

Exploring the Role of Government Policies in Promoting Youth Empowerment in Arunachal Pradesh

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Abstract

Youth development of youth means to have the skills and strategies in which youth, not only can influence decisions being made on their lives but also effectively participate and play their part in the societal transformation processes. The youth are one of the most powerful forces in the economic transformation of any country especially in Arunachal Pradesh State that has several constraints especially in geographic location and ethnicity. This paper aims to assess the position that government policies have taken in the process of empowering youths in Arunachal Pradesh with emphasis to the measures initiated by the state and the central governments. Cross sectional review of policies and programmes as well as an assessment of their results and impacts in relation to education, employment, skills, social inclusion, support to start-ups and entrepreneurs, sports and cultural events, and digital enablement. It also highlights issues of the youth in the state in as much as education, employment opportunities and social integration is concerned. Bearing in mind the socio-cultural characteristics of its people and the population density in the state, there are some obstacles and opportunities to enhance the positive role of youth in the state.

Keywords: Youth empowerment, government policies, employment, economic transformation and social inclusion.

Introduction

Youth development of youth entails their ability and capacity with regard to the skills and strategies that enable youth to be involved in the decision-making processes that affect their lives and roles to play, and to be able to participate in the processes of the societal transformations. Youth are perceived as being one of the most influential assets in the economic development of any nation particularly in Arunachal Pradesh State which has many challenges majoring on geographic location and ethnicity. This paper thus seeks to evaluate the roles played by the government in the process of implementing youths' empowerment with especial reference to the policies initiated by the state as well as the central government of Arunachal Pradesh. A survey of policies and programmes with regard to education, employment, skills, social integration, innovative business support, physical activity/sports, and culture/tourism, as well as the results and effects of aforesaid policies and programmes in the above-mentioned

areas. It also gives information concerning the youths in the state in as much as education, employment opportunities and social reintegration is concerned. Given the Socio-cultural attribute of the people in the state and population density, there are some challenges and prospects to foster the positive Youth status in the state.

The government of Arunachal Pradesh has formulated policies to tackle the foregoing challenges and promote stimuli for youth empowerments. These main policies aim at raising quality of education, bettering vocational training, supporting establishment of businesses, and engaging in the political arena. By offering scholarships, skill development trainings and facilities for youth entrepreneurship and other such programs, the government tries to empower the youth for their integration into the society and for the nation's development. The respect of the governmental policy to indigenous people together with the desire to contribute to giving them the modern context of the future influences the indigenous youth as the main subject of the work as it can guarantee them the inclusive relations towards their traditions and give them the better chances in the globalized world. In this regard, it is possible to state that the effective functioning of these policies can act as a major transformation in the fulfilment of the youth of Arunachal Pradesh, as well as the overall development of the area.

Objectives of the Study

1. To study the role of the government policies and programs in promoting youth empowerment in Arunachal Pradesh.
2. To identify the key challenges faced by the youth in the state in terms of education, employment, and social inclusion.

Methodology of the Study

The study is descriptive in nature and purely based on secondary sources of data. The data collected for the study are from various secondary sources viz. journals, newspapers, government official publications, previous research paper, books, different websites etc.

Role of Government Policies in Promoting Youth Empowerment in Arunachal Pradesh

Policies hold a strong influence in determining the status of the young people in Arunachal Pradesh because policies are capable of affecting the different aspects of youth.

1. **Educational Reforms and Support:** This paper investigated the role that the government can take in improving the youth educational status in Arunachal Pradesh. More young people can learn through the policies to be implemented regarding the quality and cost-free or subsidized education, the provision of new schools or colleges. This contributed to increase youths' school enrollment and completion, and overall increase in youth educational achievement as a way of laying a good foundation for the future. More emphasis can be put on such communities as the rural areas that are commonly noted to be having limited access to schools.

2. **Skill Development and Vocational Training:** To this regard, the state government should embrace one or several of the following measure: The state government can establish employability and vocational skills for the youth which can enable them to acquire certain practical skills in the marketplace. This includes establishment of vocational training institutions and organizations, provision of short-term training as well as working with employers in the development of training programs for production of employees who meet the current market requirements in the country in areas such as information technology, tourism and construction. These programmes can change the youths' destiny of dropping out and reduce the unemployment rate within the society by offering the youths an opportunity to secure formal employment or become entrepreneurs. Thus, it can be suggested that, in Arunachal Pradesh which is an agriculturally important region, the skill programs associated to agro-based industries can also prove advantageous.
3. **Entrepreneurship Support:** It is an accurate statement that youth should be empowered through promotion of entrepreneurship, particularly in areas with little employment prospects. Government interventions in the form of providing seed money, loan facility at a lower rate of interest along with business incubators being provided to young entrepreneurs can greatly assist young business people. Regarding inspiration, measures such as 'Start up India' or state level [specific] initiatives can be encouraged more, where they should seek to offer training, networking and an opportunity that make it easy to start a business. In creating these conditions for business, the government will be able to create jobs and encourage the youths to be employers rather than workers.
4. **Employment Generation Programs:** It is more important for the government to create employment from the youth through the formulation of policies that would help put up industries, construct infrastructures and advance more services. For example, policies encouraging tourism, which is considered to be quite promising in Arunachal Pradesh due to its scenic and cultural potentialities, will open many employment places. Also, local job generation scheme such as, 'Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)' may catch the youths of rural India.
5. **Sports and Cultural Initiatives:** Through such political measures that facilitate the youth to participate in sporting activities and cultural events as well as in the development of talents, it also instils discipline and belonging to a certain group. The government can help young talents through constructing facilities for sports, sponsoring or hosting different sports events and through giving scholarships or coaching to the talents. Cultural endeavors may include preservation of the cultural arts so that the youths will be proud of their assorted cultural values while at the same time they gain their creativity. These policies make bodies for the expression and can result in national and international popularity among young people of the state.
6. **Health and Wellness Programs:** Physical and mental wellbeing have an essential place in the developmental stage of young people. Relevant policies include free or affordable skill in diagnosing mental health complications, raising awareness of mental health issues, and counseling in young people are crucial in enhancing their wellbeing. Whereas in a state like Arunachal Pradesh where access to any functional healthcare facility depends largely on the availability of transport, or simply on an Ultra- conditioned vehicular communication any attempt at enhancing the quality of health care facilities and any campaigns that are

meant to specially address young people in the state shall bear fruits in the long run. The policies dealing with sports employable for the youth, physical health and dealing with mental issues including substance use, stress and other health complications.

7. **Digital Empowerment:** Nowadays the internet and digital tools have become an essential part of people's life in the sphere of education, work and communication. In such out of bound areas as Arunachal Pradesh, policies that leads to pushing for the more advanced use of electronics can enlighten the youth to explore the global opportunities available. Antipodal polices can guarantee improved internet connection, access to cheap and relevant technologies, and educational programs for enhancing the usage of technologies would close the urban rural divide. ICT skills can enable youth gain e-learning, Fare, and micro-business opportunities, and hence Notice different opportunities for their growth.
8. **Youth Participation in Governance:** Youth participation in governance as well as in decision making is also crucial in order to ensure the development of the youth's political awareness. Under these policies the government provides opportunities through which the youth can contribute towards formulation of policies, governance and provision of service in their own region or within their own county. youth participation to mean one's involvement as a representative in the councils, advisory panels, and youth forums. This does not only promote democracy but also assists the young people to develop leadership and planning skills.
9. **Inclusion of Women and Marginalized Groups:** It is essential to ensure youth participation through women and youth participation in development as well as encouraging development for youths from the tribes and other marginalized youths. This gives government the opportunity of developing scholarships, grants and skill development programs targeting these groups. For instance, programs that deal with women's-economic empowered, entrepreneurship, leadership, education, and work can be helpful for empowering the young women. Likewise, measures that reflect on the peculiar circumstances of disadvantage groups such as the tribal youth will tap on development that can lead to the enhancement of social equity as well as, the general economic advancement of the society.

Key Challenges faced by the Youths in the State in Terms Of Education, Employment, and Social Inclusion

The youth in Arunachal Pradesh face several challenges, particularly in the areas of education, employment, and social inclusion. These challenges can act as an inhibitor for their development and proposed advancements. The following are some of the problems afflicting the youths in the state;

Challenges in Education

1. **Limited Access to Quality Education:** Access to quality education is extremely difficult due to the limited number of educational institutions available in most regions in Arunachal Pradesh, especially in rural areas and in the hinterland. To this date, there are many regions

in the world which have unroofed schools, inefficient teachers, and relevant teaching resources.

2. **High Dropout Rates:** Due to inadequate infrastructure and low interest in school among the youth, there is a high dropout rate especially from the secondary and the higher secondary levels because of socio-economic reasons. This is through early marriages or, due to poverty and lack of employment opportunities, end up migrating to other areas to seek employment also contribute to drop out figures.
3. **Language problems:** Despite the fact that Hindi and English languages are used as the medium of instruction most of the first language speakers among the youth are from the regional/small states who speak different Indian dialects. This as a result leads to difficulties in following and grasping the set curriculum causing an impact on their grades and therefore lowers their capacity in passing national exams.
4. **Limited Higher Education Opportunities:** Despite expansion of college and universities across the country, there are limited opportunities for the higher education programmes. Since many students seek for advanced degrees, many students have to seek education in other states which is an added expense to the family thereby contributing to brain drain.

Challenges in Employment

1. **Limited Employment Opportunities:** Arunachal Pradesh has a problem of job availability and demand since there are hardly any industries and hence no markets and infrastructure developed. The other sector that is dominant in the state is agriculture and this is not capable of generating employment that will accommodate the rising population. Through these strategies, government addresses this major challenge facing the youths through offering them job opportunities in order to create employment.
2. **Lack of industrial and service sectors:** Even though the sectors such as tourism, agriculture, and hydropower may be promising in the state there are not enough standards or laws to enhance these industries in order to become a source of employment. The lack of development in the industrial or service industry hinders employment and chances for the youth, particularly the educated or skills youths.
3. **Lack of skill Development:** Though some organizations exist for skill development, lacks adequate quality vocational training, and technical education needed by the youths to fit in the job market. First of all, training centers are more available to be registered in large cities, thus young people from rural areas will be able to receive training for job positions suitable for local industries more rarely.
4. **Migration for Employment:** For the youths in the region the desire employment opportunities remain tilted which compel them to seek for jobs in other part of either India or other countries. This is very devastating and results in the migration of such talents elsewhere hence worsening the unemployment situation in the state.

Challenges in Social Inclusion

1. **Social Justice Issue:** The state of Arunachal Pradesh hosts numerous tribes of first generation ; the social discrimination in terms of inclusion, representation and resource and opportunities for the first generation tribes are a serious concern. The marginalised such as the lower caste youth, women, and the youth from the small tribe are socially excluded and thus are locked out of the economic and social markets.
2. **Gender inequality:** Despite the improvements in the matter of gender equality, Arunachal society still holds women in lower status, especially in the rural areas. From a cultural perspective, there has been hindrance to women and girls in education, employment, and leadership since most of them cannot move freely or make crucial decisions on their own. These factors deter young women from fully engaging in the development of socio-economic sector of the state.
3. **Tribal Identity and Inclusion:** Youth from Arunachal Pradesh, especially the tribal ones, might feel socially marginalised since they belong to a lesser known tribe in the country. They are denied political power, which presents their relevant representation, financial power, and general social power in the society. Also, the youth from small tribes or those living in the rural areas may perceive the development that is seen in the urban areas as inaccessible to them.
4. **Lack of Civic Engagement:** The youth of Arunachal Pradesh are virtually illiterate when it comes to political and civil participation and rarely are they involved in the decision making process of their state and country. This results in demoralization and people's disconnection with most of the social issues affecting them.

Conclusion

Youth empowerment in Arunachal Pradesh today is important as a way of developing the socio-economy of the state due to the significant youth population in the state. These challenges can be effectively tackled through government interventions in matters of education, training, encouragement of business initiatives, and employment creation. Despite promoting the youth welfare through various programs, challenges like poor education standard, high unemployment, and social exclusion. To overcome these challenges the state must unite both the urban as well as rural students, develop more infrastructure and make sure that policy's implemented by the state are friendly for the tribes and the youth. In addition, there is need to promote citizenship and leadership training so that youths should be active participants in the developmental process of Arunachal Pradesh. If these gaps are met and adequately addressed, the government will be in a position to utilise the young people in the society hence fostering the development of the state.

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