
EDUCATED YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT: EMERGING ISSUE IN INDIAN ECONOMY

Ms. Pooja Verma, Faculty, Department of Commerce, PGGC 46, Chd

Abstract

In India, there has been an alarming phase of mass-unemployment among the educated youth. Post-graduates and graduates are walking pillar to post in search of employment. When there is slowdown in economy, there is surge in the number of uneducated unemployed people. Numerous cases of suicide among the unemployed young men have been a feature of our time. The purpose of this paper is to show the various causes of this alarming situation, key areas of concern and suggests some possible measures as a solution to the same.

Keywords: Unemployed, Youth, Education, Training and Corruption

INTRODUCTION

Educated youth is the pillar of a nation's future destiny. Employment is a significant feature of economic development. A nation, whose educated young men walk pillar to post in search of a petty clerk's job, cannot make progress in the substantial sense of the term. It is the educated young men and women, on whose shoulder lie's the great responsibility of making India an ideally socialist state. Our young men, on their own part, must make it a principle that they should not run after the outwardly shine of urban life, rather they should settle in villages, thereby contributing their quota of services in the build-up of our villages. It is really a matter of pity and shame that though willing to work, a large number of our youths do not find scope of employment. Thousands of young people remain idle even after completing their studies. The number of unemployment youths in our country has already reached an alarming proportion and still the number is increasing every year. The problem of unemployment is perhaps the most serious and crucial problem that India is facing today. The unfortunate situation of unemployed educated youth of the country has resulted in deteriorating condition of law and order.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To study the facts of unemployment in India
- To know the causes of youth unemployment in India
- To suggest remedies on such problem of unemployment

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The present paper is mainly based on secondary data. The information has been collected by me from internet; published data of World Bank Report, Labour Bureau and ILOs report on unemployment, various research papers and unemployment survey is used for analysis.

CHALLENGES FACED BY EDUCATED UNEMPLOYED YOUTH IN INDIA

Approximately 600 million population in India is younger than 25 years of age and close to 70% of the total population is less than 40 years of age. Near about 40% of the Indian population is aged between 13 to 35 years that is defined as youth according to the National Youth Policy. Such a huge population of young is not only exceptional in India but also in the World. In case, this demographic dividend is not used properly then it may result in demographic disaster in India. The youth then will not be on right track. The reason may be unnecessary burden in the form of competition, unemployment, lack of job skills and skill based jobs and the like. Indian Youth at present is also facing acute pressure in every field from getting job to performance at the job. In the coming decade, it is expected that the Indian labour force will grow by more than 8 million per annum. More and more youth will enter into the labor market. So the real challenge in front of the policy makers is to create enough jobs in the market for this educated workforce so as to direct the youth and nation.

IMPORTANT FACTS OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN INDIA

- The unemployment If we consider the nature ,most of it is structural
- Educated unemployment is much higher than overall unemployment
- The youth age group of 18 to 25 is in largest number in total unemployment
- Unemployment is much higher in urban areas than in rural areas
- In urban areas, male unemployment is lower than female unemployment rate
- In rural areas, female unemployment is lower than the male unemployment rate

KEY AREAS OF CONCERN

Defective Education System: The main cause of this large-scale unemployment among the educated youth in India is our defective system of education. It is not satisfactorily related to the socio-economic needs of our people. Since the western system of education was introduced in this country; people have all along shown a general tendency towards general higher education. A certain degree of general education was also considered essential for securing services in public offices and jobs in merchant offices. The lure of lucrative opportunities in liberal profession have all along attracted the bulk of the young men with the result that gradually all these lines have become crowded. India is an agricultural country, more than 70% of the people of India live in villages and their main source of livelihood is cultivation.

Unfortunately, a cultivator's son, after receiving University degree, does not want to follow his father's profession. He would prefer to rot in cities and towns, in search of clerical employment. This has made our country's unemployment problem more acute and far more distressing. It is a pity that our system of University education does not cater to the need of these students i.e. those who belong to agriculturist profession. They should be imparted particular kind of education, laying special stress on the latest methods of cultivation and farm-managing. There are two or three agricultural colleges in every State, and even in these colleges, ordinary peasants cannot afford to get their sons' education.

Lack of Industrial and Technical Training: Lack of industrial and technical training is also one of the major causes, contributing to the mass- unemployment among the educated young men in India. There are a very few technical and engineering institutions in the country, and, secondly, technical education is so costly that common people cannot afford to get their wards admitted in these institutions.

No doubt, with the operation of our 'Five-Year Plans' there is a substantial need of technically-trained young men. But it must be noted that these newly sprung-up industries cannot offer employment to non-technically educated youth. And technically-trained young men are very few in the country and we have to get foreign technicians imported to run these industries.

Mentality: Our educated young men are suffering from a strange malady. They are scrambling head-way after the glitter of working in urban offices; they do not want to settle in villages. They have something of a village-phobia. They, especially after receiving education in cities and towns, prefer to starve in cities to settling down in their villages and do their ancestral work. This mentality of our educated young men must be changed. They should be made to believe that there is no loss of dignity on their part, if they do manual work, honestly and sincerely. 'Every labour has its own vanity.

Inadequate growth of economic opportunities: In comparison with the growth of population, the economic opportunities in the country in trade, industry, commerce, and agriculture have not proportionately increased, with the result that there are more young men seeking employment than there are opportunities to absorb them.

Lack of Entrepreneurship: In India most of the youth are schooled for taking up jobs and their mind set is turned mostly on getting a job. The pre –graduate level and graduate level do not focus on self-employment. Added is the red tops which is stumbling block in the regulating bodies and government establishments.

SUGGESTIONS

To solve the problem a change of outlook is also needed. It is a fact that no government can provide employment for all the unemployed youths. However, there is a need for harmonious development of economic opportunities.

Practical Education System: Hence our education system should be more practical. Vocational education can offer greater employment opportunities to our youths. A system of education should be evolved where students are given technical training so that will eventually help them in securing suitable jobs in appropriate lines of occupations.

Revival of small and cottage industries: By reviving cottage and small-scale industries we can also solve the problem of rural unemployment. The existing cottage industries are to be revitalized and along with them new industries on cottage basis should be started. Cottage industries can serve not only as whole time occupations to many but also as subsidiary means of livelihood to thousands.

Economic opportunities in agriculture: The scope for employment of the educated young men in the field of agricultural is often forgotten. The introduction of better farming methods, cultivation of new crops, running of poultry farms, gardening, etc., are possible lines of work which young men with technical training and initiative may take up with profit.

Control Population Explosion: However, all these will be of no avail unless population explosion is controlled. Indeed hunger, distress and unemployment will rule the land unless the birth rate is reduced to an optimum level. There are some of the methods, which may be tried for minimizing the effects of unemployment. Since this is a very complex problem, it is hardly possible for combating it by a single remedy. Its solution depends on a variety of economic and social factors.

Corruption: Today's youth is concerned with the issue of corruption more than anything else. Corruption should be rooted out of country. Youth in India must know what they want and how they want because good and bad co-exist in the society. Today we relate everything related to success in terms of money. People themselves give rise to corruption by paying money and getting jobs which is a consequence of the challenge of unemployed educated youth.

CONCLUSION

Employment is an important aspect for economic development. India is a conventional varied developing economy. The problem of unemployment has serious socioeconomic implications. While at the individual level, unemployment leads to malnutrition, illness, mental stress, depression, and deterioration of human values; at the level of the economy it implies underutilization of existing human capital. Unless unemployment problem is solved, the future of

India cannot be bright. There will be no peace and prosperity in the country if jobless people do not get a proper channel. More attention should be given otherwise this problem can make jobless youths go to wrong direction.. Our young men, on their own part, must make it a principle that they should not run after the outwardly shine of urban life, rather they should settle in villages, thereby contributing their quota of services in the build-up of our villages. Also there is need on part of the government to look after the various issues of concern. Education system of India needs to be looked after and measures must be taken to educate the youth as to the problem of population explosion. Problem of corruption also needs to be eradicated soon possible so that our country becomes free from this major issue of concern and pave way for the path of development of the country.

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