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8.7 CRORE YOUNG PEOPLE NEITHER STUDYING NOR WORKING - NITI AAYOG

- NITI Aayog prepared a report titled broadly "Rebuilding Skills for Viksit Bharat 2047", using data from the 78th National Sample Survey conducted in 2021.
- The report states that 8.7 crore young people in India are not in education, employment or training and are also outside regular employment.
- There is an urgent need to provide low-cost or subsidised training that encourages them to enter self-employment.
- Financial constraints are one reason for their inactivity; the report therefore calls for reliable financial support and paid training opportunities across sectors.
- Only 8.25% of graduates, according to the source, are employed in jobs aligned with their educational qualifications.
- Achieving developed-country status by 2047 will depend on people's ability to learn, earn and continue progressing.

CONSTITUTIONAL DUTIES OF A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

» Four important tools

1. Law-making

- Debate government Bills, propose amendments and introduce private-member Bills and resolutions.

2. Questioning the government

- Use Question Hour, Calling Attention motions and Assembly debates to seek accountability on education, health, drinking water, social justice and other public matters.

3. Financial oversight

- Through Demands for Grants, Cut Motions and Budget debates, examine whether adequate funds are being allocated for public welfare.

4. Committee oversight

- Through committees such as the Public Accounts Committee and Estimates Committee, examine whether public money has been spent for the purposes for which it was allocated.

Constitutional Provisions	Objective of the Government	Role of the Legislative Assembly Member
Articles 38, 39 and 39A	social justice, reduction of economic inequality and free legal aid	Legislators should review welfare spending and help ensure that poor people receive legal assistance.
Article 40	strengthening village panchayats.	Legislators should press for effective Gram Sabhas and for adequate powers and finance for local bodies.
Articles 41, 42 and 43	work, fair wages, maternity assistance and humane working conditions	Legislators should raise the welfare of unorganised, construction and gig workers.
Article 44	a uniform civil law for citizens.	Policy discussions should be encouraged with social consensus
Articles 45 and 46	child care, education and advancement of weaker sections.	Legislators should monitor government schools, hostels and scholarships.
Article 47	nutrition, standard of living and public health	Legislators should press for stronger primary health centres, anganwadis, drinking water and sanitation.
Articles 48 and 48A	agriculture, animal husbandry and environmental protection	Legislators should support protection of water bodies, tanks, ponds and forests and improve agricultural infrastructure.
Article 50	separation of the judiciary from the executive.	Legislators should respect judicial independence while carrying out their law- and policy-making role.

INDIA SIGNS LONG-TERM PETROLEUM-SUPPLY AGREEMENT WITH MAURITIUS

- During Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri's two-day visit to Mauritius on August 20-21, a five-year agreement was signed between Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and Mauritius' State Trading Corporation.
- Under the agreement, IOC will meet Mauritius' entire import requirement for petrol, diesel and aviation turbine fuel.
- The agreement is intended to provide dependable fuel supply and reduce exposure to price volatility.
- Officials stated that a fuel-storage facility of about 27,500 tonnes capacity, built with an investment of around Rs. 240 crore in the Mer Rouge area of Mauritius, will improve the country's storage capacity and help it develop as a significant refuelling hub.
- India, now a major global crude-oil refining centre, produces about 26.7 crore tonnes of refined petroleum products annually from 23 refineries and is also a major exporter.
- Beyond neighbouring Nepal and Bhutan, India exports significant quantities to markets across the wider region.
- During the visit, Minister Puri also held discussions with Mauritian Prime Minister Navinchandra Ramgoolam and ministers responsible for energy, commerce, consumer affairs and foreign affairs.

NO IMMIGRATION STAMP REQUIRED ON BOARDING PASSES FOR INTERNATIONAL PASSENGERS FROM SEPTEMBER 1

- Passengers travelling abroad from India receive a boarding pass from the airline, which has traditionally been checked and stamped by immigration officials before the passenger is allowed to proceed and board the aircraft.
- The Immigration Department has informed airport authorities that the stamp on the boarding pass can create confusion and will therefore be discontinued at international airports from September 1.
- Passengers may show an electronic boarding pass on their mobile phone to immigration officials for clearance.
- The Central Industrial Security Force had also previously stamped boarding passes, but discontinued that practice several years ago.

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