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A STUDY ON UNEMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAMME OFFERED FOR EMPLOYMENT IN INDIA

T. RAMESH KUMAR ASST. PROFESSOR DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE WITH COMPUTER APPLICATIONS DR. S N S RAJALAKSHMI COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCE CHINAVEDAMPATTI

ABSTRACT

Unemployment casts some short term ripples throughout the economy by reducing an individual's contribution in terms of services and taxes. The unemployed also does not possess the power of purchase, thus in effect contributing to bringing down demand of goods in the market and creating more unemployment. This vicious cycle creates a cascading effect throughout the economy and trickles down to different social strata. India currently (2016) has a population of about 1.3 billion. Indian economy has experienced maximum growth and yet less than half number of Indians seeking jobs has managed to land one during this period. State wise figures reveal that Tripura has the highest unemployment rate in the country at 19.7% while Gujarat has the lowest at 0.9% in 2015-2016. On the other hand, unemployment rate is higher among women at 8.7 percent versus 4.3% among men. Women unemployment rate is higher in the rural areas than in urban sectors of the country. Experts fear that at present, India is experiencing a jobless growth with not enough jobs being created for its working age population (15-64 years). There is ample skepticism afloat about the country not being able to cash in on its demographic bonus, predicted to be 869 million by year 2020 – world's largest.

KEYWORDS

unemployment, employment, schemes and training programme.

I. INTRODUCTION

If the word demands a definition, "unemployment", may be elaborated as a state of not finding work by an individual who is fit and willing to work. It is usually measured in percentage; the number of individuals without work out of the total "labour force" of the country or specific social groups. Labour force is the term collectively applied to the total number of individuals within the population who are willing and capable of doing work. Unemployment rate of a country is indicative of its socio-economic health.

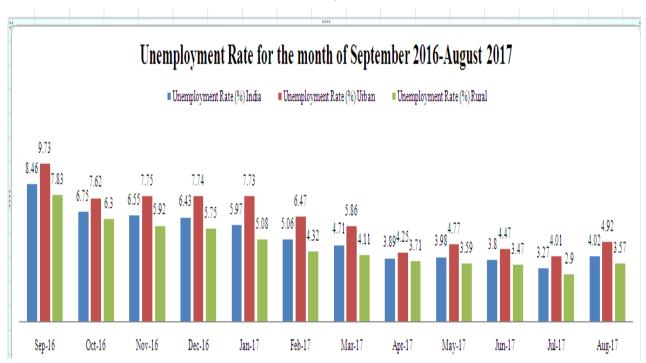
II. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- 1. To examine the current status of the unemployment in India
- 2. To analyze the government taken initiated steps to increase the employment
- 3. To suggest reduce the unemployment.

III. CURRENT STATUS OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN INDIA

TABLE 1

Month	Unemployment Rate (%)			
	India	Urban	Rural	
Aug-17	4.02	4.92	3.57	
Jul-17	3.27	4.01	2.9	
Jun-17	3.8	4.47	3.47	
May-17	3.98	4.77	3.59	
Apr-17	3.89	4.25	3.71	
Mar-17	4.71	5.86	4.11	
Feb-17	5.06	6.47	4.32	
Jan-17	5.97	7.73	5.08	
Dec-16	6.43	7.74	5.75	
Nov-16	6.55	7.75	5.92	
Oct-16	6.75	7.62	6.3	
Sep-16	8.46	9.73	7.83	



UNEMPLOYMENT FALLS

On 14 September 2017, the 30-day moving average of the all India unemployment rate decreased by 11 basis points to 4.45 per cent, as compared to the previous day. This was due to a decline in both rural and urban unemployment.

The 30-day moving average of rural unemployment rate fell by 11 basis points to stand at 4.16 per cent. Similarly, the 30-day moving average of urban unemployment rate fell by 11 basis points to 5.01 per cent for the same period. As a result of this similar downward trend, the urban-rural differential remained unchanged at 85 basis points.

IV. THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TAKEN INITIATED STEPS TO INCREASE THE EMPLOYMENT IN INDIA MAKE IN INDIA

The main aim of the Make in India programme was to generate employment in the manufacturing sector. The target was to increase the share of manufacturing to 25% of GDP by 2020 from 15% under the UPA-led government. However, the parliamentary standing committee of commerce (2017) indicated that "the manufacturing sector has grown only by an average of 1.6% in the last 5 years till 2015-16."

Some economists believe stringent land acquisition laws and inflexible labour regulations make it difficult for India to attract investors in the manufacturing sector. Others believe the lack of support to local manufacturers has led to the failure of the project. Local apparel, footwear, textiles and leather industries did not receive any support from the government in the form of funding. This suggests that although the government aimed to ease the process of business and create more jobs, it could not achieve either.

DIGITAL INDIA

The government aimed to stress on automation through the introduction of Digital India. As a result, major IT companies such as WIPRO, Tech Mahindra and HCL Technologies hardly hired any new employees from 2015-16. Additionally, demonetisation and the switch to online transactions resulted in the closing down of many local kirana stores that accepted only cash payments.

In many ways, India is not yet equipped to transition to Digital India. At present, there isn't enough spectrum or wired connectivity to support the initiative. Through the project, the government had aimed to create home based jobs and encourage more entrepreneurs to start online businesses. However, due to poor digital infrastructure, it has failed to achieve its goals.

STARTUP INDIA

Under this programme, the Central government encouraged banks to provide finance to young entrepreneurs to start their own business ventures. However, lack of innovation and lack of skilled labour resulted in the shutdown of many new startups. In the last two years, a total of 25 startups have shut down. Startups such as TinyOwl, Dazo and Peppertap had to close down due to lack of funds and appropriate skill set. In particular, due to Startup India, many existing employees left their present jobs and turned entrepreneurs. However, since many of the startups failed, they are now unemployed. It could be suggested that not only did Startup India fail to create more jobs, it may have actually resulted in a lot of individuals losing their jobs.

SMART CITIES

The Central government had announced that 100 smart cities would be created and townships revamped by developing infrastructure and transportation facilities. Additionally, in each of these townships, new job opportunities would be created to accelerate overall development. In particular, the main aim of smart cities was to invest in technology and train the youth to create more jobs. But post the identification of the smart cities, no further steps have been taken by the government. Though there have been multiple conferences on the subject, no proper policy regarding investment in technology and how to provide training has been designed.

It is also important to highlight that labour force participation among women has declined significantly. In the three-year action agenda draft (2017-2020), released on April 23 by Niti Aayog, the emphasis was on promoting gender equality in workplaces. Government data from 2004-2012 showed that 1.96 crore women dropped out of the workforce in India. One major reason women join the workforce is to add to household income. However, it has also been observed that once household incomes become stable, they leave their jobs. Also, post marriage, women have to divide their time between public and private responsibilities, according to the International Labour Organisation. Women are willing to accept work if it is near their homes and they do not have to travel too much. Hence, in order to encourage more women in the labour force, it is important to encourage equal division of labour both at the home and the workplace between men and women.

For instance, the government recently increased the number leave days under the maternity benefit scheme. To divide childcare responsibilities between men and women, the government should introduce paternity schemes as well. This will be a step forward and help women to divide their time between the home and the workplace. Additionally, women are enrolling more in education. However, sufficient jobs are not created in sectors such as textiles, farming and clothes manufacturing that could absorb women. The government should particularly focus on sectors that would suit the employability needs of women.

OPTIONS FOR YOUTH

A recent study conducted by Aspiring Minds (2017) indicates that 97% of engineers want jobs in software or core engineering. However, due to shortage of jobs, many engineers as well as non-engineers prefer to join a PhD programme. The regular stipend is an incentive for many to opt for higher education in India. Not only engineers but students from other streams such as science and arts also do not find jobs. As a result, higher education is the alternative for them.

According to the Indian Labor Report (2015), 1.6 crore individuals enroll in higher education due to a lack of jobs. Hence, the government should refrain from cutting research grants and reducing PhD seats. According to the recent UGC Regulations (2016) in any university, a professor can guide only eight PhD students, an associate professor can guide six PhD students and an assistant professor can guide just four Ph.D. students at a time. As a result, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), one of the largest universities in the country, witnessed a massive seat cut from 1000 to 194 in the PhD programme. The government should focus on improving the quality of higher education in India because a lot of students enrol for a Ph. D. programme due to unemployment. In this context, the government should focus on the key factors of unemployment, as well as develop alternatives that will generate employment for the unemployed youth in India.

TABLE 2: TRAINING PROGRAMMES	S AND SCHEMES OFFERED	RY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

S. No	Department	Schemes/ Programmes/ Training programme	Target Group	Duration of long term and short term
1	Agriculture (i) Department of Agriculture Research & Education	Training in Agricultural Extension (21 training centres), Training in use of Agricultural Implements & machinery, Soil Conservation Training Centre, LFQC&TI, NPPTI, Cooperative Education and Training	support services, members of cooperatives	
2	Rural Development	National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) Conducts about 150 programmes Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)		Need based short term
3	Textiles	Decentralized Training Programme, 24 Weavers' Service Centres, Cooperative Training, 13 Power loom Centres, Indian Jute Industries Research Association, Central Wool Development Board, Central Silk Board, Training Centres for Handicrafts, North –eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms development Corporation		% Mainly short term(15 days to 3 months).% Some courses underHandicrafts are of 1year duration.
4	Khadi & Village Industries Corporation	51 Training Centres run 35 types of programmes	Unemployed rural youths, In-job Artisans/Su- pervisors working in KVI instts, Prospective En- trepreneurs, Beneficiaries of different Govt. Schemes desirous of undertaking KVI activities.	

V. SUGGESTIONS

Despite the measures taken by the government, India remains a country experiencing severe unemployment problems. This section seeks to propose strategies for reducing unemployment in India. It is desirable to reduce tax rates and increase government spending which will eventually increase the aggregate demand and the rate of economic growth. Lower tax rates increase the disposable income of people and thus increase consumption and Purchasing power leading to higher aggregate demand (AD). The interest rates should be decreased which would lower the cost of credit and encourage people to spend and invest. Also, the exchange rates would get reduced and which would lead to increase export. Reduction of income tax would work as an incentive for the unemployed as well as employed. It is an attractive proposition which motivates the unemployed to join the labor market and the existing workforce to strive harder. Lower Corporation Tax encourages the young entrepreneurs to start their own Ventures. Government should invest more in human capital development to increase the employability in our country. It should also emphasis more on imparting quality education to the people. Education should be imparted in such a way that it should empower the youth with the necessary skills which can make them employable. It has been observed that unemployment is especially concentrated in certain regions. In order to overcome this geographical disparity, the government could incentivize firms to set up operations in these areas by giving tax breaks. Alternatively, financial assistance can be provided to unemployed workers who moved to established areas which have high employment. Vocation courses are recognized as an important part of under-graduation and post-graduation collages. Government should emphasis in inculcating these courses in the primary level and makes it compulsory part of the curriculum so that people so that people become proficient in their early stage of life. Career Counseling should be provided within the school a

VI. CONCLUSION

India is a fast growing economy. There has been enormous improvement in the unemployment scenario since the time it was recognized as a challenge. The government is implementing various measures for increasing the employment rate and has succeeded to a great extent. Participation of women and the marginalized groups speaks about the success of the policy measures. The wide spread skill development programmes have gained popularity across the nation. With better enforcement of the strategies mentioned above, the employment level can be significantly improved.

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