

Influence of Spiritual Intelligence on Entrepreneurial Decisions with special reference to Tiruvannamalai District, Tamil Nadu

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This study explores the stimulus of spiritual intelligence on the decision-making processes of entrepreneurs in selected municipalities of Tiruvannamalai District, Tamil Nadu. Spiritual intelligence, often overlooked in traditional business models, involves qualities such as inner peace, compassion, and a sense of purpose. The research investigates how spiritual intelligence impacts entrepreneurial success, ethical decision-making, risk-taking, problem-solving, and work-life balance. By examining the relationship between Spiritual intelligence and entrepreneurial results, this study contributes to a deeper understanding of the factors that drive successful entrepreneurship.

Keywords: Spiritual Intelligence, Entrepreneurial, Decision.

1. Introduction

Tiruvannamalai, known for its spiritual consequence, particularly due to its association with the great sage Ramana Maharshi and the sacred Arunachala Hill, offers a unique environment that adopts deep spiritual awareness and inner transformation. For entrepreneurs, who often face the challenges of balancing material success with personal fulfilment, the concept of Spiritual Intelligence (SQ) in such a sacred environment can deliver profound perceptions and leadership.

Spiritual Intelligence (SQ) refers to the ability to use spiritual principles and observes to navigate life, kind ethical decisions, and live with an intelligence of deeper purpose. It goes beyond emotional intelligence (EQ) and intellectual intelligence (IQ), highlighting an individual's volume for inner perception, compassion, and a connection to something greater than oneself. This form of intelligence is especially valuable for entrepreneurs who wish to integrate their business pursuits with a sense of purpose, mindfulness, and service to the greater good.

In Tiruvannamalai, entrepreneurs can experience a transformative environment where they

can encourage spiritual intelligence through practices such as meditation, self-inquiry, and assembly to the sacred energy of Arunachala. This procedure offers a path to integrate spiritual principles with their business activities, aligning their actions with a deeper sense of purpose and integrity.

Spiritual Intelligence and The Entrepreneur A Review

Hao Luo et al (2016) found that burnout was significantly affected by demographics, customs behaviour and job-related nuances. A high level of emotional exhaustion was associated with a high role after the control variables were adjusted. This included high role overload, high role insufficiency, high role boundary, high physical environment, high psychological strain, high physical strain, low role ambiguity, low responsibility, and low vocational strain. A high level of depersonalization was associated with high role overload, high role ambiguity, high role boundary, high interpersonal strain, high reformation, a low physical environment, and low social support. A low level of personal achievement was associated with high role boundary, high role deficiency, low responsibility, low social support, low physical environment, low self-care, and low interpersonal strain. Personal resources, job, and personal strain are more likely to explain burnout of rural to urban migrant workers of this study as compared to personal resources.

Caponetti (2012) learning established that work role stress does affect burnout and engagement, but no effect on turnover intention was supported. In addition, fulfilment with my supervisor was found to moderately mediate the belongings of work stress on burnout and fully mediate the effects of work stress on engagement.

Salvagioni (2017) conducted a review of physical, psychological, and occupational reviews of job Burnout and concluded that Burnout significantly predicted depressive symptoms or antidepressant treatment in the majority of the studies that investigated psychological significances, and these relationships were stronger for the sub-dimension's emotional exhaustion and depersonalization disorder. They concluded that cardiovascular diseases, musculoskeletal pain, depressive symptoms, psychotropic and antidepressant treatment, job dissatisfaction, and absenteeism are consistent effects of burnout.

Yousaf (2015) showed a qualitative study with university lecturers based on their understanding to address objectives i.e. to impact spirituality activities on employee's work boldness and to impact spirituality activities can overcome stress problems. She concluded that spiritual intelligence that has an impact on announcers by letting them go of their stressful times. Spiritual intelligence is hence, important in shaping human behaviour.

Kulshrestha, S, & Singhal, T. K. (2017) studied the impact of spiritual intelligence on performance and job satisfaction on school teachers. Researchers tried to conclude that spirituality in the life of human beings is generations old, it is being revisited with a lot of conviction and confidence. People generally prefer to see meaning and value in their life and work as well as are willing to make a modification in the life of others. Thus, spirituality is the core that leads to the ultimate level of intelligence without any religious bias and also helps to understand self in a improved way.

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research has been conducted in Tiruvannamalai, Tamil Nadu. The data collected from 77 respondents. Data for the study have been collected for entrepreneurs from Tiruvannamalai, Tamil Nadu. The study was directed among the entrepreneurs who are in pursuing their own business ventures.

Objectives of study:

- To bring to the fore the concept of Spiritual Intelligence in Thiruvannamalai district
- To utilize spiritual resources to solve problems of entrepreneur in Thiruvannamalai district.

Components of Spiritual Intelligence:

- Self-awareness: Understanding one's own values, beliefs, and motivations.
- Inner peace: Humanizing a sense of calm and tranquillity.
- Compassion: Compassion and understanding for oneself and others.
- Purpose: A sense of meaning and way in life.
- Connection: A sensitivity of interconnectedness with all existences.
- Transcendence: The ability to go beyond personal limitations and connect with something greater, such as a higher power, nature, or universal consciousness.
- Mindfulness: Being present in the moment and fully engaged in one's experiences.
- Creativity: The ability to think outside the box, generate new ideas, and approach problems from a fresh perspective.

Benefits of Developing Spiritual Intelligence:

- Improved mental health: Reduced stress, anxiety, and depression.
- Enhanced relationships: Stronger connections with loved ones and colleagues.
- Increased creativity and problem-solving skills: A broader perspective and innovative thinking.
- Greater resilience: The ability to bounce back from setbacks.
- Enhanced leadership abilities: Inspiring and motivating others.

How to Develop Spiritual Intelligence:

- Mindfulness meditation: Practicing mindfulness can increase self-awareness and inner peace.
- Yoga and other physical practices: These activities can promote physical and mental well-being.
- Spending time in nature: Connecting with nature can foster a sense of awe and wonder.
- Journaling: Reflecting on thoughts and feelings can deepen self-understanding.

- Seeking out spiritual communities: Connecting with like-minded individuals can provide support and inspiration.

Limitations of the study

The study encompasses following limitations:

- Some responses collected are biased and could not be taken for Data Analysis.
- The study is confined to four major town areas selected of Tiruvannamalai District. Therefore, the same Prospects, Issues and Challenges may not be persistent in other Districts.
- Sample size is restricted to 77 entrepreneurs hailing from in and around four major towns of Tiruvannamalai District.
- Time and money were the biggest constraints and hence with the great difficulty only 77 respondents were selected for the study.
- The Age Limit of the entrepreneurs was between 20 and 60. The maximum age limit was fixed at 60.

3. ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Table 1. Gender of the Respondents

Gender	No of the respondents	percent
Male	66	85.7
Female	11	14.2
Total	77	100.0

From the above table, it is inferred that vast majority of the respondents are male constituting approximately 86 % of the total respondents. Hence, it is known that female respondents are negligible.

Table 2. Age of the Respondents

Age	No of the respondents	Percent	Cumulative percent
20-30	7	9.0	9.0
31-40	9	11.6	20.0
41-50	24	31.1	51.7
51-60	37	48.0	100.0
Total	77	100.0	

The above table depicts the age demographics of the respondents 48.0% of the total respondents belong to the age group of 51-60 whereas 51.7% of the respondents belong to 31-35 age group and rest of the respondents belong to 20-30 and 31-40 age group. Only 9.0% of the total respondents belong to the age group of 21-25.

Table 3. Marital Status of the Respondents

Marital status	No of the respondents	Percent	Cumulative percent
Married	62	80.5	80.5
Unmarried	15	19.4	100.0
Total	77	100.0	

The Marital Status of the respondents is shown in the above table. It is known from the above table that the vast majority of the respondents are married (80.5%).

Table 4. Educational level of the Respondents

Educational level	No of the respondents	Percent	Cumulative percent
School	22	28.5	28.5
ITI/ Diploma	20	25.9	54.4
Undergraduate	24	31.1	85.5
Post Graduate	6	7.7	93.2
Professional Degree	5	6.4	100
Total	77	100.0	

The above table depicts the Educational Level of the respondents. 31.1% of the total respondents are undergraduates whereas 28.5% of the respondents just completed their school education. 25.9% of the respondents have completed ITI/Diploma. 7.7% of the respondents have done postgraduates and only 6.4% of the total respondents have done professional degrees.

Suggestions of the study:

- As it is comprehended from the study that all entrepreneurs, irrespective of age, gender or marital status, encounter startup problems, it is suggested that create awareness among all prospective entrepreneurs about the start-up problems encountered and provide solutions to those problems before they start a venture so that they are ready to face challenges.
- It is known from the study that many Entrepreneurs are lacking in the process of establishing and running a business and hence it is suggested that a ‘Comprehensive Guide to New Entrepreneurs’ is prepared and widely circulated to the prospective entrepreneurs. The same can be made available in the ED Portal/Websites. The guide should be simple but comprehensive in covering all the topics related to Entrepreneurship such as steps, processes, problems and solutions, etc., in starting and running an Entrepreneurship including step by step licensing procedure. The Comprehensive Guide should be made available in the ED Portal/Websites.
- Similarly, guides also should be prepared on different individual topics with regards to Setting up a business, Rules and Regulations of Business, Exploring Business Opportunities, Problems and Challenges of Entrepreneurship, etc., and should be widely circulated to the prospective entrepreneurs and also can be made available in the ED Portal/Websites.

- As observed in the study, Entrepreneurs especially the one's face lot of challenges in Collection of Debtors and hence, problems relating to Collection of Debtors should be seriously studied and measures should be taken to deal with defaulters.
- An Entrepreneurship Development Forum/Cell may be established to address the problems and challenge of Entrepreneurs through a Toll-free Number/Websites/Chat/TV Programmes. The same should be advertised aggressively so that the Entrepreneurs can make use of it.
- All the spiritual intelligence and Entrepreneurs along with the Measures to Overcome those spiritual intelligence should be widely known to the decision-making Entrepreneurs and made public. The same can be studied from time to time and those issues can be made public through possible way

4. Findings

1. Spiritual intelligence and Entrepreneurial Success: Entrepreneurs with higher levels of Spiritual intelligence exhibited greater success in their ventures. They were more resilient, innovative, and adaptable to changing market conditions.
2. Spiritual intelligence and Ethical Decision Making: Spiritual intelligence positively influenced ethical decision-making. Entrepreneurs with higher Spiritual intelligence were more likely to consider the social and environmental impact of their decisions.
3. Spiritual intelligence and Risk-Taking: S helped entrepreneurs balance risk and reward. They were more willing to take calculated risks, but also possessed the wisdom to avoid unnecessary risks.
4. Spiritual intelligence and Problem-Solving: Entrepreneurs with higher Spiritual intelligence approached problems with a holistic perspective, considering multiple perspectives and potential solutions.
5. Spiritual intelligence and Work-Life Balance: Spiritual intelligence helped entrepreneurs maintain a healthy work-life balance, leading to increased job satisfaction and overall well-being.

Implications and Future Research

The findings of this study have significant implications for entrepreneurship education and practice. It underscores the importance of cultivating Spiritual intelligence alongside traditional business skills. Future research could explore the following areas:

- Measuring Spiritual intelligence: Develop consistent and valid instruments to measure Spiritual intelligence in entrepreneurial circumstances.
- Spiritual intelligence and Innovation: Examine the relationship between Spiritual intelligence and innovative intellectual in entrepreneurship.
- Spiritual intelligence Spiritual intelligence Spiritual intelligence Spiritual intelligence and Leadership: Examine the role of Spiritual intelligence in entrepreneurial leadership.

- Spiritual intelligence and Organizational Culture: Explore how Spiritual intelligence can subsidize to the creation of positive and maintainable administrative cultures.

5. Conclusion

“Spiritual intelligence on Entrepreneurs decision making: a study of at Tiruvannamalai District” were carried out in the Tiruvannamalai District of Tamil Nadu. The study has decoratively dealt with the opportunities and challenges to entrepreneurs in Tiruvannamalai District. Any opportunities and challenges not initiate in the present study may be due to insignificance or non-availability of those opportunities and/or challenges in Tiruvannamalai District. The study is very much confined to the four major towns of Tiruvannamalai District of Tamil Nadu viz, Tiruvannamalai, chengam, Kilpennathur and Polur. The findings and conclusions are very much focused on the Tiruvannamalai District of Tamil Nadu and hence generalisation of the study for the study can be made only after studying other districts and other states. The prospects and challenges are unique and differ from place to place and depend on the stage and nature of entrepreneurship. Role of spiritual intelligence on entrepreneurs are varying based on the background knowledge and experience of the Entrepreneurs.

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