

Is Pakistan Missing Out on Its Demographic Opportunity?

1) Introduction:-

Thesis Statement:-

Pakistan is a demographic goldmine. The optimists celebrate this demographic potential as a key to sustained growth for Pakistan; however, it is hard to miss the fact that this opportunity is morphing into a liability. In the absence of detailed human development plan, poor economic development and lack education and employment frameworks, Pakistan will continue to miss out on its demographic opportunity.

2) Is Pakistan leveraging its population for growth or the population just growing at the expense of country's resources

3) Pakistan is missing out on its demographic opportunity. (Thesis)

a) Failing to train the youth to meet rapidly changing market demands

b) Failing to integrate women into formal economy

- c) Failing to integrate fresh graduates into the job market
- d) Failing to invest sufficiently in health and education
- e) Failing to integrate its total workforce into formal sector of economy.

4) The country is working efficiently to utilize its demographic opportunity (Anti-Thesis)

- a) While the progress is slow, the universities are increasingly collaborating with industries to streamline learning outcomes.
- b) Pakistan has reduced employment gap in the last decade
- c) Job expos and campus-recruitment drives are working provide market access to graduates
- d) Health and education outcomes have shown tremendous improvement in the last few years
- e) Efforts to formalize informal sector have been increased.

5) Despite these efforts, the demographic growth is outpacing the potential social and economic gains (Synthesis)

- a) Education outcomes and market needs gap has remained same despite these efforts
- b) A huge ^{female} population still remains out of formal economy.
- c) These efforts still fail to meet the demands of youth graduating each year
- d) Human Development Score of Pakistan still remains below regional average
- e) Formalization efforts feel like 'too little, too late.'

6) Conclusion