



## Youth Bulge and Labour Intensive Industrialisation in India (An Analysis of the Formal Industrial Sector)

Mehak Majeed <sup>a</sup> and Saeed Owais Mushtaq <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Economics, Islamic University of Science and Technology, Jammu and Kashmir, India;

<sup>b</sup>Faculty Department of Economics, University of Kashmir, India

### ABSTRACT

The developing part of the world has a common history of colonisation. Soon after attaining independence from the colonisers, these nations endeavoured upon the process of development via industrialisation. India began its journey to sovereignty and development in 1947. The planned process of development in India has had a mixed economy model. Given the youth bulge accruing to the Indian economy there currently is surplus labour. However some recent studies try to portray Indian industrialisation as capital intensive. As such, the current study is an attempt to re-validate the labour intensive nature of Indian industrialisation. The study advances to explore the nature and role of various types of labour in the industrialisation process of India and its contribution towards the technical efficiency of the secondary sector. Based on the empirical investigation, the study presents various policy suggestions in order to convert the youth bulge of India into productive and efficient human capital and to industrialise the economy in a sustainable manner.

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## 1. Introduction

Almost all the nations categorised as the developing or third world countries are presently classified as the transitioning economies. With the end of World War II, most of the hitherto colonies gained independence from their colonisers, resulting into a mosaic of independent nation states. In order to compete with the first and second world nations in the international arena, the nations of the developing third world began to endeavour upon developmental tasks. One of the most common and tested channel of sustainable economic development as identified by economic theory and practice is the process of industrialisation. And as such, all these nations endeavoured upon the process of 'late industrialization' as explained by Alice H. Amsden in most of her academic work. Over time the outcomes of industrialisation and growth processes across the developing world have been different and diverse. While some nations (like the Asian Tigers) have industrialised heavily, others (like India and Pakistan) have lagged behind (A. H. Amsden 1989; Banga 2016; Lund-Thomsen et al. 2016).