.0percent	1.4percent
MAMIT	Count	738	1	0	739
	percent within district	99.9percent	0.1percent	0.0percent	100.0percent
	percent within Type	1.6percent	0.1percent	0.0percent	1.6percent
	percent of Total	1.6percent	0.0percent	0.0percent	1.6percent
NAMSAI	Count	100	0	1	101
	percent within district	99.0percent	0.0percent	1.0percent	100.0percent
	percent within Type	0.2percent	0.0percent	1.7percent	0.2percent
	percent of Total	0.2percent	0.0percent	0.0percent	0.2percent
RI BHOI	Count	1533	120	24	1677
	percent within district	91.4percent	7.2percent	1.4percent	100.0percent
	percent within Type	3.3percent	17.3percent	40.7percent	3.6percent
	percent of Total	3.3percent	0.3percent	0.1percent	3.6percent
SORENG	Count	72	0	0	72
	percent within district	100.0percent	0.0percent	0.0percent	100.0percent
	percent within Type	0.2percent	0.0percent	0.0percent	0.2percent
	percent of Total	0.2percent	0.0percent	0.0percent	0.2percent
UDALGURI	Count	3863	99	5	3967
	percent within district	97.4percent	2.5percent	0.1percent	100.0percent
	percent within Type	8.4percent	14.3percent	8.5percent	8.5percent
	percent of Total	8.2percent	0.2percent	0.0percent	8.5percent
Total	**Count**	**46168**	**693**	**59**	**46920**
	percent	**98.4percent**	**1.5percent**	**0.1percent**	**100.0percent**

	within district				
	percent within Type	**100.0percent**	**100.0percent**	**100.0percent**	**100.0percent**
	percent of Total	**98.4percent**	**1.5percent**	**0.1percent**	**100.0percent**

Source: prepared based on the data collected from DICC of 14 Aspirational Districts

4.3.Share of Manufacturing and service enterprises in the total number of MSMEs

Based on major activities, the MSMEs are classified into two. They are manufacturing enterprises and service enterprises. Table 4.3 reveals that 66.1 percent of the total MSMEs belong to service enterprises and the rest 33.9 belong to manufacturing enterprises. Table 4.4 presents the enterprise-wise distribution of MSMEs based on the major activities. Out of the 46168 micro-enterprises of the study area, 66.2 percent are service enterprises and the rest 33.8 percent are manufacturing enterprises. Out of the 693 small enterprises, 63.6 percent are service enterprises and the remaining 36.4 are manufacturing enterprises. In the case of medium enterprises, out of 59 enterprises, 45.8 percent are service enterprises and the rest 54.2 percent are manufacturing enterprises.

Hence, from the above discussion, it can be derived that the majority of the MSMEs in the study area belong to service enterprises. While in the case of micro and small enterprises, the majority (66.2 percent and 63. 6 percent) are found to be service enterprises, in the case of medium enterprises, the majority of the enterprises (54.2 percent) are manufacturing enterprises.

Table 4.3. Distribution of MSMEs based on major activities

Major activities	Frequency	percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
Manufacturing	15895	33.9	33.9	33.9
Services	31025	66.1	66.1	100.0
Total	46920	100.0	100.0	

Source: DICCs of 14 Aspirational districts

Table: 4.4. Enterprise-wise distribution of MSMEs based on major activities (cross tabulation)

Type		Major Activities		Total
		Manufacturing	Services	
Micro	Count	15612	30556	46168
	percent within Type	33.8percent	66.2percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	33.3percent	65.1percent	98.4percent
Small	Count	252	441	693
	percent within Type	36.4percent	63.6percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	0.5percent	0.9percent	1.5percent
Medium	Count	32	27	59
	percent within Type	54.2percent	45.8percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	0.1percent	0.1percent	0.1percent
Total	**Count**	**15895**	**31024**	**46920**
	percent within Type	**33.9percent**	**66.1percent**	**100.0percent**
	percent of Total	**33.9percent**	**66.1percent**	**100.0percent**

Source: prepared based on the data collected from DICC of 14 Aspirational Districts

The district-wise distribution of MSMEs based on the major activities (Table 4.5) reveals that in Barpeta and Udalguri districts of Assam and Chandel district of Manipur have almost similar distribution of service and manufacturing enterprises. In Barpeta, the share of service and manufacturing enterprises are 56.4 percent and 43.6 percent respectively and in Udalguri, 57.8 of the total enterprises are service enterprises and the rest 42.2 percent are manufacturing enterprises. In Chandel, the share of service and manufacturing enterprises are 56 percent and 44 percent respectively. Out of 3769 total enterprises in the Baksa district of Assam, 60.9 percent are service enterprises and the rest 31.9 percent are manufacturing enterprises. In the Darrang district of Assam and Soreng district of Sikkim, more than 80 percent of the MSMEs are service enterprises. In Darrang, out of 8409 enterprises, 82.1 percent are service enterprises, and the rest 17.9 percent are manufacturing enterprises; in Soreng, out of 72 enterprises, 90 percent (81.9 percent) are service enterprises and the rest 18.1 percent are manufacturing enterprises. Out of the 1959 enterprises in the Dhalai district of Tripura, 63.4 percent are service enterprises and the rest 36.6 percent are manufacturing enterprises. In Dhubri district of Assam 64.3 percent of the total enterprises (6333) are found to be service enterprises and the remaining 35.7 percent are found to be manufacturing enterprises. Out of 5534 enterprises in the Goalpara district of Assam, about 67.6 percent are service enterprises and the rest 32.4 percent are manufacturing enterprises.

In the Hailakandi district of Assam, out of 3828 enterprises, 68.8percent are service enterprises and the rest 31.2 percent are manufacturing enterprises. Out of 643 enterprises in the Kiphire district of Nagaland, about 62 percent(61.9percent) are service enterprises and the rest 31.1 percent are manufacturing enterprises. Mamit district of Mizoram records 73.6 percent of total enterprises (739) as service and 26.4 percent as manufacturing enterprises. In Namsai district of Arunachal Pradesh, out of 101 enterprises, almost 63.4 percent are service enterprises and the rest 36.6 percent are manufacturing enterprises. In the Rhiboi district of Meghalaya, out of 1677 enterprises, 72 percent are service enterprises, and the rest 28. percent are manufacturing enterprises. In the Udalguri district of Assam, out of 3697 enterprises 57.8percent are service enterprises and the rest 42.2 percent are manufacturing enterprises. Based on these findings, it can be interpreted that in the aspirational districts of North-East India, the share of service enterprises is more than the manufacturing enterprises in the MSME sector.

Table: 4.5. District-wise distribution of MSMEs based on major activities (cross-tabulation)

District		Type of activities (TOA)		
		Manufacturing	Services	Total
BAKSA	Count	1474	2295	3769
	percent within district	39.1percent	60.9percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	3.1percent	4.9percent	8.0percent
BARPETA	Count	3799	4908	8707
	percent within district	43.6percent	56.4percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	8.1percent	10.5percent	18.6percent
CHANDEL	Count	520	663	1183
	percent within district	44.0percent	56.0percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	1.1percent	1.4percent	2.5percent
DARRANG	Count	1507	6902	8409
	percent within district	17.9percent	82.1percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	3.2percent	14.7percent	17.9percent
DHALAI	Count	716	1242	1958
	percent within district	36.6percent	63.4percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	1.5percent	2.6percent	4.2percent
DHUBRI	Count	2258	4075	6333
	percent within district	35.7percent	64.3percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	4.8percent	8.7percent	13.5percent

GOALPARA	Count	1795	3739	5534
	percent within district	32.4percent	67.6percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	3.8percent	8.0percent	11.8percent
HAILAKANDI	Count	1193	2635	3828
	percent within district	31.2percent	68.8percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	2.5percent	5.6percent	8.2percent
KIPHRIE	Count	245	398	643
	percent within district	38.1percent	61.9percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	0.5percent	0.8percent	1.4percent
MAMIT	Count	195	544	739
	percent within district	26.4percent	73.6percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	0.4percent	1.2percent	1.6percent
NAMSAI	Count	37	64	101
	percent within district	36.6percent	63.4percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	0.1percent	0.1percent	0.2percent
RI BHOI	Count	470	1207	1677
	percent within district	28.0percent	72.0percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	1.0percent	2.6percent	3.6percent
SORENG	Count	13	59	72
	percent within district	18.1percent	81.9percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	0.0percent	0.1percent	0.2percent
UDALGURI	Count	1673	2293	3967
	percent within district	42.2percent	57.8percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	3.6percent	4.9percent	8.5percent
Total	**Count**	**15895**	**31024**	**46920**
	percent within district /Total	**33.9percent**	**66.1percent**	**100.0percent**

Source: prepared based on the data collected from DICCs of 14 Aspirational Districts

4.4. Ownership of MSMEs in terms of different social categories

4.4.a. Ownership of MSMEs in terms of different social categories: overall distribution

A significant role in determining the socio-economic outcomes such as access to education, employment, credit, etc., can be played by the social identities such as a person's caste like ST, SCs and OBCs, gender and there is under-representation of the disadvantaged social groups in decent jobs and ownership of enterprise (Rakshit &Basole, 2024). Hence, in this section, an investigation is made to find out the ownership share of MSMEs belonging to various social categories such as General,

OBC, ST, and SC. The findings are shown in tables 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, and 4.9 respectively. Table 4.6 shows the overall ownership of MSMEs; from this table, it can be revealed that in the study area, 65 percent of the total MSMEs are owned by people belonging to the General category, 17.7 percent of the total MSMEs are owned by people belonging to ST category, 11.1 percent of the total MSMEs are owned by people belonging to OBC category and 6.1 percent of the total MSMEs are owned by people belonging to SC category.

Table 4.7 shows the ownership share of different Social Categories in different typesof MSMEs. Out of 30528 enterprises, the percentage share of micro, small, and medium enterprises owned by the people belonging to the general category is 98 percent, 1.8 percent, and 0.2 percent respectively. In the case of OBC, out of 5193 enterprises that are owned by them, the share of different types of enterprises are micro - 98.9 percent, small - 1 percent, and medium - 0.1 percent respectively. In the case of ST, out of 8320, 99 percent share is found to be micro-enterprises and the remaining, 0.9 percent and 0.1 percent are shared by small and medium enterprises respectively. Regarding the owners belonging to the SC category, out of 2879 enterprises, one unit of medium enterprises is found to be owned by this category; the percentage shares of micro and small enterprises owned by SC are 99.3 and 0.7 percent respectively.

Out of 98.4 percent of the total enterprises which is the share of micro enterprises, the General Category's percentage share is found to be 63.7 percent, the OBC's, percentage share is 10.9 percent, the shares of ST and SC are 17.6 percent, and 6.1 percent respectively. Out of the 1.5 percent of the total enterprises which is the share of small enterprises, the share of General, OBC, and ST are 1.2 percent, 0.1 percent, and 0.2 respectively. The findings reveal that owners belonging to the General category dominate in all three, that is micro, small, and medium enterprises.Regarding the ownership share based on the major activity-wise distribution of MSMEs, that is manufacturing and service, out of 15895 manufacturing enterprises, 56.9 percent are owned by people belonging to the General category, 21.4 percent are owned by ST and 13.7 percent are owned by OBC and the rest 8.0 percent are owned by the SC. In the case of service enterprises, out of 31025 enterprises, 69.2 percent are owned by people belonging to the General category, 15.9 percent are owned by ST, 9.7 percent are owned by OBC, and the rest 5.2 percent are owned by the SC.

Hence, from the findings, it can be derived that:

(a) Majority of the MSMEs (65 percent) are owned by people belonging to General category and the ownership share of people belonging to ST category is more than OBC and SC.

(b) While majority of the owners of manufacturing enterprises (50.9) belong to general category, more than two/third of the total manufacturing enterprises are owned by people belonging to ST category.

(c) While the percentage share of ownership of general category in service-based enterprises than manufacturing enterprises, for other categories- OBC, ST and SC, the share of ownership in manufacturing enterprises is more than service enterprises.

Table 4.6. Distribution of MSMEs based on owners belonging to different social categories

Caste	Frequency	percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
Gen	30528	65.1	65.0	65.1
OBC	5193	11.1	11.1	76.1
ST	8320	17.7	17.7	93.9
SC	2879	6.1	6.1	100.0
Total	46920	100.0	100.0	

Source: DICC of 14 Aspirational districts

Table 4.7. Distribution of MSMEs based on ownership of type of enterprises by different Social Categories

Social Category		Type of Enterprise			
		Micro	Small	Medium	Total
Gen	Count	29931	547	48	30528
	percent within Caste	98.percent	1.8percent	0.2percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	63.7percent	1.2percent	0.1percent	65.0percent
OBC	Count	5137	53	3	5193
	percent within Caste	98.9percent	1.0percent	0.1percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	10.9percent	0.1percent	0.0percent	11.1percent
ST	Count	8240	73	7	8320
	percent within Caste	99.0percent	0.9percent	0.1percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	17.6percent	0.2percent	0.0percent	17.7percent
SC	Count	2858	20	1	2879
	percent within Caste	99.3percent	0.7percent	0.0percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	6.1percent	0.0percent	0.0percent	6.1percent
Total	**Count**	**46167**	**693**	**59**	**46920**
	percent within Caste/ Total	**98.4percent**	**1.5percent**	**0.1percent**	**100.0percent**

Source: prepared based on the data collected from DICCs of 14 Aspirational Districts

Table 4.8. Major Activity-wise distribution of MSMEs based on Social Category

Major activities		Social Category				Total
		Gen	OBC	ST	SC	
Manufacturing	Count	9053	2171	3398	1273	15895
	percent within Caste	56.9percent	13.7percent	21.4percent	8.0percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	19.3percent	4.6percent	7.2percent	2.7percent	33.9percent
Services	Count	21455	3022	4922	1606	31025
	percent within Caste	69.2percent	9.7percent	15.9percent	5.2percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	45.7percent	6.4percent	10.5percent	3.4percent	66.1percent
Total	**Count**	**30528**	**5193**	**8320**	**2879**	**46920**
	percent within Caste/Total	**65.0percent**	**11.1percent**	**17.7percent**	**6.1percent**	**100.0percent**

Source: prepared based on the data collected from DICCs of 14 Aspirational Districts

4.4.b. Ownership of MSMEs in terms of different social categories: District-wise distribution

The findings related to ownership of MSMEs in terms of different social categories have indicated that the share of the General category stands to be the majority in micro, small and medium enterprises as well as in both service and manufacturing enterprises. However, the share of ST owners is higher than OBC and SC. To see whether such phenomenon exists in all the Aspirational districts considered in the study, cross-tabulation is done and findings are shown in table 4.9 and 4.10.

Table 4.9 reveals that out of all the 14 Aspirational Districts of North East India which are considered for the study, in five aspirational districts which are located in Assamthat is Barpeta, Darrang, Dhubri, Goalpara and Hailakandi, the majority of the MSMEs are owned by the people belonging to General category whereas in six districts which are located in different states of North East India viz, Chandel district of Manipur, Dhallai district of Tripura, Kiphire district of Nagaland, Mamit district of Mizoram and Ribhoi district of Meghalaya, Namsai district of Arunachal Pradesh, the majority of the MSMEs are owned by the people belong to Scheduled Tribe (ST) category. However, in the case of the Namsai district of Arunachal Pradesh, though the majority of MSMEs are owned by the STs (50.5 percent), the share is very less compared to other districts which have more ST population than other categories. In the

Udalguri and Baksa districts of Assam, which are located in the Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR), the Sixth Scheduled area, though the ST-owned enterprises are more than other social categories, the share is below 50 percent.

In Baksa District, 38.1 percent of total MSMEs (3769) are owned by ST, 37 percent are owned by General,14. 3 percent are owned by OBC and 8.7 percent are owned by people belonging to the SC category respectively. In Udalguri district, 43.5 percent of total MSMEs (3967) are owned by ST, 32.3 percent are owned by General, 17.1 percent are owned by OBC and 6.9 percent are owned by people belonging to the SC category respectively.

In the Barpeta district, almost 90 percent(89.9 percent) of total enterprises are owned by people belonging to the General category, 6.2 percent by SC, 6.0 by OBC and 0.8percent by ST respectively. In the Darrang district, 88.4percent of total enterprises are owned by people belonging to the General category, 8.2 percent by OBC, 2.5 by SC and 0.9 percent by ST respectively. In Dhubri district too, the share of ST owners is found to be below 1 percent in this district, 0.6percent of total enterprises are owned by people belonging to ST. In this district, 82 percent of total enterprises are owned by people belonging to the General category, 13.3percent by OBC and 4.1 by SC respectively. Regarding Goalpara district, 70.7 percent of total enterprises are owned by people belonging to the General category, 11.7percent by OBC 12.3percent by ST and 5.4 percentby SC respectively. In Hailakandi district, though a majority of the MSMEs are owned by people belonging to the General category (68.4 percent), a higher share of the SC community who own MSMEs in comparison with other districts is revealed (12.4 percent); out of the total enterprises, 17.7 are owned by OBC and the remaining 1.3 percent are owned by people belonging to ST.

In the Chandel district of Manipur and Kiphire district of Nagaland, an almost similar share of ST-owned enterprises is found in Chandel the share is 91.4 percent and in Kiphire, it is 91.6 percent. In Chandel, the ownership pattern by different social categories is found as: 4.3 percent by General, 3.1 by OBC and 0.7 percent by SC respectively. In Kiphire, it is found as:6.4percent by General, 1.6 by OBC and 0.3 percent by SC respectively. The ST's share of ownership in the Mamit district of Mizoram is found to be 95.1 percent which is the highest share compared with other

districts, considered for the study. The ownership share of other communities in this district is 3.7percent by General, 1.1 by SC and 0.1 percent by OBC.

In the Dhallai district of Tripura, 76.1 percent of the total enterprises are owned by people belonging to the ST category, 18.5percent by General and 3.4 percent by OBC and 1.9 percentby SC categoryrespectively. In the Rhibhoi district of Meghalaya, 73 percent of total enterprises are owned by people belonging to the ST category, 22.2percent by General, 2.3 by SC and 1.3 percent by OBC category respectively. In both districts, the ownership shares of MSMEs who belong to the ST category are below 80 percent but above 70 percent.

In the Soren district of Sikkim, the highest share ownership is found in the category of OBC with 43.1 percent and the share of other categories are 22.2percent by General, 29.2 by ST and 5.6 percent by SC respectively.

From the above discussions it can be summarised that out of 14 districts, in five districts, the majority of the MSMEs are owned by people belonging to the General category; in six districts, the majority of the MSMEs are owned by people belonging to ST category and in two districts, though the people belonging to ST category own the highest number of enterprises, their share is below 50 percent. In one district, though the people belonging to the OBC category own the highest number of enterprises, their share is below 50 percent. Hence, it can be derived from the above discussions that though the overall picture shows a higher ownership share of people belonging to the general category, in the present case, a conclusion can be arrived at as there is a higher representation of marginalised caste groups like ST in enterprise ownership; because the ownership share of people belonging to STs in some of the districts are quite higher than the so-called upper class (that is General category).

The larger size of ownership belonging to a particular social category may be because of the larger size of the population belonging to such categories in these districts. According to the 2011 population census, the share of the ST population in the Chandel district of Manipur, Kiphire district of Nagaland, Mamit district of Mizoram and Ribhoi district of Meghalaya were more than 50 percent. Hence, having a larger share of ownership in MSME by the people belonging to ST is not a surprising outcome.Therefore, it is derived from the finding that the *larger the population*

belonging to a particular social category, the larger the share of ownership of enterprises of that community.

Table 4.9. District-wise distribution of MSMEs based on ownership of Social Category

District		Social Category				
		Gen	OBC	ST	SC	Total
BAKSA	Count	1431	538	1473	327	3769
	percent within district	37.9percent	14.3percent	39.1percent	8.7percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	3.0percent	1.1percent	3.1percent	0.7percent	8.0percent
BARPETA	Count	7573	523	71	540	8707
	percent within district	86.9percent	6.0percent	0.8percent	6.2percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	16.1percent	1.1percent	0.2percent	1.2percent	18.6percent
CHANDEL	Count	57	37	1081	8	1183
	percent within district	4.3percent	3.1percent	91.4percent	0.7percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	0.1percent	0.1percent	2.3percent	0.0percent	2.5percent
DARRANG	Count	7432	689	75	213	8409
	percent within district	88.4percent	8.2percent	0.9percent	2.5percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	15.8percent	1.5percent	0.2percent	0.5percent	17.9percent
DHALLAI	Count	363	66	1491	38	1958
	percent within district	18.5percent	3.4percent	76.1percent	1.9percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	0.8percent	0.1percent	3.2percent	0.1percent	4.2percent
DHUBRI	Count	5196	841	35	261	6333
	percent within district	82.0percent	13.3percent	0.6percent	4.1percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	11.1percent	1.8percent	0.1percent	0.6percent	13.5percent
GOALPARA	Count	3911	645	680	298	5534
	percent within district	70.7percent	11.7percent	12.3percent	5.4percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	8.3percent	1.4percent	1.4percent	0.6percent	11.8percent
HAILAKANDI	Count	2622	679	51	476	3828
	percent	68.4percent	17.7percent	1.3percent	12.4percent	100.0percent

	within district					
	percent of Total	5.6percent	1.4percent	0.1percent	1.0percent	8.2percent
KIPHRIE	Count	43	10	589	2	643
	percent within district	6.4percent	1.6percent	91.6percent	0.3percent	100.0percent
	percent within Caste	0.1percent	0.2percent	7.1percent	0.1percent	1.4percent
	percent of Total	0.1percent	0.0percent	1.3percent	0.0percent	1.4percent
MAMIT	Count	27	1	703	8	739
	percent within district	3.7percent	0.1percent	95.1percent	1.1percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	0.1percent	0.0percent	1.5percent	0.0percent	1.6percent
NAMSAI	Count	28	21	51	1	101
	percent within district	27.7percent	20.8percent	50.5percent	1.0percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	0.1percent	0.0percent	0.1percent	0.0percent	0.2percent
RI BHOI	Count	391	22	1225	39	1677
	percent within district	23.3percent	1.3percent	73.0percent	2.3percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	0.8percent	0.0percent	2.6percent	0.1percent	3.6percent
SORENG	Count	16	31	21	4	72
	percent within district	22.2percent	43.1percent	29.2percent	5.6percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	0.0percent	0.1percent	0.1percent	0.0percent	0.2percent
UDALGURI	Count	1295	677	1726	275	3967
	percent within district	32.3percent	17.1percent	43.5percent	6.9percent	100.0percent
	percent of Total	2.7percent	1.4percent	3.7percent	0.7percent	8.5percent
Total	**Count**	**30528**	**5193**	**8320**	**2879**	**46920**
	percent within district	**65.0percent**	**11.1percent**	**17.7percent**	**6.1percent**	**100.0percent**
	percent of Total	**65.0percent**	**11.1percent**	**17.7percent**	**6.1percent**	**100.0percent**

Source: prepared based on the data collected from DICCs of 14 Aspirational Districts

4.5.Employment generated by the MSMES in the study area

The role of MSMEs in employment generation is widely discussed in number of studie. In this section, volume of employment generated by the MSMEs as well as differences among the different types of enterprises in generating employment. The findings are shown in table 4.10. The total employment generated by the MSMEs in the study area is found to be 3,50, 366 and the average per enterprise is 7 persons. The micro enterprises provide a total employment of 336876 which is 96.15 of the total employment generated by the MSMEs in the study area, small enterprises provide a total of 11524 employment and the medium enterprises provide a total of 1608 employment. The percentage shares of small and medium enterprises to the total employment generated are 3.29 and 0.56 respectively. The average employment per enterprise in the case of small and medium are 17 and 33 respectively; it is quite higher than the micro-enterprises.

In the case of micro-enterprises, about 59 per cent (58.78) of the total employment is provided by service-based enterprises and the remaining 41 per cent is shared by manufacturing enterprises. In the case of small enterprises, about 52 percent (51.49) of the total employment is provided by manufacturing-based enterprises and the remaining 41 percent is provided by manufacturing enterprises. In the case of medium enterprises, about 82 percent (81.79) of the total employment is provided by manufacturing-based enterprises and the share of service-based enterprises' employment to the total employment generated by medium enterprises is 18.21 percent. Based on the above findings, it can be interpreted that in the case of micro-enterprises, service-based enterprises provide more employment than manufacturing enterprises and in the case of medium enterprises, manufacturing-based enterprises provide more employment than service-based enterprises. In the case of small enterprises, though manufacturing-based enterprises provide more employment than service-based enterprises, the difference in percentage share of employment is only 2.98 percent.

Table 4.10: Distribution of MSMEs based on the volume of employment generated

	Micro			Small			Medium			Grand Total
	M	S	Total	M	S	Total	M	S	Total	
TE	138862	198014	336876	5934	5590	11524	1608	358	1966	350366
Average	9 (8.90)	6 (6.48)	7 (7.30)	24 (23.55)	13 (12.68)	17 (16.63)	50 (50.25)	13 (13.26)	33 (33.32)	7 (7.47)
percent to the total	41.22	58.78	100	51.49	48.51	100	81.79	18.21	100	-
percent to the Grand Total	39.63	56.52	96.15	1.69	1.60	3.29	0.46	0.10	0.56	100

Source: prepared based on the data collected from DICCs of 14 Aspirational Districts

TE: Total Employment, M: Manufacturing, S= Service

4.6. Growth of MSMEs in the Study area:

Though a total number of 46920 MSMEs are in the record of 14 Aspirational Districts as per the data supplied by the concerned DICCsof these districts of North East India, the record of the commencement year of the enterprises is found for 41823 MSMEs. Out of the remaining 41823 MSMEs which have the information of year of commencement, 5.9 percent i.e., 2457 enterprises were established before the implementation of the MSME Act 2006 and 94.1percent of the total enterprises were established from 2007 to2023. The total number of MSMEs established during this period (2007-2023) is found to be 39366. The details are shown in table 4.11

Since information of some of the districts was collected before December 2023, the year 2023 is avoided for calculating CAGR. For comparing the growth rate in the post and pre-implementation of Aspirational District programmes, the present study considers the MSMEs which are established after the implementation of the MSME Act 2006. In addition, the North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy (NEIIP) was implemented in 2007. So, from 2007 onwards to 2022, the growth rate is calculated.

The annual growth rate, as well as compound annual growth rates, are calculated to find out the differences in the growth rate of MSMEs in the pre and post-implementation of Aspirational District programmes in these districts. The compound annual growth rate is calculated to find out the growth of the enterprises in the study

area over a period of time. The formulas of annual growth rate as well as compound annual growth rate have already been mentioned in the 1st chapter. Since the Aspirational District Programme was implemented in January 2018, a period of 11 years that is 2007 to 2017 is considered the pre-implementation period and a period of 6 years that is 2018 to 2022 is considered the post-implementation period. From table 4.11, it is revealed that out of the 37315 enterprises which are found to be established during 2007-2022, 73 percent are found to be established in the post-implementation of ADP and the remaining 23 percent are found to be established in the pre-implementation of ADP. Hence, it can be derived that the majority of the MSMEs in the study are established in the post-implementation period of ADP.

Table 4.11. Year-wise Establishment of MSMEs

Period	Total	Average Establishment (per annum)	percentage of the total number of MSMEs
1911-2006	2457	40	5.9
2007-2023*	39366	1131	94.1
Total	**41823**	**-**	**100**
2007-2017 (pre-implementation of ADP)	10083	816	27.0
2018-2022 (post-implementation of ADP)	27232	4887	73.0
Total	**37315**	**-**	**100**

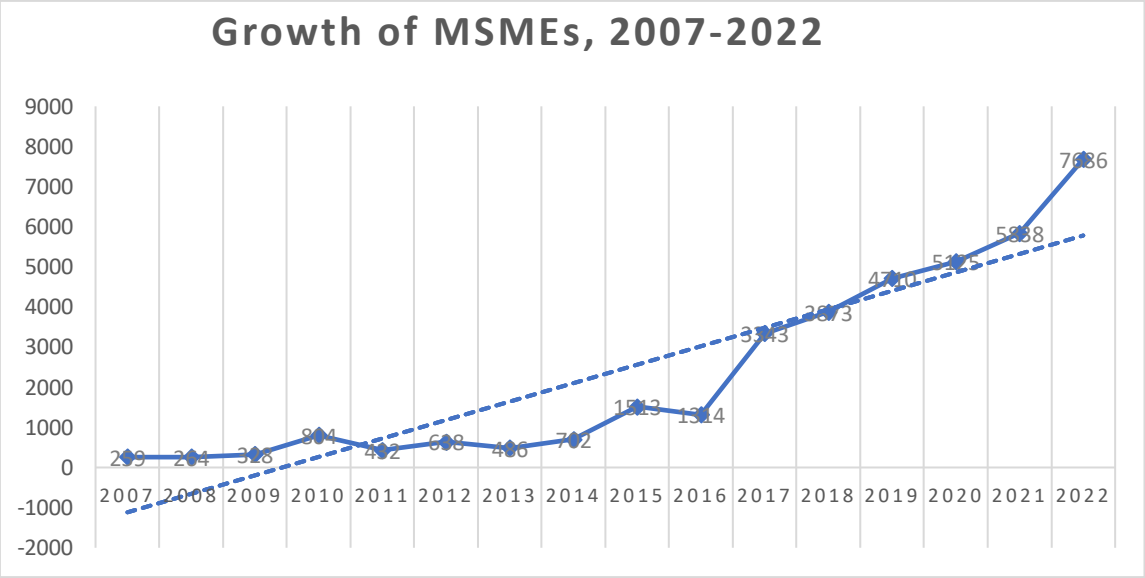
*for some of the districts, up-to Dec, 2023

Source: prepared based on the data collected from DICCs of 14 Aspirational Districts

Table 4.12. Annual percentage growth of MSMEs from 2007 to 2022

year	Frequency	Annual percentage growth rate	**year**	Frequency	Annual percentage growth rate
2007	259	57.0*	2016	1314	-13.15
2008	264	1.93	2017	3343	154.41
2009	328	24.24	*2018*	3873	15.85
2010	804	145.12	*2019*	4710	21.61
2011	432	-46.28	*2020*	5125	8.81
2012	638	47.69	*2021*	5838	13.91
2013	486	-23.82	*2022*	7686	31.65
2014	702	44.44			--
2015	1513	115.53	**Total**	**37312**	

Source : calculated from the data collected from DICCs



Source : prepared based on the data collected from DICCs of 14 Aspirational Districts

from the data collected from DICCs

Table 4.13 Compound Annual growth rate of MSMEs in the pre and post-implementation period of ADP in the study area

	Name of District	2007-17	2018-23	Overall
CAGR (percent)	Baksa	19.44294	10.43621	23.70853
	Barpeta	22.13135	24.2159	24.84062
	Chandel	32.09595	21.2823	37.75565
	Darrang	31.81933	-17.3385	32.09311
	Dhubri	29.25527	15.43429	11.68352
	Dhallai	24.84153	46.07626	29.60445
	Goalpara	21.75635	11.62105	23.14738
	Hailakandi	20.24828	27.29789	24.8371
	Mamit	9.668694	41.35492	37.09031
	Namsai	13.52907	78.40642	19.04477
	Kiphire	24.16028	7.20488	36.51547
	Ribhoi	16.91238	***38.632***	25.79941
	Soren	6.121302	***40.99295***	37.12264
	Udalguri	9.724078	***37.93852***	18.08665
	Overall	23.97657	17.18038	27.39447

4.7 Hypothesis Testing Results:

To check if there is no significant association between 'the type of district and the type of owners in terms of different social categories' and 'nature of enterprise(in terms of major activities) and the type of owners in terms of different social categories' Pearson Chi-square was conducted and the results are shown in Table 4.14. in both cases there is an association between (a) 'the type of district and the type of owners in terms of different social categories' and 'nature of enterprise(in terms of major activities) and(b) the type of owners in terms of different social categories' the p-value is found to be .000 which is below .05. Since the researcher considers 5 per cent level of significant both the hypothesis '*There is no significant association between 'the type of district and the type of owners in terms of different social categories' is rejected*and alternative hypothesis H_1:there is significant association between 'the type of district and the type of owners in terms of different social categories' and 'nature of enterprise (in terms of major activities) and the type of owners in terms of different social categories' is developed and accepted. The results are shown in table 4.14.

Table 4.14. Hypothesis testing result of Ho1

Association between		Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
'the type of district and the type of owners in terms of different social categories'	Pearson Chi-Square	26011.412[a]	39	.000
	Likelihood Ratio	24624.909	39	.000
	Linear-by-Linear Association	2513.194	1	.000
	N of Valid Cases	46920		
a. 1 cells (1.8percent) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 4.42.				

Ho2: There is no significant difference amongst the different social categories in owning service and manufacturing enterprises

To check, if there exists no significant difference amongst the different social categories in owning service and manufacturing enterprises, the non-parametric, Kruskal Wallis Test (K W test) is conducted. Since the data don't follow the normal

distribution (table 4.15), this method is considered. The test result shows that there is a statistically significant difference among the types of MSME owners belonging to social categories in owning service-based and manufacturing-based enterprises. Here, the value of X^2 =88.760, and p=.000 with a mean rank score of service-based MSME is 23977 and manufacturing-based MSME is 23195(table 4.16). Since the p-value is found to be less than 0.05, the hypothesis- *Ho2: There is no significant difference amongst the type of owners in terms of different social categories in owning service and manufacturing enterprises*is rejected. Hence an alternative hypothesis -Ha2 'There is significant difference amongst the type of owners in terms of different social categories in owning service and manufacturing enterprises is developed and accepted.

Table 4.15.Test of Normality

	owner	Kolmogorov-Smirnov[a]			Shapiro-Wilk		
		Statistic	df	Sig.	Statistic	df	Sig.
Service / Manufacturing	General	.430	30528	.000			
	OBC	.418	5193	.000			
	ST	.414	8320	.000			
	SC	.407	2879	.000	.612	2879	.000
a. Lilliefors Significance Correction							

Table 4.16: Hypothesis testing result of Ho2 (Kruskal Wallis Test)

Ranks			
	Nature of enterprise	N	Mean Rank
owner	Manufacturing	15895	23977.19
	Service	31025	23195.78
	Total	46920	

Test Statistics[a,b]	
	owner
Chi-Square	48.760
Df	1
Asymp. Sig.	.000
a. Kruskal Wallis Test	
b. Grouping Variable: Nature of enterprise	

To check if no significant difference exists between service and manufacturing enterprises in providing employment, the Mann-Whitney U test was conducted and the result is shown below in Table 4.17. The result indicates that there exists a significant difference between service and manufacturing enterprises in providing employment. The p-value is found to be 0.00 which is below 0.05. Since a 5 per cent level of significance is considered by the researcher, the null hypothesis Ho: $u_1 = u_2$: 'there is no significant difference between manufacturing and service enterprises in terms of providing employment in the study area' is rejected and the alternative hypothesis H_2:'there is a significant difference between manufacturing and service enterprises in terms of providing employment in the study area' is developed and accepted.

Table 4.17a: Hypothesis testing result of Ho3.a (Mann-Whitney U test result)

Ranks				
	Major activities (nature of enterprise)	N	Mean Rank	Sum of Ranks
Employment	Manufacturing	15895	26417.25	419902267.00
	Service	31025	21945.67	680864393.00
	Total	46920		

Test Statistics [a]	
	Employment
Mann-Whitney U	199573568.000
Wilcoxon W	680864393.000
Z	-34.382
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.000
a. Grouping Variable: Major activities	

Table 4.17b: Hypothesis testing result of Ho3.b

Ranks			
	MSM	N	Mean Rank
Employment	Micro	46168	23493.58
	Small	693	20858.86
	Medium	59	27737.53
	Total	46920	
Test Statistics[a,b]			
		Employment	
Chi-Square		32.741	
Df		2	
Asymp. Sig.		.000	
a. Kruskal Wallis Test			
b. Grouping Variable: MSME			

Table : 4.18. Summary of Hypothesis testing result

S.No	Hypotheses	Remarks
1	Ho1	Rejected
2	Ho2	Rejected
3	Ho3a	Rejected
4	Ho3b	Rejected

Source: Researcher's own calculation

4.8 Conclusion

The findings indicate that there is a negligible share of medium enterprises and a very small share of small enterprises in the total number of enterprises in the study area. Out of the total enterprises, 98.4 per cent are micro-enterprises. Though the study area of the present study considers North East India, almost similar findings are seen in the study of Jha & Kumar (2020) that all over India, 99.4 per cent of total MSMEs are micro-enterprises. As mentioned in Chapter One, the enterprises are classified based on the investment in the plant and machinery and their turnover; since the districts considered are the economically least developed districts, there will be a smaller

number of people who can establish/operate an enterprise which has an investment of INR 50 crores in plant and machinery. In many studies like Rakshit and Basole (2024), Iyer, *et al,* (2013), Thorat and Sadana (2009), etc., it is argued that there is less representation of ST and SC communities in the ownership of enterprises. However, the findings of the present study reveal that in those districts where the population of a particular community is higher, there is a higher share of ownership of that particular community. The majority of the MSME owners are found to be from the General category in the districts of Assam (Barpeta, Darrang, Goalpara, and Hilakandi districts of Assam) where majority of the population of these districts belong to General category and the majority of the MSME owners are found to be from the ST categories in Chandel, Mamit, Khiphire, Rhiboi, Namsai where majority of the population of these districts belong to ST category. The share of ownership of the General category in some of these districts is found to be above 80 per cent and the share of ownership of the ST category is found to be above 90 per cent where the majority of the population belongs to ST. The hypothesis testing result shows a significant association between 'the type of district and the type of owners in terms of different social categories' Hence, it is concluded by the researcher that the 'higher *the population of a particular social category higher the share of ownership of enterprises***.** In terms of employment, the highest number of employment is provided by the micro-enterprises; however, the average employment per enterprise is smaller than small and medium enterprises. In the case of micro-enterprises, the majority of the employment is generated by service-based enterprises whereas in the case of small and medium enterprises, the majority of the employment is generated by manufacturing-based enterprises. On average, while micro-enterprises provide 7 employment per enterprise, small and medium enterprises provide 17 and 33 employment per enterprise respectively. On average, MSMEs of the study area provide 7 employment per enterprise and micro enterprises provide the highest number of employment. Hence, *the higher the number of enterprises, the higher the number of employment generation.* There is a significant association between 'the type of owners in terms of different social categories and nature of enterprise'.

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