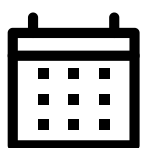


“THE PUZZLE OF PRIVATE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT IN INDIA: INSIGHTS ON THE PERCEIVED QUALITY OF EDUCATION”



IISERB

This study delves into a perplexing enrollment phenomenon within India's education landscape. Despite the nation's lackluster public schooling infrastructure, a distinctive enrollment trend emerges, resembling a “Canyon” structure: a consistent decline in the share of private school enrolment till around grade eight, followed by its remarkable resurgence. Existing theories such as increased private school supply, English-medium preference, or superior quality of private schools fail to satisfactorily elucidate this trend. To address this enigma, we introduce a model spotlighting parental choices driven by the cost of schooling and the perceived quality of education. Model calibration and empirical analysis reveal the pivotal role of relative perceived quality, particularly at the secondary level, in explaining the surge in private school enrollment at the secondary level which is grade eight and thereafter. This underscores that India's burgeoning attraction toward private schools is not solely driven by tangible factors but hinges significantly on parental perceptions of educational quality, particularly in the higher academic tiers.



23 JANUARY 2024, 05:00 PM

L-2 (LECTURE HALL COMPLEX)



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DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SCIENCES