

THEME III: EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR MARKETS

Education is one of the most critical factors in economic growth and social development. Human capital theories have argued extensively about it and recently the recognition of knowledge and innovation in the growth process has been well recognized. With the rise of the services sector and more so of the knowledge economy, the role of education has become even more important. Much of the differences in the levels of development across the world can be explained by the access to education. Similarly, within a country the unequal access to quality education and skills endowment is a major factor behind the disparities in the society. The access to education is extremely skewed in India and there are wide differences across groups, gender, regions, sectors and location. Most of the illiterates and poorly educated are in the agriculture sector and other low paid jobs in the unorganized sector.

Contributions on this theme may address the issues, both at macro and micro levels. Some of the issues which may be examined include:

- Relationship between education and types of jobs
- Relationship between education and unemployment
- Structure of education and labour markets
- Current status of educational level of labour force, gender and regional disparities and their implications for future employability
- Assessment of gaps between the type of demand for and supply of labour force at sectoral/regional levels vis-à-vis educational level
- The different types of educational levels – primary, secondary, higher and technical etc. – and their right mix.
- Dualism in education/govt./private, vernacular/English and the role of Government
- Public expenditure on - education and its allocation and implications for employment and labour market

- Relationship between education and skills
- Impact of education on jobs, organizational performance and productivity