

# **Intrinsic Factors Affecting Entrepreneurial Intention and Intended Behaviour Among MBA Students**

**M H P Ranmuthugala**  
**S M N A Sathkumara**  
**Travis Perera**

## **Abstract**

This study focuses on identifying the intrinsic factors affecting the entrepreneurial intentions of Sri Lankan MBA students, and how the intended behaviour contributes towards SME start-ups and growth. It provides further support for the use of Ajzen's Theory of Planned Behavior (1991) as the basis for an entrepreneurial intentions model to test the antecedents of entrepreneurial intentions. Additionally, the study explores the presence of association between the internal values of an individual and how they contribute to forming entrepreneurial intentions. It was found that individuals with higher order values (i.e. physiological, social) have a greater tendency to become entrepreneurs in the future since they realize that entrepreneurship would signify their value in society and ultimately lead to self-actualization. There is a positive relationship between subjective norms and self-efficacy and intentions to become an entrepreneur, while start-up of SME is the preferred entrepreneurial activity among Sri Lankan MBA students. Further, the entrepreneurial mind-set of an individual enhances his/her intention towards SME start-up and growth initiatives.

**Key Words:** Entrepreneurship, MBA students, Internal Value System, Subjective Norms, Self-Efficacy, Entrepreneurial Mind-set, SME Growth.

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**Mr. M H P Ranmuthugala** is a Chartered Engineer and holds B.Sc. Eng (Hons) and MSc in Information Systems Security degrees from the University of Moratuwa. He is a member of the Institute of Engineers, Sri Lanka (IESL), Institute of Engineering and Technology, UK, British Computer Society, UK and the Computer Society, Sri Lanka. e-mail: harshana@msn.com

**Mr. S M N A Sathkumara** is an Engineer with a B.Sc. Eng (Hons) degree from the University of Moratuwa. He is a member of the Institute of Engineering and Technology, UK.

**Dr. Travis Perera** is a Senior Consultant, Postgraduate Institute of Management, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka.