**We provide analytic services and you decide your next destination for investment**

**Introduction**

Data is everywhere but handful of few knows where to start from and what and how to make optimum use of data. This may be true for many sectors of the economy but more so for the investors in developed countries. Investors in the developed country often require rigorous country specific information critical for deciding for setting up an enterprise or opening an investment firm. Obtaining such information, particularly about regulation, tax policies, cost of acquiring required documents etc. comes with price and are not free of hassles. The investors also go for extensive analysis of investment regime and deploy resources and hire specialists to collect data and predict market. So why not a one-stop service that are data driven, analytical and precise in information.

My project is about facilitating data driven analysis, projection about macroeconomic growth and prospect for investment opportunities with sectoral analysis. I will start with providing visualization of indicators of investment and would like to use World Bank’s open source Doing Business database. The database contains information about 258 countries, 58 indicators for 12 years. The common indicators include cost to enforce contract, total tax rate as percent of profit, cost to get electricity, cost to import and export, cost to register property and many more. Importantly, the database maintains times series for each country on the indicators and this will help to see if a country is predictably stable in business environment.

**Which countries appear in the top of easy business environment?**

At this stage, I have a dataset of 158 countries and with two indicators only – ease of doing business, a composite score of each country’s position in investment friendliness and total tax rate measure as percent of profit. Ease of doing business has the score range from 1 to 185 – from most friendly or easy business environment to most difficult one. Total tax rate is self-explanatory. I have visualized the scores for ease of doing business for the top 25 countries in a simple bar graph. Each bar measures score of most business friendly to relatively difficult environment for investment. It appeared that most of these are developed countries, not surprise though.

**Does easy business environment offer tax heaven as well?**

It would be also interesting to see if these countries offer less tax for investors and for this purpose I have analyzed total tax rate measured as percent of profit – something that investors would like to factor into while deciding about investment. In the second plot, which is a scatter plot of tax rate against score on ease of doing business, first I have attempted to divide the entire datasets by four groups per the score of each country at overall ease of doing business indicator. The objective is to see if the countries with relatively difficult business environment provides less burden on tax for the investors. The plot created here allows four small charts – for top 40 countries, 41 to 80 countries, 81 to 120th and 121 to 158th. Along the scatter plots I have drawn smooth line (regression line). Interestingly the regression line drawn on this scatter plot reveals that the developed countries in the first group, that scores high on ease of doing business, charge higher tax on the profit of the investors. In the second (81 to 120th) and fourth group (121 to 158th) the line is downward slopping meaning less tax but having difficult business environment. The third group however reveals no definitive conclusion.

**Long term goals of my project**

I aim to augment the analytic services for investors with bringing data of all the indicators from the Doing Business database in visualization. In addition, I am interested to gather country specification information such as macroeconomic prospect, overall size of the market, size of the capital market and growth, sectoral analysis etc. I believe the analytical services will lure the investors and help informed decision.