

Youth Bulge: an asset or liability?

Date: | |

1- Introduction

2- Youth bulge as an asset: How?

- i- Abundant Workforce
- ii- Least health complications with more work capacity
- iii- Ability to be molded with changing needs of time
- iv- Fresh minds: more innovative
- v- Digitally skilled: more opportunities to work physically and virtually bringing back capital
- vi- Strategic Capital

3- Youth bulge as liability

- i- If not educated and skilled
- ii- Susceptibility to Adversaries
- iii- Unemployed youth is more inclined towards social evils
- iv- Burden for aged parents and state

3- Scenario of Pakistan

- i- Lack of education: 22 million children out of schools
- ii- Less focus on skill-based education
- iii- Graduate with degrees in hands and nothing in their minds
- iv- Brain drainage

5- How Pakistan can effectively transform youth bulge into an asset?

- i- Quality education
- ii- Focus on skilled based education
- iii- Merit-based youth-specific policies
- iv- Youth's quota in legislatures and local government bodies
- v- Revamping youth ministry

6- Conclusion

Introduction

'Old is gold' remains a fact keeping in view their wisdom and experience gained with age. However, working capacity, adaptability with changing time, fresh minds engendering innovations and modern digital skills have made ^{today's} youth an asset for nation. Similarly, an educated, skilled and motivated youth proves as strategic capital for a nation. In contrast, youth with no education, skills and direction becomes a liability for a nation as it is more prone to adversarial trap. Therefore, it becomes a burden not only for

family but for the state as well. Pakistan have significant proportion of youth in its population. However, the lack of modern education and skills while directionless graduates and rampant brain drains are making youth a liability burdening the state. Therefore, sustained focus on quality and skill based education, merit-based youth-centred policies while a dedicated gouda for youth in legislature and local government body followed by revamping youth ministries can ensure transformation of youth from liability to an asset.