

MGT 217: Business Environment & Strategic Management

Lecture Hours: 150

Full Marks: 100
Pass Marks: 35

Course Objectives:

This course aims to provide students with a sound understanding of environmental forces affecting business operations and to improve their ability to analyze such environmental forces on Business. This course intends to provide students with a review of major environmental forces concept and a basic understanding of how these forces affects the operations of Business. This course also provides the students to the fundamental concepts of strategic management and practices. The course helps to develop.

Course Description

This course contains two parts: Business environment and strategic management in business environment students will familiarized with the topics such as introduction to business environment, political environment, environment regulations/legal environment, economic environment, socio-cultural environment, technological environment, Asian and global environment. In strategic management students will be familiarized with the topics such as strategic management, establishing company direction, internal analysis, evaluation company resources and competitive capabilities, strategic options, strategy formulation and strategic choice, strategy implementation strategic control and evaluation.

Part I: Business Environment

Course Contents:

Unit 1: Introduction to Business Environment

LH 9

Concept of Business Environment.. Components of Business Environment. Environmental Scanning: Process and Techniques/Methods . Environmental Analysis Process (Scanning, Monitoring, Forecasting and Assessment). Types of Environmental Scanning (Concentrated and Comprehensive Scanning). Importance of the study of Business Environment.

Unit 2: Political Environment

LH 12

Introduction to political environment. Components of Political environment. Government and its branches: legislative system, executive system, and other constitutional bodies. Business-government relationship, Government ownership of Nepalese business. Nepalese political environment: Issues and problems.

Unit 3: Environment Regulations/Legal Environment

LH8

Introduction and Basic features of law. Business Legislation in Nepal. Features of the following Acts .Foreign Investment and Technology Transfer (FITTA) Act 1992. Companies Act 2006. Private Firm Registration Act 1958 . Industrial Enterprise Act 1992. Income Tax Act 1974 . Value Added Tax Act 1996 . Labor Act 1992. Partnership Act 1964 .Mines and Minerals Act 1985. Patent Design and Trade Mark Act 1965. Foreign Employment Act, 2007.

Unit 4: Economic Environment

LH 20

Economic dimensions of an economy. Concept of monetary policies, current monetary policy in Nepal. Privatization: meaning of privatization, methods of privatization: share sales, management contract, lease, assets and business sales, others. Liberalization: meaning, requirement of liberalization, internal/external liberalization, and effects of liberalization on Nepalese business. Industrial Policy: Concept and objective of industrial policy in Nepal. Trade Policy: concept and objective of trade policy, export/import trade policy. Employment Policy: concept and objectives of employment policy. Tourism Policy: concept, objectives and characteristics of tourism policy in Nepal. An overview of Nepal's industrial sector –

structure, performance and problems. Natural environment and energy situation in Nepal. Emerging business environment in Nepal.

Unit 5: Socio-Cultural Environment

LH 6

An introduction to socio-cultural environment.. Socio-cultural components: attitude and belief, religion, language, education, family structure and social organizations.

Unit 6: Technological Environment

LH 10

Introduction, Business and Technology. Human factors and technology. Science and Technology policy. Information Technology Policy, 2009. Electronic Transactions Act, 2007. Present level of technology adopted by the Nepalese business.

Unit 7: Asian and Global Environment

LH 10

Concept of Globalization. Forms of globalization. Regional economic groupings of Nations. Regional Trade Agreement in South Asia: SAFTA, SAPTA and BIMSTEC. World Trade Organization (WTO) – Structure of the WTO. Nepal's membership: opportunities and threats for the Nepalese business.

Part II: Strategic Management

Unit 1: Strategic Management

LH 12

Concept and characteristics of strategy. Level of strategy. Characteristics of strategic management decisions. Importance of Strategic management. Process of Strategic management. Steps in Strategic planning, Role of chief executives in strategic management.

Unit 2: Establishing Company Direction

LH 8

Meaning and Concept of Mission, Vision. Developing business mission and strategic vision. Communicating the strategic vision. Setting performance objectives (Strategic objectives versus financial objectives). SWOT Analysis.

Unit 3: Internal Analysis

LH 10

Concept of Internal Analysis. Process of Internal Analysis. Areas of Internal Analysis. Methods of Internal Analysis (Value chain analysis, Cost efficiency analysis, effectiveness analysis and comparative analysis).

Unit 4: Evaluating Company Resources and Competitive Capabilities

LH 9

Concept of Company Resources. Strengths and resources capabilities. Weakness and resource deficiencies. Assessment of internal resources and core competencies (Available resources, Threshold resources, Unique resource, Core competencies). Strategic advantage.

Unit 5: Strategic Options

LH 12

Concept of strategic Options: Strategic Alternatives at Corporate level (Stability strategy, growth strategy, Retrenchment strategy, Combination strategy) Strategic alternatives at business level (Porter's Competitive strategy, Strategic clock-oriented market based generic strategies). Direction for strategy development (Consolidation, market penetration, product development, Market development, Diversification). Methods of strategy Development (Internal development method, acquisition and merger method, joint development and strategic alliances method).

Unit 6: Strategy Formulation and Strategic Choice

LH 8

Concept and Process of strategy formulation, Evaluation of strategic alternatives (Suitability, Acceptability, Feasibility) Portfolio Analysis (BCG matrix. GE Business Screen, Hofer's matrix).

Unit 7: Strategy Implementation

LH 6

Concept of strategy implementation. Process of strategy implementation (operationalizing the strategy, Designing structure for strategy implementation). Resource planning. Management system for strategy implementation.

Unit 8: Strategic Control and Evaluation

LH 10

Concept of control in strategic management, Types of control. Meaning and Characteristics of strategy evaluation. Measures of corporate performance. Types of strategy evaluation (Strategic evaluation and operating evaluation). Guidelines for proper control and evaluation.

Text Books:

1. Pant, Prem R. (2012): *Business Environment in Nepal*. Buddha Publication Kathmandu.
2. Adhikari, D.R (2012). *Strategic Management*. Buddha Publication, Kathmandu
2. Agrawal, G. R. (2002): *Dynamics of Business Environment in Nepal*, Kathmandu: M. K. Publishers.
3. Agrawal, G.R (2010). *Business Strategy & Strategic Management in Nepal*, M.K. Publisher Kathmandu
4. Aswasthappa, K. (1999). *Business Environment for Strategic Management*. Mumbai: Himalaya Publishing House.
5. Pearce, John A. and Robinson, Richard B: *Strategic Management*, AITBS, Delhi.
6. Thomson, Arthur A. and Stickland III: *Strategic Management*, Tata Mcgraw-Hill, New Delhi
7. Wheelen, T.L and Hunger, J.D: *Strategic Management and Business Policy*, Pearson Education, New Delhi