

EDUCATED UNEMPLOYMENT IN INDIA: PERCEPTION AND REALITY

Dr. Ruchi Sagar*

ABSTRACT

In the 21st century one of the biggest challenges faced by populous developing countries is to provide employment to youth specially educated youth who are looking for white collar jobs. In this context the purpose of policy makers is not only the expansion of higher education but also to make it more employment oriented. The paper analyses the growth trends in higher education in the country. In addition it also discusses the relation between higher education & unemployment levels across different states in India. The study reveals that as expected there has been an increase in the number of graduates in all the states but the growth patterns are quite varying. Some states show significant increase in number of graduates. Interestingly from among them some states have the highest percentage of educated unemployed. This brings out the fact that most of the states rolling out higher number of graduates are experiencing high level of educated unemployment. Thus the policy makers attention is required to this ever increasing problem faced by the country. This calls for concrete measures in higher education system.

Key Words: Educated Unemployment, Graduates, Higher Education

Introduction

"If students merely recite academic concepts from books and their instructors' verbal lectures, it will not help them to clearly understand course material contents because there was no application of critical thinking strategies." — Saaif Alam

Since independence one of the targets in every five year plan has been to increase the spread of higher education and the evidence of it can be found in the ever increasing number of graduates which the country produces year after year. The University Grants Commission the apex body of higher education began to function in 1954. Since then there have been many policies in higher education. In all the policies, attempts have been made by successive governments to increase and improvise higher education in the country. Over the years the number of graduates in the country went up immensely creating a myth about the success of

higher education rates in the country. Unfortunately, the picture of higher education has been far from rosy. The current study attempts to highlight the weakness of higher education programmes in the country in creating employability among youth. The structure of higher education in the country over the years is one of the factors that can be blamed for unemployment among the education youth. Also to a great extent the deficiencies in the education system and over enthusiasm of the policy makers focusing only on increasing the number of graduates could be the reasons for educated unemployment.

Objectives

- 1) To study the trends in higher education in all the states of India from the year 2010-11 to 2015-16
- 2) To study the relation between higher education and educated unemployment in the country.

*Associate Professor, Dept. of Economics, Nagindas Khandwala College