



JOBS AT YOUR DOORSTEP

A Jobs Diagnostics for Young People in Six States

Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan

Executive summary









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धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान ଧର୍ମେଦ୍ର ପ୍ରଧାନ Dharmendra Pradhan





शिक्षा मंत्री भारत सरकार Minister of Education Government of India

FOREWORD

India is growing rapidly, and firmly on its path to becoming *Viksit Bharat*. Employment and skilling is a key priority area for India to become a developed country. With the steady economic growth, there has been a transformation in local industry and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector, and this, in turn, has transformed the country's employment landscape. Today, our youth can take advantage of the growing profile of India's economy, which has unleashed the growth impulses, thus, opening a plethora of opportunities to our youth to explore and excel. The Government has rightfully acknowledged its enabling role as facilitator, presenting myriad avenues for gainful employment.

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has always highlighted the country's limitless potential to become not only a knowledge centre, but the skill Capital of the world. India can become the engine of global growth, through skilling, upskilling and re-skilling of our youth. He has underscored the need for cultivating a future-ready workforce with industry relevant skills training to develop certain competencies in the youth.

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, as well as the consequent National Curriculum Framework 2023, emphasize integration of skill development into mainstream education. NEP 2020 incorporates pre-vocational education at the Upper Primary level, to ensure that at least 50% of students have access to vocational education by the year 2025. Furthermore, it calls upon all secondary schools to provide vocational education by 2030. In addition, the National Credit Framework (NCrF) is designed to synchronize education with the requirements of the job market. Its competency-based methodology recognizes all types of learning—academic, skills-based, and experiential—contributing to a more comprehensive educational system. NEP 2020 encourages technology enabled, competency-based assessments, and continuous evaluation. Integrating skill assessments with the Vidya Samiksha Kendra and PARAKH Rashtriya Sarvekshan will facilitate the identification of areas requiring improvement. The Ministry of Education is dedicated to achieving these targets through collaboration and support from various organizations, including the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, State Education Departments, National and State Boards, as well as the private sector and civil society institutions.

Jobs at Your Doorstep is an initiative to conduct an extensive jobs diagnostic, aiming to delineate the socio-economic, demographic, and employment landscape of six states: Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Odisha. This initial research, conducted by the World Bank in collaboration with a third party, provides a preliminary skill and job diagnosis based on local requirements and demands. The states may further refine this analysis to meet their dynamic needs. The report advocates for specific trades based on comprehensive primary and secondary research and emphasizes the importance of industry partnerships to enhance the connection between education and job opportunities. Ultimately, the initiative seeks to empower students to become self-sufficient adults who can positively impact their communities and the economy.

P.T.O.

The Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) programme, developed in collaboration with the World Bank, stands as a crucial component of this endeavor. I hope that the six states will implement the recommendations laid out in this report and emerge as leaders in identifying jobs at the doorstep of the youth connecting them with their desired employment opportunities. This report may also serve as a template for other States/UTs to assess and consequently formulate skill and job requirement.

By 2030, India is projected to have 1 billion working-age adults, indicating that approximately one-fourth of the world's incremental workforce over the next decade will come from India. The successful transition of youth into suitable jobs is integral to India's progression toward a US \$5 trillion economy. Making this enduring investment in human capital is essential to bolster competitiveness, promote job readiness, and bolster India's vision to become a beacon of skill infrastructure for the world. I trust that this Report will galvanize all stakeholders to take actionable steps in realizing this vision for India, and lead to a larger discourse on enhancing skill development in school ecosystem across the country.

(Dharmendra Pradhan)

Preface

The Government of India has an ambitious plan to transform the economy towards a high-income country status by 2047. To achieve the goals of India becoming a productive economy, she needs to urgently address challenges facing its employment landscape and prepare its workforce. Multifaceted, dynamic, convergent approaches aligned to educational reform and market linked skill development (SD) will help India reach its jobs growth potential. Key reforms by Government of India, will help strengthen the vocational education sector to become a decentralized, local market-led, inclusive, and fiscally sustainable sector, to train the workforce for the skills required for a high-income India.

The Ministry of Education has made major strides on this front by launching the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) 2023. Both policies emphasize the importance of skilling in schools, with the NEP setting ambitious targets of 50 percent students accessing skill education by 2025 and all secondary schools offering skill education by 2030. As India sets out to achieve these targets, the "Jobs at Your Doorstep" report serves as both diagnostic and roadmap to providing strategic linkages and convergence between education and the jobs agenda of India. It goes deep into the job landscape of six states: Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Rajasthan, and identifies key priority sectors and roles that offer the highest employment potential for young people graduating from secondary school.

The World Bank assists the Ministry of Education, Government of India, on its program called *Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS)* covering six states namely **Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Rajasthan** (collectively the STARS states). STARS has a national component under which key reforms are shared and disseminated for implementation. This report underscores the significant benefits of embedding skill-based education from grades 9-12 to prepare students for diverse career paths relying on a bottom-up approach, going deep in districts of six states, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan. These present varying socio-economic profiles and offer a nuanced view of how industry and government can both contribute towards the jobs agenda.

Jobs at Your Doorstep is a skills gap analysis that attempts to align trades offered in schools with industry-specific needs of the districts where the schools are present. The study was initiated to reimagine the skill education offering through in-depth primary as well as secondary research in the six STARS states. The report is organized into six broad chapters:

- Setting the context on the urgent social and economic imperative for the country.
- An in-depth articulation of the objectives, approach and methodology adopted for this study.
- Findings on "Where are the Jobs" which sectors are willing to hire skilled school graduates; where is the greatest volume; hence what trades should be offered in schools?
- Skill Gap Assessment: What is the nature and extent of the skill gap in each of the six STARS states compared to where the jobs are in their respective state and district economies? What are some common gaps in the design and delivery of skill education in schools today?

- An articulation of nine key recommendations to address the emerging skill gaps.
- Finally, the last chapter lays out the path forward both short-term and long-term actions required by stakeholders across Central Ministries and organizations, State education departments, State examination Boards, Industry, Private Sector, and Civil Society to achieve the vision.

I hope that the findings and recommendations presented will be useful to policy makers, practitioners and industry leaders in preparing smooth pathways for school to work transition in India.

Auguste Tano Kouame

Country Director, India

The World Bank

WORLD BANK TASK TEAM

TEAM LEAD:

Shabnam Sinha, Lead Education Specialist, South Asia Region

TEAM MEMBERS:

Kanupriya Misra, Education Specialist, South Asia Region Sarah Iype, Education Specialist, South Asia Region Rekha Menon Sharma, Consultant

PEER REVIEWERS

Tushar Arora, Senior Financial Sector Specialist, South Asia Region Himdat Iqbal Bayusuf, Senior Education Specialist, Middle East and North Africa Region

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The study was possible with support from the *Mr. Sanjay Kumar*, Secretary, School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, Government of India, *Mr. Vipin Kumar*, Additional Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSE&L), Ministry of Education (MoE); and *Mr. Rahul Pachori*, Director, Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSE&L), Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India as well as the respective State Principal Secretaries, State Project Directors and all officials from the Education Departments of **Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan.** The authors extend their gratitude to all officials for their support throughout the study. In addition, the authors also extend gratitude to *Mr. Atul Tiwari*, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and his colleagues for their collaboration and support.

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Further, the authors acknowledge the time and contribution of all the stakeholders who agreed to engage and shared valuable insights. These include various experts and individuals from the different Sector Skill Councils (SSC), private sector, industry associations, individual employees in farms, factories and shops, government staff within the education department, as well as students, parents, skill education trainers, principals, and teachers.

This report would not have been possible without the support of all these stakeholders. The authors are deeply grateful to each of them for offering their time, advise, and resources to draft this report.

Introduction

India is home to a fifth¹ of the world's youth. Ensuring that these youth are well-prepared to be productive in jobs or self-employment and entrepreneurship is critical for India to achieve its ambitious economic goals.

Jobs are at our doorstep, very much in the vicinity of schools.

This study assessed the kinds of industries/local small and medium enterprises that have the potential to provide entry-level jobs or offer entrepreneurship opportunities for youth, including those who are in school and those who may have dropped out. The study also analysed special economic zones, and overall labour market trends across primary, secondary and tertiary sectors in all the six states under STARs. Current status of skill education in schools and the need to reform its delivery to cater to the identified opportunities was also looked into. Conversations with employers further indicated the need for multi-skilled individuals with a broader set of "employability skills" such as problemsolving, teamwork, adaptability and leveraging digital technologies, amongst others.

Overall, large scale integration of skills education in schools is a critical agenda and India's policy frameworks, including the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the National Curricular Framework (NCF) 2023 have shown the way ahead. 14 broad sectors and corresponding trades that can cater to majority of high demand jobs/entrepreneurship avenues for school to work transitions have been identified. The report ends with a set of nine key recommendations for all stakeholders to deliver on a strengthened skill education agenda for schools.

Large scale skill integration in schools a critical agenda – National Education Policy (NEP) and National Curriculum Framework (NCF) have set the stage



NEP target for % of schools offering Skill Education (SE) by 2030



NEP target for % of students enrolled in Skill Education

NCF 2023 shows the path ahead:

Grade 6-8: Broad exposure to skilling and forms of work

Grade 9-10: Exposure to multiple vocations and transferable skills (sectoragnostic)

Grade 11-12: In-depth skilling in a vocation (upto 3 out of 6 total subjects)

Expected Benefits



Help reduce drop-outs (~40% higher secondary retention rate today)



Create a skilled workforce for India and the world; avoid costs of over-education



Enable employment or self-employment for those who want it directly after school

Key question: How can skill education be scaled and strengthened?

- Which skills should be offered where basis local economic needs?
- How should delivery be strengthened to achieve outcomes be it jobs, self employment, relevant future higher education or further skilling pathways?







Methodology of the study

Deep primary research in 6 districts with varied socioeconomic profiles



Shimla, HP

Hill station; tourism & horticulture driven



Dhenkanal, OD

Primarily agrarian



Jodhpur, RJ

Handicraft manufacturing + services hub



Nagpur, MH

Service-driven economy + manufacturing



Indore, MP

Multi-faceted economy



Angul, OD

Metallurgy and mining + unorganized services

Extensive economic mapping & stakeholder consultations



Interviews/ visits across:

- · Large corporates, MSMEs, Sector Skill Councils
- Shopfloor supervisors, Farmers, etc
- Schools, ITIs (govt, private)
- Academic experts



Interviews/ visits across:

- Trainers and training organizations
- Students/drop-outs (representing gender, geography and education status)
- Teachers and principals



Secondary reports review and data analysis

Key finding 1 | Services sector jobs and agriculture income enhancement present large opportunities for school-based skilling

Primary Sector



Agriculture

Presents opportunities across jobs (e.g., input companies), income enhancement in own farms, and entrepreneurship (as advisors)



Mining

Does not emerge as significant employer from school-to-work perspective due to hazardous environment and high demand of unskilled labor





Manufacturing **MSMEs**

Show interest in hiring and offering growth/pay; require multi-skill exposure





Large Manufacturing **Industries**

Employers will hire only if a proper certification (ideally equivalent to ITI) and equal amount of focus and skill building happens in school. Further, they are open to collaborate on curricula design, guest lectures etc.

Tertiary Sector



Service Sectors



Large opportunities in services sector across retail, IT, banking, among others requiring exposure to multiskills/knowledge-consistent across the country

Αll Sectors



All Sectors



Employability skills is a sought-after common requirement across sectors

Legend:

Sector-level insights on relevance for school-to-work









Key finding 2 | 14 sectors and corresponding trades can cater to majority of high demand jobs for school to work

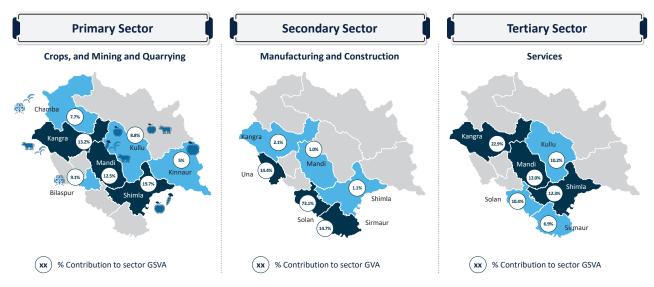
Agriculture	Agriculture, with curriculum customizations basis local area need i.e., more focus towards: 1. Farm Productivity and Agronomy 2. Horticulture and Gardening 3. Dairy Farming and Livestock Health 4. Aquaculture and Fisheries	Largely targeting income enhancement opportunities + select sales/ procurement/ Quality Assurance roles dominantly in input companies	
Manu- facturing	Workshop Technology and Machine Operation	Welders, fitters, machine operators etc. on shopfloor	
	3 Automotive Tech and Servicing	Auto repair and servicing roles primarily	
	Fabrication Technologies (Building/ Construction)	Plumber, electrician etc.	
	5 Electronics and Hardware	Repair roles primarily for electronics, machines etc.	
Services	6 BFSI	Sales roles (e.g., insurance), microfinance roles etc.	
	7 Beauty and Wellness	Large self employment opportunity	
	Front office and Hospitality/ Tourism	Front desk and office management roles across sectors	
	9 Sales and Marketing (Retail and other sectors)	Large demand for sales/ customer service roles	
	10 Healthcare	GDA, ANM/GNM (nursing) and diagnostic roles	
	11 Fashion and apparel	Large self employment opportunity and design/ tailoring jobs	
	12 Armed Forces and Physical Education	Defence roles, gym trainers, nutritionists etc.	
Information technology	13 IT Software Development and Support	Programming as well as IT Software development and Support/ help desk jobs	
	Digital Media and Design technologies	Graphic designing, digital marketing etc.	

State Skill Gap Assessment Packages

1. Himachal Pradesh

Economic Zones:

State economic snapshot| Manufacturing skewed to Solan; Kangra, Mandi and Shimla emerge as key districts within agriculture & services

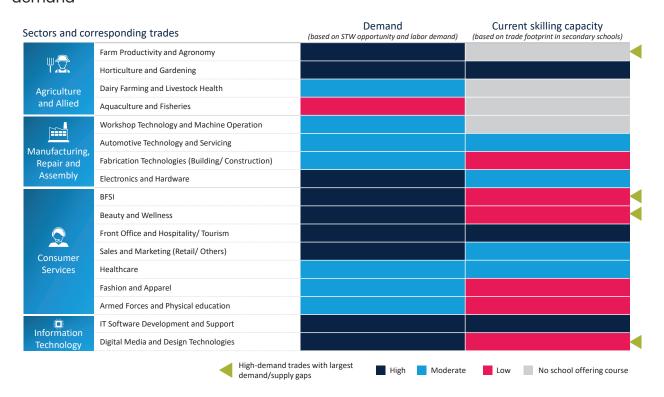


Note: Top districts calculated basis district's contribution to GVA of a sector at the state level Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, of HP, 2016

Illustration 1 | State Economic Snapshot

Sectors and Trades Present:

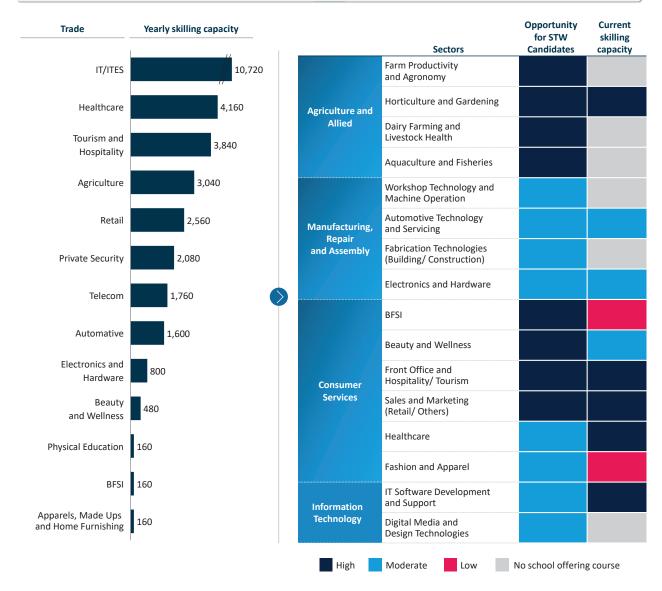
State skilling snapshot | Clear opportunity to expand skilling capacity in line with demand



Analysis of One District in HP: Shimla

Shimla: Trade analysis indicates a mismatch between capacity and demand

Yearly skilling capacity under SS for all trades offered vs. likely demand in Shimla



Note: 1. Capacity estimates only include NSQF-linked trade offerings in schools under the SS 2. Current capacity represents total number of seats available for each trade offered in SS schools in the district 3. STW to be read as School-to-Work Source: School Education Department, HP

Illustration 3 | District trades analysis indicating mismatch between skills demand and supply

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¹ Data as of 2021-22

2. Kerala

Economic Zones:

State economic snapshot | Plantation crops drive the primary sector; cottage industries drive the secondary sector while tourism is a prominent component of tertiary sector



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Kerala; Internal Analysis

Illustration 4 | State Economic Snapshot

Sectors and Trades Present:

State skilling snapshot | Clear opportunity to expand skilling capacity in line with demand

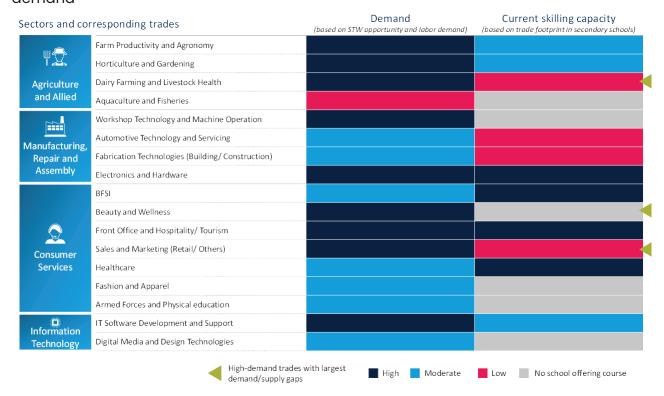
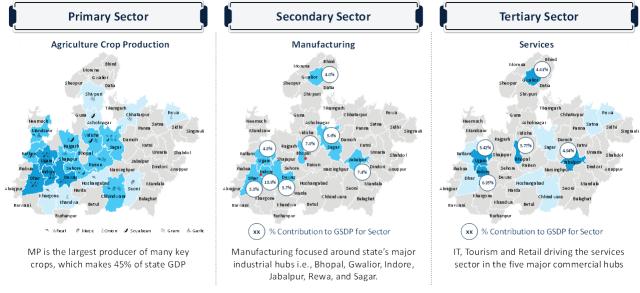


Illustration 5 | State Skilling Snapshot

3. Madhya Pradesh

Economic Zones:

State economic snapshot | Agriculture is dominant across districts, especially in the western part; manufacturing and services are focused around five main industrial and commercial hubs

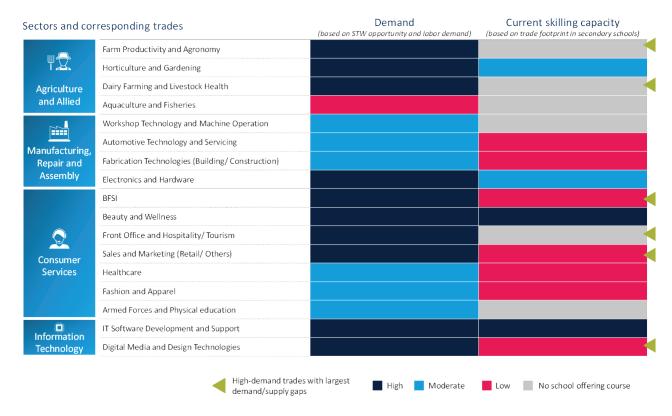


Source: India Agriculture Survey 2019-20, DA and FW; Department of Planning, Statistics and Economics, MP

Illustration 6 | State Economic Snapshot

Sectors and Trades Present:

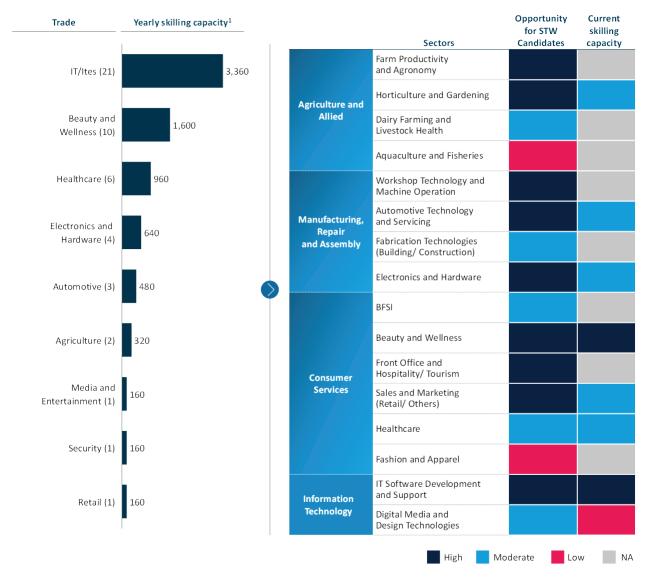
State skilling snapshot | Clear opportunity to expand skilling capacity in line with demand



Analysis of One District in MP: Indore

Indore: Trade analysis indicates mismatch between capacity and demand





^{1.} Calculation: no of schools offering a trade * no of grades in which the trade is offered * 40 seats per trade per grade Source: Dept of School Education, MP; Internal Analysis

Illustration 8 | District trades analysis indicating mismatch between skills demand and supply²

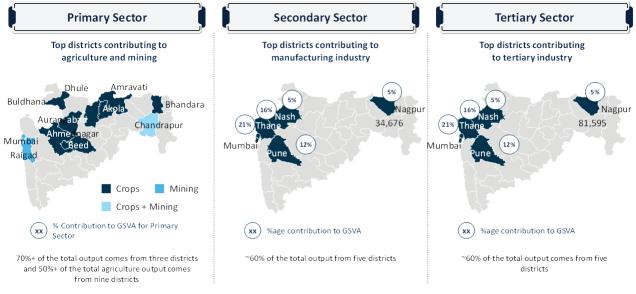
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² Data as of 2021-22

4. Maharashtra

Economic Zones:

State economic snapshot | Agriculture spread across central and northern regions; limited mining; urban hubs dominate secondary & tertiary sectors

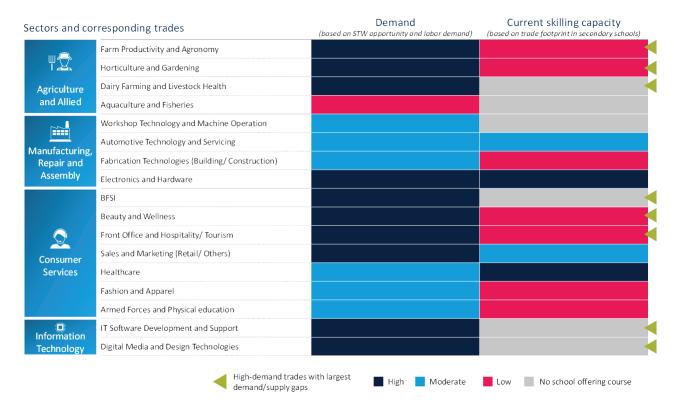


Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, 2019-20, Internal analysis

Illustration 9 | State Economic Snapshot

Sectors and Trades Present:

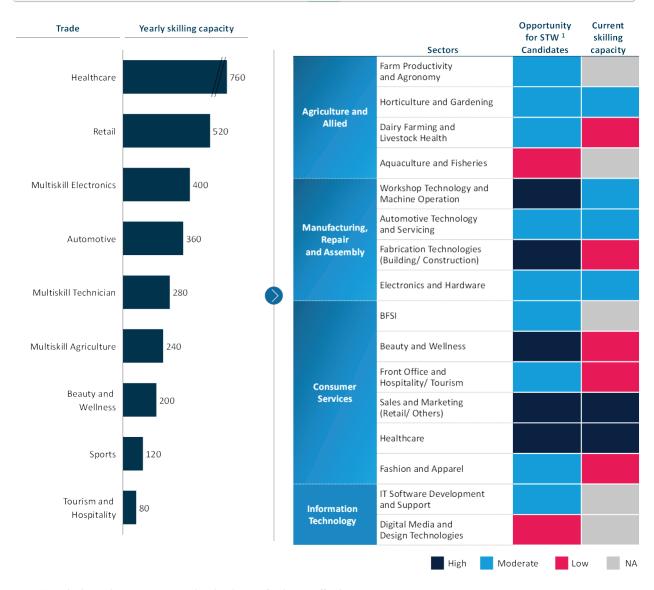
State skilling snapshot | Clear opportunity to expand skilling capacity in line with demand



Analysis of One District in Maharashtra: Nagpur

Nagpur: Trade analysis indicates a mismatch between capacity and demand





Note: 1. STW- School-to-work 2. Capacity estimates based on duration of each course offered Source: School education department, Maharashtra

Illustration 11 | District trades analysis indicating mismatch between skills demand and supply³

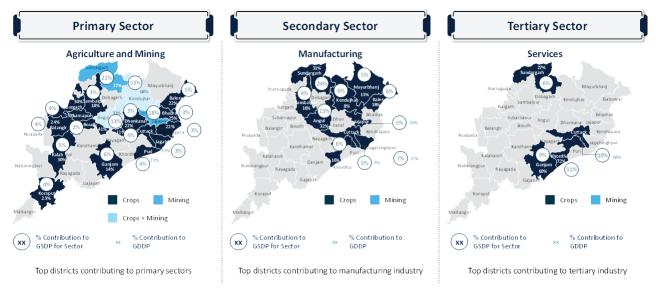
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³ Data as of 2021-22

5.Odisha

Economic Zones:

State economic snapshot | Agriculture is fragmented; mining is limited to four districts; manufacturing driven by districts in and around mining belt; urban hubs dominate tertiary sector

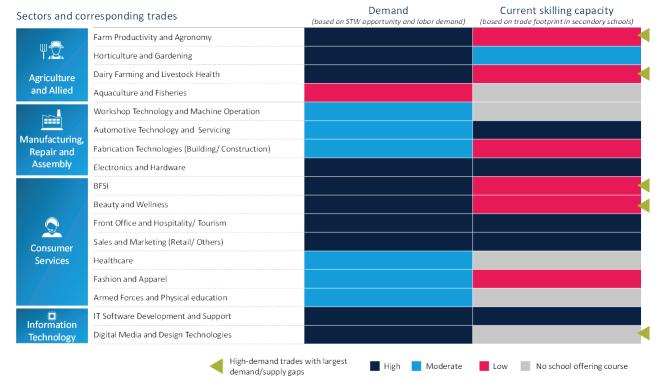


Note: District-wise contribution to GSDP and GDDP for districts contributing to both mining and agriculture represented as the cumulative contribution across both sectors Source: 2011-12 GSDP-Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Odisha; Odisha Economic Survey 2021-22; Primary Analysis

Illustration 12 | State Economic Snapshot

Sectors and Trades Present:

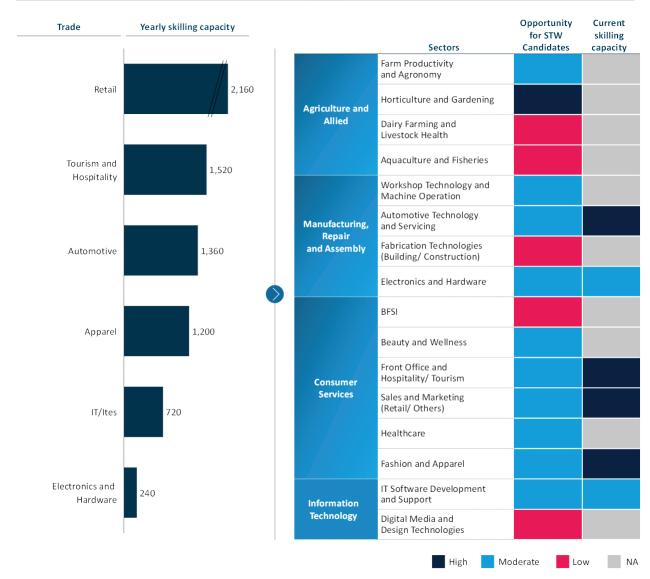
State skilling snapshot | Clear opportunity to expand skilling capacity in line with demand



Analysis of One District in Odisha: Dhenkenal

Dhenkenal: Trade analysis indicates mismatch between capacity and demand





Note: 1. Capacity estimates only include NSQF-linked trade offerings in schools under the SS 2. Current capacity represents total number of seats available per year for each trade offered in SS schools in the district 3. STW to be read as School-to-Work
Source: District Education office, Dhenkanal; OSEPA; Primary Analysis; Internal Analysis

Illustration 14 | District trades analysis indicating mismatch between skills demand and supply⁴

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⁴ Data as of 2021-22

6. Rajasthan

Economic Zones:

State economic snapshot | Agriculture fragmented; mining limited to three districts; eastern economic belt of top districts has highest share of secondary and tertiary sector

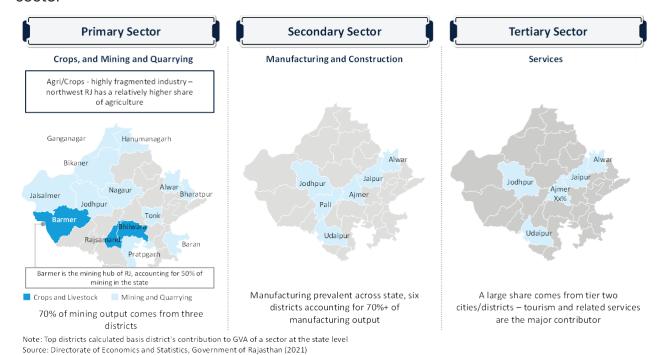


Illustration 15 | State Economic Snapshot

Sectors and Trades Present:

State Skilling Snapshot | Clear opportunity to expand skilling capacity in line with demand

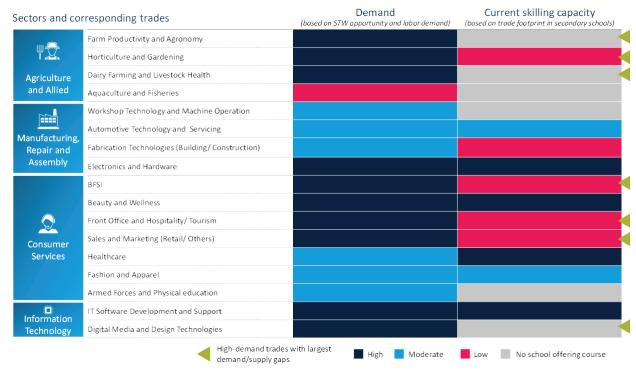
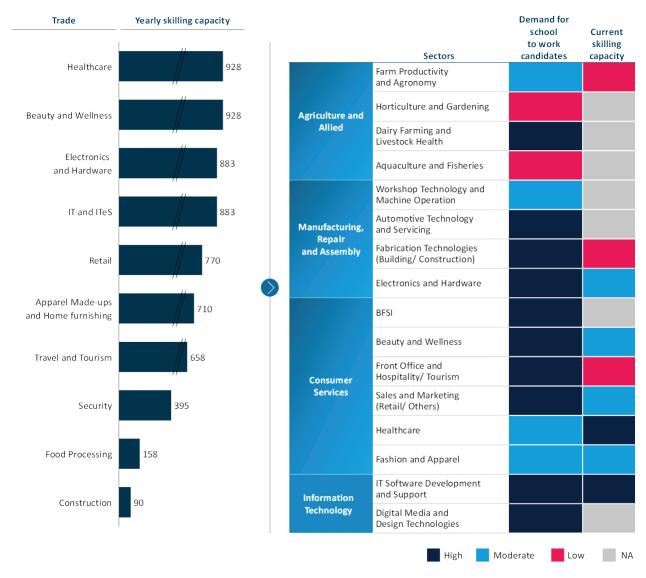


Illustration 16 | State Skilling Snapshot

Analysis of One District in Rajasthan: Jodhpur

Jodhpur: Trade analysis indicates mismatch between capacity and demand





Note: Capacity estimates based on duration of each course offered Source: Directorate of Technical Education

Illustration 17 | District trades analysis indicating mismatch between skills demand and supply⁵

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 $^{^{5}}$ Data as of 2021–22

Recommendations for Path forward







- Target at least 20-30% secondary schools in every district offering SE as a first goal
- Offer at least 2 trades in each target school; scale up to 3-5 trades in large schools

Offer a revised set of broad-based trades targeting multiple job roles per trade



- Provide students the choice to study trades in a light touch manner or in-depth (up to 3 skills subjects may be chosen out of total 6 subjects in grades 11-12 as per NCF 2023)
- Enable students who pursue SE to pursue "relevant" higher education pathways via convergence with higher education/ technical education departments

Realign trades to school mapping basis local economy





 District officials should recommend trades for new schools based on existing skilling capacity, local economy needs and student aspirations

Focus on broader employability skills along with technical trade skills



- May include essential soft skills, digital literacy, financial acumen, building an entrepreneurial mindset etc.; should be offered to 100% students
- To be embedded in existing subjects curricula where appropriate (e.g. English, Computer Science) or as part of trades curricula/ pedagogy or via separately introduced courses with trained teachers

Enhance learning infrastructure and focus on experiential pedagogy





 Enable more frequent upgradation of facilities and sufficient funding for consumables; involve industry for infrastructure and equipment inputs

Recommendations for Path forward

Build mechanisms to engage qualified trainers with industry experience



- Consider engaging contractual trainers with real-world industry experience
- Re-examine VT compensations and strengthen M&E systems to track performance
- Build trainer capacity for employability skills delivery

Strengthen assessments to test for skills proficiency





- Emphasize testing for practical skills over theoretical knowledge
- Schools Boards and Sector Skill Councils (SSCs) to drive the reform effort

Develop a deep and ongoing partnership with industry





- Critical to ensure curriculum relevance, internships, job placements etc.
- Flagship industry partners as well as local/ Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) partners required

Change perceptions around skill education; effectively **counsel** students and parents





- Consider rebranding skill education to make it aspirational e.g., "applied learning", "professional learning" etc.
- Train teachers/ school leaders for effective counselling

















