CHAPTER VII

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSION

The present chapter consists of summary of findings, suggestions, conclusion and scope for further research in the related filed. Summary of findings are the major aspects of the research study which help to get a bird’s eye view of the research study within a short period. Hence, this part has been arranged as per the chapter scheme of the research report. These findings are arrived at based on the available data obtained from the primary and secondary sources.

7.1 Findings

1. Dalits are one of the most vulnerable groups in the society with age old traditions and system. Dalits are considered as the early origin of the country which consists of people from almost all the walks of religious and historical perspectives. These people are continuously oppressed by various groups of people due to their social rejection and economic dependence.

2. The socio economic status of dalits is depressed and they are low income generating people. As for the literacy level of dalit community, most of them are illiterates in their society. There has been dalit education for the larger development of the socio-political equalization of the society. Most of the dalits are landless, agricultural labourers working for daily wages in the state.

3. India’s caste system assigns individuals a certain hierarchical status according to Hindu beliefs. Traditionally, there are four principal castes
(divided into many sub-categories) and one category of people who fall outside the caste system are the dalits.

4. Dalits are divided into leather workers, street sweepers, cobblers, agricultural workers, and manual scavengers.

5. The dalit activity is more than 80 per cent among daily labourers and agriculture sector workers. Half of dalit population is landless or has less than one acre of land each.

6. Dalits owning a business are called dalit entrepreneurs. Today every dalit entrepreneur remains as a member of the marginalized section of the society. In absolute as well as relative terms, the untouchables find themselves at the bottom of most human development indices.

7. Dalit entrepreneurship is a growing concept which is emerging due to the improvements in socio-economic and educational status of dalits in the country. But dalit in business is not at a significant level while compared to the other communities in this aspect.

8. The economic conditions of the dalits in Tamilnadu have not improved since independence because of economic violation against dalits by the caste Hindus and indirectly by the political parties.

9. The primary objective of the study is to understand the problems of dalit entrepreneurs in Tamilnadu in respect of socio-economic status, and economic violation against dalit entrepreneurs in Tamilnadu.

10. Due to the socio economic conditions of the downtrodden communities like dalit, they might not become entrepreneurs. If anyone becomes an
entrepreneur, he/she faces unique problems not because of being an entrepreneur but because of being a dalit.

11. A maximum of 394 (61.6%) of respondents strongly agree with “no land holding” as major reason for economic violation against dalit entrepreneurs.

12. A maximum of 434 respondents (67.8%) strongly agree with exploiting the basic rights as the way for violation against dalit entrepreneurs.

13. There is a significant difference between ways of violation and initial stage problems of dalit entrepreneurs.

14. The study says that a maximum of 443 respondents (69.2%) were absolutely correct in the opinion on discrimination of dalit entrepreneurs.

15. A significant difference between discrimination and financial problems of dalit entrepreneurs exists.

16. Out of the total 640 respondents, a maximum of 387 respondents (60.5%) strongly agree with opinion on equal right in business.

17. It is concluded that there is no significant difference between equal rights and financial problems of dalit entrepreneurs.

18. The majority of 387 respondents (60.5%) strongly agree with the view that they are dominated by upper caste entrepreneurs.

19. There is a significant difference between upper caste and financial problems of dalit entrepreneurs.

20. The study says that a maximum of 365 respondents (57.0%) strongly agree on “recently originated the business”. These are the major problems of competition by upper caste entrepreneurs and dalit entrepreneurs exists.
21. A significant difference between domination and marketing problems of dalit entrepreneurs.

22. From this study it is found that a maximum of 209 respondents (32.7%) were very highly affected by the support and supporters which are the major problems for business for dalit entrepreneurs.

23. It is concluded that there is no significant difference between obstacles for business and marketing problems of dalit entrepreneurs.

24. It is also found from the survey that a maximum of 268 respondents (41.9%) strongly agree with “not repaying due to business crisis” as major problems in repayment of bank loans for dalit entrepreneurs.

25. There exists a significant difference between financial assistance and marketing problems of dalit entrepreneurs.

26. It is observed from the study that, a maximum of 277 (43.3%) of the respondents strongly agree with the impact of training programme to promote their business.

27. A significant difference between Training programmes and other problems of dalit entrepreneurs exists there.

28. It is also found from the survey that a maximum of 427 respondents (43.3%) strongly agree with the impact of infrastructure facility for dalit entrepreneurs.

29. There is a significant difference between infrastructure facility and other problems of dalit entrepreneurs.

30. The study clearly says that the majority of dalit entrepreneurs are Pallan (59.1%); 426 respondents (66.6%) are male entrepreneurs.
31. The majority of dalit entrepreneurs’ education is primary middle course of study (32.2%).

32. Out of the total respondents a maximum of dalit entrepreneurs own small size of enterprise (62.0%).

33. From this study it is found that a maximum of 634 respondents (99.1%) are first generation entrepreneurs.

34. The majority of dalit entrepreneurs have the business location at home place.

35. The study clearly says that a maximum of dalit entrepreneurs are involved in service sector activities and certain level of formal training in the business.

36. Out of the total 640 respondents, a maximum of 377 pallan respondents are facing the initial stage problems at moderate level.

37. There exist a significance difference between men and women with regard to initial stage problem of dalit entrepreneurs.

38. It clearly shows that a maximum of 565 married respondents are facing the initial stage problems at moderate level (60.2%). Hence, it may be concluded that there is no significant difference between the marital status and initial stage problems faced by dalit entrepreneurs.

39. A significant difference between nature of activity and initial stage problems of dalit entrepreneurs exist there.

40. There also exists a significant relationship between education and initial stage problems of dalit entrepreneurs.
41. A significant difference between genders with regard to financial problem of dalit entrepreneurs remains there.

42. The study says that a maximum of 378 pallan respondents are experiencing financial problems at moderate level (71.4%). A significant relationship between sub caste and financial problems of dalit entrepreneurs exists there.

43. There is a significant difference between annual income and financial problems of dalit entrepreneurs.

44. It is observed from the study, that there is no significant different between the number of family members and financial problems of dalit entrepreneurs.

45. From this study it is found that there is no significant difference between size of enterprise and financial problems of entrepreneurs.

46. A significant difference between gender and financial problems of dalit entrepreneurs remains there.

47. It is observed that a maximum of 565 married respondents (60.4%) are facing the marketing problems at moderate level. There is no significant difference between the marital status and marketing problems of dalit entrepreneurs.

48. A significant different between annual income and financial problems of the dalit entrepreneurs exists there.

49. There is a significant difference between types of sector and marketing problems of dalit entrepreneurs exists there.

50. There exists a significant mean difference between size of enterprise and marketing problems of dalit entrepreneurs.
51. A significant difference between family members and other problems of dalit entrepreneurs.

52. There is no significant difference between nature of activity and other problems of dalit entrepreneurs.

53. The study clearly says that a maximum of 272 respondents (42.5%) have problems at very high level with regard to emerging changes for financial support from Government organisation.

54. A maximum of 183 pallan respondents are facing the entrepreneurial qualities problems at moderate level (48.4%).

55. A maximum of 378 pallan respondents are facing the Government support problems at moderate level (57.4%).

56. A maximum of 19,95,81,477 dalit population (20.54%) is found in Uttar Pradesh and minimum dalit population 29,64,007 (0.009%) in Meghalaya.

57. The study clearly says that maximum of dalit entrepreneurs in India are found (15.00%) in Tamilnadu and minimum of dalit entrepreneur (0.01%) is found in Mizoram.

58. From this study it is found that there are 55 communities under the sub caste of scheduled caste in Tamilnadu of which pallan, paraiyan, and Arunthathiyyar are the sub castes.

59. The highest dalit population in Tamilnadu 10,15,716 is found in Villupuram district and the minimum dalit population 74,249 is in Kanyakumari district

60. The highest urban houses are recorded in Coimbatore district (74.73%) and the lowest rural household are shown in Coimbatore (25.27%).
7.2 Suggestions

Based on the result of the present research study, the researcher has given the following important suggestion to overcome the problems of the dalit entrepreneurs as well as to promote the entrepreneurial competence among the dalits in the study are. These suggestions are purely based on the research in the fieldwork while meeting and collecting the data from the dalit entrepreneurs in Tamilnadu during his study period.

1. Dalits are living mostly rear river bed or ponds far away from the villages and they take care of their livelihood and job. And also they are living separately in colony houses and at Samathuvapurams. Essentials like drinking water are provided to them separately.

2. Dalit entrepreneurs are mostly involved in manufacturing type of activities which are exclusively meant for them or have traditionally engaged them. Hence, the Government should establish a separate cluster for dalit entrepreneurs.

3. Tamilnadu, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh are the largest states with the dalit entrepreneurs in the country. Hence, the Government must give more priority to promote a separate department to promote and develop dalit entrepreneurship in the country.

4. Entrepreneurship plays a vital role for the socio-economic development of the country which provides capital formation, employment generation, purchasing power and market economy. In this regard, promoting entrepreneurship is essential for developing countries like India to bring the equitable and sustainable growth.

5. In India, entrepreneurship is associated with socio-culture aspects of the
people and it has become traditional or heredity based. Since the country is caste dominated almost in all aspects, entrepreneurs from deprived communities like dalits become highly complicated and go through a lot of struggles to become successful entrepreneurs in India.

6. Dalit entrepreneurship is facing various kinds of discriminations, atrocities and violation socially, economically and psychologically.

7. Since the dalit population accounted for 19 per cent of the total population in the country, only 2,33,880 enterprises are owned by dalits in India and they mostly belong to traditional and caste base business. Therefore, there is a special scheme is needed to promote dalits as entrepreneurs.

8. Cultural and state Government have been established financial and non financial institutions to promote the dalit entrepreneurship since independence. But the results have been very poor due to the attitude of the implementing authorities and personnel.

9. Status of dalit entrepreneurs in India has a negative impact on economic development, because these people have commitment to hard work, and are creators of local resources, but fail to attract the upper caste people or the upper caste people are not ready to accept the economic empowerment of dalit entrepreneurs. It is purely caste based discrimination against dalits around the country.

10. Though the dalit entrepreneurs are very much for upliftment, in the midst of politics and communal parties, differences and discriminations on account of caste, have not vanished in rural areas. Despite free mingling with people of other communities, discrimination creeps in during entrepreneurial development.
11. People belonging to higher castes do not permit the dalits to enter their houses even today. The practice of making them stand at the door steps and sending them away, still exists in most of the villages of districts. Many dalit entrepreneurs drop their plans of starting an enterprise because of an apprehension whether people will come forward to buy their products. Hence the migration of dalit entrepreneurs to neighbouring countries and other states for job.

12. If dalits visit banks and Government offices such as Taluk office, R.T.O office etc. for redressal of grievances or for clarifications, the officials are quite indifferent towards dalits. Whereas people of higher caste are attended to promptly and taken care of.

13. Different sects of dalit people are living at places such as Kanyakumari, Nagercoil, Kulithali, Thakalai, Kaliyakaviali and Shencottai. As these cities are situated near the kerala border, the customary practices of keralites and fixing marriage alliances with them is widely prevalent here. Hence cast differences are minimal here. Enterprises function at the level of Tamil versus Malayalees.

14. The higher caste people are of the view that the dalit people must opt only for the job meant for their community. Dalits are living in large numbers in places like Theni, Usilampatti, Kampam, Andipatti and Periayakulam. Caste differences are therefore, not predominant here. In view of the decline of farm enterprise, approaching the people of higher caste is on the wane. Hence the necessity for self-upliftment through one’s own enterprise.

15. The standard of living of the dalits living at places such as Ramanathapuram, Paramakudi, Rameswarm, Muthukulathoor, Kamuthi and Kadaladi is found
to be at very backward condition. Cast differences and entrepreneurial differences are predominant among the people here. Government imposes prohibitory order Under Section 144 on 11th September and 30th October, forbidding people belong to other communities from entering these cities for a period of these days. As these cities remain segments of communal feelings, entrepreneurs are doing their activities well within their communities.

16. An awareness on the kind of enterprise to be undertaken and the means to earn more profit out of it is rather at a low level among the dalits. Even if enlightened entrepreneurs come forward to start a new venture, the society, the people of the higher caste and the Government do not encourage it. Most of the dalit entrepreneurs have no traditional entrepreneurial establishment whatsoever. Hence they have to confront several challenges and hardship while starting new ventures.

17. Commercial complex owned by people of other communities are not let out for dalit entrepreneurs to start an enterprise at cit complex, bus stand, bazaar etc. Most of the dalit entrepreneurs are running only small enterprises such as tailoring workshop, passenger auto, country bricks, paper cups making etc. Even dalits themselves avoid dalit entrepreneurs. Thus being the case opting for job here by the people of other communities is rarer still.

18. Obtaining financial assistance and Government’s concessions through banks proves highly challenging. No bank comes forward to advance loan for dalit entrepreneurs or to encourage the effort. Banks are not prepared to advance loan for dalit applicants recommended for monetary for duly trained dalit applicants through district entrepreneurial centre. Norms such
as recommendation and repaying capacity are determined by banks themselves and monetary assistance is denied for most of the dalit entrepreneurs.

19. Prospective dalit entrepreneurs, when they approach banks, are not provided with complete details. They are asked to furnish security, attested by two Government officers, income tax form for two years and details about their house and other properties. Even if one complies with all these requirements, the result is eluding.

20. Banks usually advance only car loans and house loans. This is because in the event of failure to repay the loan, the car or the house can be retrieved. But according to them, loan for an enterprise is without collateral; without a guarantee. Even if a loan is advanced, sanction is accorded for an amount less than Rs. 1 lakh. If takes six months or even two years to get sanctioned loan.

21. Banks offer a holiday period for six months and its purpose is to pay its investments after six months and not immediately. The profit at the end of the first year and at the end of the second year after the commencement of the venture will be 0%. Only at the end of the year, profit will start accruing. It takes such a long time to get back one’s investments. In the light of the aforesaid situations, on account of failure to repay the amount due for the bank or delayed repayment, the rate of interest accumulates cumulatively undermining the dalit enterprise and the family environment.

22. MSME enterprises are performing in a constant manner even in the globalisation era with the competitive advantages. There sectors are able to achieve the sustainable development of the country with self reliance
aspects. Hence, there is a need to create awareness for the entrepreneurs among the dalits.

23. Micro, Small and medium enterprises are the backbone of the economic development of the country, which concentrates to meet the local as well as the global demands in a unique character of products and services. In India, these sectors perform well and spread all over the country according to the availability of resources and traditional methods.

24. Dalit owned MSME is in very nominal numbers which reflects the difficulties in establishing enterprises by dalits in the country. Therefore, there is a need for special performance to implement entrepreneurship among dalits.

7.3 Conclusion

Dalit entrepreneurship is one of the emerging concepts which provides socio-economic development of the nation through utilisation of local resources, traditional skill and diversified manpower. In India, dalits in the society are treated as vulnerable groups which are facing their basic needs. Still the dalits struggle to fulfill their basic needs because upper caste people from age-old period itself. Government has taken various schemes and programme to eradicate the untouchability, discrimination and violations against dalits, but it is prevalent in all walks of the society. Even for educated people living in urban and metro politician cities, violation against dalits are existing in different and indirect ways. In this regard, problems of dalit entrepreneurs in Tamilnadu is one of the contemporary issues leading to measure the status of dalit entrepreneurs and economic violations against the dalit entrepreneurs. As per the study results, problems, discrimination, and economic violation against
Dalit entrepreneurs in Tamilnadu are still existing and it may be serious in certain parts of the state such as Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Ramanathapuram and Sivagangai district.

Dalit entrepreneurs face violations by the co-entrepreneurs customers, suppliers, employees and Government offices. Dalit entrepreneurs are facing huge problems due to their origin and some of the dalit entrepreneurs attempt to escape from their dalit identity. In this regard this study concludes that, dalit entrepreneurs are facing the problems due to their caste affiliation. Without removing this kind of violation against dalit entrepreneurs, economic development through entrepreneurial growth may not be possible. Hence, the Government and policy makers must consider and rethink about the concept of entrepreneurial development with respect to dalit entrepreneurs.

7.4 Scope for further study

Research relating to dalit entrepreneurs is one of the emerging studies in the field of entrepreneurial development which mainly focus on the entrepreneurial opportunities to all the needed people and measure the effectiveness of the schemes and programmes implemented for the development of dalit entrepreneurs. In this way, this study has mainly concentrated on problems of dalit entrepreneurs with regard to various economic violations in Tamilnadu. This research also provides wide scope for further research in the comparative analysis of dalit and non dalit entrepreneurs, institutional assistance to dalit entrepreneurs, entrepreneurial competence among the dalit entrepreneurs and effectiveness and performance analysis of functional areas of entrepreneurship owned by dalits in a particular study area, Tamilnadu as well as India.