

SKILL BASED EDUCATION

Not to be confused with a racial slur, but there are far too many black swans in the world. By black swan, I mean “the unpredictable events”. Whether a pandemic, endemic disease, financial crisis, armed unrest, or something else entirely. Every unfortunate turn of events is just waiting to happen and possibly cost you your job. In these extreme circumstances, *“Education becomes critical, and relevant skills become crucial.”*

Background

History since independence

As soon as India decided to break away from the imperialist forces, a period of nation-building dawned upon the country. Our forefathers, especially the honorable prime minister at that moment (Jawaharlal Nehru), despite being a strict socialist with an acute disdain for consumerism, decided that the Indian economy must be the best of both worlds, and the final ideology was widely known as socialistic capitalism.

As a result, the Indian economy is now open to the rest of the world and there is a high demand for employable labour across the country.

Demographic Dividend

Along with the changes in economic structure, something else was unfolding, which is the rising “Demographic dividends”, thanks to the reducing mortality and fertility rates. It is defined as the benefits derived from an increase in the working-age population (typically 15-59 years old) to the dependent or non-working population (typically under 15 and over 60 years old).

Increase in working age population

- India has **62.5%** of its population in the age group of 15–59 years, which is ever increasing and will be at its peak around 2036 when it will reach approximately **65%**.
- These population parameters indicate the availability of a demographic dividend in India, which started in 2005-06 and will last till 2055-56.
- According to the *Economic Survey 2018-19*, India's demographic dividend will peak around 2041, when the share of the working age population, i.e., those 15–59 years of age, is expected to hit **59%**.

“There is no way a country can reap its demographic dividends without fixing vocational studies.”

What is skill-based learning?

Skill-based learning is a pedagogy that aims to develop the skills of students who have gained knowledge through classroom lectures and encourages them to apply those concepts in order to strengthen the process of learning.

Every child going through the formal school system now aspires to a white-collar job. It is when he fails in this aspiration that he reconciles himself to a blue-collar job. The curriculum of the school education system is designed to prepare the brighter students for a subsequent university degree, for example, in engineering. The less affluent child has so little that relates to

his living environment that he usually leaves education barely literate. He then has to earn a living, but is reluctant to take up the trade of, say, being a weaver or a goldsmith.

So, India has been producing more graduates than its economy needs, and that too, at a great societal cost. But it is producing far fewer skilled workers than required.

If vocational skills are to be included in schools or colleges, how will they be legitimized?

Any upskilling course or certification that is claimed to be accredited has to have some sort of backup. In the case of employability skill schemes, "government policies" such as the Right to Education, National Policy of Education, and Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship can describe the course of action, establishing a starting point for change, or "NGOs," even "pressure groups," can contribute relevant schemes and programmes.

Lack of Employability

"India Skills Report 2021" estimated overall employability at **45.9%**, stating that one in two graduates is not ready for the job market due to lack of required employability skills.

The lack of practical experience in the educational system, which mainly imparts knowledge in a parrot fashion and through mugging, is a general limitation. Ultimately, someone who engages in this type of learning may give the wrong impression of having understood what they have written or said.

Advantages of Skill based Qualification

- Since a certificate of completion may not be a certificate of qualification, every qualified worker may not have the necessary expertise to manage a real-world project.
- When it comes to the demands of industry, theoretical knowledge is abstract, and a lack of practical knowledge may render a person unemployable.

- A vocational skill that is taught as part of the curriculum will enable students to specialize in certain skills, which increases their employability.



- Degree is an authenticated certificate that shows the person applying for the post has knowledge of the work requirements and has the ability to manage the functioning and justify the post

In Summary

Employment is a fundamental individual right because it provides not only a wage but also an expression of self-fulfillment and dignity. Skill-based education improves functional and analytical ability, allowing individuals and groups to gain greater access to labour markets and livelihoods.

Employers value people with more education and skills because they are better able to capitalize on new economic opportunities and productivity-boosting technologies, as well as increase the productivity of their coworkers or businesses.

Research process

These are the notes that were made as the content was being put together.

Education ~~is~~ Skill Based rather Qualification Based.

Argumentative/Content: To/for

Why there is a need for skilled Education

↳ Vocational Skills.

Practical or first hand Skills that help a person master a trade or a job.

Privatization, Liberalization,
Globalization → L1 P1 G1
Mobile/Tech Revolution.
Pandemic → cutting Supply
chains; reliance on
domestic supply increased
so the need for skilled
labour.

If vocational skills
are introduced in the schools
or college, how will they be
legitimised?

"Govt Policies"

"Nbs's Pressure Groups"

Advantages

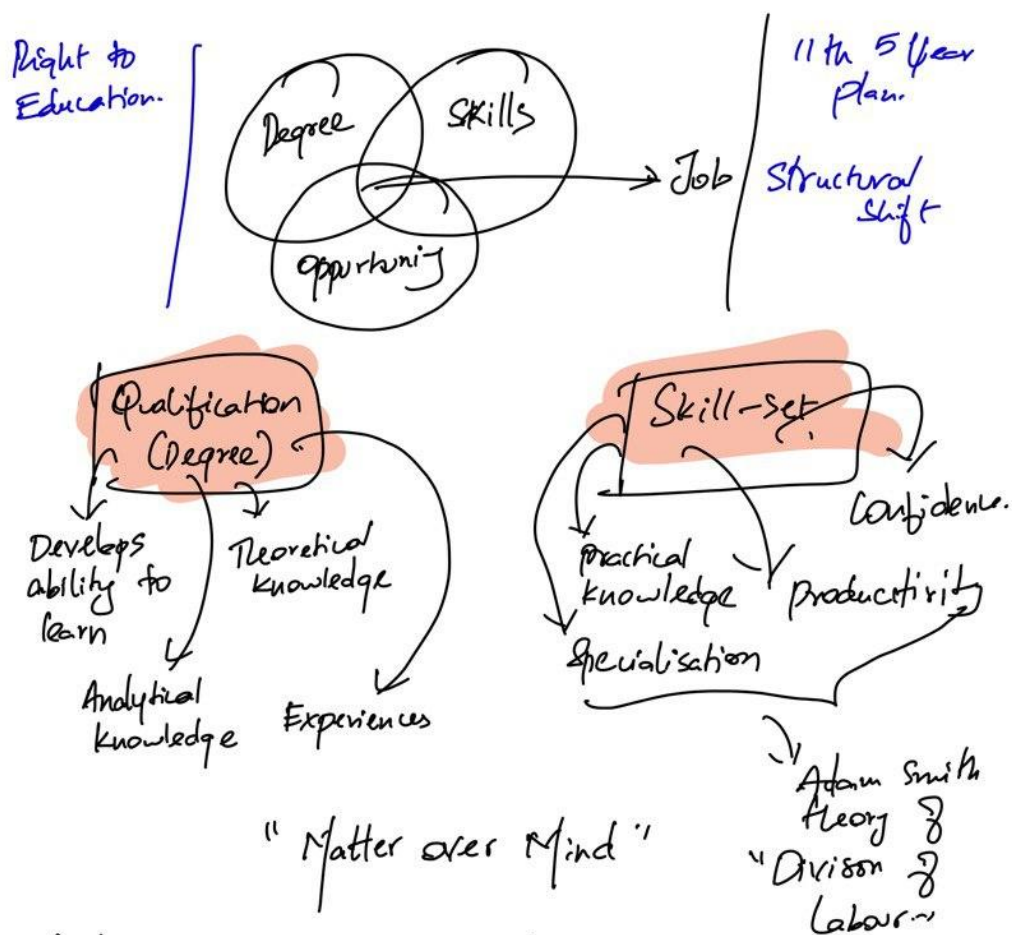
flexibility
Experience
Purpose driven.

Human Resource
Human Capital ↵

Lack of Employability.
Upskilling.

→ National Educational Policy
→ Multiple Entries and Exits.
→ School dropout rate.
→ Nbs's

Skill Development Crunch.



A degree is a means to get a job in a company or firm but it requires skill to do the job properly.

Education → Qualification → Industry related

Skills J

Reports / Indices

"The box" → "India Skill Report 2022".

"Only 48.7% of the total youth in India is employable".

∴ 1 out of 2 is not employable.

