

PDF - A CRITICAL STUDY OF THE PROBLEM AND PROSPECTS OF TIMBER BUSINESS IN ENUGU STATE. A CASE STUDY OF ENUGU TIMBER DEALERS AND SAWERS ASSOCIATION KENYATA - researchcub.info

ABSTRACT

The success of any enterprise depends largely on the effectiveness of its human resources in their work. The need for appraising the problems and prospects of timber Business in Enugu state is apparent. This project therefore is a research on timber business in Enugu state. The problems encountered in timber business is a kin to any other business and the prospects of the timber business is encouraging. This is because virtually all the things we produce today entails the use of wood.

This work intends to expose the fundamental problems in the timber business and to enable the timber dealers to solve their problems more expeditiously. Lots of findings have been made about the subject matter which includes causes of problem in the business and how better they can be economically managed on completion of this project. It was recommended that if government can create more financial aid to the timber dealers and Sawers association to improve in their production facilities and also government should put into consideration those policies affecting the timber business with these, the future of timber business with these, the future of timber business in Enugu would be brighter. To achieve this, the timber dealers should be given opportunity to practice marketing in a wider range so as to enhance their career prospects.

The work is arranged in five chapters. Chapter one introduction, chapter two, review of related literature, chapter three research design and methodology chapter four data presentation and analysis, chapter five discussion, recommendation and conclusion.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

The twentieth century industrial revolution experience brought along with it technological developments and the expansion of business organization. As the need for individuals continued to increase, business continued satisfy the increasing needs.

Before Nigeria gained her independence, import substitution was existing then as a means of industrializing our economy.

Based on that our economy is purely based on production of agricultural products this aspect makes the economy to be the sole producer of agricultural inputs which fluctuates seasonally.

Coupled with the fact that we are developing, many business organization sprang up in the economy, many individuals want into industrialisation to shape the future of our economy. To mention some few industries, which includes the timber industry, textile industry, automobile industry.

Because of the problem suffered by developing countries like Nigeria, these industries face different constraints and problems to date. The timber business has been in existence ever before the birth of Nigeria but for years the classic image of timber business has been regarded as a mere local business run by illiterates and people of lower class in the society. However the timber business deals mainly with woods of all kinds, like opepe, obeche, Nagzonia, machogang, tick, Abora etc.

These various kinds of woods serve as the main resources on which timber business is based. It is an indispensable business in the country because of the services it is rendering to the stimulation of the economy is like other business encounters problems which could be social or economical in nature. In spite of these problems encountered in the timber business, it has remained the parrot through which our economy is revitalizing today. This is seen in the roles performed by woods in our modern day life. Today, timber business is among the prime enterprises which is contributing to the economic growth and help in alleviating some of the societal problems by providing technological products that enhance human welfare like television magazines (papers) modern day furniture's to mention a few are produced from wood processing.

1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Timber business in Enugu today is faced with a lot of problems that like their counterparts in other states of Nigeria. These problems go a long way to negate its growth and development in the country and thereby limiting its potential contributions to the development of the economy. Among such problems are general lack of funds by proprietors of the business and difficulty in raising it due to limited capital. Thus money to keep the business going and expanding are irrefragably a major handicap there is lack of managerial acumen due to the proprietors limited education and training. Alongside of this, it is lack of technological know how. Although there are many of these timber businesses in existence today, their impact in terms of the ever chary industrialization of the country is still far fetched. They still operate within the limit of indigenous market research.

The dealers are confused by what is happening to their traditional markets in this fast moving commercial world. The dynamics of the business environment still look to them like a day dream. They are unable to conduct market survey, diversify their potential target markets and so on.

Above all, the timber business is faced with problems arising from government fiscal and monetary policies. In recent years, the tax climate and the government's business policies have placed serious restraints on the owners and the opportunities available to them.

1.3 PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

In view of the fact enumerated above the objectives of the study is to examine the problems confronting the timber business. To see to what extent they affect Enugu timber dealers and sawyers association in its operations and its possible contribution to the economy. Based on the problems identified by the writer, necessary suggestions and recommendations will be offered, which if implemented will help the association to solve most of its not all the problems, besides the recommendations will hopefully be of great help to new aspirants into the business and other business entrepreneurs to make their business unique.

1.4 SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This study might have included research in several other towns in Nigeria like Ibadan, Bendel, Enugu, Aba etc but due to the constraints involved in research work, the researcher could not go beyond Enugu. The scope of the study is based on timber business in Enugu state. The problems and prospects and it covers

only Enugu Timber Dealers and Sawers association.

1.5 RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS

This study intends to test the following hypothesis

HO: To a large extent Natural disaster has no effect on the supply of logs in the timber business.

H1: Natural disaster effect the supply of logs in the timber business.

Ho: The risk incurred in the business has no effect on the timber business.

H1: The risk incurred in the timber business has greatly affected the growth of timber business.

Ho: Government policies has not in any way affected the development of timber business.

H1: Government policies has to a great extent impeded the development of timber business.

1.6 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The study is aimed at exposing the proprietors of timber business to dangers in their business things that they failed people in the past and things that one should avoid to be successful in the field of the business as it affects timber business.

The study hopes to prepare students who may want to go into entrepreneurial ventures to explore the timber business to be precise, this study will enable the proprietors in timber business to do things on their own way. It does not mean that you must be successful at the end of it all but definitely it will help improve your chances of succeeding.

The study indicates to timber business dealers how to avoid some of the mistakes in initiating, organization and operating a small scale timber business that has been economically fatal to others, therefore enabling them to achieve the optimum benefits from the limited economic and human resources available to them.

1.7 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Development:- a gradual process of growth or the way one exploits resources.

Innovation;- To make something new

Timber :- Supply of wood for building and growing trees

Wood: substance of which the trunks and branches of trees are made e.g. furniture, papers etc.

Dealer: Person in a stated type of business.

Technology:- this is the state or act of doing things in the society

Efficiency:- This is the economic

Market:- this is the arena for potential exchange.

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