

The Role of Technical and Vocational Education in Poverty Reduction among Youths in Sri Lanka

Abstract

This purpose of this paper is to examine the role of technical and vocational education in the reduction of poverty among youths in Sri Lanka after university education. The problem of this study is to determine the potency of Sri Lanka higher education for poverty reduction among youths in Sri Lanka. The area of study comprises of the ten different areas of degree programs in University of Vocational Technology. Qualitative methodology was employed for the study with ten students who were coming from different discipline. Semi structured interviews were conducted and analyzed using thematic method. The finding of this study revealed that technical and vocational education can play a vital role in reducing poverty as well as equipping, building and making our youths self-employed, competent and employable in an industry or company after university education. Also revealed that there is a need to expand the range of vocations to which the degrees are awarded and most especially in the fields such as agriculture, food technology, video production, and beauty culture. The study hence, strongly emphasized the importance on vocational sector education.

Keywords: technical vocational education, poverty , youths