

Content

Sl. No.	Particulars	Page No.
	<i>Declaration</i>	<i>I</i>
	<i>Certificate</i>	<i>II</i>
	<i>Acknowledgement</i>	<i>III</i>
	<i>Content</i>	<i>IV-X</i>
	<i>List of Tables</i>	<i>XI-XIII</i>
	<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>XIV-XVI</i>
	<i>Location Map of Study Area</i>	<i>XVII</i>
	<i>Abstract</i>	<i>XVIII-XXVIII</i>
	Chapter 1: Introduction	1-28
1.1	Definition of Micro enterprise	4-5
1.2	Evolution of the Definition of Micro enterprises in Indian Context	5-8
1.3	Importance of Micro enterprise Sector in Indian Economy	8-9
1.4	Policy for Promotion of Micro enterprise Sector in India and Assam	9-14
1.5	Economic Profile of Assam	14-18
1.5.1	<i>Employment Scenario</i>	15-16
1.5.2	<i>Investment Scenario</i>	16-17
1.5.3	<i>Industrial Scenario</i>	17-18

1.6	Status and Performance of Micro enterprises in Assam vis-a-vis India	18-23
1.6.1	<i>Status of Working Enterprises by Type of Enterprise (Registered)</i>	20-21
1.6.2	<i>Status of Working Enterprises by Employment</i>	21-22
1.6.3	<i>Status of Employment in MSME Sector by Social Category</i>	22
1.6.4	<i>Women Ownership in MSME Sector</i>	22-23
1.6.5	<i>Sickness in MSME Sector</i>	23
1.7	A Profile of the Study Area	23-25
1.8	Overview of the Selected Micro enterprise Sectors	25-28
1.8.1	<i>Cane & Bamboo</i>	25-26
1.8.2	<i>Food Processing</i>	26-27
1.8.3	<i>Wood Carpentry</i>	27
1.8.4	<i>Handloom & Textile Sector</i>	27-28
Chapter 2: Review of literature		29-43
2.1	Significance of Micro enterprise Sector	29-30
2.2	Micro enterprise Growth and Influencing Factors	30-37
2.3	Challenges of Micro enterprises	37-43
Chapter 3: Materials and Methods		44-53
3.1	Statement of the Problem	44-46

3.2	Objectives	46
3.3	Hypotheses	47
3.4	Research Design and Data Source	47-49
3.4.1	<i>Secondary Data</i>	47
3.4.2	<i>Primary Data</i>	48-49
3.5	Analytical Methodology	49-53
3.5.1	<i>Enterprise Growth Index (IEG)</i>	50-51
3.5.2	<i>Product Development Index (PDI)</i>	51
3.5.3	<i>Production Efficiency Index (PEI)</i>	51-53
3.6	Plan of the Thesis	53
Chapter 4: Results		54-109
I	Socio Economic Profile, Challenges, Value Chain Analysis and Prospects of Rural Micro enterprises of Assam	54-88
4.1	Socio Economic Profile of the Sample Micro enterprises	55-76
4.1.1	<i>Profile of Proprietors of Rural Micro enterprises based on Social Category</i>	55-57
4.1.2	<i>Profile of Proprietors of Sample Micro enterprises by Gender</i>	57-58
4.1.3	<i>Distribution of Rural Micro enterprises based on Education Attainment of Proprietors</i>	58-60
4.1.4	<i>Distribution of Rural Micro enterprises based on Religion</i>	60-62

	<i>of Proprietors</i>	
4.1.5	<i>Distribution Rural Micro enterprises based on Age of Proprietors</i>	62-63
4.1.6	<i>Distribution of Rural Micro enterprises in terms of Marital Status</i>	64-65
4.1.7	<i>Distribution of Rural Micro enterprises in terms Family Size of Proprietors</i>	65-66
4.1.8	<i>Employment Generation across Micro enterprise Sectors</i>	66-67
4.1.9	<i>Average Monthly Production across Micro enterprise Sectors</i>	67-68
4.1.10	<i>Average Monthly Income across Micro enterprise Sectors</i>	68
4.1.11	<i>Investment Status of Rural Micro enterprises of Assam across Sectors</i>	69
4.1.12	<i>Raw Material Status of Rural Micro enterprises of Assam</i>	70-72
4.1.13	<i>Marketing across Micro enterprise Sectors</i>	72-74
4.1.14	<i>Motivational Factors Contributing towards promotion of Rural Micro enterprises</i>	75-76
4.2	<i>Challenges of Micro enterprise Sector in Assam</i>	76-81
4.2.1	<i>Analysis of Sector Specific Problems of Rural Micro enterprises</i>	77-81
4.2.1.1	<i>Analysis of Problems of Cane and Bamboo Sector</i>	77-78
4.2.1.2	<i>Analysis of Problems of Food Processing Sector</i>	78-79
4.2.1.3	<i>Analysis of Problems of Carpentry Sector</i>	79-80
4.2.1.4	<i>Analysis of Problems of Handloom Sector</i>	80-81

4.3	Value Chain Analysis of Micro enterprise Sector in Assam	82-86
4.3.1	<i>Value Chain Analysis of Cane and Bamboo Sector</i>	82-83
4.3.2	<i>Value Chain Analysis of Food Processing Sector</i>	83-84
4.3.3	<i>Value Chain Analysis of Handloom Sector</i>	84-85
4.3.4	<i>Value Chain Analysis of Carpentry Sector</i>	85-86
4.4	Prospects of Rural Micro enterprise sector in the Light of Common Felt Needs	86-88
II	Growth and Performance: Pattern, Determinants and Relationship	88-109
4.5	Status of Growth of Rural Micro enterprises	88-90
4.6	Growth of Micro enterprise: Determinants and Relationship	90-102
4.6.1	<i>Growth of Micro enterprises and Socio-economic Factors</i>	90-96
4.6.1.1	Explanatory Variables (Socio-economic Factors) Influencing Growth of Micro enterprises	91-92
4.6.1.2	Functional Form of the Model of Regression Analysis	92-95
4.6.1.3	Results and Discussion	95-96
4.6.2	<i>Growth of Micro enterprises and Strategic Orientation</i>	97-102
4.6.2.1	Status of Strategic Orientation	97-99
4.6.2.2	Relationship between Growth of Micro enterprises and	99-100

	Strategic Orientation	
4.6.2.3	Dependent Variable	100
4.6.2.4	Independent Variable	100
4.6.2.5	Functional Form of the Model	100-101
4.6.2.6	Results and Discussion	101-102
4.7	Status of Performance of Rural Micro enterprises	102-104
4.8	Growth and Performance of Rural Micro enterprise: Determinants and Relationship	104-108
4.8.1	Nature of Relationship Between Growth and Performance of Rural Micro enterprises	105
4.8.2	Influence of Micro enterprise Performance Efficiency on Growth of Rural Micro enterprises	106-108
4.8.2.1	Dependent Variable	106
4.8.2.2	Independent Variable	106
4.8.2.3	Functional Form of the Models	106-107
4.8.2.4	Results and Discussion	107-108
4.9	Conclusion	108-109
	Chapter 5: Discussion	110-120
I	Socio Economic Profile, Challenges, Value Chain Analysis and Prospects of Rural Micro enterprises of	110-118

	Assam	
5.1	Socio Economic Profile of Rural Micro enterprises of Assam	110-114
5.2	Challenges of the Micro enterprise sector in Assam	114-116
5.3	Value Chain Analysis of Micro enterprise Sector in Assam	116-117
5.4	Prospects of Rural micro enterprise Sector in the Light of Common Felt Needs	117-118
II	Patterns, Determinants and Relationship of Micro enterprise Growth and Performance	117-120
5.5	Status of Growth of Rural Micro enterprises	118
5.6	Growth of Micro enterprises: Determinants and Relationship	118
5.7	Status of Performance of Rural Micro enterprises	119
5.8	Growth and Performance of rural Micro enterprises :Determinants and Relationship	119
5.9	Conclusion	119-120
	Chapter 6: Conclusion	121-125
6.1	Recapitulation of Principal Findings	121-124
6.2	Conclusion and Policy Implication	124-125
	Bibliography	126-137
	Annexure I: Interview Schedule	138-144
	Enclosure I: Anti-Plagiarism Certificate	
	Enclosure II: Two Publications	