

Green Jobs as a Solution to Unemployment: Evidence from Emerging Sectors in India

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ABSTRACT

India's unemployment challenge has been steadily gaining attention, even as the government continues to roll out policies aimed at boosting job creation. Measures such as higher capital investment, more relaxed foreign direct investment (FDI) norms, and efforts to improve the ease of doing business have certainly helped in some areas, but they haven't fully solved the problem. Data from the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) by the National Sample Survey Office highlights the situation clearly. In FY2017–18, unemployment stood at 5.3% in rural areas and 7.8% in urban areas, bringing the national average to 6.1%. These figures underline the need for fresh, more sustainable approaches to employment generation. One promising solution lies in the growth of green jobs. Sectors like renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, waste management, and environmentally responsible manufacturing are not only expanding but also offer strong potential for creating new employment opportunities. In the long run, focusing on green employment—supported by thoughtful policy design, targeted skill development, and effective implementation could provide a balanced path forward. It offers a way to tackle unemployment without compromising the country's commitment to sustainable economic growth.

Keywords- Unemployment, Inflation, Gross Domestic Product, Human Resource, Population, Wealth Distribution

Introduction

India is emerging as a superpower in world. India has 5th largest economy in the world. Jobs in India are taking a new shape. With the change in technology jobs are shifting rapidly. But the pace at which jobs should be created is not achieved. Most of the present jobs are not secure and low wages being paid. The paper discusses there is need to make proper planning and implementation these plans. Accountability is to be fixed so that person is made responsible for the plans. Moreover efforts should be made to revive falling GDP.

Unemployment is one of the major distress of every nation. It is a situation when a person willing to work but not get the work. As a result there is more supply of workforce as of demand. It leads to exploitation of workforce, Low wages, extra time, poor working conditions, lack of job security, no incentives. Humans are considered as a machine. Turnover rate of employees leaving the job has been increased which is a bad indicator of employees satisfaction for job. Exploitation of workers is common phenomena. Employment should be fundamental right for every citizen. Government should ensure right job for each citizen. The meaning of job needs to be enlarged. It should not only mean a person is mere working. Factors like quality of work, qualifications and his nature of job, wages in respect of jobs etc should also be considered while deciding definition of unemployment.

By 2008, India had recognized itself as one of the world's fastest growing economies, with GDP almost triumph 10 per cent during 2007–2008. However, the 2008 global financial crisis was a main upset that almost left no country undamaged, as well as India. In the subsequent years, large numbers of personnel faced unemployment since companies, experiencing declining export orders, could not have enough money to hold them. India also saw reverse migration of its skillful labor force employed in the developed world. However, most of the returnees were qualified young people. Following the global financial crisis, India experienced declining rates of GDP. Growth slowed

appreciably to 6.8 per cent in 2008–2009, but later improved to 7.4 per cent in 2009–2010.1 The annual GDP growth rate cut down to around 6.5 per cent for the 2011–2012 fiscal year and to 5.37 per cent by May 2012. The increasing population of qualified young Indians, on the one hand, and the slowing of the Indian economy, on the other, has caused turmoil among the young as they are unable to find jobs that are decent and matching their qualifications.(Sinha, 2013)

It's humans who built great nations. It's human who work and deliver. All the great inventions /discoveries are due to hard work of employees. It will be disregard to their work if they are not paid adequately. Employees are asset of an organisation not as liability. All the profits that are earned are by the efforts of employees. Lack of training and development also leads to unemployment. Technology is changing rapidly, there is need to cope up with the change in technology.

Unemployment give rise to crimes. A person with free brain leads to bad deeds. To earn money for livelihood or to maintain standard of living individuals indulge in illegal activities . it is evident in many studies that countries which have high unemployment rate has high crime rate also. Crimes like theft, snatching, corruption, lynching; murder etc .This is a serious problem.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

(Paul et al., 2018) States that United States is one of the world's most rich and successful nations. Even though a complex array of social insurance programs are in place but still 43.1 million citizens remain in poverty. Unemployment is a strong forecaster of poverty. The author concluded in the research paper there is need of a program “ federal job guarantee for all Americans”. The program would provide full-time employment for any American over eighteen.. It will make up a direct direction for producing full employment by eradicating involuntary unemployment as well as helping in reducing poverty in the country.

(Prawoto, 2017) This study examined the influence of Population Growth, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Interest Rate on unemployment in Indonesia. The impact was seen between the period 1984-2013. The problem is a extremely difficult and mostly faced by the developing nations. The data analysis technique used Vector Error Correction Model (VECM) regression method. The end result shows GDP, interest rate, and total population appreciably influence the number of the unemployment. The result of R-Squared testing Illustrates that GDP, total population and interest rate provide a contribution of 76% to the unemployment.

(Visaria, 1981)aThis research paper reveals the association between poverty and unemployment . The data was collected by the Indian National Sample Survey from October 1972 to September 1973. Data was analyzed for two states of India that is; Gujarat and Maharshttra. This paper highlights a clear association between unemployment and poverty. Moreover the paper concluded that Poverty is, however, more widespread than unemployment.

(Dev & Venkatanarayana, 2011)This paper examines the unemployment condition of the youth in India during the last two-and-half decades viz., 1983 to 2007-08. It analyses the trends in labor force and workforce participation rates, unemployment, joblessness, working poor, growth and employment elasticity. Even though with increase in school and college enrolment rates, the proportion of youth in the labour force has been declining The paper concluded that measures should be taken to advance the educational accomplishment and skill development of the youth.

(Hasan et al., 2012)The study was conducted to study the impact of trade liberalization increases unemployment in country .Industry-level unemployment and trade protection is the major source of data . Analysis reveals that unemployment diminished with trade liberalization in states with flexible labor markets. Furthermore, industry-level analysis indicates that personnel in industries experiencing greater reductions in trade protection were less likely to become unemployed.

Objectives of study

To analyse the reasons for rise in the unemployment in india

To suggest the ways to reduce unemployment in india

Methodology-

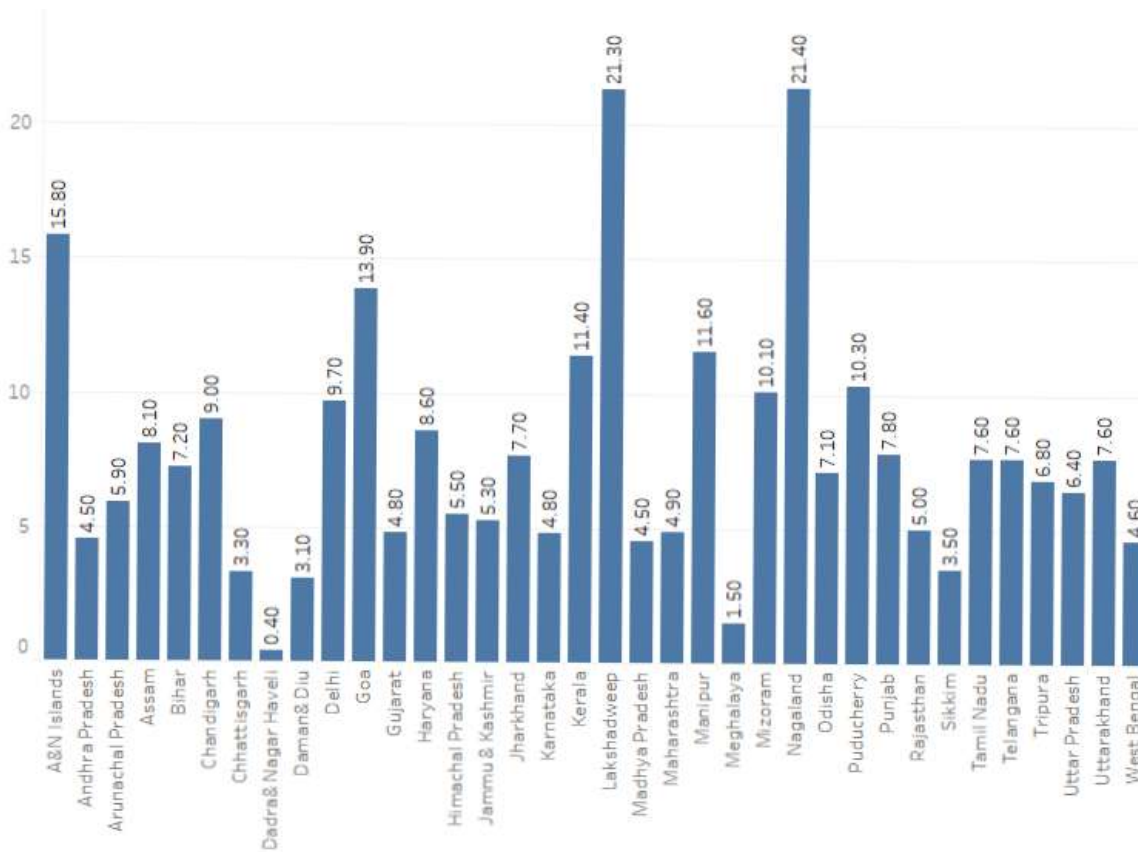
The research paper is mainly based on the The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) of the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)

Current Scenario

- India is one of the fastest growing economies in the world. GDP: \$2.94 trillion **India** GDP (PPP): \$10.51 trillion. **India** is the trillion-dollar economy in the world and the fifth-largest overall, with a nominal GDP of \$2.94 trillion.
- **India** has become the fifth-largest economy in 2019, overtaking the United Kingdom and France.
- Population of India is second largest in world touching 150 crore and has highest density rate of population.(Sliver, 2020)
- About 60% of people in India are below the age of 35 years. Despite that the **Rangarajan** Committee said that the population below the poverty line was 363 million (29.5% of the population) in 2011-2012.
- According to world bank and IMF reports 2019 India ranked 120 and 119 in per capital income from the world .
- The GDP product of India shows decline and stood at 5.7% according to UN report.
- The gap between the rich and poor is increasing . The top 10% of the **Indian** population holds 77% of the total national **wealth**. 73% of the **wealth** generated in 2017 went to the richest 1%, while 67 million Indians who comprise the poorest half of the population saw only a 1% increase in their **wealth**.
- According to **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2017-18**, **6.1%** of India's labour force, and **17.8%** of young people (15-29 years) in the labour force are unemployed(Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, 2019).

Unemployment in india

Percentage of people unemployed in various states and union territories of India.



The Above mentioned bar table depicts the percentage of people unemployed in Various states and union Territories of India. Nagaland a union territory has highest unemployment rate in India amounting to 21.40% , followed by Lakshadweep that stood at 21.30%. By analysing the states data; Goa and Manipur the two Indian states has the maximum uniemployed people figuring to 13.90 and 11.40 percentage respectfully.

Coming to the states which has least unemployment rate Meghalaya reported only 1.50 percent people unemployed followed by chattisgarh.



Following is the illustration of unemployment rate in India in packed bubble view. The big circles represent higher unemployment rate in India.

Statement 30: Unemployment rates (in percent) according to usual status (ps+ss) and current weekly status (CWS) during 2017 – 2018 (PLFS)

status	male	female	all-India person
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
rural			
usual status (ps+ss)	5.8 (3.2)	3.8 (0.7)	5.3 (2.0)
CWS	8.8 (4.8)	7.7 (1.2)	8.5 (3.1)
urban			
usual status (ps+ss)	7.1 (4.0)	10.8 (1.7)	7.8 (2.9)
CWS	8.8 (5.0)	12.8 (2.0)	9.6 (3.5)
rural+urban			
usual status (ps+ss)	6.2 (3.4)	5.7 (1.0)	6.1 (2.2)
CWS	8.8 (4.8)	9.1 (1.4)	8.9 (3.2)

Note: Figures within bracket indicate the percentage of unemployed in the population.

The data reveals that unemployment in males under rural area is 5.8 percent in males and 3.8 percent among females which makes 5.3 percent as aggregate. In urban area unemployment among males and females is 7.1 and 10.8 percent respectfully touching overall percentage to 7.8. current weekly status is more on both males and females in urban area. Aggregating both rural and urban area overall employment rate touching at 6.1 percent.

Statement 33: Unemployment rate (in per cent) among the youth (15 to 29 years) in usual status (ps+ss) during NSS 61st (2004-05), 66th (2009-10), 68th (2011-12) rounds and PLFS (2017-18)

category of persons	NSS round (period)			all-India
	61 st round (2004-2005)	66 th round (2009-2010)	68 th round (2011-2012)	PLFS (2017-18)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
rural male	3.9	4.7	5.0	17.4
rural female	4.2	4.6	4.8	13.6
urban male	8.8	7.5	8.1	18.7
urban female	14.9	14.3	13.1	27.2

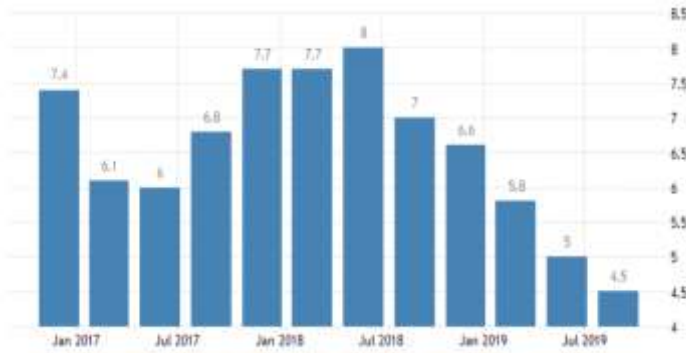
The data illustrates the unemployment rate among youth ranging from 15 to 29 years from different years. There is continuous increase in unemployment among youth which is alarming figures. There is more than threefold increase in rural male population from (2011-2012) to year (2017-2018). whereas rural female, urban male and urban female revealed more than twice increase in the unemployment from (2011-2012) to year (2017-2018).

Reasons for rise in unemployment

Inflation rate- India's food inflation soared to 65 months high touching 7.35% which is alarming figures. There are two forms of inflation i.e demand push inflation and cost push inflation. In 2019 food inflation is more than 60 percent. Its due to seasonal variations and poor planning of crop harvesting. This is a type of cost push inflation in which unemployment is mounting without increasing new jobs rather it decreases the purchasing power of consumer and increases unemployment.



Gross domestic product- It is the total a total amount of goods and services produced in a country during the year. Higher the GDP lower is unemployment rate. India is one of the fastest growing economy in the world. IMF has lowered the projection rate on GDP growth rate in India. In second quarter of 2019 GDP plunge to 4.5 percent. There is urgent need to get back GDP on track so that India can create more job opportunities.



Source –ministry of statistics and programme implementation (MOSPI)

Population growth. India has world's second largest population and world's most population density. India is home of 130 crore people. It is estimated that India will surpass China in just few years. Population growth is one of the serious concerns in India. We have limited resources and unlimited demand. It is very difficult to meet the demand of millions of individuals with limited resources. We are not creating as much as jobs as our population are rising. India is labour intensive country, and there is no need to import capital intensive technology, if manpower can do the same work. It is not only increasing difference between the poor and rich but also jobs are being lost.

Industrial Growth- India a country with wide diversity. Different geographical area, culture, religion, tastes, preferences, but a one nation. There is need to set up industry in every village that not only provide work to people but also help in growth of nation. Government should have policy of one village one industry. It will lift thousands of people below poverty line. There is need to provide incentive to villagers so that they can set up small business houses.

Present jobs- the present jobs in India are mainly of two types private sector and government sector. According to study there are just 3% government jobs in India rest 97% are private sector jobs. Employees have to face exploitation in private sector. No job security, low wages, other issues like leaves, allowances, perquisites, medical benefits, promotion are being ignored. There is need to regulate this area by government. At least the jobs that are present should be a quality job. The government needs to fix minimum salary and job security; the most important in job. Few business houses are getting millions of profit by the hard work of employees and employees are getting nothing in return. We can see the frustration in people when a single government job vacancy came thousands apply for it. Post graduated students are applying for clerical jobs. It's due to low wages and job security in private sector.

Wealth distribution. -OXFAM (Oxfam, 2017) The top 10% of the Indian population holds 77% of the total national wealth. 73% of the wealth generated in 2017 went to the richest 1%, while 67 million Indians who comprise the poorest half of the population saw only a 1% increase in their wealth. Rich is getting richer and poor getting poorer. There is need to decrease gap among rich and poor. It can be done by imposing high tax rates on rich, fixation of minimum salary to employees, increasing CSR limit, and spreading awareness.

SUGGESTIONS

There is need for implementation of various plans. We should not only form plans but do all our efforts to accomplish it. It is said India is good in planning worse in implementation. Most of the plans remain on paper due to lack of accountability. Accountability must be fixed. In India mostly in government sector no one is answerable. They are only passing their responsibility to another person. At the end they make new plans. Take an example of planning commission now NITI Aayog. The commission is making plans since 1955 to reduce unemployment. Instead of reducing population the rate of population is rising continuously. NITI Aayog is known as think tank of India. Efforts should be made to accomplish these plans. Plans should be compared with actual results and if variations are found proper action must be taken to remove the variation in future.

Education helps to uplift the nation to new heights. Education enlightens mind and provides power to do things in right way. To educate is like social service that rises the standard of society. In recent times 'education is on sale'.

Education is becoming a business. Thousand of rupees are being charged for study. It violates fundamental right to education. Poor people can't afford their offspring's to study in good institutes moreover educational institutes in India focus on more theoretical knowledge than practical one. They have outdated syllabus. Student should be educated and trained according to the nature of the present jobs prevailing the market.

There is need to enhance the area for venture capital in India. Easy availability of loans for micro and small industry should be priority of government. Proper appraisal should be done before sanctioning of loans. It will help to flourish the domestic industry and provide employment to millions of people. Loans for business should be provided rather than for consumption.

Conclusion

India is a developing country. To provide employment there is need to create jobs. Jobs can be created by fully utilising the resources. There are three sectors in the economy i.e primary sector, secondary sector and service sector. We have to create jobs making balance in all the three sectors. Jobs in industrial sector should not be forgoing jobs in agriculture sector. Jobs are created sowing the seeds of innovation. Continuous research and development leads demand of a product worldwide. As result demand of domestic goods rise that creates jobs. The policy of the government to increase the capital expenditure is temporary solution of unemployment. It may boost nation for temporary period. This increases government deficit and burden of payment of loans. The capital expenditure leads to increase money supply in nation. Inflation is one of the serious concern . There is need to change the mindset. Innovation and set up of small business houses is solution of unemployment.

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