FINANCIAL GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS AMONG INDIAN YOUTH: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF WORKING AND NON-WORKING YOUNG ADULTS

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ABSTRACT

This study evaluates the evolving financial situation of contemporary youth through the analysis of disparity between economic aspirations and financial preparedness in the context of Indian scenario. This study aims at evaluating the impact of the employment status of the working professional as well as non-working youth on financial aspirations, financial confidence, and financial stress perceived. A descriptive and comparative design was followed in which data from 119 participants was obtained through a structured questionnaire. Financial confidence and financial security in relation to perceived generational financial hardship were evaluated through descriptive statistics, Pearson's correlation, and comparison of means. It was found out that although aspirations of the youth about finances are high, their perception of financial security is low to moderate.

KEYWORDS: *Financial Aspirations, Youth Financial Behavior, Financial Literacy, Employment Status, Comparative Analysis, Financial Planning, Economic Challenges, Indian Youth.* **JEL Code:** D14, G53, I22, D91, J24

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