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1. **Capital Flows and their Macro Economic Effects in India**
Ratheesh K and G Raghavender Raju
Vol.5, Issue :1, January 2013, Page: 1-25

Abstract
The main objective of this paper is to analyse the determinants of the net foreign investment flows (FINV) to India, and also to examine the impact of these foreign investment flows on some of the selected macroeconomic variables. To analyse the determinants of the net foreign investment flows, we have used the quarterly data for the period 1996 Q3 to 2010 Q2, and the OLS estimation results showed that the model was a good fit. From the OLS output we found that macroeconomic variables such as Index of Industrial Production (IIP), BSE SENSEX, Interest rate (ROI), and the differential GDP growth rate between India and USA are having positive impact on the net Foreign Investment flows, while other variables like exchange rate (EXR), and inflation (WPI) are having an adverse impact on the net FINV. Using quarterly data for the period 1996 Q2 to 2010 Q2 we have estimated an unrestricted VAR model using the variables: Net FINV, GDP, M3, Inflation (INFLA), Real Effective Exchange Rate (REER), Interest rate (ROI), and foreign exchange reserves (FOREX). The results showed that the variables are dynamically interrelated. The impulse response analysis showed that for a given surprise shock to FINV; GDP, M3, INFLA, and FOREX are all increasing in the long run, REER depreciates initially but the permanent effect is to appreciate. This shows that the foreign capital inflows can lead to consumption and output volatility. ROI declines in the long run in response to the surprise shock given to the net FINV. Variance decomposition results shows that net foreign investment flows account for the major part of variations in many of the selected variables. Thus developing economies like India may have to face the brunt of Exchange rate and interest rate risks. The policy implications arising from the study is that strong macroeconomic fundamentals and an optimal combination of monetary, fiscal, and external sector policies are required for the smooth management of the global investment flows.

2. **Market Share & its relation with Micro Competitive Brand Initiatives – An empirical study on Consumer Electronics brands in Kolkata city**
Ayan Chattopadhyay
Vol.5, Issue :1, January 2013, Page:27-38

Abstract
The ensuing research study aims to establish an academic framework and find out the dependence of market share on the micro level brand initiatives. Within the study a typical multi criteria decision making (MCDM) environment in which firms operate has been considered. Primary research forms the basis of the study that includes a sample of 70 multi brand outlets in Kolkata City and three brands, namely Sony, Samsung & LG was included in the study. The research study aims at ranking the brands on the basis of the 12 micro level initiatives categorized under 7 broad categories and the results compared to that of the secondary sources of market share to arrive at a conclusion. TOPSIS, a MCDM approach is used to evaluate the rank the brands. The paper concludes that there is strong link between a firm's micro level competitive initiatives and market share that represents a firm's position in a competitive environment.

3. **The Global Microfinance Market: Trends**
V K Kumar
Vol.5, Issue :1, January 2013, Page: 39-61

Abstract
Adults world-wide to the extent of 2.5 billion do not have a savings or credit account either with a traditional or alternate financial institution. Nearly 90% of the financially un-serviced live in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. More than 800 million of those using financial services live on less than US $ 5 per day. Microfinance solution is applied globally to provide financial services

to low income communities worldwide. This paper analyses the trends in global microfinance market by presenting global microfinance business environment as backdrop to examine investment flows in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia, Middle East and North Africa and Africa. There are two important questions in globalisation of microfinance solution. The first question is related to whether high interest rates that have emerged in the microfinance market are good for the sustainability of microfinance institutions which are originally to help people with low interest rates. The second question is related to whether globalisation of microfinance is good for microfinance institutions and market.

4. **Derivatives as Strategic Tools for Managing Risk – An Evaluation**
Manjunath, K.R and J. Madegowda
Vol.5, Issue :1, January 2013, Page: 63-85

Abstract

Indian Capital Markets are experiencing major transforming in their operations on continuous basis that are driven by innovations and global level integrations. This has induced them to look for turnaround in all spheres of their operations. This has provided the markets and its participants with extended opportunity sets for optimizing their investment portfolio performance. This impulsive growth has further exposed the markets to unwarranted risks, which has induced the market to develop a number of risk management tools, with an objective to help its participants to manage or mitigate the risk to optimal extent. Introduction of Derivatives has been one such initiative taken up by Indian Capital Market regulators, with anticipation that these instruments would help the markets and its participants in managing their risk and strategizing their investment performance effectively, and earn favourable returns for their participation. This paper makes an attempt to evaluate the acceptability of Derivative instruments in the market and the level of efficiency realized by adopting them (Stock Derivatives, in particular) in their investment portfolio, and concludes that it is not Derivatives which are underperforming in the market but it is the markets which are underutilizing these instruments, and most of the times the instruments adopted in the market are in isolation or without proper knowledge about instruments which form a part of their investment portfolio.

5. **Zipf's Law: How Different is Microfinance across Countries?**
Sridhar Telidevara
Vol.5, Issue :1, January 2013, Page: 87-92

Abstract

The world over microfinance is regarded as a means to enabling poor cross-sections of the rural and urban population to fund their productive needs that would alleviate them from poverty levels. This paper studies whether the countries differ in terms of three structural variables, regulation, support and stability factors that promote microfinance and whether any lessons can be studied from those differences. However, we found that the microfinance sector is not that different across the countries.