Comments and Questions
GCABSS 2020

Paper No. 201203

Comment 1
Nice ideas and nice claims; however, the overall research needs a bit more of rework. I would have preferred the authors to come up with a greater explanation of several key concepts they have so casually used in their paper without much cause as to their meaning or even background. Like they use terms like techno-entrepreneurial-engineers”. What? What is that?

Reply
Thank you for the valuable comment! An entrepreneur can be defined in various ways. I would like to highlight two definitions available in the literature. Peter Drucker who is a famous management consultant has defined the entrepreneur as “Person who always searches for change, responds to it, and exploits it as an opportunity”. Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) reports define entrepreneurship as “any attempt at new business or new venture creation, such as self-employment, a new business organization, or the expansion of an existing business, by an individual, a team of individuals, or an established business”. Likewise, there are a lot of definitions. Engineers also become entrepreneurs and can be identified as entrepreneurial engineers. Entrepreneurial engineers who exploit business opportunities in the technology-related field can be defined as techno-entrepreneurial engineers.

Comment 2
What is the exact meaning of the following statement in the paper? "The main study was designed as a grounded theory study while collecting data by holding face to face in-depth interviews with purposively selected techno-entrepreneurial engineers in Sri Lanka." Please explain.

Reply
Thank You! This abstract describes the findings of only a small area of an ongoing doctoral study on Engineering Ethics and entrepreneurial engineers in Sri Lanka. That major study was designed and conducted as per the grounded theory methodology. Purposive sampling is an accepted sampling strategy in the initial stage of a grounded theory study. In this methodology, the researcher purposefully selects the sample to collect information-rich cases as per pre-determined criteria.

Question No. 1
What do you mean from a grounded theory?
Reply
Grounded theory is one of the major research methodology coming in qualitative research domain which is widely used in the sociology. It can be considered as a full package. Grounded theory methodology describes how to do the sampling, how to collect data from the sample and how to do the analysis. Purposive and theoretical sampling strategies are widely used in this method. Interviewing is the main data collection method. Interview data are analyzed following a coding process while engaging in the data thoroughly by comparing and contrasting. Data collection and analysis is conducted simultaneously. Memo writing is a special feature in this grounded theory methodology. The final expectation of the grounded theory methodology is to develop an abstract theory from the data. Grounded theory is for theory building and not for theory testing. This is ideal to investigate under-investigated research areas on various social phenomenon and processes.

Question No. 2
What is the meaning of techno-entrepreneurial-engineer?

Reply
Refer feedback to Comment no 01.

Question No. 3
Is your study qualitative or quantitative?

Reply
This is purely a qualitative study.