

Peer Review

Review of: "Scaling up Food Processing in India by Tapping Houesholds' Potential"

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This paper suggests an important way in which small, unregistered enterprises can be supported by the state. Although it presents some evidence on how this issue can be addressed, the paper is largely an opinion piece that is better suited to a magazine publication. For an academic journal, it needs to either take the form of a literature review or a research paper, both of which would strengthen its case.

What is missing in the article is evidence of research on how small unregistered enterprises are hindered by a lack of technical or monetary support. The needs of different types of people based not only on the type of enterprise but also on their location, levels of literacy, class, caste, religion, and gender need to be considered. Furthermore, it is possible that the registration process could embroil small enterprises in an additional layer of bureaucracy that is time-consuming and stressful. There are several questions that need to be addressed. Would some enterprises prefer to stay unregistered? What safeguards could be put in place to prevent discrimination against some communities on account of their religion or caste? How could the provision of support be adapted to the needs of people who may not have digital access?

In terms of the structure of the paper, we need to see more thorough referencing to support the claims made, and a clear flow of paragraphs and ideas that move from the general to the particular. This should be followed by a research question/objective, and so on.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.