

3 March 2023

GS-2 - IR

1. In a dynamic world, a robust human development system in South Asian region will ensure better livelihoods. comment.

Pandemic, economic slowdown & weather-related challenges to South Asian region is concerning, since it affect the human capital - knowledge, skills & health. There is urgent need for Government intervention with suitable policy measures & increased spending.

Challenges at present situation → South Asian Region

1. currently 1 mn people (youth) - entering the labour force per month - And is expected to continue till 2030

↓
can we reap demographic dividend? | Actually they were underutilised at present pace

2. The region → has 1/3rd of total skilled children
People reaching 18 years - has only realised 48% of full productive potential
(Lacking skills)

3. Pandemic → hit - with 55 mn - pushed to extreme poverty

Need for of hour - Human development

Study → Reaping youth potential - can double regional GDP domestic demand perception

Evidence of Simple & Low cost education ^{improvement}

1. Bangladesh - additional. extra classes - '2hr' to increase literacy & numeracy
2. Tamil Nadu - to catch up 18 months school closure. after school, classes are conducted to catch up 2/3rd of lost classes
3. Uganda → phone tutoring → show 30% increase in literacy & numeracy

Way forward

1. knowledge, skills & health → Interconnected - must be utilised efficiently to reap the potential
2. Essential services like learning, health care, must be und interrupted. - (continuum) and must evolve to changing conditions. eg: Social protection systems.
3. Data & technology - crucial, role is delivery the essential services.

Thus a Robust human development program not only mitigates damage, but also livelihood improvement. & is essential to increase resilience in this dynamic world.