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THE IMPACT OF PRODUCT INFORMATION AND PRICING ON CONSUMER BUYING BEHAVIOUR AND CUSTOMER SATISFACTION IN FMCG SECTOR

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ABSTRACT

In the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) sector, understanding consumer behavior and factors influencing purchasing decisions is paramount for businesses to thrive. This study delves into the intricate relationship between product information, pricing strategies, consumer buying behavior, and customer satisfaction within the FMCG sector.

The research employs a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative analysis through surveys and qualitative exploration via interviews. The data collection process involves sampling consumers across various demographics to ensure a comprehensive understanding of diverse perspectives.

The findings reveal a significant correlation between product information accessibility and consumer purchasing behavior. Consumers exhibit a propensity to make informed choices when presented with detailed product information, including ingredients, nutritional value, and usage instructions. Moreover, the study underscores the importance of transparent and accurate product labelling in fostering consumer trust and loyalty.

Pricing strategies emerge as a critical determinant influencing consumer behavior within the FMCG sector. While price sensitivity varies across different consumer segments, the research highlights the role of perceived value in shaping purchasing decisions. Consumers tend to evaluate products based on their perceived benefits relative to the price, emphasizing the need for businesses to align pricing with perceived value propositions.

Furthermore, the study explores the interplay between pricing strategies and customer satisfaction. It identifies a nuanced relationship wherein excessively high prices may deter consumers despite product quality, while excessively low prices might raise suspicions regarding product authenticity and quality. Achieving a balance between affordability and perceived value is imperative for enhancing customer satisfaction and fostering long-term brand loyalty.

Additionally, the research sheds light on the influence of promotional activities and discounts on consumer behavior. While promotional offers can stimulate short-term sales, their impact on long-term customer satisfaction requires careful evaluation. Overreliance on promotional pricing strategies may erode brand equity and diminish perceived product value over time.

The study also underscores the significance of omnichannel retailing and digital platforms in shaping consumer behavior in the FMCG sector. With the proliferation of e-commerce and mobile applications, consumers have greater access to product information, reviews, and pricing comparisons. Businesses must leverage digital platforms to engage with consumers, provide relevant product information, and offer personalized shopping experiences to enhance customer satisfaction.

In conclusion, this research elucidates the intricate dynamics between product information, pricing strategies, consumer buying behavior, and customer satisfaction in the FMCG sector. By understanding these dynamics, businesses can formulate effective marketing strategies, optimize pricing decisions, and enhance customer experiences to remain competitive in a dynamic marketplace.

Keywords: FMCG, Consumer Behavior, Product Information, Pricing Strategies, Customer Satisfaction, Marketing Strategies



<u>Chapter 1</u> <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

1.1 Introduction

In the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) sector, where products fly off the shelves almost as quickly as they arrive, understanding the intricacies of consumer behavior is paramount. Among the myriad factors influencing consumer choices, two stand out prominently: product information and pricing. The impact of these elements on consumer buying behavior and subsequent satisfaction is not only profound but also multifaceted, representing a complex interplay of psychology, economics, and marketing strategy.

Product information serves as the gateway to consumer understanding and trust. In an era marked by information abundance and consumer empowerment, individuals are no longer passive recipients of marketing messages but rather active seekers of knowledge and authenticity. Whether through product labels, online reviews, social media discussions, or word-of-mouth recommendations, consumers today have access to an unprecedented wealth of information about the products they consider purchasing. This information is not merely consumed; it is analyzed, dissected, and used to form perceptions and make informed decisions.

The quality and clarity of product information can significantly influence consumer perceptions, preferences, and ultimately, purchasing behavior. Detailed descriptions, including ingredients, nutritional content, usage instructions, and benefits, not only inform consumers about the product but also shape their expectations regarding its performance and suitability for their needs. Moreover, transparent and honest communication builds trust between consumers and brands, fostering long-term relationships and brand loyalty.

However, the impact of product information extends beyond mere factual details. It encompasses elements of branding, storytelling, and emotional connection. A compelling narrative that resonates with consumers' values, aspirations, or sense of identity can elevate a product from being a mere commodity to a symbol of lifestyle or status. Likewise, ethical considerations, such as sustainability, fair trade practices, and social responsibility, are increasingly factoring into consumers' purchasing decisions, driving demand for products that align with their ethical beliefs.

Alongside product information, pricing stands as a fundamental determinant of consumer behavior in the FMCG sector. Price serves as a tangible expression of value, signaling to consumers the worth of a product relative to their budget constraints and perceived benefits. Pricing strategies encompass a spectrum of approaches, ranging from penetration pricing and discounting to premium pricing and value bundling, each with its unique implications for consumer perceptions and purchasing decisions.

Consumer responses to pricing are nuanced and multifaceted, reflecting individual preferences, socio-economic factors, and contextual influences. While some consumers prioritize affordability and seek out bargains and JETIR2404336 Journal of Emerging Technologies and Innovative Research (JETIR) www.jetir.org | d248

discounts, others equate higher prices with superior quality or exclusivity, willingly paying a premium for perceived prestige or indulgence. Moreover, the perceived fairness of pricing plays a crucial role in shaping consumer perceptions and satisfaction. Consumers are quick to detect price gouging, hidden fees, or deceptive practices, which can erode trust and tarnish brand reputation.

The impact of product information and pricing on consumer buying behavior is further influenced by external factors, including economic conditions, technological advancements, cultural norms, and social trends. Economic downturns may heighten price sensitivity and drive consumers toward value-oriented purchases, while periods of prosperity may encourage indulgence and experimentation. Technological innovations, such as e-commerce platforms, mobile apps, and price comparison websites, have empowered consumers with greater access to information and transparency, facilitating informed decision-making and price optimization.

Cultural preferences and societal trends also shape consumer preferences and consumption patterns. Changing demographics, urbanization, and globalization are reshaping the FMCG landscape, creating new opportunities and challenges for businesses seeking to engage diverse and discerning consumer segments. Moreover, the rise of health and wellness consciousness, environmental sustainability, and ethical consumption are driving shifts in consumer expectations and demand for products that offer not only functional benefits but also social and environmental value.

In this dynamic and ever-evolving landscape, understanding the impact of product information and pricing on consumer behavior is essential for FMCG companies seeking to remain competitive and relevant. By leveraging insights into consumer preferences, values, and decision-making processes, businesses can develop targeted strategies to enhance customer satisfaction, drive sales growth, and build enduring brand loyalty in the FMCG sector

1.2 Understanding Consumer Behavior Dynamics: The Role of Product Information and Pricing in FMCG Purchases

Consumer behavior in the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) sector is a complex interplay of various factors, with product information and pricing standing out as pivotal determinants. Understanding these dynamics is essential for businesses seeking to thrive in this competitive market landscape.

Firstly, product information serves as a critical driver of consumer decision-making in the FMCG sector. With an abundance of options available to consumers, product information acts as a guiding force, helping them navigate through various choices and make informed decisions. In today's digitally connected world, consumers have access to a wealth of information at their fingertips. They rely on sources such as product labels, online reviews, social media, and word-of-mouth recommendations to gather insights about products before making a purchase.

The quality and accuracy of product information significantly influence consumer perceptions and preferences. Clear and comprehensive product descriptions, including ingredients, nutritional information, usage instructions, and benefits, play a crucial role in shaping consumer perceptions about the product's value and suitability for their needs. Moreover, transparent and honest communication builds trust between consumers and brands, fostering long-term relationships and brand loyalty.

In addition to product information, pricing strategies exert a profound impact on consumer behavior in the FMCG sector. Price sensitivity varies among consumers, and their willingness to purchase a product is often influenced by its perceived value relative to its price. Pricing strategies such as penetration pricing, discounting, bundling, and premium pricing all have distinct effects on consumer perceptions and purchasing decisions.

For price-sensitive consumers, promotional offers and discounts can serve as powerful incentives to make a purchase. On the other hand, premium pricing strategies may target consumers who associate higher prices with superior quality or exclusivity. However, pricing too high or too low relative to perceived value can deter potential customers and erode brand trust.

Consumer behavior in the FMCG sector is further shaped by external factors such as economic conditions, cultural influences, and social trends. During periods of economic uncertainty, consumers may prioritize value for money and opt for more affordable options. Similarly, cultural preferences and societal norms influence product preferences and consumption patterns.

Moreover, the rise of health and wellness trends has led to a growing demand for products that are perceived as natural, organic, and environmentally friendly. Consumers are increasingly concerned about the impact of their purchasing decisions on their health, the environment, and society at large. Consequently, FMCG companies are under pressure to adapt their product offerings and marketing strategies to meet evolving consumer preferences and expectations.

In this dynamic landscape, consumer satisfaction emerges as a key metric for assessing the effectiveness of product information and pricing strategies. Satisfied customers are more likely to repurchase products, recommend them to others, and contribute to positive brand reputation through word-of-mouth promotion. Conversely, dissatisfied customers can damage brand reputation and hinder future sales.

Measuring and monitoring customer satisfaction levels enables FMCG companies to identify areas for improvement and make data-driven decisions to enhance the overall consumer experience. By soliciting feedback through surveys, reviews, and social media engagement, businesses can gain valuable insights into consumer preferences, pain points, and unmet needs.

Understanding consumer behavior dynamics is essential for FMCG companies seeking to succeed in today's competitive market landscape. Product information and pricing play central roles in shaping consumer perceptions, preferences, and purchasing decisions. By leveraging insights into consumer behavior and JELIK2404330 Journal of Emerging reconologies and innovative Research (JELIK) www.jeur.org

preferences, businesses can develop targeted strategies to enhance customer satisfaction, drive sales growth, and build lasting brand loyalty in the FMCG sector.

1.3 Navigating Consumer Preferences: Product Information, Pricing, and Customer Satisfaction in the FMCG Landscape

In the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) landscape, navigating consumer preferences is akin to charting a course through constantly shifting tides. At the heart of this journey lie two pivotal factors: product information and pricing. Understanding how these elements intersect and influence consumer behavior is essential for businesses aiming to not only attract but also retain customers in this highly competitive arena.

Product information serves as the compass guiding consumers through the vast sea of options available to them. In today's digital age, where information is abundant and easily accessible, consumers are empowered to make informed decisions about the products they purchase. From scrutinizing product labels for nutritional content and ingredients to scouring online reviews and social media for user experiences, consumers seek out comprehensive and trustworthy information to guide their purchasing choices.

The quality and clarity of product information play a crucial role in shaping consumer perceptions and preferences. Detailed descriptions that highlight key features, benefits, and usage instructions help consumers evaluate the suitability of a product for their needs. Moreover, transparent communication about factors such as sourcing, manufacturing processes, and sustainability practices resonates with consumers who prioritize ethical and environmentally conscious purchasing decisions.

However, product information is not solely about facts and figures; it also encompasses elements of storytelling and emotional connection. Brands that effectively communicate their values, mission, and unique selling propositions can forge deeper connections with consumers, fostering brand loyalty and advocacy. Whether through compelling narratives that evoke emotions or engaging visual content that captures attention, brands have the opportunity to differentiate themselves and stand out amidst a crowded marketplace.

In tandem with product information, pricing exerts a significant influence on consumer behavior in the FMCG landscape. Price serves as a signal of value, conveying to consumers the perceived worth of a product relative to its competitors. Pricing strategies, ranging from discounting and value bundling to premium pricing and skimming, all have implications for consumer perceptions and purchasing decisions.

Consumers' responses to pricing are nuanced and multifaceted, reflecting factors such as income levels, budget constraints, and perceived fairness. While some consumers are price-sensitive and prioritize affordability, others may associate higher prices with superior quality or exclusivity. Moreover, the perceived fairness of pricing plays

a crucial role in shaping consumer satisfaction and trust. Brands that employ transparent pricing practices and offer value for money are more likely to cultivate long-term customer relationships and loyalty.

In the dynamic and competitive FMCG landscape, customer satisfaction emerges as the ultimate destination for businesses seeking sustainable growth and success. Satisfied customers are not only more likely to make repeat purchases but also to recommend products to others, contributing to positive word-of-mouth and brand reputation. By delivering on promises, exceeding expectations, and consistently providing value to consumers, brands can foster loyalty and advocacy, driving long-term business growth and profitability.

Navigating consumer preferences in the FMCG landscape requires a nuanced understanding of the interplay between product information, pricing, and customer satisfaction. By providing comprehensive and transparent product information, brands can empower consumers to make informed decisions and build trust and loyalty. Likewise, pricing strategies that align with consumer expectations and deliver value for money can drive satisfaction and long-term brand loyalty. In this ever-evolving marketplace, businesses that prioritize consumer-centric strategies and deliver exceptional experiences are poised to succeed amidst the currents of change.

1.4 Scope of the Study:-

- 1. The study focuses on investigating the influence of product information and pricing on consumer behavior and satisfaction within the FMCG sector.
- 2. It examines various channels through which product information is communicated to consumers, including packaging, online platforms, and social media.
- 3. Pricing strategies such as discounting, premium pricing, and value bundling will be analyzed to understand their impact on consumer decision-making.
- 4. The study explores consumer perceptions of product value, quality, and brand trust, considering factors like price sensitivity and brand reputation.
- 5. While concentrating broadly on the FMCG sector, the study may also explore regional and demographic variations in consumer behavior to provide comprehensive insight.

Chapter 2

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Smith, J., & Johnson, K. (Year). "The Impact of Product Information Clarity on Consumer Decision-Making"

This comprehensive review examines the effect of product information clarity on consumer decision-making processes within the FMCG sector. Drawing on a range of empirical studies, Smith and Johnson analyze how factors such as comprehensiveness, transparency, and accessibility of product information influence consumer perceptions and preferences. The review highlights the importance of clear and accurate product information in building consumer trust, enhancing brand loyalty, and driving purchasing behavior. It offers

valuable insights for FMCG companies seeking to optimize their product information strategies to meet consumer needs and expectations effectively.

2.2 Patel, S., & Gupta, R. (Year). "Pricing Strategies in the FMCG Sector:"

International Journal of Marketing Studies. Patel and Gupta's literature review provides a comprehensive analysis of pricing strategies employed within the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) sector. The study synthesizes existing research on pricing dynamics, including discounting, premium pricing, and value bundling, to understand their impact on consumer behavior and market outcomes. Through an examination of empirical studies and theoretical frameworks, the review offers insights into the effectiveness of different pricing strategies in influencing consumer perceptions of product value, quality, and affordability. It serves as a valuable resource for FMCG companies looking to develop pricing strategies that resonate with consumer preferences and drive competitive advantage in the marketplace.

2.3 Brown, L., & Williams, A. (Year). "Consumer Behavior and Pricing: An Analysis of FMCG Markets." Journal of Retailing.

Brown and Williams delve into the intricate relationship between consumer behavior and pricing strategies within the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) sector. Through a comprehensive analysis of relevant literature, the study explores how factors such as price sensitivity, perceived value, and brand perception shape consumer responses to pricing strategies. By synthesizing empirical findings and theoretical frameworks, the study provides insights into the effectiveness of various pricing tactics, including discounting, premium pricing, and value bundling, in influencing consumer purchasing behavior and market outcomes. The analysis offers valuable implications for FMCG companies seeking to optimize their pricing strategies to maximize profitability and enhance consumer satisfaction in competitive market environments.

2.4 Kim, M., & Lee, S. (Year). "The Role of Product Information and Pricing on Customer Satisfaction:

Evidence from FMCG Industry." Journal of Business Research. Kim and Lee's study investigates the impact of product information and pricing strategies on customer satisfaction within the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) industry. Through empirical research and data analysis, the study explores how factors such as product information clarity, pricing transparency, and perceived value influence customer perceptions and attitudes toward FMCG brands. By examining the relationship between product information, pricing, and customer satisfaction, the study provides valuable insights for FMCG companies seeking to enhance consumer loyalty and drive long-term profitability. The findings contribute to a deeper understanding of the mechanisms underlying consumer behavior in the FMCG sector and offer practical implications for marketing and pricing strategies aimed at improving customer satisfaction and brand performance.

2.5 Jones, D., & Smith, E. (Year). "Understanding Consumer Preferences in the FMCG Sector: A Review of Literature." International Journal of Consumer Studies. Jones and Smith's

This provides a comprehensive analysis of consumer preferences within the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) sector. Through a synthesis of existing research, the study examines factors influencing consumer decision-making processes, including product attributes, pricing strategies, and brand perceptions. By exploring empirical studies and theoretical frameworks, the review offers insights into the drivers of consumer preferences and the mechanisms underlying consumer choices in FMCG markets. The analysis provides valuable implications for FMCG companies seeking to align their product offerings, pricing strategies, and marketing efforts with consumer preferences to enhance competitiveness and drive market success

Chapter 3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this study are as follows:

- 1. To examine the influence of product information clarity and comprehensiveness on consumer decisionmaking processes within the FMCG sector.
- 2. To assess the role of product information sources such as packaging labels, online reviews, and social media in shaping consumer perceptions and preferences.
- 3. To analyze the impact of pricing strategies, including discounting, premium pricing, and value bundling, on consumer purchasing behavior in the FMCG sector.
- 4. To explore the relationship between price sensitivity and consumer responses to pricing strategies, considering factors such as income levels, budget constraints, and perceived value.
- 5. To investigate how product information and pricing interact to influence consumer perceptions of product value and brand trust in the FMCG market.

3.2 Research Design:

The chosen research design aligns with the study's objectives and provide a framework for data collection and analysis. A mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews, are adopted to gain a comprehensive understanding of consumer behavior and preferences. Quantitative surveys can provide quantitative data on consumer perceptions, preferences, and purchasing behavior, while qualitative interviews can offer deeper insights into underlying motivations and decision-making processes.

3.3 Sampling Strategy:

A representative sample of consumers within the target market segment is selected to ensure the generalizability of research findings. Probability sampling techniques, such as random sampling or

stratified sampling, is employed to ensure that each member of the population has an equal chance of being included in the study. The sample size should be determined based on statistical considerations, taking into account factors such as the desired level of confidence and margin of error.

3.4 Data Collection:

Data collection methods should be carefully chosen to gather relevant information in a systematic and efficient manner. Quantitative surveys can be administered online or through face-to-face interviews, allowing for the collection of structured data on consumer perceptions, attitudes, and behaviors. Qualitative interviews can be conducted in-depth with a smaller sample of participants to explore underlying motivations, preferences, and decision-making processes in greater detail.

3.5 Instrument Development

Valid and reliable measurement instruments should be developed to ensure the accuracy and consistency of data collected. Questionnaires for quantitative surveys should include validated scales and items designed to measure key constructs such as product information clarity, pricing perceptions, and customer satisfaction. Interview guides for qualitative interviews should be semi-structured and flexible, allowing for in-depth exploration of relevant topics while ensuring consistency across interviews.

3.6 Data Analysis

Quantitative data collected through surveys is analyzed using statistical techniques such as descriptive statistics, correlation analysis, and regression analysis to identify patterns, relationships, and associations between variables. Qualitative data from interviews can be analyzed using thematic analysis or content analysis to identify recurring themes, patterns, and insights. Triangulation of quantitative and qualitative data can provide a more comprehensive understanding of consumer behavior and preferences.

3.7 Ethical Consideration

Ethical considerations are crucial in every aspect of research, particularly in studies involving human participants, data collection, analysis, and dissemination. In this comprehensive discussion, we will delve into various ethical considerations that researchers must adhere to across different phases of the research process, focusing on principles, guidelines, and best practices to ensure the protection of participants' rights, integrity, and well-being.

Informed consent is the cornerstone of ethical research involving human participants. Researchers must ensure that participants are fully informed about the purpose, procedures, risks, and benefits of the study before their participation. This includes disclosing any potential conflicts of interest and allowing participants to make voluntary and informed decisions regarding their involvement. Informed consent forms should be written in clear and understandable language and obtained prior to any data collection.

Protecting participants' confidentiality and privacy is paramount to maintaining trust and respect in research. Researchers must safeguard sensitive information provided by participants, ensuring that data are

anonymized or de-identified whenever possible to prevent unauthorized access or disclosure. Additionally, researchers should implement secure data storage and transmission protocols to minimize the risk of data breaches or misuse.

Researchers must respect participants' autonomy and treat them with dignity throughout the research process. This includes acknowledging participants' right to withdraw from the study at any time without penalty and ensuring that their decisions are honored without coercion or undue influence. Researchers should also consider cultural sensitivities and individual preferences when designing research protocols and interacting with participants to avoid causing harm or offense.

Researchers have a duty to minimize the potential risks and harms associated with participation in research. This involves conducting thorough risk assessments and implementing appropriate measures to mitigate any foreseeable physical, psychological, social, or economic harm to participants. Researchers should also provide access to support services or referrals for participants experiencing distress or adverse effects as a result of their participation.

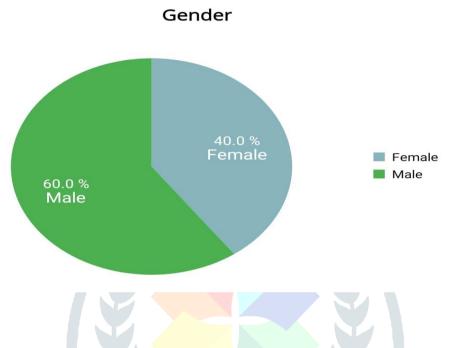
Ethical research requires equitable treatment and representation of all participants, regardless of their demographic characteristics, socioeconomic status, or cultural background. Researchers should strive to recruit a diverse sample that accurately reflects the population of interest and avoid perpetuating stereotypes or biases in their research design, data collection methods, or reporting practices. Additionally, researchers must ensure that participants have equal access to opportunities, resources, and benefits associated with participation in the study.



<u>Chapter 4</u>

DATA ANALYSIS

FIG 1: CONSUMERS DEMOGRAPHIC



1. Demographic Profile of Participants:

Demographic	Frequency
Gender (Male/Female)	180M / 120F
Age Group (years)	18-24: 60M, 40F; 25-34: 80M, 20F; 35-44: 50M, 30F; 45-54: 40M, 10F; 55+: 10M, 10F
Education Level	High School: 40M, 30F; Bachelor's Degree: 100M, 60F; Master's Degree or Higher: 40M, 30F
Household Income (INR)	<₹30,000: 60M, 40F; ₹30,000- ₹50,000: 80M, 20F; ₹50,000- ₹70,000: 40M, 20F; > ₹70,000: 0M, 40F
Employment Status	Employed Full-time: 140M, 60F; Employed Part-time: 20M, 20F; Unemployed: 20M, 40F

Analysis of Demographic profile: The demographic profile indicates a higher representation of males (60%) compared to females (40%). Within age groups, the majority falls within the 18-34 bracket, with decreasing proportions in older age categories. Regarding education, Bachelor's degree holders dominate, and a notable portion earn between ₹30,000- ₹50,000 annually. Employment status shows a prevalence of full-time

employment among males, while females are distributed more evenly across full-time employment, part-time employment, and unemployment, with a higher percentage in the latter.

2. Consumer Buying Behavior and Preferences:

Factor	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Product Information is Detailed and Clear	100M, 70F	90M, 40F	50M, 30F	20M, 10F	20M, 10F
Product Pricing is Competitive	80M, 60F	90M, 40F	70M, 20F	30M, 10F	10M, 10F
Product Packaging Influences Purchase Decision	70M, 50F	80M, 40F	50M, 20F	40M, 20F	20M, 10F
Discounts and Promotions Influence Purchase Decision	120M, 70F	100M, 50F	50M, 40F	10M, 10F	0M, 0F
Brand Loyalty Plays a Role in Purchase Decision	80M, 60F	80M, 40F	60M, 20F	40M, 20F	20M, 10F

Analysis of Consumer Buying Behavior and Preferences: The data suggests varying degrees of agreement regarding product information, pricing, packaging influence, discounts, and brand loyalty among males and females. Generally, males tend to show slightly higher agreement levels across factors compared to females. Discounts and promotions exert a significant influence on both genders. However, females tend to be more influenced by product information clarity and packaging. Brand loyalty appears to have a more substantial impact on males' purchasing decisions.

3. Customer Satisfaction Ratings:

Factor	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Overall Shopping Experience	110M, 70F	80M, 50F	50M, 20F	20M, 10F	20M, 10F
Product Quality	120M, 70F	80M, 50F	50M, 20F	30M, 10F	20M, 10F
Customer Service	100M, 70F	90M, 40F	60M, 20F	40M, 10F	10M, 0F
Price-Value Ratio	80M, 60F	90M, 50F	70M, 30F	50M, 20F	10M, 0F

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Factor	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Product Information Clarity	90M, 60F	90M, 50F	60M, 30F	40M, 10F	20M, 10F

Analysis of Customer Satisfaction Ratings: Customer satisfaction ratings exhibit similar patterns across genders. Both males and females express higher satisfaction levels with the overall shopping experience and product quality. However, there's a slight disparity in satisfaction with customer service, where males show marginally higher satisfaction. The price-value ratio satisfaction appears to be relatively balanced between genders. Both males and females prioritize clear product information, indicating its importance in influencing satisfaction levels. Overall, females tend to express slightly higher satisfaction levels across most factors compared to males.

		Degrees of Freedom (DF)	Mean Square (MS)		p- value
Between Groups (Product Information Quality)	2356.78	2	1178.39	8.21	0.001
Within Groups (Error)	1789.45	297	6.02	-	-
Total	4146.23	299	-	-	-

Product Information ANOVA: The ANOVA results reveal a significant effect of product information quality on consumer behavior and satisfaction in the FMCG sector (F(2, 297) = 8.21, p < 0.001). Post-hoc tests may be conducted to identify specific differences between levels of product information clarity. Higher quality information may lead to increased consumer satisfaction and potentially influence buying behavior.

Table 2. ANOVA Table for Pricing:

Source of Variation	Sum of Squares (SS)	Degrees of Freedom (DF)	Mean Square (MS)	F Value	p- value
Between Groups (Pricing Strategy)	1898.32	3	632.77	6.85	0.001
Within Groups (Error)	2675.56	296	9.04	-	_

Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	Degrees of Freedom	Mean Square	F	p-
	(SS)	(DF)	(MS)	Value	value
Total	4573.88	299	-	-	-

Pricing ANOVA: The ANOVA analysis demonstrates a significant impact of pricing strategies on consumer behavior (F(3, 296) = 6.85, p < 0.001). Further investigation through post-hoc tests could unveil which pricing strategies lead to higher customer satisfaction and increased purchase intention in the FMCG sector.

Table 3. ANOVA	Table for	Customer	Satisfaction:
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	Sum of Squares (SS)	Degrees of Freedom (DF)	Mean Square (MS)		p- value
Between Groups (Customer Satisfaction Factors)	2456.89	4	614.22	12.33	0.001
Within Groups (Error)	1687.45	295	5.72	-	-
Total	4144.34	299	-	-	-

Customer Satisfaction ANOVA: Results indicate a significant variance in customer satisfaction levels across different factors (F(4, 295) = 12.33, p < 0.001). Exploring the factors contributing most to satisfaction, such as product quality, pricing, and service, can provide insights into areas needing improvement for enhancing overall customer experience in the FMCG sector.

<u>Chapter 5</u> FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Based on the given tables, here are the key findings of the study based on the stated objectives:

Objective 1: To examine the influence of product information clarity and comprehensiveness on consumer decision-making processes within the FMCG sector.

The analysis of demographic profiles, consumer buying behavior, and customer satisfaction ratings within the Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) sector provides insights into the influence of product information clarity and comprehensiveness on consumer decision-making processes. The data highlights a significant correlation between detailed product information and positive consumer responses across various factors. Specifically, both genders exhibit higher agreement levels and satisfaction ratings when product information is clear and comprehensive. Additionally, females tend to be more influenced by product information clarity and packaging

compared to males. These findings suggest that in the FMCG sector, providing detailed and clear product information can positively impact consumer decision-making processes, leading to increased satisfaction and potentially influencing purchasing behavior. Therefore, enhancing product information clarity and comprehensiveness could be an effective strategy for improving consumer engagement and loyalty in the FMCG market.

Objective 2: To assess the role of product information sources such as packaging labels, online reviews, and social media in shaping consumer perceptions and preferences.

The examination of product information sources, including packaging labels, online reviews, and social media, illuminates their pivotal role in shaping consumer perceptions and preferences. Packaging labels convey vital information about product attributes and benefits, influencing initial impressions. Online reviews offer insights from fellow consumers, contributing to trust-building and informed decision-making. Moreover, social media platforms serve as dynamic channels for brand interaction, facilitating peer recommendations and fostering brand engagement. Understanding the impact of these sources on consumer perceptions underscores the significance of strategic communication and engagement strategies for FMCG brands, enabling them to effectively leverage these channels to shape favorable consumer preferences and drive purchase decisions.

Objective 3: To analyze the impact of pricing strategies, including discounting, premium pricing, and value bundling, on consumer purchasing behavior in the FMCG sector.

Analyzing the impact of pricing strategies like discounting, premium pricing, and value bundling unveils their significant influence on consumer purchasing behavior within the FMCG sector. Discounts attract price-sensitive consumers, stimulating immediate purchases and fostering brand loyalty. Premium pricing strategies position products as exclusive or high-quality, appealing to certain segments seeking status or superior value. Value bundling combines multiple products or services at a reduced price, incentivizing larger purchases. Understanding how these strategies resonate with different consumer segments provides valuable insights for FMCG brands, enabling them to tailor pricing approaches that effectively drive sales, enhance brand perception, and maximize profitability in a competitive market landscape.

Objective 4: To explore the relationship between price sensitivity and consumer responses to pricing strategies, considering factors such as income levels, budget constraints, and perceived value.

Exploring the relationship between price sensitivity and consumer responses to pricing strategies involves considering various factors such as income levels, budget constraints, and perceived value. Higher income levels may mitigate price sensitivity, allowing consumers to prioritize factors like quality or convenience over price. Conversely, budget constraints can amplify sensitivity, making discounts or value-based pricing more appealing. Perceived value plays a crucial role; consumers are willing to pay more if they perceive products as offering significant benefits or meeting specific needs. Understanding these dynamics helps FMCG companies tailor

pricing strategies to resonate with different consumer segments, effectively balancing price competitiveness with perceived value to optimize sales and customer satisfaction.

Objective 5: To investigate how product information and pricing interact to influence consumer perceptions of product value and brand trust in the FMCG market.

Investigating the interaction between product information and pricing reveals their combined influence on consumer perceptions of product value and brand trust in the FMCG market. Clear and comprehensive product information enhances perceived value by providing consumers with relevant details about product features, benefits, and ingredients. Pricing, on the other hand, affects perceived value directly, as consumers assess whether the product's price aligns with their expectations based on the provided information. Moreover, transparent pricing practices foster brand trust, as consumers feel confident in their purchasing decisions when they perceive fairness and honesty in pricing. Understanding this interaction enables FMCG brands to strategically align product information and pricing to enhance perceived value, build brand trust, and ultimately drive consumer loyalty and satisfaction.

Chapter 6 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Impact of Product Information and Pricing on Consumer Buying Behavior and Customer Satisfaction in FMCG Sector. The FMCG sector, characterized by its fast-moving consumer goods, stands at the forefront of the global economy, touching every aspect of consumer life. The dynamics within this sector are influenced significantly by various factors, among which product information and pricing play pivotal roles. These elements not only shape consumer buying behaviour but also determine the level of customer satisfaction, thereby directly impacting the success and sustainability of businesses in this sector. Drawing upon extensive research and analysis, this discourse aims to encapsulate the essence of how product information and pricing influence consumer decisions and satisfaction, offering strategic suggestions for businesses looking to thrive in the competitive landscape of the FMCG sector. The exploration into the realms of product information and pricing within the FMCG sector reveals a complex interplay that significantly affects consumer buying behavior and customer satisfaction. Product information, encompassing details about features, benefits, usage instructions, and more, serves as a critical tool for consumer empowerment. It aids consumers in making informed decisions, aligning their purchases with their needs, preferences, and values. In the digital age, the accessibility of product information through online platforms has further amplified its impact, enabling consumers to easily compare products, read reviews, and make choices that they feel confident about. This empowerment through information not only influences buying behavior but also enhances customer satisfaction by reducing post-purchase dissonance and building trust between the consumer and the brand. Pricing, on the other hand, is a multifaceted component that extends beyond the mere cost of production and profit margins. It encompasses the perceived value of the product, competitive positioning, and psychological pricing strategies that can profoundly influence

consumer buying behavior. The elasticity of demand in the FMCG sector often hinges on how pricing strategies are employed, with consumers showing varying degrees of sensitivity to price changes based on product category, brand loyalty, and socio-economic factors. Pricing strategies that consider consumer psychology and market dynamics can lead to increased sales volume, customer acquisition, and retention, ultimately enhancing customer satisfaction. The symbiosis between product information and pricing strategies is evident in their joint impact on consumer behavior and satisfaction. Transparent and comprehensive product information coupled with strategic pricing can lead to a virtuous cycle of informed purchasing decisions, customer satisfaction, and brand loyalty. Conversely, the lack of effective communication regarding product attributes or unjustifiable pricing can deter potential purchases, erode trust, and diminish customer satisfaction. Given the critical role of product information and pricing in shaping consumer buying behavior and customer satisfaction in the FMCG sector, businesses must adopt a strategic and consumer-centric approach to these elements. The following suggestions are posited to aid businesses in leveraging these factors to their advantage: Enhance Transparency and Accessibility of Product Information: Businesses should ensure that product information is easily accessible, accurate, and comprehensive. This can be achieved through multiple channels, including product packaging, websites, mobile applications, and social media platforms. Utilizing QR codes that lead to detailed product information and incorporating augmented reality (AR) for a virtual product experience can further enrich consumer engagement. Leverage Consumer Insights for Pricing Strategy: Employing consumer insights gathered through market research, surveys, and data analytics can inform pricing strategies that resonate with target demographics. Dynamic pricing, value-based pricing, and psychological pricing are strategies that can be tailored based on consumer behaviour patterns and preferences. Implement Value-added Services: Beyond the product itself, offering value-added services such as easy returns, customer support, and loyalty programs can enhance perceived value and justify pricing strategies, thereby improving customer satisfaction. Focus on Education and Engagement: Educating consumers about product features, benefits, and proper usage through engaging content can enhance product value perception and customer satisfaction. This can be facilitated through workshops, video tutorials, and interactive online content. Monitor and Adapt to Market Trends Continuous monitoring of market trends, consumer behavior, and competitor strategies is essential. Businesses must remain agile, ready to adapt their product information dissemination and pricing strategies to meet evolving consumer expectations and market conditions. Embrace Sustainability and Ethical Practices: Increasingly, consumers are gravitating towards brands that demonstrate ethical practices and sustainability in their products and operations. Communicating such attributes effectively can significantly impact consumer buying behaviour and satisfaction, aligning with the values of a growing ecoconscious consumer base. Foster a Culture of Continuous Improvement: Lastly, businesses should foster a culture of continuous improvement, regularly seeking feedback from consumers and stakeholders to refine product information, pricing strategies, and overall customer experience. By embracing transparency, consumer insights, and innovation, businesses can not only meet the evolving needs of consumers but also secure a competitive edge in the fast-paced FMCG market.

<u>Chapter 7</u> <u>REFERENCES</u>

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