



Educated Unemployment among Youth (25-35 yrs) : A case study of Patna Municipal Corporation Area

• Nidhi Singh • Anjali Singh • Pratibha Singh
• Bhawana Nigam

Received : November 2016

Accepted : March 2017

Corresponding Author : Bhawana Nigam

Abstract : Educated unemployment is unemployment among people with an academic degree. Educated unemployment is due to a mismatch between aspirations of graduates and employment opportunities available to them. Education in India is considered as a prerequisite for jobs, irrespective of the fact of whether it is job-oriented or not. The Indian education system represents a degree-based system, where 10+2+3 is followed and considered as basic minimum education for employment in future. It is after this, that young educated girls and boys start looking for jobs and often get disappointed when their qualification are not considered to be good enough for high pay scale jobs in today's corporate world. Unemployment in India is a serious social issue. Out of Bihar's 104 million people, 28 million are between 15 to 30

years of age (Times of India). The unemployment rate for those above 30 years of age is 1.4%. Most of Bihar's youth are engaged in agriculture, followed by construction and trade. Patna is the capital and the largest city of the state of Bihar. Despite the presence of several technical and non-technical institutions in and around Patna Municipal Corporation Area, there is a lack of job opportunities. Youth are forced to migrate outside not only from Patna but from Bihar, in search of jobs and better lifestyle. Thus, this study would be focusing on the different causes and effects of educated unemployment among youth (25-35 years of age) in Patna Municipal Corporation Area and suggesting some remedies for its improvement.

Keywords: Educated Unemployed, job opportunities, skill development, socio-economic problems.

Nidhi Singh

B.A. III year, Geography (Hons.), Session: 2014-2017,
Patna Women's College, Patna University, Patna,
Bihar, India

Anjali Singh

B.A. III year, Geography (Hons.), Session: 2014-2017,
Patna Women's College, Patna University, Patna,
Bihar, India

Pratibha Singh

B.A. III year, Geography (Hons.), Session: 2014-2017,
Patna Women's College, Patna University, Patna,
Bihar, India

Bhawana Nigam

Lecturer, Department of Geography,
Patna Women's College, Bailey Road,
Patna – 800 001, Bihar, India
E-mail : bhawananigam65@gmail.com

Introduction :

Unemployment represents the number of people in the work force who want to work but do not have a job. It is generally stated as a percentage, and calculated by dividing the number of people who are unemployed by the total work force. Educated unemployment or graduate unemployment is unemployment among people with an academic degree. Educated unemployment is due to a mismatch between the aspirations of graduates and employment opportunities available to them.

Unemployment in India is a serious social issue. Unemployment records in India are kept by the Ministry of Labour and Employment of India and, according to them; the ranks of jobless Indians with bachelor's and high degrees grew by 9 percent in the country between

2004 and 2012 (Economic survey 2015). In 2011-12 about 30 percent of the total 1.5crore population of India were completely unemployed, even though they were graduates and highly qualified (*Times of India*, June 23, 2014). The overall unemployment is high, but the problem of youth unemployment; particularly that of educated youth, is gradually becoming a major concern. Put differently, the rate of unemployment among graduates (including technically trained) and diploma holders was around 18 percent (ministry of Labour and Employment).

According to Labour data (Labour Bureau's Report, 2015) Bihar has one of the lowest proportions of young people; unemployment for them (15-29 years of age group) is 17.5 percent, which is higher than the national average of 13 percent. The unemployment rate for those above 30 years of age is 1.4 percent. Most of Bihar's youth are engaged in agriculture followed by construction and trade. Bihar had only 3,345 industries at the end of 2013, (Annual Survey of Industries) that is, 1.5 percent of the total industries in India, as against leading industrialized states; such as, Tamil Nadu (16.6 percent), Maharashtra (13.03 percent) and Gujrat (10.17 percent). Out of 12.9 million persons engaged across the Indian Industry, Bihar accounted for only 116,396 people i.e. less than 1 percent. With agriculture recording 3.7 percent growth (Economic Survey, 2015) and no major industries in the state, providing employment to the growth engine of the economy (the young population could be the real challenge).The unemployment scenario, according to the State Government officials, is particularly worrying as it is much higher when compared to the national average. Bihar's case remains at alarming levels.

Patna is the capital and the largest city of the state of Bihar. Patna is the second largest city in Eastern India after Kolkata. According to the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO, 2009-10), Patna recorded the highest unemployment rate among males in 2009-2010, in cities with more than one million populations. On the other hand, in the case of Patna Municipal Corporation Area, where literacy rate is as high as 83.4 percent there is no difference from the rest of the country. This has created various problems, such as, increase in poverty, political instability, exploitation of labour etc. It has also led to loss of valuable human resources, giving rise to social and economic problems. Most importantly, unemployment is demoralizing educated young people who are the future building pillars of Bihar.

Despite having several technical and non-technical institutions in and around Patna Municipal Corporation Area, there is a lack of job opportunities. Youth are forced to migrate not only from Patna but from Bihar, in search of jobs and better lifestyle. It has been observed that the higher the education, the higher the employment chance, but here in India the statement appears to be untrue.

Objectives :

The objectives of this study are- (i) to find out the causes of among educated youth unemployment (ii) to find out the effects of unemployment among educated youth and (iii) to look for its suggested remedies.

Hypotheses :

The working hypotheses of the study are :- (1) Youth from Hindi medium of education are more unemployed in comparison to those from English medium (2) Lack of vocational and skill development training is the root cause of educated unemployment (3) Various social, economic and health side effects are felt by the youth due to educated unemployment.

Study area :

The present project work has been carried out in the Patna M. C. area. Patna is the capital city of Bihar and is situated on the crossing of 25° 37' N latitude and 82° 12' E longitude. Patna is located on the bank of river Ganga. On the basis of physiography, the city lies within the South Bihar Plain. The total span of Patna Municipal Corporation area is around 110 square kilometers, having a population size of 1.8 million (Census 2011) The total area of Patna is divided into 72 wards, which have been further rearranged into three zones – west, central and east Patna. For this study, a survey was conducted in Jagdeo Path, Bankipore, and Boring Road.



Methodology :

The research paper followed a distinct methodology, having three phases, which were- (i) Pre-field survey – study of relevant material and data, preparation of a questionnaire and collection of secondary data. (ii) Field survey – survey of selected localities on the basis of prepared questionnaire and collection of data. (iii) Post-field survey– compilation, tabulation, representation analysis of primary data and preparation of the report.

Sample selection :

With the help of a set questionnaire, the case study was carried out among 100 youth in Patna Municipal Corporation area. For comprehensive study, both males and females were selected ranging between 25-35 years of age.

Age group of the educated unemployed :- The data shows that 82% of males and 88% females who are educated unemployed; belong to the age group of 25-29 years, while 16% of male and 12% of females belong to the age group of 30-35 years.

Relationship status of the educated unemployed :- It was observed that among educated unemployed, 88% of male and 80% of females were unmarried while 12% of males and 20% of females were married. Thus, it shows that higher percentage of youth; even at the age of 25 to 30 years are still unmarried due to unemployment.

Place of education of the educated unemployed :- It was observed that both categories of the respondents (male and female) have obtained their education from various places, such as, Patna (60% male and 78% female), outside Bihar (16% male and 12% female), outside Patna but in Bihar (10% male and 6% females) and other places such as correspondence courses or foreign universities (14% male and 4% female) and are still unemployed. So it can be said that higher percentage of educated youth who are unemployed had their education in Patna M.C Area.

Family structure of the educated unemployed :- Among the surveyed educated unemployed youth , 42% of males and 56% of females belong to the joint family system followed by extended (10% males, 2% females), nuclear (38%and 36%) and single accommodation (10% and 6%).Thus it can be said that due to

unemployment the educated youth are dependent on their families for their basic needs and requirements.

Board of education of the educated unemployed :- The survey shows that among educated unemployed youths; 70% of the female and 32% of male respondents has done their schooling from CBSE board, whereas 48% of male and 24% of female respondents from BSEB board. Thus, it can be said that males educated from BSEB board and females from CBSE board are more unemployed in comparison to other boards.

Year of graduation of the educated unemployed :- It was observed that 8% of male and 10% of female respondents did their graduation in the year 2000-05, 58% male and 52% females graduated in the year 2006-10, followed by 34% males and 38% females who were graduated in the year 2011-15, but are still unemployed. Thus, it can be said that, no matter when was the year of passing out from the college with graduation degree, it did not help them in getting jobs in Patna M.C. area.

Medium of education of the educated unemployed :- The figure 2 shows that 52% of male and 64% of female respondents were educated in English medium while 28% of males and 36% of females were educated in Hindi medium and are still unemployed. So it can be said that higher percentage of respondents unemployed are from English medium. Thus, the first hypothesis “**Youth from Hindi medium of education are more unemployed in comparison to English medium**” has not been validated.

Causes of Educated Unemployment :

Unemployment is the most dangerous problem of each and every developing country now days. Various causes of unemployment of the educated according to the survey are as follows:

- (i) **Lack of Educational Institutions :** The table 1 shows the list of educational institutions in Patna Municipal Corporation Area. The technical institutions like IIT Patna, BIT Patna, Maulana Azad College of Engineering and Patna Sahib College Of Engineering and Technology offer 200, 165, 360 and 510 seats respectively (www.macet.net.in, www.psgc.org). It was observed that the

numbers of technical institutions are not enough for such a huge population of Patna MC Area and secondly they are beyond the affordability of the common man. This creates a lack of proper institutional facilities which leads to unemployment.

(ii) **Lack of Skill Development** : Table 2 shows the educational qualification of surveyed youths; where only 8% of males and 4% of females have opted for vocational courses and a large percentage of both male (48%) and female (44%) respondents were simple graduates. Only 10% of the surveyed females and 12% of the surveyed males had a technical degree, followed by 6% males and 6% females with MBA degree and 26% males and 40% females with PG and above degrees. Thus, simple graduates were found to be more unemployed in comparison to the youth having a technical degree. **Thus, the second hypothesis "Lack of vocational and skill development training is the root cause of educated unemployment" has been validated.**

(iii) **Employment Scenario** : Fig. 3 shows the different causes of educated unemployment, according to the surveyed sample. It was observed that 52% of the males and 40% of the females believed that the high cost of education was one of the important reasons of educated unemployment, followed by 55% of males and 45% of females who felt that the rapid growth for population was an important reason of educated unemployment. It has also been observed that 36% of the male and 44% of the female respondents believed that reservations in the jobs was an important reason behind the educated unemployment. It was also observed that 26% of males and 18% of females consider marks-based education system as one of the major causes of educated unemployment.

Effects of Educated Unemployment :

In the Indian society, it is generally observed that, with the increase in the rate of unemployment many health related problems, such as, hypertension, cardiac

problems, psychoneurosis, depression, and suicides are rising among the youth. Other behaviours, such as, joining anti-social groups; increase in the rate of drug addiction, alcoholism, smoking, and rash driving activities are also being witnessed by the society. During the field survey, the following side effects of educated unemployment have been observed.

(i) **Economic problems faced by the educated unemployed youth** : The survey shows that 60% male and 74% of the female respondents said that, increase in the rate of poverty is one of the side effects of educated unemployment. It was also observed that 8% of the females took loans for their education which puts them under mental stress. The expenses of 72% of the females were managed by their parents, 20% through other members of families and 18% through part time jobs like teaching, stitching etc. On the other hand, 66% of the male's expenses were managed by their parents followed by 16% of the males whose expenses were managed by the other family members. 40% of them manage their expenses through part time jobs like teaching and assisting someone. Thus, despite being educated the majority of the youth were not managing their expenses themselves and were still dependent on their parents.

(ii) **Social problems faced by the educated unemployed youth** : The fig.4 shows that 40% of the males and 24% of the females consider constant family pressure as one of the major side effects of educated unemployment. 24% of males and 20% of females felt that unemployment despite being educated acts as a major setback in marriage among youth (male or female) followed by 24% of both male and female respondents who think that educated unemployment leads to increase in the rate of crimes. Thus, it was observed that various social problems are felt by educated unemployed youth; among which constant family pressure is the most disturbing.

(iii) **Mental and health problems faced by educated unemployed youth** : Mental health refers to people's cognitive and emotional wellbeing (Journal of Development Economics 2007). A person who is in good mental health does not have any type of mental disorders. The World Health Organization defines mental health as a state of wellbeing, in which the individual realizes his or her own abilities, can cope with

the normal stresses of life, can work productively and is able to make a contribution to their community. During the survey, various side effects caused due to mental stress were observed, which are as follows:

Table 3 shows that 46% of the male respondents and 16% of the female respondents consider addiction to drugs, alcohol or smoking to be one of the serious effects of unemployment; 74% of the males and 62% of the females think that unemployment leads to a lot of mental and physical stress. Whereas 22% of the males and 26% of the females felt that the feeling of being unproductive among the youth often leads to many suicides and suicidal attempts. **Thus, the third hypothesis: "Various social, economic and health side-effects are felt by the youth due to educated unemployment" has also been validated.**

Conclusion :

Results and Findings : Education is the first step towards employment. The Indian education system does not help the general students who are simple graduates or postgraduates in employment. The present project work, titled "Educated Unemployment among Youth" (25-35 years): A Case Study of Patna M C Area", has been carried out to examine the causes and effects of the educated unemployment seen among the youth. For this study, a total of 100 respondents were selected, out of which 50 were males and 50 were females; representing the educated unemployed in Patna M.C. Area. It was observed that the respondents (82% male and 88% females) who were of 25 to 29 years of age were mostly unemployed. Majority of them (88% males and 80% females) were still unmarried because they were unemployed. Most of them (42% males and 56% females) lived in joint families, as they were dependent on them due to their unemployment. It was also observed that most of the educated unemployed youth had received their education in Patna M.C. Area in the English medium and were either from CBSE (32% males and 70% females) or BSEB (48% males and 24% females) boards. Most of them (8% males and 10% females) completed their graduation in the year 2000-2005 but are still unemployed. **Thus, the first hypothesis, "Youth from Hindi medium of education are more unemployed in comparison to those in the English medium" has not been validated.**

It was observed that the various causes that have led to educated unemployment are lack of technical institutions in Patna, lack of skill development programmes (only 12% males and 10% females), high cost of technical education (36% males and 44% females), reservation (36% males and 44% females) and marks based on the education system (26% males and 18% females) etc. **Thus, the second hypothesis, "Lack of vocational and skill development training is the root cause of educated unemployment" has been validated.**

It was also observed that educated unemployment often leads to many economic, social problems as well as mental stress (74% males and 62% females). Prolonged unemployment creates a lack of financial stability, leading to a downward spiral in a social mobility and eventually to poverty (60% males and 74% females). Educated unemployment often leads to depression among youth (22% males and 26% females), suicidal attempts, hypertension etc. It has been seen that the youth join anti-social groups in order to take revenge on the society. It was also observed during the survey that the respondents had a feeling of isolation and were often looked down upon by their family, relatives and society due to unemployment. **Thus, the third hypothesis, "Various social, economic and health side effects are felt by the youth due to educated unemployment" has also been validated.**

Suggestions :

The nation's faith depends on the youth who are the pillars of the future. If their social and mental health is affected by unemployment then it becomes a serious concern for the society. Therefore, the following suggestions can be taken as the remedies for such problems:-

- There is a need of faster economic growth to generate more jobs.
- There is a need of improvement in the education and training provided to the youth with a greater focus on vocational skills and self-employment.
- The government support to struggling industries is necessary to save jobs.
- There is a need of enhanced focus on entrepreneurial communication and inter-personal skill development.
- Increased cross talk between public-private, formal or informal education enterprises.

- There is a need of integrated counseling, evaluation and career guidance initiatives in the educational institutions.

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. List of Educational Institutions in Patna

Universities	Engineering institutions	MBA Institutions	Fashion	Law College	Medical Sciences Colleges
Patna University	IIT Patna	Amity Global Business School	NIIFT, Patna	Law College of Patna University	AIIMS, Patna
Software technical park of India IIT, Patna	NIT Patna	CIMAGE	College of Arts and Crafts, Patna		IGIMS
Aryabhata University	BIT Patna	Cybotech Campus Development Management Institutions			PMCH
Chanakya National Law University	R.P. Sharma Institute of Technology				NMCH
					Rajendra Memorial Research Institute of Medical Sciences
					Patna Dental College
					National Institute of Health Education and Research

Source: <https://en.m.wikipedia.org>

Table 2. Educational Qualification

Gender	Technical	PG & Above	MBA	Vocational	Graduation
Male	12%	26%	6%	8%	48%
Female	10%	40%	6%	4%	44%

Source: Field survey, 2016

Table 3. Mental and Health Effects of Educated Unemployment

Gender	Addiction to drugs/ alcohol	Mental and physical stress	Attempt to suicide
Male	46%	74%	6%
Female	16%	62%	2%

Source: Field Survey, 2016.

LIST OF FIGURES

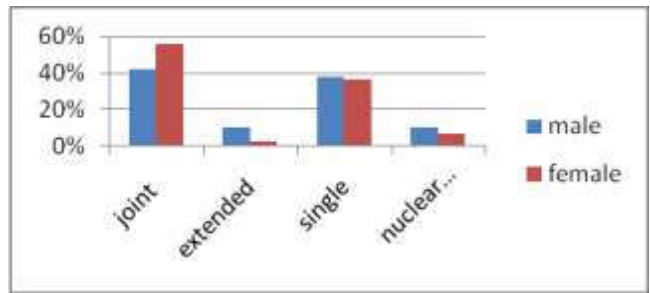


Fig. 1. Family structure of the educated unemployed

Source – Field Survey, 2016.

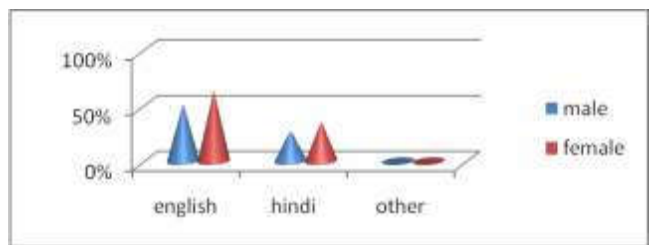


Fig.2 Medium of education of the educated unemployed

Source-Field survey, 2016.

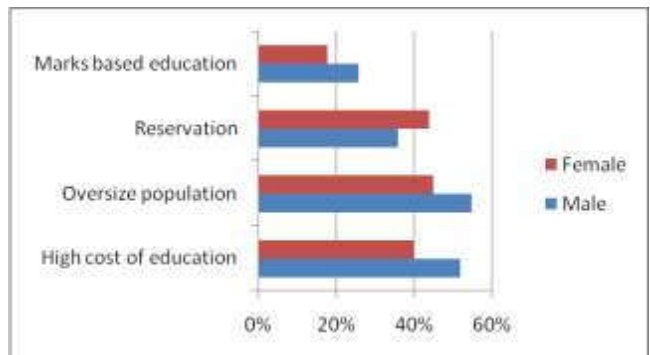
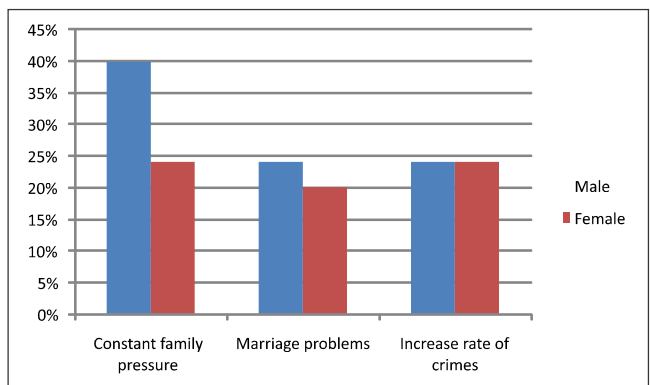


Fig. 3. Employment Scenario

Source: Field Survey, 2016



References :

- Awogbenle A.C., Iwuamadi K.C. (2010). "Youth unemployment: Entrepreneurship development programme as an intervention mechanism" - African Journal of Business.
- Bihar's Youth Problem: Still Working the Farms (Annual Survey of Industries) India Spend, September 10, 2015.
- Employment of Bihar Youth, by Occupation, Economic Survey (Bihar), 2015.
- Fan C.S., Stark O. (2007). "International migration and educated unemployment" - Journal of Development Economics, Elsevier.
- Mathew E.T. (2007). "Employment and Unemployment in India: Emerging Tendencies during the Post-Reform Period", SAGE Publications.
- National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO), 2009-10.
- Ours JC Van, Ridder G (1995) "Job matching and job competition: Are lower educated workers at the back of job queues"-European economic review, Elsevier.
- Saxena J.P. (1972). "Educated Unemployment in India: Problems & Suggestions", Commercial Publications Bureau.
- Singh LB, Singh AK, Rani A (1996) "Level of self-concepts in educated unemployed young men in India: An empirical analysis". Journal of economic psychology, Elsevier.
- The Better Educated You Are in Bihar, the Likelier You Are to Be Unemployed (Labour Bureau's report, 2015).
- www.macet.net.in retrieved on 4-10-2016
- www.psgc.org retrieved on 19-10-2016.