

A STUDY ON PROBLEMS FACED BY EDUCATED UNEMPLOYED YOUTH WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THRISSUR DISTRICT

***Ms.J.Pushparani Kavitha**, *Ph.D Scholar, Department of Social Work, Nehru Arts and Science College, Coimbatore, Tamlinadu, India.*

****Mr.Aron Joy & Ms.Keerthana.V**, *I MSW Students, Nehru Arts and Science College, Coimbatore, Tamlinadu, India.*

Abstract

Unemployment among educated youth has emerged as a critical socio-economic issue in India, and the Thrissur district of Kerala is no exception. This study aims to examine the key challenges faced by educated yet unemployed individuals in Thrissur, exploring both personal and systemic factors contributing to their joblessness. Using a mixed-methods approach, data was collected through surveys and interviews from a representative sample of educated unemployed youth in the district. The findings highlight a range of issues including skill mismatch, lack of industry-specific training, overdependence on government jobs, inadequate career guidance, and socio-psychological stress. The study also reveals the growing frustration and declining morale among youth, which may lead to long-term socio-economic consequences if not addressed. Based on the insights gathered, the paper proposes practical recommendations for policymakers, educational institutions, and employment agencies to bridge the gap between education and employability, and to create a more supportive ecosystem for youth employment in Thrissur.

Key Words: Educated Unemployment, Skill Mismatch, Employment Gap,

Introduction

Unemployment is when an individual who is not employed and is seeking employment cannot find work. Unemployment is a key indicator of the health of an economy. A low unemployment rate represents a strong economy while a high unemployment represents a weak economy.

Why is unemployment a problem?

Unemployment results in reduces demand, consumption and buying power which in turn causes lower profit for business and leads to budget cuts and work force reductions.it creates a cycle that goes on and on that is difficult to reverse without some types of intervention.

Types of Unemployment

Cyclical

Economics go through periods of inflation and recession when industries are experiencing instability or lower profitability, unemployment may rise. Cyclical unemployment resulting from cyclical trends in the business cycle.

Frictional

Frictional unemployment occurs when an employee quits their job voluntarily in pursuit of others unlike other type of unemployment, Frictional unemployment does not indicate an unhealthy economy. This ca also occurs when people resign from their jobs to look for better prospects.

Structural

The release of new technologies and processes can lead to structural unemployment when the skills of employees do not match the demands of the economy. While there may be plenty of jobs in the market, a mismatch between company expectations and employees' skills leads to such circumstances. The automation process can replace jobs and skills with the introduction of new technologies, along with less demand for older technologies.

Natural

An economy can never have zero unemployment. Natural unemployment refers to unemployment that persists even when the economy is healthy and thriving. This type of unemployment, resulting due to natural causes, explains how there can always be some form of unemployment. Frictional and structural unemployment are both types of natural unemployment.

Long Term

When an individual has been looking for a job for 27 weeks or longer, they can be called long term unemployed. Long term unemployment can affect the families of concerned people in a negative way. High rates of long term unemployment can also be challenging for policy makers. Since it indicates the gap in labour markets.

Classical

Classical Unemployment, also called real wage unemployment, occurs when current pay scales are high and an employer is unable to afford to hire more employees or has to let go of current staff. This might happen if state minimum wage standards increase or unions negotiate higher salaries for their working crews. The employer may require hiring more employees, but cannot afford to do so.

Under Employment

Underemployment is a unique category because it includes those who have jobs. These employees might have part time jobs or seasonal jobs but want full time positions. This category can also include companies that might not be using the employee's full skill set.

Review of Literature

Christina G Villagas (2018), the book titled, "The Youth Unemployment Crisis: Reference Handbook" examines the recent phenomenon in the United States where in young workers ages 16 to 24 are employed or disconnected from the labour force at disproportionate rates. It describes in detail what led to the crisis, who it affects and what can be and is being done about it.

Richard B.Freeman & Happy J.Holzer (2008), the book titled "The Black Youth Employment Crisis", in recent years, the earnings of young blacks have risen substantially relative to those of young whites, but their rates of joblessness have also risen to crisis level. The paper states the volume, analyze the history, causes and explanations of black youth unemployment.

Research Methodology

1. To study about the Socio economic back ground of unemployed youth
2. To study about the Socio economic problems of unemployed youth
3. To identify the various factors that have caused low level employment in Thrissur District.
4. To identify the causes of unemployment among educated youth

Research Design

The research design means that methods and procedures used in collecting and analyzing measures of the variables specified in the research problem. The design of the study is descriptive studies, as the name suggests describe as accurately as possible the characteristics of a group of people or community, design of the study is descriptive study. Universe of the study is unemployed youth in puthur panchayath, Unit of the study is 30. Here researcher use convenience sampling. Convenience sampling is one of the types of non-probability sampling method that relies on data collection from population members who are conveniently available to participate in the study.

Findings of the Study

Majority of the respondents (83.3%) are under the age category of 20-24. More than half of the respondents (66.7%) are belongs to male. All of the respondents are married. Majority of the respondents (76.7%) nuclear family type most of three respondents 76.7%)are graduated. More than half of the respondents 66.7% living in rural area. More than half of the respondents 66.7% are unemployed. Majority of the respondents (66.7%) identified cause of unemployment is economic recession. Majority of the respondents (63.3%) agreed govt not providing employment opportunities. Most of the respondents (96.7%) aware unemployment affect socio economic status of the family. Majority of the respondents (83.3%) aware unemployment affect family relationship negatively. Majority of the respondents (96.7%) agreed unemployment affect common people's life. Majority of the respondents (80%) unemployment lead stop mental health. Most of the respondents (83.3%) disagree that unemployed people are usually drug users. Nearly half of the respondents (63.3%) aware unemployment leads to corruption, dishonesty, crimes and sins. Most of the respondents (63.3%) are not preferring white collar job. Majority of the respondents (80%) identifies employed person have higher status than unemployment. Nearly half of the respondents (63.3%) aware lack of enough industries is cause of unemployment.

Suggestions

- Implement skill development programs tailored to the need of the local job market.
- Offer support and incentives for young entrepreneurs.
- Career Counselling Services
- Networking Opportunities
- Government initiatives
- Education Reforms
- Financial support
- Community support programmes

Conclusion

In conclusion, the study on the problem face educated unemployed youth sheds light on the multifaceted challenges encountered by this demographic from the findings. It is evident that educated unemployed youth face numerous obstacles in securing meaningful employment opportunities despite possessing qualification and skills.

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