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“RISING YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT LEADS TO YOUTH UNREST”

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Abstract- In Indian society, youth unrest is a very severe societal issue. The majority of young people are directly or indirectly involved in various social issues. Youth unrest is defined as the manifestation of collective frustration of the youth in society and unemployment is one of the main causes of youth unrest. Being a youth who is very energetic, vibrant, and dynamic nature it is a very restive feeling to sit idle at home. Youth Participation in every sector is undoubtedly high representing nearly 1/3 population and contributing 34% of the Gross National Income in India. Despite the government's various programs and initiatives for youth development, unemployment has surged in the last half-decade, causing anger among young people. The study is based on secondary data and examines how unemployment is the leading cause of youth unrest, as well as the implications of youth unrest and government measures to address such a huge issue in the country.

Key words- Youth, Youth unrest, Unemployment, consequences of youth unrest, government initiatives

I. INTRODUCTION

The term ‘YOUTH’ in society is regarded as an ascribed status or socially constructed label rather than the biological condition of being youth. Youth is a more diversified category than the appropriate age bundle. According National youth policy, 2014 defined ‘youth’ as persons in the age group of 15-29 years. Though fundamentally it is a concept associated with biology as a stage in human growth and development. The age group between 15 to 30 years is the most crucial since it constitutes the passage for an individual from a young age to mature adulthood with all the experiences that him/her to take any decision. Youth is often demonstrated as an individual between the age where he/she leaves mandatory education, and the age at which he/she discovers his/her first employment. It is the period in which an individual takes the crucial choice of life and endeavors to develop in various fields in life in terms of family, profession, economic decision, and social aims and objectives. Youth being energetic, vibrant, inventive, and dynamic in nature shows strong energy, inspiration, and willpower which likewise enables them most valuable human asset for cultivating monetary, social, and political improvement of a nation.

India's 1.3 billion people make it the second-most populous country in the world, but with an average age of 29, it has one of the youngest populations globally. According to United Nations, *world population prospects 2019*, India's youth population by the year 2020 in the age group of 15-29 years will be 365 million. Being the world's youngest country, one of the advantages for the country would be to expand, develop, and utilize youth as a resource. Instead of being used as a resource for growth, youth are confronted with difficulties such as unemployment. If the youth are not substantially incorporated into the labor and are not productive enough or anymore. Unemployment among young people is the surest path to social stress, instability, and illegal activity. The frustration of unemployed youth as evident during the recent Arab Spring suggests that the lack of jobs can be a source of social unrest. Work by the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge University, which has been studying the subject for nearly 50 years, established long ago that young people are more likely to commit crimes when they are out of work. That crime is often petty but it can turn into something more serious. Hence to understand India's future growth potential we must look at the issue of education, skill formation, and employment among youth in India.

A population projection report 2011-2036, issued by the Ministry of health and family welfare stated that the youth population in India no longer be that much young. It is projected that the youth population between the age group 15-24 years is expected to decrease from 251 million in 2021 to 229 million in 2036. Its proportion to the total population is expected to fall from 19.3 percent in 2011 to 15.1 percent in 2036⁴.

According to the Center for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), India has 53 million unemployed people as of December 2021 and the majority of them are women. This unemployment situation in India makes the youth frustrated and unrest, later it turns into various mental health-related issues and agitation. The research paper highlights the present situation of youth unemployment severity and how it makes the youth become frustrated and compelled them to take some serious actions against it.

II. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The objective of the research paper is to highlight the problem of increasing youth unrest due to joblessness. The further study highlights the initiatives taken by the government to overcome the problem.

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study is purely based on secondary sources of data. Secondary data is taken from various sources like reports on employment exchange, reports of various Ministries, National youth policy 2014, the center for monitoring the Indian economy, newspapers, research papers, articles, etc.

IV. YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT SCENARIO IN INDIA

The term unemployment refers to a situation when a person who is actively searching for employment is unable to find work. The Eighth International Conference on Labour Statistics held in Geneva in 1954 defined "unemployment" as: "a person in unemployment is a person above a specific age who is without a job and seeking work for pay or profit". As far as its Etymology is concerned the word "unemployment" describes the idea of involuntary idleness which means a condition under which for diverse rationales, individuals have to stay without jobs for several months or for many years.

According to the center for monitoring Indian economy (CMIE) report as of Dec 2021, one in five college graduates is unemployed. Being the youngest country in the world it will be one of the beneficial power of our country but instead of that, it became one of the very serious problems of the country that after having a proper education youth still have no jobs. According to employment exchange statistics 2020, as of Dec 2019, 424.1 lakh persons were on the live register with the employment exchange as compared to 421.2 lakh during 2018.

YEAR	PERCENTAGE OF YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT (20-24 years)
2016-17	24.2%
2017-18	21.3%
2018-19	30.4%
2019-20	36.7%
2020-21	38.9%
2021-22	41.5%

Source- centre for monitoring Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy

In the above table it is clearly show the joblessness of youth of india which is continuously increasing year by year. As per the World bank report 2021, the total workforce of India is 471 million. Not removing the effect of Covid-19 which has raised a ruckus around town and has impacted individuals all over the planet. Such countless individuals all over the planet have lost their employment. The most significant rebellion the developing economies face is the issue of joblessness and economic development.

V. YOUTH UNREST AS A CONSEQUENCE OF UNEMPLOYMENT

In a very general sense when we talk about unrest it's easy to understand the meaning of the term i.e a disturbed mental state of a person and when we connect such unrest with youth it becomes youth unrest which clearly states a state of restless and disturbed mind of youth. The reason a youth can feel unrest for any personal or social reasons, but when talk youth unrest as a national problem the first reason came to mind is the unemployment problem of youth.

There was numerous incidence which is the witnessed of youth disillusionment because of unemployment. On 26 January 2022, thousands of young job seekers set fire to an empty stationary railway coach in the eastern Indian city of Gaya and the Prayagraj district of Uttar Pradesh. In this incident, a lot of harm and loss were faced by the Indian railways. The reason for such riots is the lack of transparency in the recruitment process of Indian railways. Bihar and U.P., where the violence was witnessed account for the largest share of youth in India – Bihar accounted for 7.9% and U.P. for 17.2% of all 15–29-year-olds in India.

Another very recent incident happens in June 2022 when the youth of India gets violent after hearing about a military recruitment plan. Behind the unrest is a new policy to enlist young men as soldiers on four-year contracts without a pension, replacing the current 15-year service that entails full retirement benefits. There was a long list of such incidences where the youth get violent due to the problem of unemployment.

This high joblessness rate among the college-educated has caused what the World Economic Forum calls "broad youth frustration," guaranteeing it's a danger to India's financial strength - and is responsible for a developing emergency in India's work market.

VI. GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

India is a fast-growing economy. There has been an enormous improvement in the unemployment scenario since the time it was recognized as a challenge. The government has implemented schemes to generate employment such as wage-based employment and the promotion of self-employment. In order to counter the rising unemployment scenario in the country which spiraled during the pandemic, the government undertook various initiatives to generate employment and reduce unemployment in the country. This article discusses various measures undertaken by the government to check rising unemployment.

6.1 Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojna

It was undertaken by the government to encourage self-employment. Under this scheme collateral-free loans up to Rs. 10 lakh, are provided to small/micro business enterprises and to individuals to enable them to set up or expand their business activities.

6.2 Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protshan Yojna

It was initiated in 2016-17 by the ministry of labour and employment. Here government pays the entire employer's contribution (12% or as admissible) towards the EPS and EPF for all sectors of all eligible new employees for the next 3 years from the date of registration of the new employee.

6.3 Skill India Mission

It is implemented by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship with a focus to provide skilling to one crore people under short-term training (STT), Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), and Special Project (SP) across the country for four years with an outlay of Rs 12000 Crore.

Under the scheme, a short b- duration skill development training program is being imparted to all prospective candidates including candidates belonging to BPL in the country.

6.4 Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojna (PMGKY)

Here the government of India contributes both 12% of the employer's share and 12% employee's share under the Employees Provident Fund (EPF), totaling 24% of the wage for wage month from march to august 2020 for organizing having up to 100 employees with 90 % of such employees earning less than Rs 15000.

6.5 PM SVA Nidhi

The scheme was initiated by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. It focuses to provide affordable working capital loans to street vendors to resume their livelihoods that were impacted during the covid -19 lockdown. The vendors can avail of a working capital loan of up to rs 10000. Which is repayable in monthly installments in tenure of one year.

6.6 Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)

It was initiated in the 10th five-year plan in 2005 and works under the Ministry of Rural Development. It is a centrally sponsored scheme with pattern 90:10. It provides a legal guarantee of at least 100 days of unskilled manual work that can apply to the local gram panchayat (which will issue a job card).

6.7 National Career Service

It was envisioned for transforming the National Employment Service to provide various employment-related services such as job matching, career counseling, vocational guidance, information on skill development courses, apprenticeships, internships, etc through an online portal. National career services (NCS) focuses on a one-stop solution to provide various services to the citizens of India. This program is implemented by the directorate general of the employment ministry of labor and employment.

6.8 National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM)

The scheme named Deendayal Antrodaya Yojna - NRLM (National rural livelihood mission) was launched by the ministry of rural development, govt. In India in June 2011 a restructured form of the Swarna Jayanti gram Saroj yojna (SGSY). This scheme is fully focused on promoting self-employment and the organization of the people who live in rural areas. In this program, the main idea is to organize the poor into a self-help group. This scheme aims to create efficient and effective institutional platforms for the rural poor, enabling them to make their livelihood and good standard of living.

It aims to cover 7 crore low households in 600 districts, 6000 blocks, 2.5 lakh gram panchayats, and 6 lakh villages across the country through self-help groups and help them for livelihood over the period of 8 to 10 years.

6.9 National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM) 2013

It is a scheme initiated by the ministry of housing and urban affairs. A centrally sponsored Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojna (SJSRY) since 1997 has been restructured as a day national urban livelihood Mission since 2013. It is for all cities with a population of more than 1 lakh or more. It was brought to decrease poverty, gain self-employment and build strong grassroots-level institutions. The mission world aims at providing shelter equipped with essential services to the urban homeless.

VII. SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Despite of implementation of various programs and schemes in favor of employment the problem of unemployment is still increasing continuously. After analysis above facts and problem following are some recommendations and suggestions to overcome such a problem

- Government should conduct various workshops and seminars where the youth get a platform to speak freely about their problems.
- Counselling centers should be opened in every district, where free counseling services are to be provided.
- Decentralisation of industrial activities is essential so that people of every region get employment.
- Job vacancies in the public sector need to be regulated
- Promote more labor-intensive industries which create more job opportunities for others.
- Education should be more skill-enhancing oriented.

VIII. CONCLUSION

Improving the lives of youth in the mission lift their lives, and generate a virtuous cycle with healthier and educated young adults contributing substantially to securing India's future.

The problem of unemployment among the youth is a serious issue because this will directly affect the minds of the young generation who will be the future of the Nation. Youth have the potential to bring change to society so it is the collective responsibility of everyone to secure our country's real gold. If we are not able to show the right direction to youth then this will lead them to the wrong path of violence, riots, and crime which directly harm the nation.

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