

Entrepreneurship as the Backbone of Economic Development: A Research Model

Dr. Kirit Chavda

Assistant Professor, Rai School Management Studies, Department of Commerce and Management,
Rai University, Ahmedabad

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ABSTRACT

Entrepreneurs are an important part of the economic development of the nation through their novel and innovative ideas of productions. An entrepreneur is an individual who engages in some risk taking behavior in the investment of resources to achieve a goal. These entrepreneurs focus on particular problems and draw on resources or an idea they have thought to address the problems. Entrepreneurial activities create incremental wealth, which is a precondition to economic growth. In view of this fact entrepreneurship development received serious attention among the policymakers, planners and development economists as a strategy of economic growth. The study highlights the impact of encouraging entrepreneurship on economic development in emerging economy. Therefore, efforts are to be directed towards the search and development of such entrepreneurial talents. It is widely acknowledged that entrepreneurship is critical to the development of knowledge-based economy. This paper emphasis on the key role of entrepreneurs through the literature based model named 3A's of Entrepreneurs.

Key words: Entrepreneurs, economy, development

I. INTRODUCTION

Entrepreneurship plays a significant role in economic growth and job creation, but how does it affect the economy? On the surface, people think that entrepreneurs start businesses, and new businesses create jobs, strengthen market competition, and increase productivity. This is one side of the story. The broader picture is that entrepreneurs tend to directly impact the economy through growth, innovation, and capital infusion while indirectly transforming the economy by improving social inclusion, creating large-scale employment, and improving the standard of living. Accelerating Growth and Innovation Entrepreneurship can create value for people

through the acceleration of new technology and help solve problems that existing products and technology haven't addressed, improving consumers' lives. Entrepreneurs through innovation often develop and adopt novel practices that allow businesses to stay in business. Several great ideas have originated from entrepreneurial ventures, enabling them to grow faster than their larger peers. Being more nimble and agile, they can take on higher risks than their established counterparts, allowing them access to new markets at a quicker pace. Some recent examples of this phenomenon of breakthrough innovations from Indian entrepreneurs in the past decade were visible in mobility (Ola), merchant value addition (Paytm/PhonePe), and shopping (Flipkart). Mobilizing Capital and Wealth Creation The compounded wealth effect created by entrepreneurs is one of the primary drivers of economic development and progress in the country. By establishing businesses, entrepreneurs can fund their operations with their own money and attract financing through debt and equity capital from local and foreign investors. In the long run, entrepreneurial activities lead to value addition and the creation of wealth for shareholders, leading to a positive impact for all the stakeholders involved in the business. In 2021 alone, Entrepreneurs in India have raised over \$42 billion, with 90 companies reaching unicorn status (billion-dollar valuation). Bolstering National Income and Productivity MSMEs comprise 55 million businesses in India that provide access to employment for 110 million people. The industry, currently valued at \$950 billion (₹ 7,273,800 Crores), contributes 34% of the GDP and 48% to the country's exports. Every new addition to the 55 million businesses in India furthers the development of products and services that bolster national income, GDP, and per capita income. These economic developments further the national goals of growth and prosperity. Increase National Trade Businesses help promote a

country's exports, which helps improve the country's foreign exchange balance and help strengthen the local currency. Strong business exports have led to India's forex reserves to more than double over the last decade (from \$294 billion in 2012 to \$602 billion in 2022). Furthermore, stabilized revenues from companies exporting their goods and services aid the country during local economic downturns. Expansion into foreign markets also enables companies to access cutting-edge technology and business processes, helping them streamline their business.

Spurring Employment Opportunities India faces a formidable job challenge as the second-most populous country globally with a growing labour force. Entrepreneurship and small- and medium-sized businesses provide an excellent avenue for job opportunities. Entrepreneurship creates many entry-level jobs that teach unskilled jobseekers skills and help them advance to skilled positions in big industries. Entrepreneurs and SMEs are crucial to national economies because of their ability to create more total jobs than the more established large organizations. After agriculture, entrepreneurs and SMEs are the second largest employer in India, with 110 million job openings. With accelerated development, the influx of investments, and rapid innovation, most of the jobs created over the next decade should come from these businesses. Furthermore, these businesses have been a lot more resilient in economic downturns or recent times than the larger companies.

Creating an Engine of Inclusivity Many Entrepreneurs have set up businesses and industrial units in less developed and backward areas to help the growth of local and regional economies. These, in turn, have accelerated the infrastructure improvements such as improved connectivity, access to resources, and other public services in these areas. Thanks to the jobs provided by these new businesses, people's spending power have increased, which has contributed to the regional economic output. Governments, both at the central and state levels, have further fuelled this initiative by offering SOPS to business people, such as tax concessions, credit from banks, subsidies, and funding at a lower cost of capital. Furthermore, growth from these businesses helps reduce the concentration of economic power among a few, increases decentralization and enables inclusive growth.

Improve Standard of Living Businesses create offerings that add value to the life of the consumer. In the process, they create employment, provide a source of income for the community, increase the community's spending power, and help elevate their living standards. It's not just about job

creation but their commitment to elevate and improve their employees quality of life of, bring value to customers, and other stakeholders in the community. For example, adopting automation reduces transportation costs and enables faster deliveries at lower prices.

Bottom Line Entrepreneurs form the backbone of the economy. Through entrepreneurial activities, they introduce new products, production methods, and business strategies to the market, thereby boosting productivity and competition while creating employment. Entrepreneurs are vital to the health of an economy.

1.1 The Role of Entrepreneurship in Economic Development

In order for a country to experience economic development, it is essential that there be a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem. It is the driving force behind innovation and job creation, which are two key factors in economic growth.

1.1.1 Employment Generation

Most of the businesses of any developing nation are less than five years old and are responsible for almost all of the net job growth. This is a clear indication that entrepreneurship is a major engine of employment generation.

1.1.2 Creating innovation

Entrepreneurship is also responsible for much of the innovation that takes place in the world. New businesses are constantly coming up with new ideas and ways of doing things, which helps to improve the economy and society as a whole.

1.1.3 Economic Growth

In addition to creating jobs and innovating, entrepreneurship also contributes to economic growth. By starting new businesses, entrepreneurs are able to increase the amount of goods and services available in the market. This leads to a rise in consumer spending and an overall increase in economic activity.

1.1.4 Provides better Standard of Living

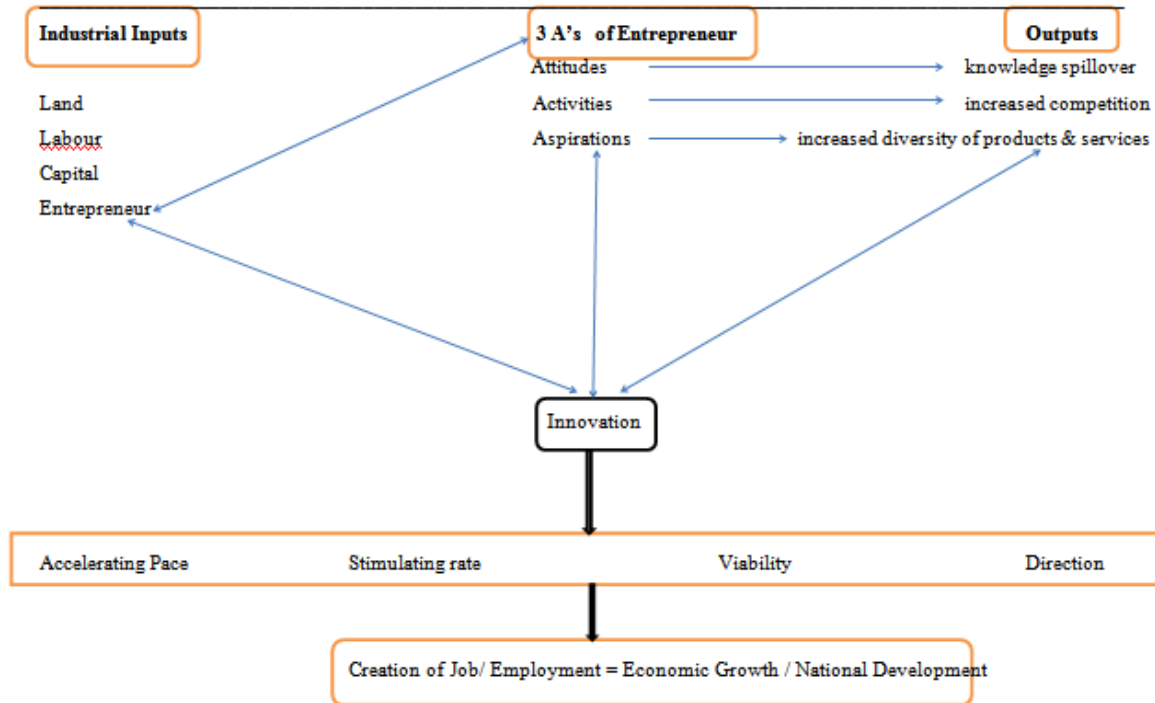
When economies experience economic development, it leads to a better standard of living for the citizens. This is because businesses grow and become more productive, which leads to an increase in wages and a reduction in poverty.

Overall, entrepreneurship is a key driver of economic development and brings many benefits to communities and economies. It helps to create new businesses and jobs, stimulates the economy,

and brings fresh ideas and innovation to the marketplace. It also has other benefits such as diversifying the local economy, attracting new

residents and tourists, and improving the quality of life in a community.

Integration of Entrepreneurship and National Development –3A Model



1.2 Relating Entrepreneurship to Economic Growth - Discussion

The impact of entrepreneurship on economic performance has generated an extensive literature. The role of entrepreneurship on economic growth began with the ideas of Adam Smith (1776) whose overriding goal was to understand the wealth-creation process whereas division of labor is limited by the extent of the market. As market grew, entrepreneurship would lead to innovation, which would lead to an increasing division of labour and increased productivity. However, entrepreneurship has not played a central role in economic theory. Traditionally, the economic output of a country is seen as a function of capital and labour inputs, combined with technological change (Solow 1956). The standard production function used, shows that economic output (Y) is a function of the sum of labour and capital inputs, and the level of technological progress. The model is built around a standard CRS production function, with given levels of capital and labor, growth only occurs through the expansion of knowledge, i.e. we have technological progress. The economy eventually reaches its equilibrium of the balanced growth path

where output, capital and labour are growing at a constant rate. In Solow model, the growth rate is completely determined by advances in knowledge or the technological progress.

In traditional models of economic growth, investment in capital, labour and technology is sufficient to realize economic growth. New models of economic growth see these investments as a necessary complement to entrepreneurship, but not as a sufficient explanation for economic growth in its own right (Nelson and Pack 1999). Some could possibly detect the existence of an implicit entrepreneur included by the notion of knowledge. Nevertheless, knowledge is incompletely defined in the model (Karlsson, Friis and Paulson 2004). Moreover, as pointed out by Romer (1990), since the growth rate of knowledge is exogenously given, growth is modeled by assuming its existence. This has generated the development of endogenous growth models. An element of endogenous growth models which distinguishes them from the Solow model, is that knowledge is modeled as being endogenous where growth is generated by investments in knowledge and the models outline the determinants in investment decisions in knowledge. Furthermore, Lucas (1988)

differentiated between physical and human capital. This implies that the relative importance of capital could be substantially more important than acknowledged by the Solow model, especially if there are positive externalities in (human) capital accumulation.

While there are different types and sources of technology or knowledge, such as basic scientific research, R&D, innovation or learning by doing, the entrepreneur does not hold an explicit position in endogenous growth models such as Romer (1986, 1990) and Lucas (1988). However, Grossman and Helpman (1994) pointed out that long-term growth process is determined by purposive, profit-seeking investment in knowledge. The act of seeking profits by shifting resources to achieve improvements in technology can be seen as an entrepreneurial act because the outcome of the investments is uncertain. However, it is not common for endogenous growth models to explicitly address the issue of entrepreneurship as a driving force of technological and economic development. The more recently developed models by Aghion and Howitt (1992, 1997, 1998) have firms investing resources in research to achieve a new product that render the previous outdated product. In their model, capital is excluded from the basic model and growth results from technological progress, being a result from competition among firms that generate innovations. Firms are motivated by the prospect of temporary monopoly rents after a successful innovation is patented.

There are a large number of definitions of entrepreneurship which lend themselves to a variety of different means of measuring entrepreneurship (Pittaway, 2005; Wennekers, van Wennekers, Thurik, & Reynolds, 2005). Entrepreneurship was, for a long time, measured quantitatively typically through the rate of self-employment or the number of new firms created (Ács&Szerb, 2010). Indeed, it appears that the latter is an extensively used proxy for entrepreneurial activity within the existing literature (Ács&Armington, 2004; Audretsch&Fritsch, 2002; Hessels & Van Stel, 2011; Mariet Ocasio & Mariet Ocasio, 2016). While this approach may be justified because an entrepreneur will often have to establish a new firm to exploit the opportunity identified, it is not a comprehensive measure for several reasons (Baliamoune-Lutz, 2015). First, entrepreneurship can occur within existing organisations; it is not confined to new start-ups. Second, there are a myriad of reasons for starting a new business, not all of them resulting

from a need to exploit a new idea. Third, the use of firm births may be an overly simplistic interpretation of entrepreneurship. Wong et al. (2005) suggest that the use of new firm start-ups as a measure of entrepreneurship has been driven by the problems associated with obtaining a measure of entrepreneurship at the national level suitable for econometric analysis, which can be used in conjunction with a measure of economic growth at a national level. Such measures include GDP, wealth or productivity for example.

Doran, McCarthy, and O'Connor (2016) note that a more nuanced measure of entrepreneurship, rather than just new firm formation, could be utilised to provide a more detailed analysis of the impact of entrepreneurship on economic growth. To overcome these limitations, the GEM's Total Early-stage Entrepreneurial Activity (TEA) ratio has become a widely used measure of entrepreneurship in recent years (Ács&Szerb, 2010). While it is useful, it is still limited to measuring the quantity of existing or nascent businesses (Ács&Szerb, 2010). Indeed, entrepreneurship is complex and multi-dimensional and the widely used existing measures of entrepreneurship, such as new venture creation or TEA, are not sufficient in capturing the full impact of entrepreneurship (Ács&Szerb, 2010).

This limitation was recognised in the most recent revision of the GEM (Global Entrepreneurship Model, Bosma, 2013). A review of the definitions of entrepreneurship highlights three major components: entrepreneurial attitudes, activity and aspirations (Bosma, Ács, Autio, Coduras, & Levie, 2009) which were subsequently included in the revision of the GEM model of entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurial attitudes reflect the general attitudes towards entrepreneurship in a country (Bosma et al., 2009). Entrepreneurial aspirations are important because they may affect the economic impact of entrepreneurial activities, if realised; they include aspirations related to innovation and business growth (Bosma et al., 2009). Finally, entrepreneurial activity typically refers to new venture creation (Bosma et al., 2009). These three dimensions of entrepreneurship are captured through the GEM. Wong et al. (2005) suggest that the GEM data have essentially filled the gap that existed in terms of defining entrepreneurship and providing a measure appropriate for analysis. This revision implies that a wider view of entrepreneurship should be used. Indeed, this is the approach adopted by (Ács&Szerb, 2010) who define entrepreneurship as

a dynamic interaction of attitudes, activities and aspirations. A multi-faceted approach to studying the impact of entrepreneurship on economic growth, while accounting for a country's level of development, is adopted here. The focus moves beyond entrepreneurial activity only; it incorporates attitudes and aspirations also.

There is a wide consensus in the literature that entrepreneurship is important for economic growth (Ács, 2006; Ács&Naudé, 2011; Amorós, Fernández, & Tapia, 2012; Audretsch, 2007; Baumol& Strom, 2007; Carlsson, Acs, Audretsch, & Braunerhjelm, 2009; Hessels & Van Stel, 2011; Kourilsky, Walstad, & Thomas, 2007; Minniti& Lévesque, 2010; Olaison& Meier Sørensen, 2014; Stam& Van Stel, 2011; Van Praag&Versloot, 2007; Van Stel et al., 2005; Wennekers&Thurik, 1999). According to Anokhin, Grichnik, and Hisrich (2008), "Entrepreneurship is the main vehicle of economic development" while Holcombe (1998) refers to it as "the engine of economic growth". Entrepreneurship can affect economic growth in a number of ways. These can include knowledge spillovers, increased competition and increased diversity in terms of the product and service offering available (Audretsch&Keilbach, 2004). Further mechanisms include the creation of jobs, the introduction of new innovations and productivity enhancements (Ács, 2006; Van Praag&Versloot, 2007; Van Stel et al., 2005; Wong et al., 2005). They further suggest that entrepreneurs have a role to play in improving knowledge regarding the viability of new innovations as well as assisting in identifying consumer preferences by bring new varieties of existing products and services to the market. Fritsch (2008) identifies several further mechanisms through which entrepreneurship can positively affect economic growth. Entrepreneurs can (i) force efficiency upon existing businesses through contesting existing market positions, (ii) accelerate the pace of creative destruction, whereby new firms drive industrial change by replacing existing businesses, (iii) stimulate the rate of innovation in industries resulting in the opening of new markets and (iv) provide a greater variety of new products, services and processes than would be available from existing firms (Fritsch, 2008).

The impact of entrepreneurship on an economy's growth varies according to its stage of economic development (Bosma et al., 2009; Ferreira, Fayolle, Fernandes, & Raposo, 2017; Gries&Naudé, 2010; Sternberg & Wennekers, 2005; Wennekers et al., 2005). Existing research

indicates that the effect of entrepreneurship on economic growth may not be consistent in developing and developed countries (Sternberg & Wennekers, 2005; Valliere& Peterson, 2009). Ferreira et al. (2017) find that the importance of entrepreneurship depends on a country's stage of economic development.

II. CONCLUSION

It was traditionally true that the self – employment and generating of new business was the definition of country's entrepreneurship but according to the changing scenario of the business and the stage of the development of the country the definition of entrepreneurship is vary. According to the 3 determinants of entrepreneurs discussed in this model make the products viable, identify the needs of the consumers and with the innovation process country's industrial growth occur accordingly by creating of job opportunity and indirectly it will push to the GDP of the developing economy. Hence it is also known as the financial heart of the National Development.

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