

Role of Foreign Language Knowledge in Employability and Ease of Life among the Selected Indian Languages

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Abstract:

Language is only tool for communication and knowledge for individual and group. Languages are central theme of communication in every aspect of human Endeavour. With modern day of India, It is necessary When a company has to meet global clients to have a good knowledge of the required language like tradition, education, cultural and food and other social events. Increase in interrelationship business accelerating globally with a rapid rate. Like indian Business firms, and entrepreneurs operating in the country like Infosys, TCS, HCL, L&T, IBM, Amazon, Accenture, Samsung, LG, Genpact required good and healthy language communication, The modern technology has made the world global village, more than ever, the language barrier has to be broken. Following the exploit of globalization, knowing just mother tongue is not enough. The global entire business environment is recruiting for language experts, trainers, translators, and software developers. The level of understanding and ability to spell put a foreign language is additional employability skill in the recent past. The language skills help to serve the global clients in a better manner. Many MNCs prefer to have the employees with multiple language knowledge and ability to speak.

Key words: Foreign languages, global technology, usage of internet.

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1. Introduction

Every language offers a rich and unique civilization into two different ways of thinking and living as well as in to the history of culture and people across the globe. Some children are born into home environments in which they are exposed to more than one language and they begin to acquire two primary languages simultaneously (Heath, 1983; Pesco & Crago, 2008; Van Kleeck, 1994), and language instruction. (e.g., McLaughlin, 1984) there is broad agreement that

young children's ability to learn languages and their emerging reading and writing skills are affected by their social environments, including the language(s) and programme reports from non-governmental organizations, conference proceedings, and newsletters. This report draws on research and programme reports identified through a literature search that included:

2. Introduction Bilingual and multilingual education

Present scenario, In India young children are learning languages at home other than the mother tongue language. All languages are equal from a linguistic point of view. It is as wrong to judge the value of one against another as it would be to compare the relative value. Present youth differ from conventional methods of communicating from the dominant language used their broader social world. Politicians, taxpayers, parents and learners all want to be able to invest in those languages where their efforts and resources are going to prove most effective for their particular needs. Typically, when minority and indigenous language children begin preschool or primary school, they must learn the language of the majority group in their region to fit in socially and succeed academically. This literature review focuses on this mother tongue-based bilingual and multilingual education program. Regional news is the most preferred category of digital news accessed by Indian language users Indian language users the most preferred category of digital news accessed in mother tongue. However the preferences beyond the regional news vary from one language user to another as depicted. Popular digital news categories accessed by Indian language users are financial news, health and nutrition etc.

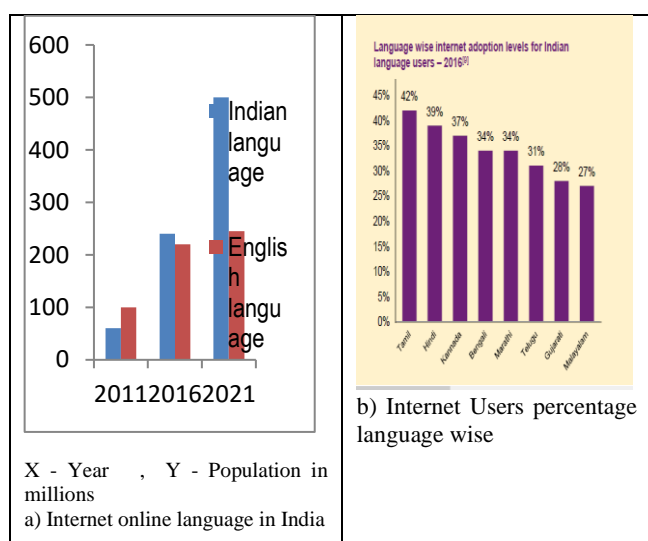
Table 1. Preferences of online language priority in their regional language

Categories	Hindi	Bengali	Telugu	Tamil	Marathi	Gujarati	Kannada	Malayalam
Regional	82%	67%	58%	63%	72%	68%	56%	63%
Sports	49%	60%	42%	45%	35%	44%	47%	16%
Politics	40%	16%	64%	61%	27%	17%	47%	36%
Entertainment	48%	35%	58%	44%	43%	67%	31%	59%

Source: www.GoogleLanguageSurvey.pdf.

In the above table 1, depicts the most preferable languages shows the online language priority in their regional language. Most preferred and maximum number of people using regional language is shown. And the table shows the percentage of people spend their tradition like sports, politics, entertainment. The percentage of people from Hindi as mother tongue, access 49 percent of sports news, 40 percent of politics related news and 48 percent of entertainment using a foreign language. Similarly, Bengali people uses foreign language to get sports related information, Telugu people uses foreign language to access political and entertainment from foreign language. Whereas Tamil language speaking people uses foreign language to access regional news and politics. Marathi and Gujarati people uses foreign language for regional information and entertainment and finally Kannada and Malayalam people also uses the foreign language to get regional information and entertainment respectively.

Chart 1. Showing the online internet language usage and language wise internet adoption levels



The above graph 1, shows, the growth trends of English or foreign language learners and expected percentages from 2011 to 2021 as growing in terms of percentage. Similarly, the people from different states learning foreign languages are 42percentage from Tamilnadu, 39 percentage from Hindi people, 37 percentage of Kannada people, 34 percentage of Bengalis, and Marathi people each, 31 percentage of telugu people, 28 percentage of Gujarati people and 27 percentage of Malayalam speaking people from the country. This indicates the potential need for foreign language learning for growth and development of opportunities in higher education and career in the country.

3. Language barriers in India and modern technology

3.1 Mother tongue Instruction

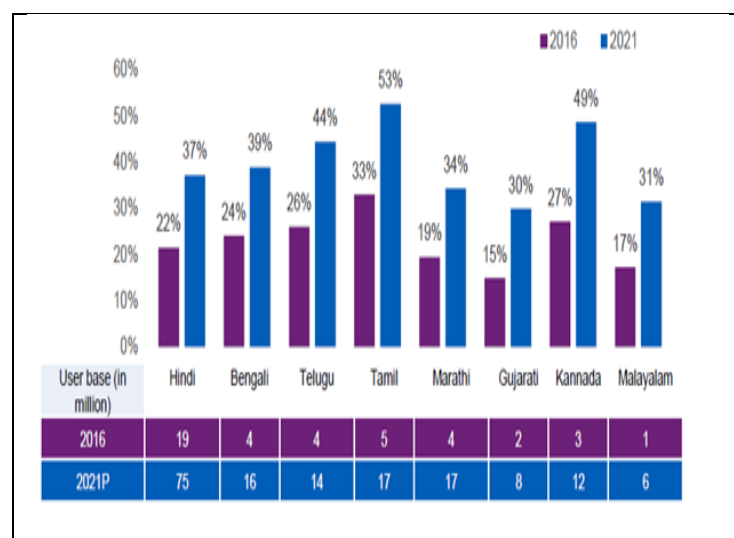
It is considered to be an important component of quality education, particularly in the early years. A child's earliest first-hand experiences in native speech do not necessarily correspond to the formal school version of the so-called mother tongue. The expert view is that mother tongue instruction should cover both the teaching of and the teaching through this language. The term 'mother tongue', though widely used, may refer to several different situations. although it is to be noted that the use of the term 'mother tongue' oft en fails to discriminate between all the variants of a language used by a

native speaker, ranging from hinterland varieties to urban-based standard languages used as school mother tongue. Th e term 'mother tongue' is commonly used in policy statements and in the general discourse on educational issues. It is an obvious yet not generally recognized truism that learning in a language which is not one's own provides a double set of challenges, not only is there the challenge of learning a new language but also that of learning new knowledge contained in that language.

3.2 Minority and Majority Languages

These challenges may be further exacerbated in the case of certain groups are already in situations of educational risk or stress such as illiterates, minorities and refugees. Gender considerations cross cut these situations of educational risk, for girls and women may be in a particularly disadvantaged position. In most traditional societies, it is girls and women who tend to be monolingual, being less exposed either through schooling, salaried labour, or migration to the national language, than their sons, brothers or husbands.

Chart 2. Growth of foreign language learners using internet from India



It is noted from the above chart 2, Many initiatives around the world provide formal support for children to continue to develop competence in language and self-confidence as learners, while also learning an additional language or languages. It is noted from the above table that, the growth of learning foreign language using internet is found as highest percentage as 53 percent by Tamil students, it is followed by Kannada students with 49 percent, Telugu students with 44 percent, Bengali students 39 percent, Marathi students with 34 percent Hindi students with 34 percent, Malayalam students with 31 percent and finally Gujarati students with 3 percent accordingly as expected learners based on the present trend of learning. This indicates the potential growth of foreign language learners from India for both employability, higher education and ease of life.

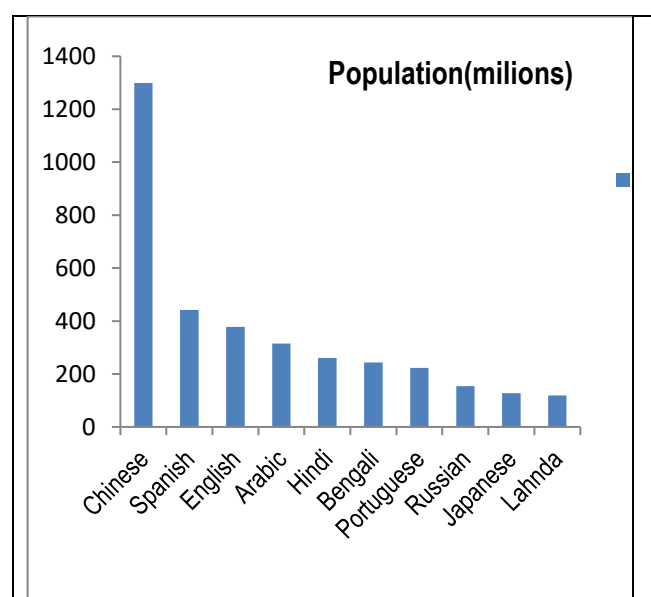
4. Career point-Foreign Languages

Most widely spoken Top 4 foreign languages with the most speakers are **Mandarin Chinese, Spanish, Arabic and French**. I have not considered Hindi and English since both are official languages of the Government of India. There is no national language as declared by the Constitution of India. German and Japanese are also popular in India since the economy of Germany and Japan are highly developed and offer lots of job and career opportunities in India and abroad. Over last few years, the demand for Portuguese, Italian, Korean, and Russian are also growing in India for multiple reasons. Passionately about the need to appreciate and understand the world's linguistic heritage in the same way that we value its biological diversity. But when it comes to investing time, money and effort in the learning of languages, practical factors inevitably come into play.

You can imagine that. If a renown tech giant like IBM is placing such emphasis on a foreign language as a prerequisite for such an equally important employment, that speaks volume on the

importance of learning foreign languages, and while so many Indians these days are taking foreign languages classes. Following the exploit of globalization, knowing just the mother tongue is no longer enough. Your engineering degree or MBA may no longer earn as much cash as a foreign language would, especially if it is Mandarin, German, French, Japanese, Spanish or Russian.

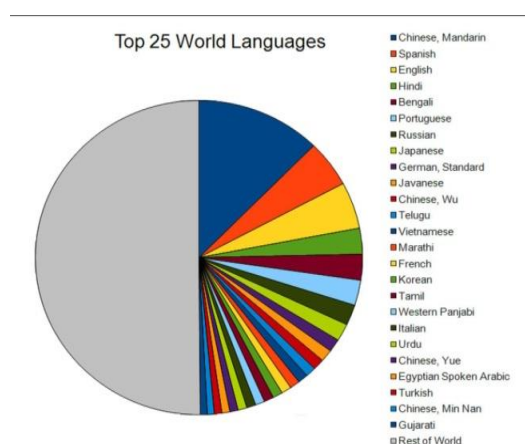
Table 2. Showing top ten languages speaking in the world



Country	Language Speaking Population(millions)
Chinese	1299
Spanish	442
English	378
Arabic	315
Hindi	260
Bengali	243
Portuguese	223
Russian	154
Japanese	128
Lahnda	119

Thus, knowing a local language in any of these non-English speaking countries is becoming an indispensable factor for Indian firms seeking to do business abroad. These firms need to improve their business, and the only way is to hire personnel with knowledge of the foreign language where their business interest lies. The widely speaking language in the globe is recorded as Chinese with 1299 millions, it is followed by Spanish with 442 million and the 10th rank goes to 119 millions in the globe. This indicates the craze and need for the foreign languages in the forth coming days.

Chart 3. Showing Top 25 Languages used in the public conversation and day to day life



The entire business environment is currently being driven by a massive requirement for foreign language experts, translators, trainers, and software developers. To compete competitively and to stand a better chance of realizing your career dream, you have to see the importance of learning a foreign language competence in more than one language are not limited to English. A wide range of languages are needed to exploit the benefits of the single market and keep improving trade between peoples worldwide. Even when others have a high level of proficiency in English, this does not mean that their languages can be ignored. In order to develop relations between countries and individuals based on mutual respect and trust as well as to do business effectively, there is a need for an understanding of the social, political, and

technical systems of a country, as well as the innumerable aspects of daily life that are important to that nation's identity and culture. Of course people learn languages for more than purely instrumental purposes, but learners do want to be able to use the languages they have learned, and taxpayers and governments want to see their education resources spent in a way that will provide the greatest possible long-term benefits. It is important, therefore, to attempt to address the difficult question of which languages are likely to provide the best outcomes, and to identify criteria by which we may be able to judge the potential value of one over another in terms of the UK's future economic prosperity and security. Public debate about which languages are important to learn is often dominated by the particular interests of the individual commentator and too often lacks a solid and balanced information base. In shaping policy and priorities it is also important to balance economic with non-market interests – cultural, intellectual, individual and societal factors. Current needs and the demands of the present must also be considered alongside changing global Patterns of economic and cultural exchange and what this might mean for languages needed in the future.

4.1 Career Benefits and Job Opportunities in Foreign Language in India

Of all the people we have surveyed and listened to for the past few years, Career scope and job opportunity in India and abroad is among the most inspiring reason why so many students are learning a foreign language. The two main primary categories of people learning foreign languages. These are;

1. People who are learning a foreign language because it offers them a better career opportunity to gain employment.
2. People who start learning a foreign language because of some personal reasons such as migrating to other countries, hobby or interest,

travelling, peer group influence, or want to access music, movie, literature in different languages, and then at some point decided it's a good idea to use what they have learned to start a career or to further the objectives of an existing career. These two classes of reasons can be referred to as "extrinsic and intrinsic" inspiration for foreign language learning.

In India alone, there are about 200 Chinese firms doing business here, and about 5,000 Japanese firms operate here. Currently, more than 2,00,000 people with proficiency in a varied range of language are required for employment opportunities in India. Furthermore, the demand for people with bilingual credibility is on the increase, ranging more than 20% each year. Academic qualifications and sound proficiency in foreign languages is the key that opens a wider door for a career in vital sectors like tourism, diplomatic services, embassies, journalism, mass communication and public relations, entertainment, arts, publishing, interpretation and translation, public and international organizations. It also affords the opportunity of working with multinationals corporations (MNCs) and governmental specialized agencies. India is the third fastest growing economy in the world, and there is great expectation that the country will expand its business and bilateral trade links with many countries in Europe, Africa, Latin America, and Asia in the coming years—a process that is already in full swing.

As the country seeks to diversify from reliance on traditional markets like the USA and the UK in the aftermath of the global economic slowdown, thousands of Indian firms are now becoming more proactive—re-strategizing their business outlook across all sectors. Majority of the Indian businesses are now seeking new business opportunities in Manufacturing, IT, KPO, BPO, Pharmaceuticals, Hospitality, Healthcare, Education, Media, BFSI, and more. While a number of these new markets

can boast of essential consumption patterns, English may not be the central language of transition and conversion in these markets.

5. Why learning Foreign Languages are important in India

- 1. Become a Translator, Interpreter or Teacher:** With your knowledge of a foreign language, you can work as a translator or interpreter for a company or as an independent freelancer. There are so many opportunities for translators and interpreters in India these days, and thanks to the increasing entry of foreign firms and large-scale projects outsourcing to Indian companies by their European and American counterparts. Acting as an interpreter or a translator can be very lucrative, depending on how: There are many foreign languages available for you to learn. Obviously there are many factors to consider when choosing the right foreign language to learn. The five of the most famous foreign language options for studies in India are Mandarin Chinese, French, Spanish, German, and Japanese. These languages are regarded as the most sought-after as far as career and prospect, employment opportunities and immigration are concerned. However, there are other foreign languages in India which are gaining increasing attention from Indian individuals, both at home and abroad. India is the third fastest growing economy in the world, and there is great expectation that the country will expand its business and bilateral trade links with many countries in Europe, Africa, Latin America, and Asia in the coming years—a process that is already in full swing. As the country seeks to diversify from reliance on traditional markets like the USA and the UK in the aftermath of the global economic slowdown, thousands of Indian firms are now becoming more proactive—re-strategizing their business outlook across all sectors..
- 2. Work for the Immigration / Custom Services:** This is one area in which you can flourish handsomely with your knowledge

in a foreign language. Government agencies such as the immigration and custom departments will find your resume attractive due to your skills in a foreign language. Imagine you have a qualification in the Spanish language and the government is out looking for personnel to fill various positions in the nation's embassies in Spanish speaking territories like Latin America and Spain itself. Your resume will definitely receive priority, among other things, ahead of others who don't have such qualification. Moreover, if you decide to travel or do business in places like Spain or Latin America, your knowledge of Spanish would open up doors of opportunity for you while enabling you to have an equal playing and negotiation dealing with business partners and prospects.

- 3. Jobs in MNC, KPO, BPO, and IT:** ITES (Information Technology Enabled Service), offshoring industry and Outsourcing have brought a lot of job opportunities paving the way for learning foreign languages in India. Adding it to your CV is a surefire way to get a decent job in BPO, KPO, IT and MNC. Jobs could involve speaking skills, collection of information, working on documents in the corresponding language, voice-based jobs, training, transaction, data processing and migration processes, quality management, email support services, etc. Indian companies have great expertise in providing a wide range of BPO services across various industry verticals. Multilingual call centre services are offered to various offshore companies in the financial, telecom, medical, insurance and banking sectors. Today, there is a great demand for foreign language experts in Delhi, Noida, Gurugram, Mumbai, Pune, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Chennai and other parts of the country. The minimum salary range with 0-2 years of experience or Freshers is between 3.5 to 6 lakhs per annum. Foreign language expert salary is generally 25% to 40% higher over their English speaking counterparts.

- 4. Hospitality & Tourism:** There is never a time when people don't move. There is always an exodus of people from different countries of the world to other countries, especially during the holidays and winter seasons. Millions of people visit India as tourists from year to year. Majority of these people do not speak English nor understand the Indian local dialect. Attraction centers, shopping malls, 3, 4, and 5-stars hotels & suites need workers that can communicate fluently with these thousands of visitors that patronize their businesses from time to time..

- 5. Reap big from the Import / Export Sector:** The world has become smaller and smaller due to its digitized global economy. These have opened up large opportunity in businesses involving various forms of importation and exportation. Majority of the larger corporations in India now prefer to hire people who can speak new or more foreign languages other than their own native language. For example, your knowledge of Chinese/Mandarin will open up a career opportunity for you with a firm or company exporting goods or services from India to China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Mongolia, Malaysia, Philippines, and Thailand. These are the places where the language is spoken as a first or second language. Employers who engage in the export and import business with these countries will find your expertise in Mandarin a huge plus for their businesses. On the other hand, you might just decide to go solo by doing business with firms and corporations in the aforementioned places — acting as their rep here in India. It is a win-win situation for you any time, and in any place.

6. Conclusions and Recommendations:

The language learning opportunities can be extended from early ages. Macro systems of education should be design and develop in the for the country with bench marking standards. This can

enable the every student to fall in line and to learn an additional language. The required funding to develop the intellectual capital can be obtained from international funding agencies as extension of development activities and skill set purpose. The research and development in this area needs to be initiated through social science departments under interdisciplinary studies. Programmes should be designed with clarity in goal and adaptable to all. The encouragement for the additional language should starts from family.

Language helps in understanding the others culture and customs in a much better perspective than others. Hence, language is a cultural bridge which helps in improving the interpersonal relationships. Language is not only a tool for communication and knowledge but also a fundamental attribute of cultural identity and empowerment, both for the individual and the group. Respect for the languages of persons belonging to different linguistic communities therefore is essential to peaceful cohabitation. This applies both to majority groups, to minorities (whether traditionally resident in a country or more recent migrants) and to indigenous peoples.

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