

Survey on MSMEs: Impact of lockdown and special economic package

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CARE Ratings surveyed MSMEs to assess the impact of the lockdown and examine if the segment has benefitted from the central government's special economic package announced in May'20 which primarily comprised of liquidity support thorough collateral-free and government guarantee backed bank loans.

Survey Method

The Survey was conducted over 2 weeks from 23 June – 7 July'20 and saw the participation of 345 respondents from a cross-section of sectors such as manufacturing, construction, power, engineering, electric and electronics, textiles, food products, packaging, financial services, IT, health care, hospitality, trading, gems and jewellery, printing, auto and auto components, pharmaceuticals, real estate, education, agriculture and allied sectors, FMCG, metals, service providers among others.

The size of the business of the respondents in terms of turnover ranged from less than Rs. 25 crores to Rs.100 crores. The majority of respondent (62%) belonged to the category of 'turnover of less than Rs. 25 cror's.18% have a turnover of 'more than Rs.25 crores but less than Rs.50 crores', 8% are in the category of 'more than Rs.50 crores but less than Rs.75 crores' and 12% have a turnover of 'more than Rs.75 crores but less than Rs.100 crores'.

The Survey questionnaire was divided into 4 parts. Part 1 covered the special economic package for MSMEs, part 2 examined the impact of the lockdown on the sector while part 3 and part 4 comprised benefits from change in definition of MSMEs and future prospects respectively.

Summary of Findings

- Nearly 70% of the respondents have approached banks for collateral free and government guaranteed loans and the majority intend to borrow less than Rs. 1 crore.
- Banks have so far sanctioned loans to around one-third of the applicants and the cost of borrowings is 8-9% for most of the borrowers.
- The majority of respondents (over half) have availed moratorium from banks while fewer (27% of those it is applicable) have been able to do so from NBFCs.
- The lockdown has severely impacted the bulk of the respondents (over 60%).
- Fall in demand, contraction in cash flows, finance, labour shortage, logistical constraints and increasing receivables are amongst the main challenges faced by the segment due to the lockdown.

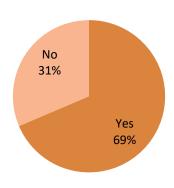


- A third of the respondents have faced revenue losses of over 50% in the last 3 months.
- Over 60% of the respondents have been unable to pay full salaries to their staff. However, only a quarter of those surveyed have retrenched their staff.
- Nearly half the respondents feel that they stand to benefit from the change in definition of MSMEs and a major part plan to increase their size.
- The prevailing anti-China sentiments has not bought about noteworthy changes in terms of fresh business for the larger number of those surveyed.
- In terms of assistance, MSME's are seeking interest waivers, extension in moratorium, loan restructuring, tax cuts, financial support from banks and government, direct cash transfers, relief in electricity and water charges among others.
- Most of the respondents (65%) expect that it would take 12 months and more for their business to get to
- Nearly half those surveyed expect their business situation to improve in the next 6 months.

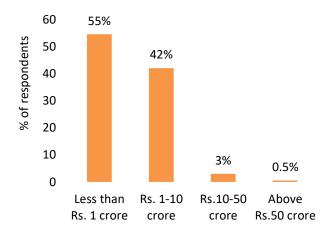
Survey Responses

Section A: Special Economic Package for MSMEs - Bank borrowings by SMEs on account of collateral free loans and central government backed guarantees

Q1 . Have you approached banks for your funding requirements post the central government's announcement of guaranteed collateral-free loans?

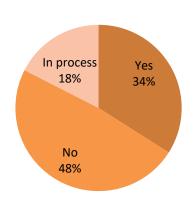


Q.1.1 How much did you propose to borrow?

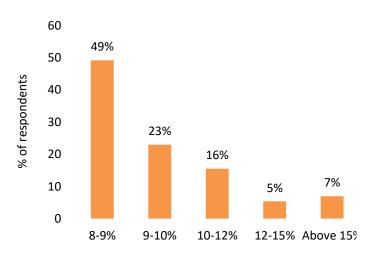




Q1.2.Has the bank sanctioned the loan with government guarantee

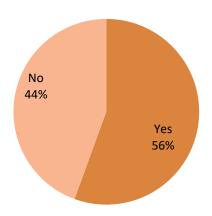


Q1.3. What was your borrowing cost?

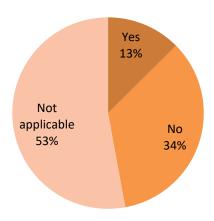


- Nearly one third of the applicants have been sanctioned loans by banks and the cost of borrowings is 8-9% for most of the borrowers.
- Banks have sanctioned loans mainly to the small sized businesses. Establishments with turnover of less than Rs.25 crores accounted for over 53% of the sanctioned loans followed by businesses with turnover of more than Rs.25 crores and less than Rs.50 crores which accounted for 31% of the sanctioned loans.
- The manufacturing sector accounted for the largest share of sanctioned loans (25%), followed by textiles (12%), construction and engineering (7% each).

Q2. Have you been able to avail full moratorium from your banks?



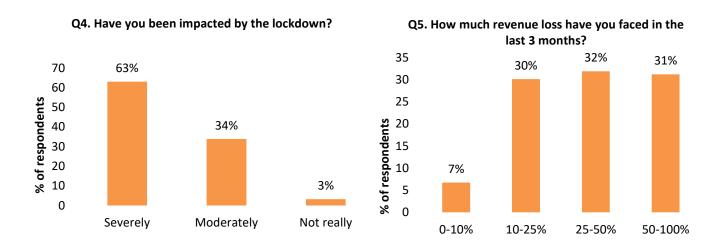
Q3. Have you been able to avail full moratorium for NBFCs borrowings, if any?



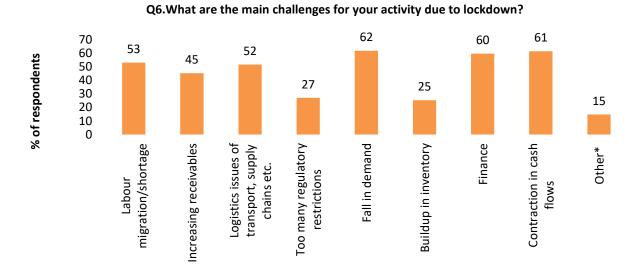
- Bank moratorium has been availed by the majority of respondents. Of these, the small sized business i.e. with turnover of 'less than Rs.25 crores' accounted for the largest share (57% of those that sought moratorium).
 Companies with turnover size of 'more than Rs.25 crores but less than Rs. 50 crores' accounted for a 26% share.
- Among the sectors that availed bank moratorium manufacturing (23%), construction (8%), engineering (8%), textiles (8%), services (7%) and power (5%) accounted for the largest share.



Section B: Impact of lockdown



• A third of the respondents have faced revenue losses of over 50% in the last 3 months. Most of these companies had a turnover of 'less than Rs.25 crores' (76%) and belonged to the manufacturing (24%), power (14%), construction (9%), services (9%), textiles (7%) and engineering (5%) sector.

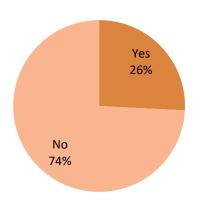


^{*}Others include cancellation of orders, interest burden, burden of fixed costs and wages, lower government spending, depleting margins and high fixed costs, shut down of production



Q7. Have you been able to pay salaries to your staff 38% 40 35 % of respondents 30 26% 25 18% 20 15 10% 8% 10 5 0 0-25% 100% 75-100% 50-75% 25-50%

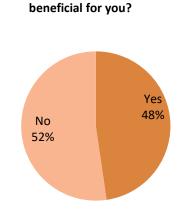
Q8. Has there been any retrenchment of staff?



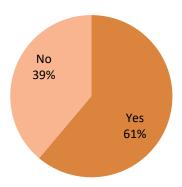
- Over 60% of the companies surveyed have been unable to pay full salaries to their staff and most of these (70%) are the small sized establishments i.e. those with turnover of less than Rs.25 crores. Companies mainly belonging to the manufacturing sector (23% share), construction (8%), power (8%), services (8%), textiles (6%) and engineering (6%) have not been able to pay full salaries to their staff.
- The majority of companies (74%) have retained their staff.

Section C: Benefits from change in definition of MSMEs

Q9. Is the change of MSME definition



Q.10. Do you plan to increase in size now?

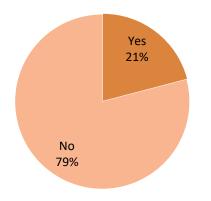


- Nearly half the respondents feel that they stand to benefit from the change in definition of MSMEs and a major part plan to increase their size.
- 60% of the respondents who feel that they stand to benefit from the change in MSME definition belong to the 'less than Rs.25 crores' turnover size.
- Higher number of companies in the manufacturing and power sector intend to increase their size.



Section D: Future Prospects

Q11. Are you getting new contracts from large manufacturers in the wake of anti-China sentiments?



Q12. What are the top 2-3 areas your business needs assistance/relief for?

Interest Waiver

Relaxation in taxation rates

Relaxation in compliance rules

Financial Support from banks and government

Timely payment from government organizations

Relief - electricity bills and water charges

Financial Support for staff and overheads payment

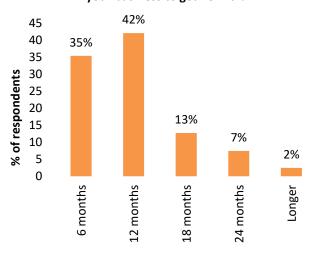
Extension of moratorium

Loan restructuring

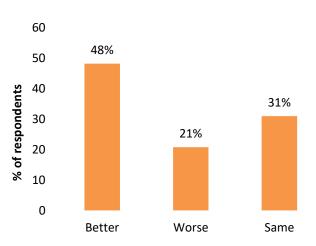
Modification in labor laws

Direct cash transfer

Q13. How long do they think it will take for your business to get normal?



Q14.Do you expect the business situation of your company during the next 6 months to be



- Most of the respondents (65%) belonging to the manufacturing, construction, power, textiles, engineering and services sector expect that it would take 12 months and more for their business to get to normal
- Nearly half those surveyed expect their business situation to improve in the next 6 months and majority of these belong to the manufacturing sector.

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