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Daily news summary**NITI Aayog NEET Youth Skilling Viksit Bharat Report**

UPSC Civil Services · 24 August 2026 · Prelims and Mains

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WHY IN NEWS

- **NITI Aayog** released 'Reimagining Skilling for Viksit Bharat@2047', assessing youth engagement through national sample survey data.

KEY FINDINGS OF THE REPORT

- Estimates that 8.7 crore (87 million) Indian youth aged 15-29 are Not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEET).
- Calculations are derived from data collected during the 78th round of the National Sample Survey (NSS) conducted in 2021.

STRUCTURAL CONSTRAINTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Identifies lack of disposable income and sunk costs from prior education as primary barriers preventing NEET youth from taking paid vocational courses.
- **Categorizes the demographic into five target segments:** school learners, tertiary students, formal/informal workers, NEET youth, and women.
- Recommends targeted subsidised skilling interventions and micro-incentives to enable self-employment.

KEY TERMS

- **NEET Youth:** Demographic classification representing young individuals currently not engaged in education, employment, or formal training.
- **Demographic Dividend:** Economic growth potential resulting from shifts in a population's age structure, specifically when the working-age population is larger than the non-working ratio.

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PRELIMS FACTS

- NEET classification includes individuals aged 15-29 missing from formal workforce or educational enrollments.

MAINS DISCUSSION

- Examine the structural barriers facing NEET youth in India and suggest reforms to align vocational training with market demand.

KEY DATA

- **Report Title:** Reimagining Skilling for Viksit Bharat@2047 - **NITI Aayog** strategic policy document evaluating workforce transition roadmap.
- **Data Source:** 78th **Round of National Sample Survey (2021)** - Official NSS round referenced for national youth employment metrics.
- **NEET Youth Estimate:** 8.7 crore (8.7 million) - Key statistical benchmark for national labor policy design.

[Official source](#)

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