

Topsy-Turvy world of Jobs for the Highly Educated: A Discipline Tracker

-Saumya Shaklya

Abstract

The paper aims to study the relationship between the discipline of study and employment status in the labour market of the tertiary educated individuals in India. Pooled OLS is used on data of the time periods 2001 and 2011 to empirically determine whether tertiary education in some particular disciplines of study affects the level of unemployment and whether there have been any changes over the decade in the case of (i) Urban population (ii) Rural population (iii) Urban Youth and (iv) Rural Youth, especially in the case of India where there is a major problem of educated-unemployed. The results would help in analyzing the shortcomings relating to a particular discipline instead of providing a general, broad view thereby assisting in making targeted and specific policy decisions to increase efficiency and foster development.

Keywords: Disciplines of Higher Education; Education-skill mismatch; Educated Unemployed; Human Capital; Job; Labour Market; Rural areas; Targeted policy making; Tertiary education; Unemployment; Urban areas; Youth Unemployment

~~1. Introduction~~

~~India's higher education system is the third largest in the world, next to the United States and China. The main governing body at the tertiary level is the University Grants Commission, which enforces its standards, advises the government, and helps coordinate between the centre and the state. Indian higher education system has expanded at a fast pace by adding nearly 20,000 colleges and more than 8 million students in a decade from 2000-01 to 2010-11. As in 2011, India has 42 central universities, 275 state universities, 130 deemed universities, 90 private universities, 5 institutions established and functioning under the State Act, and 33 Institutes of National Importance. Other institutions include 33,000 colleges as Government Degree Colleges and Private Degree Colleges, including 1800 exclusive women's colleges, functioning under these universities and institutions as reported by the UGC in 2012. The emphasis in the tertiary level of education lies on science and technology. Distance learning and open education is also a feature of the Indian higher education system, and is looked after by the Distance Education Council. Indira Gandhi National Open University is the largest university in the world by number of students, having approximately 3.5 million students across the globe.~~

~~The foundation of modern higher education in India was laid by the British colonial regime prior to independence in the mid-19th century. Modeled after the University of London, the colonial government established universities with many affiliated colleges. While universities were examining bodies, teaching and learning took place in colleges. With a view to consolidate and maintain their dominance in the~~