

Proficiency in English language and Employment Opportunities

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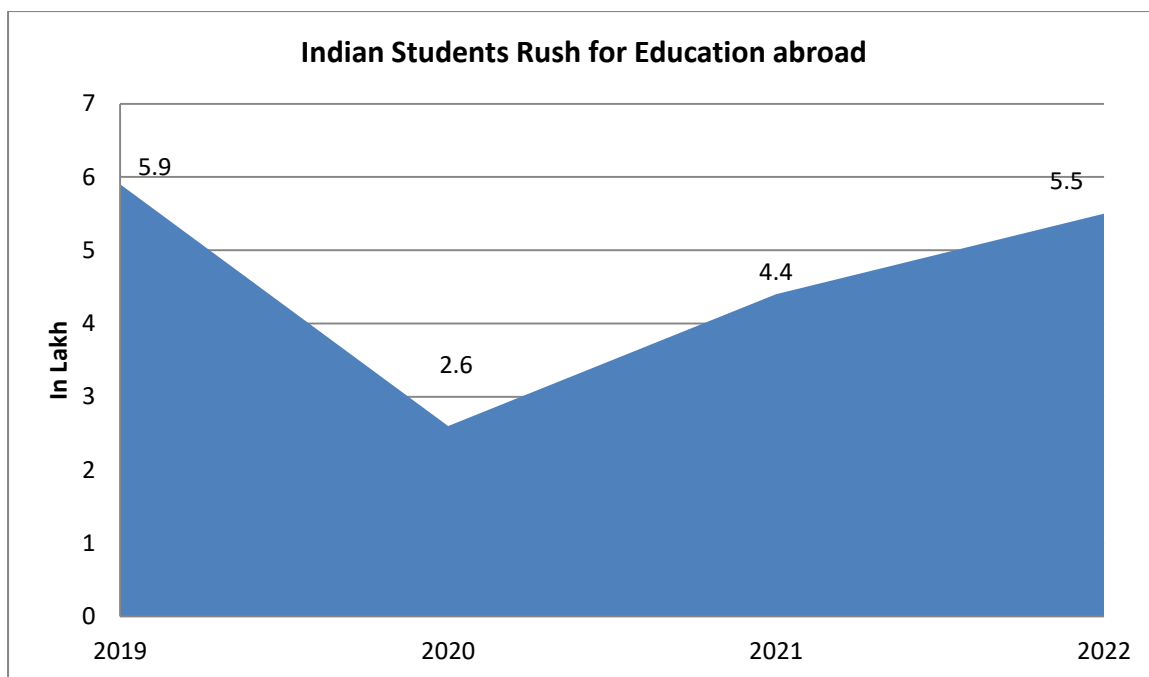
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Abstract

Since 1991, introduction of new economic policy and the positive response towards globalization and liberalization, there have been significant changes in the employment sector. The so-called traditional jobs were being replaced by modern digitalization. Since then, 30 years have passed. India has emerged as a major economy in the world. The young generation is willing to migrate across the world for getting a highly paid, salaried job. Indian youth are playing a significant role in various western countries in securing jobs and undertaking assignments successfully. The major reason for generating job in India and securing jobs in abroad that Indian students are very comfortable in adopting the English language. In a broader scenario, the English language has become very helpful for the young generation to achieve their expectation. The present research paper throws light on how the English language proficiency is helping to generate employment opportunities and career prospects.

Introduction

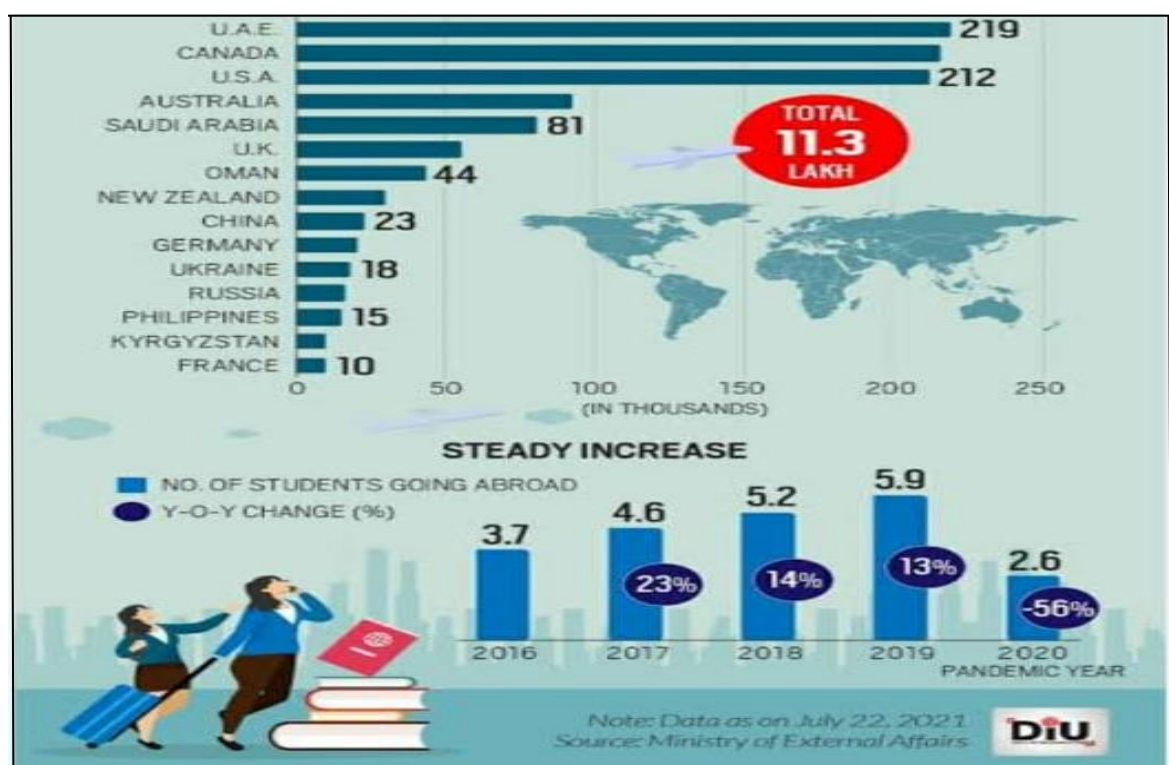
The present market demands excellent communication skills in the corporate sector. The entire world has compressed into a village. Outsourcing and call centres have enlarged the scope of the work, especially after the COVID pandemic. The concept of working from home is growing rapidly. The IT sector has created new trends in generating employment. It is observed that although almost all offices were closed during the pandemic, IT sectors did not affect much as they were connected globally through the internet. When we talk about connectivity, a language is an effective medium to be connected with the rest of the world. The English language plays a crucial role all over the world in producing employment. On the other hand, those who are not good at communicating in English face difficulty in securing the job. If we study the highly paid jobs in India and abroad, the English language remains a significant element in securing the job. Lack of fluency in spoken English keeps people non-competitive and gives them less opportunity in the corporate sector, even in the government sector. Those who are more fluent and proficient become more presentable and create an influence. Thus, they create an opportunity for them, and eventually, their English language proficiency has played a vital role in getting the job as well as getting promotions.



Graph Showing Migration of Indian Student for Education

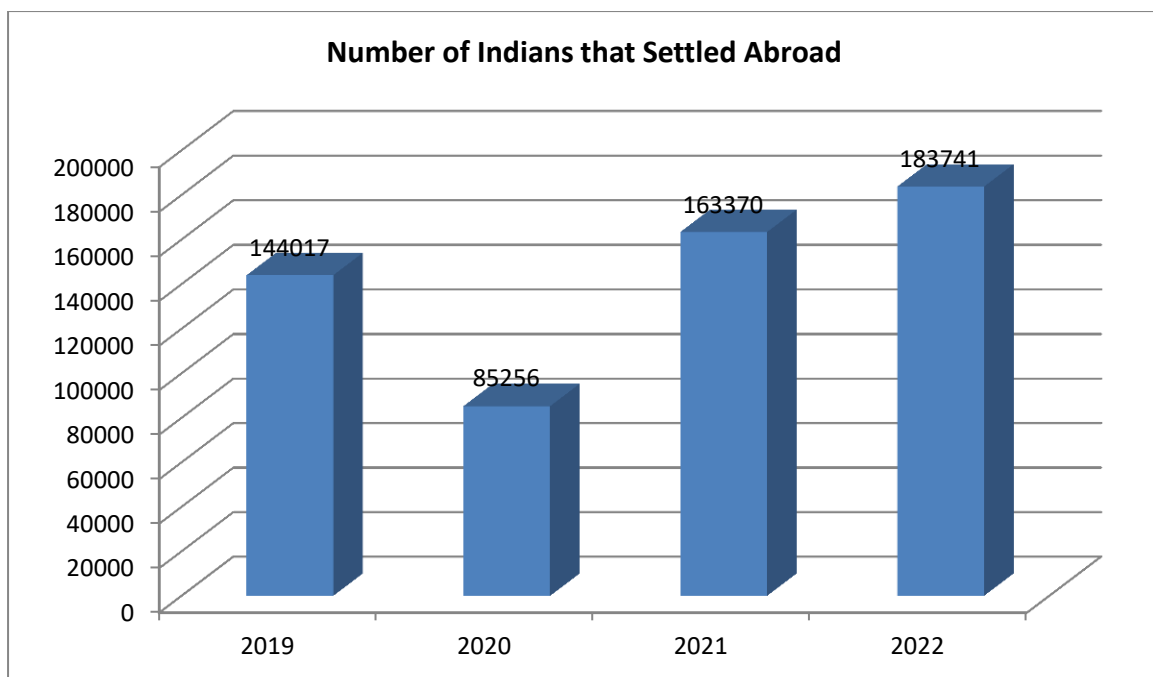
Courtesy: Ministry of External Affairs

Over 1.3 million Indian students went abroad for higher studies from 2017 to 2022, according to data shared by the Ministry of External Affairs. Before the Corona Pandemic, 5.9 lakh students enrolled in higher education abroad, and in 2022, almost the same 5.5 lakh students went abroad for higher education.



Graph Showing Migration of Indian Students

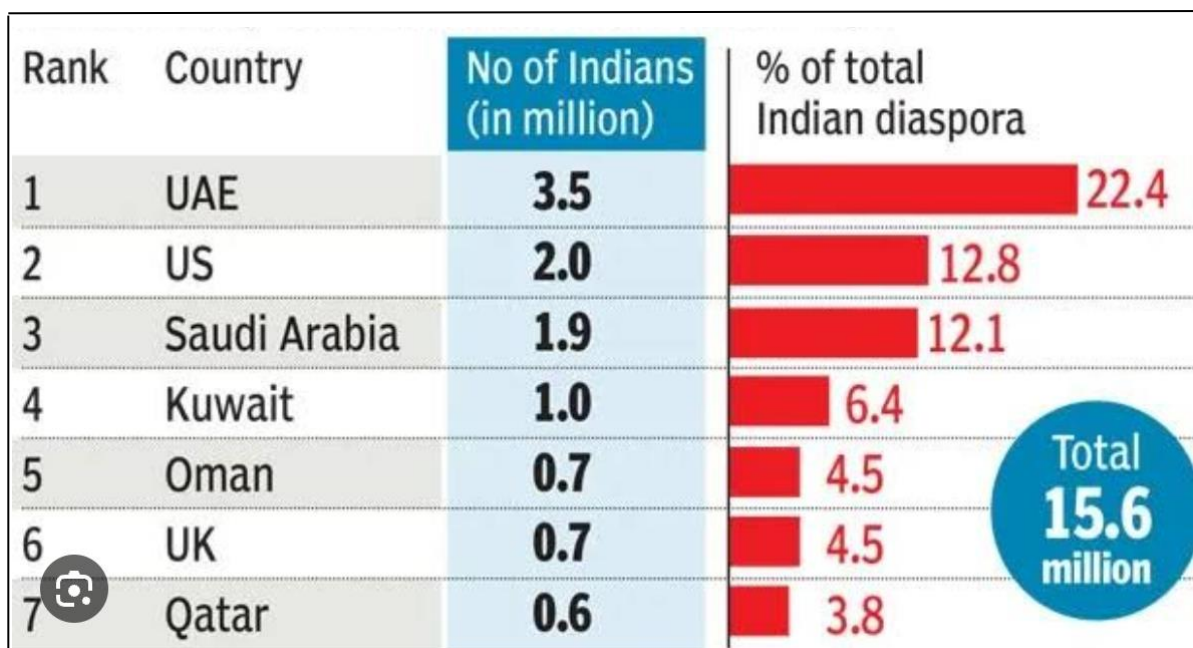
Courtesy: Ministry of External Affairs Report & Times of India



Graph Showing Number of Indian that Settled in Abroad

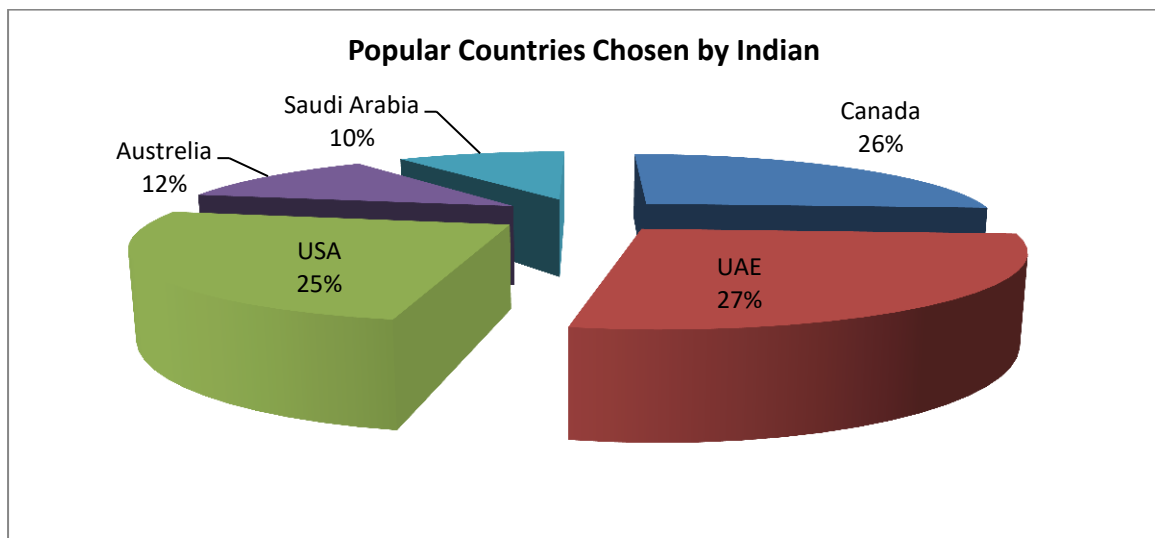
Courtesy: Ministry of External Affairs Report

As per the above graph, in 2022 a total 1,83,741 people left Indian citizenship and permanently settled abroad. It means Indians are getting fair opportunities to get settled abroad. In India, every year, 25 lakh people migrate abroad for jobs; most of them secure their jobs in English-speaking countries like America, England, and Australia. Since, last two decades, a total 18 million people have settled in various countries. The following graph indicates the data of Indian who settled in the following countries:



Courtesy: Ministry of External Affairs Report & Times of India

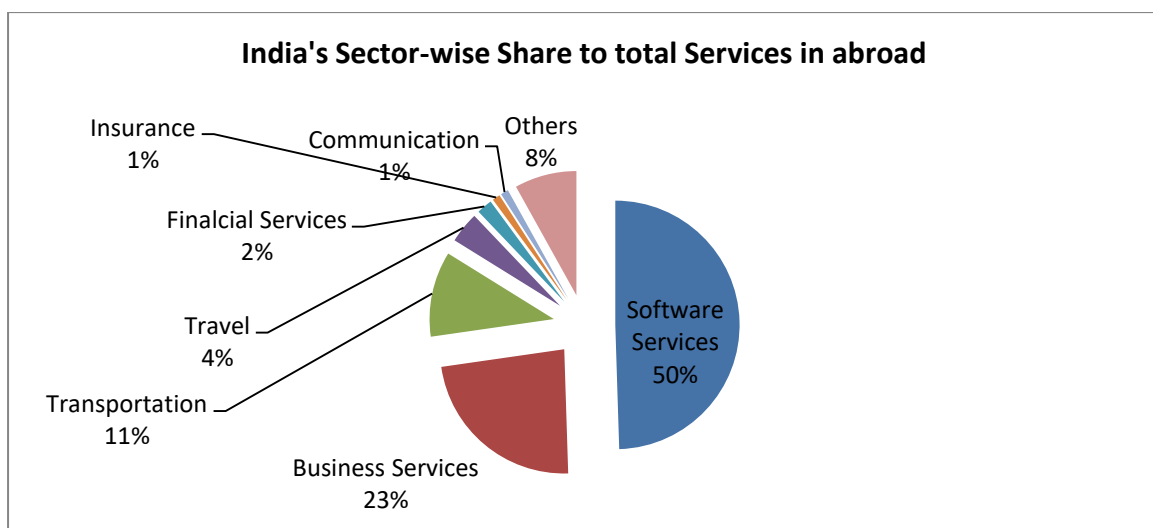
It is observed that most of Indians get settled in English-speaking countries. Indian migrants to other countries are also noteworthy here. To the date 18 million Indian citizens have settled overseas. According to a UN report, India has the most migrated people in the world (18 Million), followed by Mexicans (11 Million), Russians (11 million), Chinese (10 million), and Syrians (8 million). Looking at the other side of the data, Indians are getting better chances of opportunities and have settled abroad.



Graph Showing Popular Countries Chosen by Indian

Courtesy: Ministry of External Affairs Report

8.5 lakh students are perusing their education abroad in the four most focused countries, i.e. US, UK, Australia, and Canada. Indians are getting jobs in various sectors. The most dominant sector for Indians is the IT and software sector(50%), followed by the business sector (23%), transportation (11%) travel (4%) etc.



Graph Showing India's Sector-wise share in services

Courtesy: Times of India



Courtesy: US Citizenship and Immigration Services

The above table shows that out of the total applications for H-1B visas, 74.9% were approved by the US. The data shows the scope and demand of Indians in foreign countries.

The above data suggests that, due to their proficiency in the English language in addition to their technical knowledge, Indians are getting better chances abroad. They are more preferred than any other country. It is observed that most people secure jobs mainly because of their proficiency in the English language. Although they have secured their jobs due to their technical skills, a major aspect of their success is their proficiency in the English language. In the last 75 years, among those who have secured high-profile jobs, 95% of them are at least comfortable with the English language. Others, who are not able to learn the skill, face several difficulties and realize during the period that they lagged behind because they lacked the skill in the English language.

Although Indian languages have a significant role in academic development, it cannot be denied that when the career becomes solely important, Indian students try to acquire the skill of the English language. If they fail in getting fluency in the English language, they try to secure the job in another sector, especially in business and hardworking sectors, where difficulty in communication becomes a hurdle in their development, especially for promotion in the corporate sector. Securing high-profile deals with clients and jobs demands presentation and marketing skills. It is now difficult to keep pace with modern business without communication. It creates a very good impression when somebody is present and

explains everything in fluent English with a high degree of confidence. Indirectly securing deals, tenders, and convincing clients of your schemes becomes very valuable in modern business.

In this preview, the English language has played a vital role and secured very indelible footprints for generating employment. Following are the sectors that are benefitted under the impression of the English language.

- IT Sector
- Education
- Technology
- Marketing and Management
- Reality
- Media and entertainment
- Banking & Fund Management
- Insurance and Investment
- Hospitality and Hotel Management

In the education and media sectors, the English language has a larger scope for academics as well as for media professionals. In print media as well as electronic media, the English language has a tremendous scope for employment. In academics, the English language has emerged as the only medium of instruction in higher and top-level institutions in India, including IIM, IIT, AIIMS, etc. It has a wider scope for academics to create an education material, books, literature, etc. as the medium of instruction is English in the top-level brands of India.

On the basis of above discussions following observations have been generated;

- 1) There is a comparatively better scope of employability in the English language than any other regional language.
- 2) There is a fair opportunity for promotion and growth for those who are proficient in the English language.

- 3) Fluency in both written and spoken English is essential for securing the job, job advancement, and professional growth.
- 4) English has become the language of communication for all multinational corporations.
- 5) Accent and English language proficiency affect prospects and employment opportunities.
- 6) It becomes essential for an employer to be a good presenter, negotiator, interpreter, and convenor of a meeting. Mastery of English will help a person to conduct his assignment efficiently.
- 7) It has become equally important for employees to communicate inside and outside of the organization.
- 8) The language plays a key role in the corporate sector in planning, organizing, and prioritizing the work to make decisions and solve problems.
- 9) Proficiency of computer software, analysis of quantitative data, creation and preparation of reports, and all their tasks become simply organized with the help of the English language.
- 10) Now that the English language has stepped ahead as indelible footprints on modern communication skills, time will come when the entire language will merge with hybrid words and change in accents.

Conclusion

The English language has crafted the modern employment sector. The needs of modern organizations have changed completely. The vacuum is successfully filled by the English language. The youngsters who are proficient in spoken and written English are not only gaining employment but also gaining professional growth. The language ultimately benefits the generation of employment. So we can state that English language skill influences the prospect of employment. It has the potential to secure better jobs in India and all over the world.

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