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POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MANAGEMENT (2018-20)
END TERM EXAMINATION (TERM - I)

Subject Name: **Marketing Management-I**
Sub. Code: **PG-02**

Time: **02.00 hrs**
Max Marks: **50**

Note: 1. Writing anything except Roll Number on question paper will be deemed as an act of indulging in unfair means and action shall be taken as per rules.

2. All questions are compulsory in Section A, B & C. Section A carries 2 Case Studies of 10 marks each, Section B carries 2 questions of 10 marks each and Section C carries 5 questions 2 marks each.

SECTION - A

10×02 = 20 Marks

Q. 1: Case Study:

Emirates- Developing Marketing Strategies And Plans

Emirates is an airline company with a mission to provide high-quality commercial air transportation services. The company's global strategy aims at efficient competition, exceeding far beyond the limits of the Arabian Gulf and Middle Eastern markets. In 1985, the Dubai government, cognisant of the country's limited oil resources, launched the flag carrier as an alternative means to economic growth in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

In the very beginning, the airline served 60 destinations in 42 countries across Europe, Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Australia. To keep up with the aggressive competition, Emirates emphasized product, equipment, and excellent service, and promoted a quality image. To do so, a multinational crew was recruited and a state-of-the-art fleet was purchased.

Within two decades, Emirates expanded its destinations and had remarkable financial returns. In 2016, it served 142 destinations in 80 countries from its hub in Dubai. It carried 44.5 million passengers, 5.1 million more than in 2012–13, and 2.3 million tons of airfreight, up by 8 percent, which contributed to the 26th consecutive year of profitable operations. The company has witnessed a steady growth over time since its inception – it carried 26 million passengers and served 101 destinations in 2010; these figures were 14.5 million and 83 in 2005.

Emirates operates four of the 10 longest, non-stop commercial flights in the world from Dubai to Los Angeles, San Francisco, Dallas, and Houston. It employs over 52,000 people from 162 different countries. Emirates has also been the world's most valuable airline brand for the third consecutive year, with a value of \$5.5 billion. It was awarded the prestigious Airline of the Year Award numerous times by Air Transport World, in addition to more than 400 other distinguished industry sector awards.

The company has a fleet aged 72 months (as of 2013), young in comparison to that of the industry, which is 140 months old. Good terms with Airbus and Boeing favored huge acquisitions of long-haul airplanes. These massive purchases have made Emirates the largest Airbus (A380) and Boeing (777) aircraft operator in the world, reflecting the global aspirations of the company.

Emirates is looked upon as an innovative organization in terms of technology due to its acquisition of the groundbreaking storage infrastructure in the Middle East. Additionally, the company is a major shareholder in luxury five-star hotels. Its performance is attributed to its customer-oriented approach revolving around the provision of a quality product: exclusive grade-A manufactured Boeing and Airbus aircrafts, premium flight services, and traveling at a competitive price. To cost-effectively carry out cargo and ground handling, catering services, information technology, and other travel amenities, Dnata supports Emirates' global ambitions. It is considered one of the largest and most competitive air service providers worldwide.

In terms of corporate positioning, Emirates is not looked upon as an Arab airline operating internationally but rather as a global company based out of the Middle East. This global positioning of the company has spawned aversion from competitors that considered Emirates as a serious threat in the market. These competitors are struggling to compete with Emirates, particularly due to its significant cost advantage. Some of these competitors unequivocally accused Emirates of benefiting from obscured UAE subsidies and exemptions on airport and aviation service charges. They also alleged that Emirates takes advantage of the UAE's sovereign borrowing status to secure loans below market rates.

Despite its many strengths, the airline company is not without faults. In its disregard for growing regional competition, Emirates overlooks very obvious flaws in its market strategy. For instance, Etihad Airways, an arm

of the Abu Dhabi government, is offering products that appeal to travelers seeking premium services at competitive prices. Gulf Air, which is partly owned by the Abu Dhabi government, has also taken advantage of the open skies policy to gain free access to the Dubai airport. Emirates has also been massively acquiring aircrafts and inflating the size of its fleets. While this represents vast investments, the implications are far-reaching. To be able to have long-term advantages, the company should become a shareholder in the Airbus or Boeing companies. The airline endures cost pressure as fuel costs represent leading expenditures accounting for 30.7 percent (2013) of the overall operating costs. The company's human resources are already lean and it is cost effective on other cost components. For how long can Emirates hold on to its cost-cutting strategy without paying attention to competitors?

Questions

- a) How has Emirates been able to build a strong brand in the competitive airline industry worldwide?
- b) What are some of the apparent weaknesses with the company's strategic direction? How can the airline address them?

Q.2: Case Study: Read the case given below and answer the questions given at the end.

Surya Wood furnishing limited is a small chain of distributors of good quality office furniture, carpets, safes and cabinets. Within each category, the company offers a wide variety of products, with a great many variations of each product being offered. For example, the company currently offers some 4 different designs of chairs and 23 varieties of office desks. The company keeps in touch with advances made in the office furniture field worldwide and introduces those products which are in keeping with the needs of the market in terms of design, workmanship, value for money and technical specifications.

Surya Wood furnishing limited trades only in good quality furniture. Differences between its products and cheaper, lower quality ones are well known to those who have several years of experience in the business.

An important feature the company feels is the availability of a complete list of components of the furniture system. This enables customers to add bits and pieces of matching designs and colour in the furniture. Such components are available for sale separately. Systems are maintained in stock by the company for a number of years, and spare parts for chairs and other furniture are always available.

The trade is currently witnessing a downturn. Fine furnishing has also experienced the same over the past two years. In addition, it had to trim its profit margins. Last year, it barely broke even and this year it is heading for a loss for the first time in the company's twenty year history.

- a) Explain the term product-item, product-line and product mix in the context of the above situation.
- b) Advise the company in relation to its product mix. How will your recommendations affect the company's image?

SECTION – B

10×02 = 20 Marks

Q. 3: You or your family have recently made a high involvement purchase, identify and explain the various factors and processes that influenced the buying decision and the stages you or your family went through in arriving at the buying decision. Also examine the time span involved at the various stages of the decision.

Q. 4: Explain the Gaps Model of Service Quality with reference to hospital in your locality?

SECTION – C

02×05 = 10 Marks

Q.5 (A): A multinational FMCG company known for its confectionary products, is planning to launch a new brand of 'chewing gum' in Indian markets. Chewing gum will be available nationwide in orange, mint and strawberry flavor. Design a suitable promotional mix for the above product. Assume your own brand name and clearly specify the target markets.

Q. 5 (B): Colgate launched the new brand Vedshakti. If you are the brand manager, how would you handle Vedshakti? Present a strategy for Vedshakti to take on Patanjali's DantKanti.

Q. 5 (C): How will a restaurant manager strengthen his bond with his customers with special reference to Customer Relationship Management?

Q. 5 (D): Demonstrate 'Growth-Share' matrix with special reference to TATA group?

Q. 5 (E): How have the government policies on prices of petrol and diesel impacted the passenger car industry/market in India in recent time?