

Addapedia Editorial Analysis PDF 18 September 2024

The continuing distribution of the death penalty

(The Hindu, 18-09-24)

What is the current situation regarding the death penalty in India, particularly concerning violence against women and children (VAWC)?

- West Bengal introduced the Aparajita Woman and Child Bill, 2024, introducing death penalty for rape
- In 2023, India had 120 recorded death sentences and 561 people on death row
- The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) increased death penalty offenses from 12 to 18
- National Crime Records Bureau recorded 31,516 rapes in India in 2022

What are the key arguments presented against the death penalty for VAWC?

- Justice Verma Committee argued it doesn't necessarily act as a deterrent
- Death penalty is seen as an escape from state accountability for reforms
- It often leads to 'othering' of the accused, ignoring societal roots of the problem
- Death row prisoners face severe physical, psychological, and mental health problems

What alternative approaches does the article suggest to address VAWC?

- Infusing abolitionist feminism into the discourse on sexual violence
 - Abolitionist feminism is an approach that rejects punitive justice systems, including prisons and the death penalty. It seeks alternatives to incarceration, such as rehabilitation, education, and community accountability processes
- Focusing on structural issues like redistribution of land and wealth for marginalized communities
- Providing targeted support and state facilities for rape survivors
 - Implementing long-term financial support programs for survivors, such as educational scholarships or job training and placement services. This would help survivors regain economic independence and rebuild their lives.
- Implementing victim-centered procedural and institutional reforms

- Training law enforcement officers, judges, and other legal professionals in trauma-informed practices. This would help create a more supportive environment for survivors when they interact with the justice system.

How does the article propose to change societal attitudes towards VAWC and the death penalty?

- Bringing human rights-based language to the masses
- Conducting public awareness campaigns debunking myths about the death penalty
- Addressing caste, race, religion, and gender-based violence through an intersectionality lens
- Promoting evidence-based, informed policymaking to avoid knee-jerk populist reactions

Can you answer the following question?

Critically examine the effectiveness of the death penalty as a deterrent for crimes against women and children in India. Suggest alternative approaches to address the root causes of such crimes and ensure justice for victims while upholding constitutional values.

Demographic advantage, Indian economy's sweet spot

(The Hindu, 18-09-24)

What is India's current economic status and demographic situation?

- India is the world's fastest-growing big economy, currently the 5th largest
- Median age is around 28 years
- 63% of the population is of working age
- Labour force participation rate stood at 55.2% in 2022 (ILO report)

What are the key challenges in harnessing India's demographic dividend?

- Falling labour intensity due to growth led by services sector rather than manufacturing
- Only 4.4% of the workforce aged 15-29 years is formally skilled (Economic Survey)
- 45% of the workforce is employed in agriculture, which accounts for only 18% of GDP
- 19% of the workforce is engaged in unorganized and non-agricultural sectors with low productivity

How does the article address the impact of technology on employment?

- Technological advancements have led to a declining capital-to-output ratio and increasing capital-to-labour ratio
- AI/ML market estimated to grow to \$826.73 billion worldwide by 2030 (Statista)

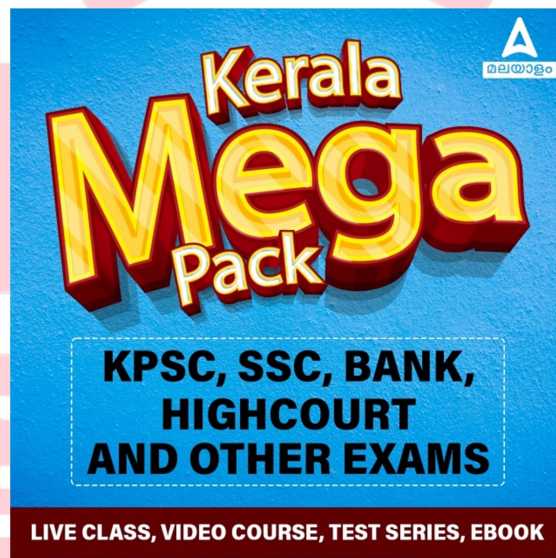
- India has the second largest talent pool globally in AI/ML (NASSCOM)
- Current gap between demand and supply in AI/ML talent is 51%, projected to widen

What reforms and strategies is suggested to boost employment?

- Press ahead with ongoing reforms agenda to maintain/accelerate growth
- Implement new labour codes approved by Parliament
- Focus on high-growth potential, labour-intensive sectors like toys, apparel, tourism, and logistics
- Develop meaningful public-private partnerships for skilling, with industry involvement in curriculum design

Can you answer the following question?

Discuss the role of government policies, education reforms, and technological advancements in harnessing India's demographic dividend. for sustainable economic growth.



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