

Mr. Vice-President
Honourable Ministers,
Excellencies,

One worry is the twin-headed monster of late-entry and early dropout. In East Asia and the Pacific, two-thirds of children enrol late. Yet travel west and the challenge is retention; in certain parts of South Asia, a slim majority of students complete primary school.

Distinguished guests,

Let's not confuse enrolment with learning.

Why? Look no further than the many children who graduate without basic proficiency in reading, writing and math.

Poor education results cannot simply disappear. Just ask one of South Asia's nearly 400 million illiterate adults.

Even good education results, though, are hardly a cure-all, as young graduates increasingly find themselves shut out of today's labour market. Structural unemIn East

