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The Developmental Horizons for the food Industries Sector in Palestine (A case study for the food industries in the Gaza Strip)

Abstract :The study tackles the developmental horizons for the food industry sector in Palestine, where the food industry does occupy a vital position within the Palestinian industrial sector. It's considered one of the most valuable transitional industries.

The study tries to answer the research problem that clarifies the weakness of the Palestinian food industries in competing the imported products due to some internal and external reasons. These reasons are stated in the poor quality, the labor high costs, the raw materials! , energy resources and the limitation of capability to develop and renew production lines. In addition to the harsh political policies and procedures enforced by Israel that hinder the Palestinian industry.

The study also aims at identifying the obstacles and constraints that still confronting the sector of food industry in Palestine. And also determining the proper methods in reinforcing and developing the products quality in order to be able to compete the imported products. And finally to put some policies and recommendations to overcome the problems of this industry.

The study society involves all the working corporations in manufacturing food and beverage products in the Gaza Strip.

According to the Palestinian central bureau of statistics, (PCBS) it counts (520) corporation till the end of 2004. and the study sample is (156) corporation approximately (30%) of the study society, distributed on the Gaza governates. (135) questionnaire were returned that means (86.5%) and (11) questionnaire were eliminated for errors. This means that just (124) questionnaire are involved, approximately (79%) of the Sample size.

The study magnifies some important results such as the weakness of training levels for labors in these sectors and relying completely on Israel in obtaining the raw materials. In addition to the optimal misuse of the production energy and depending on the self-financing, and marketing the production in the Gaza Strip markets besides the poor quality and the weak role of the Palestinian National Economic Ministry in supporting the producers. The study proved the effective role of the Israelis in hindering the ability of exporting; as well as, it proved that the internal competition in the Gaza Strip posses the first rank then the West Bank production come in the

second rank, then the external competition with the Israel, Egypt, Turkey, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia.

At the end of the study the researcher come to a conclusion of recommendations such as freeing the borders of the Israeli interference, committing to the high quality standards, improving the labors through training, working on opening opportunities for external markets, reinforcing the Ministry of Economics and the Palestinian food industries union to support the industry and finally increasing the financial support to these corporations and activating the role of banks in loaning.

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182	16	773	61	955	77		1520
195	45	254	94	449	139		1531

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Chi-Square Test

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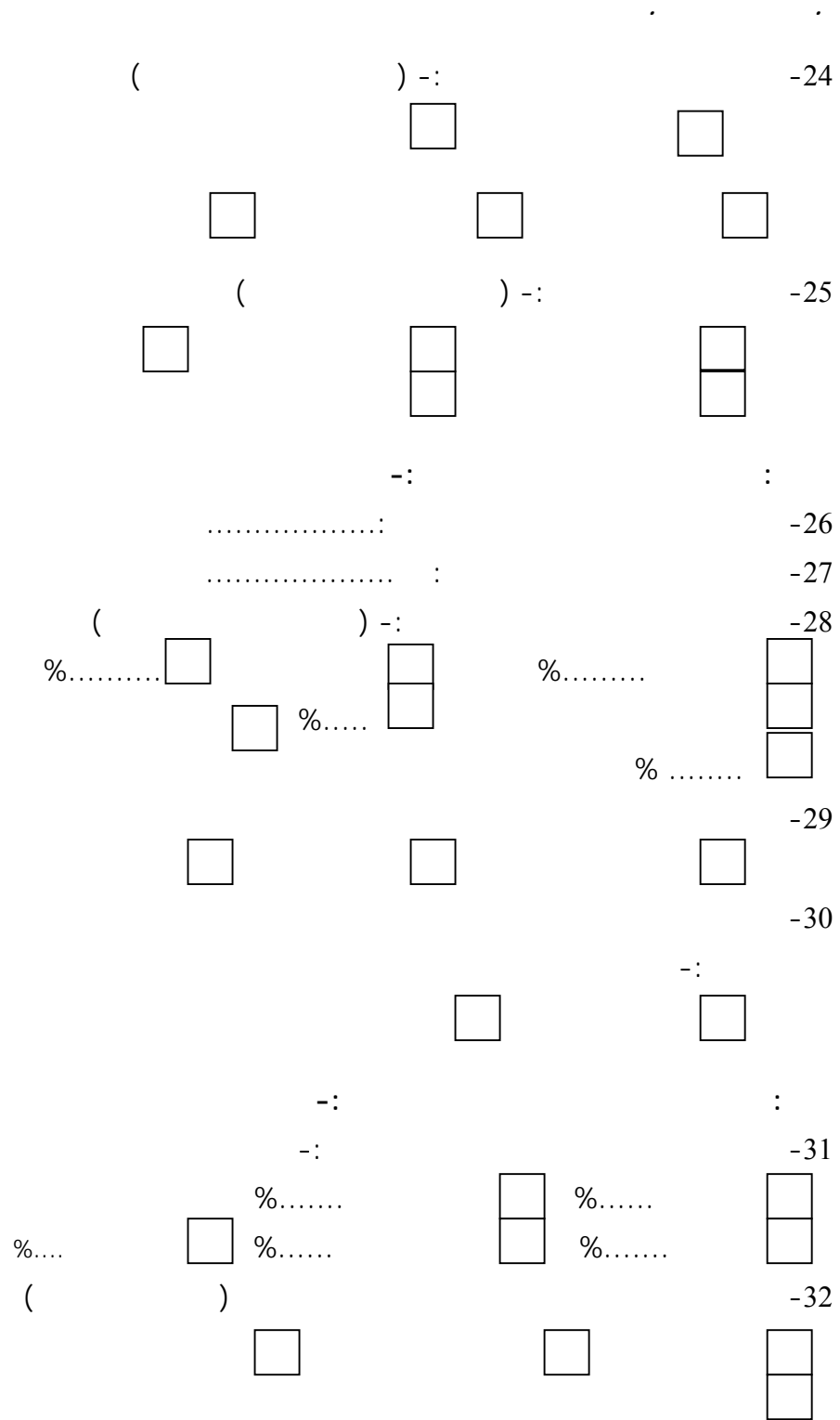
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