

## **Ranking the Industrial Activities of Maharashtra (India) based on Relative and Competitive Advantages**

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*Today, increase of productivity requires the special attention to industrial sector and increase of investment in it. Limitation of financial resources for investment or high risk of investment in manufacturing and industrial activities makes the need to plan and determine investment priority unavoidable. This study identifies the industries with potential of investment in industrial sector of Maharashtra for leading the investment towards these industries. For this purpose, industrial activities of Maharashtra have been ranked based on NIC two-digit codes by means of combining factor analysis, numerical taxonomy and indices related to subject, and data and statistics presented by Ministry of Industry (ASI) for two periods within 1998-1999 and 2007-2008. Then, upon combining the obtained results, final priorities of investment in the sector have been explained. Within 1998-1999, the maximum advantage degrees were allocated to activity codes (24) Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products, (23) Manufacture of coke, refined petroleum products and nuclear fuel, (35) Manufacture of other transport equipment respectively and for the period 2007-2008, maximum advantage degrees were allocated to industrial activity codes (23) Manufacture of coke, refined petroleum products and nuclear fuel, (37) Manufacture of recycling, (19) Manufacture of luggage, handbags, saddler, harness and footwear and (35) Manufacture of other transport equipment respectively.*

### **I Introduction**

Within the recent decades, extensive technological changes in industrial sector have provided variety of users' needs and tastes, and added the industrial activities context. On the other hand, increasing advancements of technology, particularly in relation to communications that changed the world to the Global Village, resulted in increase and variety of different societies' demands and needs and increased the industrial activities. This growing trend, due to variety of needs and tastes, demands superior quality and more appropriate processes, and this goal is achievable only by identifying the facilities and limitations, allocation of resources, proper evaluation of capabilities and presenting the appropriate strategies and ultimately planning and prioritizing the countries' future investments. Necessity of investment planning and prioritizing is to identify the

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