



UNRAVELING THE IMPORTANCE OF YOUTH CENTERS WITH DESIGN SOLUTION IN INDIA

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Abstract: Unemployment and underemployment remain significant issues for Indian youth. Various factors contribute to this, including population growth, limited job creation, skill gaps, and sometimes inadequate infrastructure for economic development. I am particularly interested in exploring the needs and challenges of Indian youth through extensive research. I propose setting up a youth center that listens carefully to their requirements and offers a holistic blend of education programs, recreational activities, counseling support services, and community engagement to address these challenges.

Keywords- youth center, unemployment, needs.

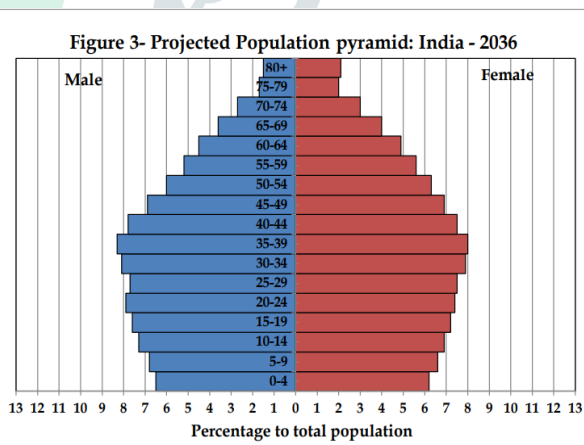
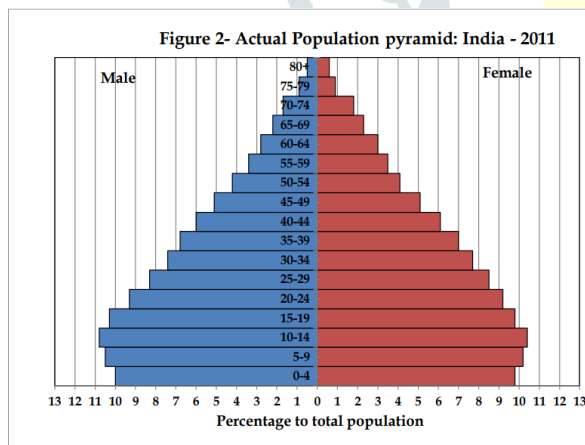
I. INTRODUCTION

India has one of the largest youth populations globally, with approximately 50% of its population under the age of 25 and around 65% under 35. India is called a young country. According to UNFPA (United Nations Fund for Population Activities), India will continue to have one of the youngest populations in the world till 2030. In India, as per National Youth Policy 2014, persons between the age group of 15 and 29 years are considered youth. Youth people are essential for progress, leading change, and boosting economic growth and innovation of the nation. Realizing that youth is crucial for any economy, especially in India, which is considered to have a young population, it's essential to enhance policies that address the youth and design youth development programs at various levels.

Statement 1: Total Population and Youth Population aged 15-29 years in India.

Year	Total Population			Youth Population (Age 15-29 years)			Percent Share of Youth Population in Total Population		
	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
1991	838568	435208	403360	222747	114292	108455	26.6	26.3	26.9
2001	1028610	532157	496454	273402	141819	131584	26.6	26.6	26.5
2011	1210855	623270	587585	333365	172911	160453	27.5	27.7	27.3
2016	1291074	664184	626890	359600	188016	171584	27.9	28.3	27.4
2021	1363006	700623	662383	371426	194576	176850	27.3	27.8	26.7
2026	1425908	732075	693833	367415	191702	175713	25.8	26.2	25.3
2031	1478775	758146	720629	356593	186567	170026	24.1	24.6	23.6
2036	1522288	779701	742587	345498	181470	164028	22.7	23.3	22.1

Figure 1: source-census 1991, 2001 and 2011, office of the registrar general of India and report of the technical group on population projections for India and states 2011-2036, ministry of health & family welfare, July 2020
The youth population is expected to increase initially but will start to decline in the latter half of 2011-2036 period.



Source-youth (report of technical group on population projections for India and states 2011-2036, ministry of health & family welfare)

II. AIM

To examine the role, impact, and challenges of youth due to current circumstance and propose innovative design solutions that cater needs of Indian youth.

III. OBJECTIVE

- To investigate the present circumstances of the youth in India.
- To study various provisions designed to cater to the needs of India's youth population.
- To evaluate architectural design solutions for the youth of India.

IV. SCOPE

- This research paper gives an in-depth exploration of the current situation of the youth population, their needs, and their impact on India as a nation.
- It extends to proposing innovative architectural design solutions taking into account factors such as **Flexible Spaces, Cultural Sensitivity, Sustainability, and Community Engagement Spaces.**

V. LIMITATION

- The study on the significance of the youth center and the architectural solution is limited to the Indian context.
- The design solution for youth centers may vary in different regions of India so proposing the general solution.

VI. METHODOLOGY

- **Data Collection:** Gather data through surveys, interviews, and observations from stakeholders involved in youth centres, community leaders, and architects and preferences & requirements for architectural design.
- **Literature review :** existing research papers and reports related to youth centres, and youth development centre.
- **Analyse Survey :** for recommendations on key themes, trends, and patterns related to their role in addressing the needs of young individuals.
- **Proposal:** Based on data collection analyse specific needs and context of youth centres in India.

1. DATA COLLECTION

1.1. Role, Impact and Challenges:

The Indian youth has played a vital role in building the nation as they possess the power to develop the country and move towards progress. However, there are several issues impacting young people in India currently, including the education system, employment opportunities, social media, and mental health awareness. The education system in India does not cater to the interests and abilities of individuals, making it challenging for young people to make future career decisions. The fast-changing digital world has created a significant gap between learning in the classroom and real-world industrial learning. Young people are not able to acquire the skills required for today's job opportunities, which may be due to a lack of quality education. As the youth is the future of our nation, they have the potential to either make or break the economy. Social media has a profound influence on today's youth, as they are highly active on various social networking platforms. While many young individuals may appear content and satisfied on social media, in reality, they may not even fully understand their social responsibility towards their nation. The unfortunate reality is that these challenges, which deeply affect the mental well-being of youth, are often disregarded as national concerns. Many young Indians face a tough time finding good jobs. Even though the economy is growing, there aren't enough jobs being created for all the young people entering the workforce. A recent report by the International Labor Organization says the youngsters who have graduated degrees their unemployment rate is 29%, on the other hand those who are illiterate their unemployment rate is 3%. In 2022, the unemployed population of India where 83% are young Indian those aged between 15-29. That means youth are getting graduated but there are not enough jobs and opportunities.

1.2. Provision facility for youth:

1.2.1 Policy:

The Union Government has implemented several Youth Development programs since Independence, such as the National Cadet Corps (NCC), National Service Scheme (NSS), Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD) and schemes providing financial assistance to NGOs involved in youth development.

1.2.2 NGO:

- **Ashoka India** - Ashoka India supports social entrepreneurs and changemakers, including young leaders, who are addressing pressing social issues. They provide mentorship, funding, and networking opportunities for youth-led initiatives.
- **Youth Alliance** - Youth Alliance focuses on nurturing leadership skills and fostering social entrepreneurship among young people. They offer various programs, workshops, and fellowships to empower youth to drive positive change in their communities.

- **Pravah** - Pravah focuses on promoting youth leadership and active citizenship. They offer programs and workshops to develop critical thinking, communication skills, and social responsibility among young people.
- **Youth United Council of India (YUCI)** - To empower the youth with positive change and volunteer with social responsibility and create a culture of volunteering for social cause. Webinar and seminar on national and international level.

1.2.3 Needs of Indian youth population:

- **Employment Opportunities:** Initiatives to promote entrepreneurship, skill development programs, and job creation in both urban and rural areas are crucial to addressing youth unemployment.
- **Quality Education:** Access to affordable and quality education, including vocational training, is essential to equip youth with the skills needed for the modern workforce.
- **Mental Health Support:** Increased awareness about mental health issues, along with accessible and stigma-free mental health services, can help address the growing mental health concerns among youth.
- **Financial Inclusion:** Access to financial services, including banking, credit, and financial literacy programs, can empower youth to manage their finances effectively and pursue economic opportunities.

2 LITERATURE REVIEW

Case studies on different youth center purposed.

- The Gary comer youth Centre, Chicago, US
- Gehua Youth and Culture Centre, China
- Zeimul, Centre of creative services, Latvia

Table no 1: case study analysis

	The Gary comer youth Centre, Chicago, US	Zeimul, Centre of creative services, Latvia	Gehua Youth and Culture Centre, China
Aim	Student spend their school-after time	To stimulate the town for graduate youth.	---
Program	Indoor Sports/games, recreational (auditorium), and Educational (Library)	Educational and gathering	Recreational (theater) and Art, Library
Design feature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glazing inside building • Skylights dot rooftop landscape 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geometrically triangulated green roof • Inner courtyard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-purposed central courtyard
Trends	Roof garden & Recycles rainwater	Dramatic landscape	Roof garden & structure fused with nature
Material	Fiber cement panels.	Exposed monolithic concrete, & plastering.	Glass & concrete.

3 ANALYSIS SURVEY

Understanding the current predicament faced by Indian youth, it is evident that there is a pressing need for a dedicated centre tailored to their requirements, facilitating their establishment for a brighter future. According to research, India offers provisions through both NGO and government agencies for its youth; however, there is a notable absence of a defined structure aimed at addressing their specific needs. As per the literature study, the significance of youth centres in shaping the developmental trajectory of their respective communities and cities. The overarching theme of such centres revolves around the promotion of recreational activities such as sports, dance, music, and theatre. Furthermore, contemporary trends highlight the paramount importance of integrating environmental and landscape elements within these facilities. The prevailing pattern emphasizes a dual focus on both educational and recreational aspects, thereby fostering comprehensive youth development.

4 PROPOSAL

Youth Center in India will serve as a hub for empowering and nurturing the potential of young people, providing them with resources, support, and opportunities for holistic development.

4.1 Objective:

To address the diverse needs of Indian youth by offering a range of educational, recreational, and skill-building programs.

To create a safe and inclusive space where young people can engage in constructive activities, foster positive relationships, and develop essential life skills.

To promote social cohesion and community engagement among youth from different backgrounds and regions.

To promote mental health awareness, providing access to support services, and fostering environments conducive to positive mental well-being.

4.2 Proposed Activities and Facilities:

- **Educational Programs:** Offer workshops, seminars, and vocational training courses covering areas such as entrepreneurship, financial literacy, digital skills, and career guidance.
- **Recreational Activities:** Provide facilities for sports, dance, music, theatre, arts and crafts, encouraging physical fitness, creativity, and self-expression.
- **Counseling and Support Services:** Set up counseling services for mental health problems, career guidance, and peer support groups to boost well-being and resilience.
- **Community Engagement:** Organize community service projects, cultural events, and youth-led initiatives to foster civic engagement and social responsibility.
- **Green Spaces and Environmental Initiatives:** Develop outdoor recreational areas, promote environmental awareness, and engage youth in eco-friendly initiatives such as gardening and sustainability projects.

4.3 Partnerships and Sustainability:

We will collaborate with government agencies, educational institutions, corporate partners, and local communities to ensure the sustainability and success of the Youth Center. Funding will be sought through grants, donations, corporate sponsorships, and public-private partnerships.

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