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Q7

Near jobless growth in India: An anomaly or an outcome of economic reforms.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2016 · Essay · 125 marks · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Philosophical and ethical quotes

Core demand of the question

- **Stake:** GDP rose; jobs did not keep pace - is that a glitch or the reform path's grain?
- **One stand:** near-jobless growth is largely an outcome of a capital-and-skill biased path plus a farm that still hides labour - not a mystery
- Move through reforms, sector, skill/labour law, data. Keep one honest counter
- Close on a job strategy, not a growth toast

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a chart and a factory gate. Stand:** mostly an outcome of the path, not a glitch.
- **Headings:** path, farm/informal, skill, counter.

Peg **PLFS** / **elasticity** once. Close on a job strategy.

Note

This is a map, not the full 1,000-1,200 word essay.

Anecdote

A chart goes up. A young man still waits outside a factory that hired a machine. Near jobless growth in India is a lived queue. The topic asks: anomaly or the child of reforms? Write a cause, not a mood.

One stand

- **Reforms:** 1991 and after - trade, a service boom, a thin manufacturing. Anomaly would mean growth should have hired. Outcome: the path selected sectors that hire few.

Heading map**What the line is asking**

- **Near jobless:** employment elasticity that is weak.
- **Anomaly:** a surprise vs textbook.
- **Outcome of reforms:** a structural child, not a gremlin.

Path

- Services and capital-intensive industry. A missing mass manufacturing.

Farm / informal

- The sponge that hides the jobless. A reform story that did not absorb them.

Skill / regulation

- A mismatch. A fear of hiring. A gig that is not a career.

The counter

Some jobs did come (IT, a construction). Demography made the same growth look jobless. And pre-1991 was not a job paradise - it was a scarcity. The honest stand: reforms raised output; they did not automatically raise decent work. That is a policy unfinished, not a reason to freeze 1990.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** grow what hires, skill what exists, a floor for the informal. Expand - this is only the map.

Facts & figures

1991 / industrial policy

The reform door - then the hiring that lagged.

PLFS / elasticity

The number - peg once, no table dump.

Make in India / PLI

A later attempt to hire in factories.

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)

The floor when growth does not hire.

Art. 41

Work as a directive - the ought.

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