RNI MAHMAR
36829-2010

ISSN- 2229-4929

Peer Reviewed

# Akshar Wangmay

## International Research Journal
## UGC-CARE LISTED

**Special Issue - V**
**Interdisciplinary View on Socio-Economic, Educational, Management, Environmental, Research, Language and Sustainable Development in Covid-19 Pandemic Situation**

January 2021

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# Unemployment Situation in India and Impact of COVID- 19

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*Abstract*

*Problem of unemployment faces by every country of the world. But rising unemployment becomes serious matter. In COVID- 19 pandemic situation many countries announced lockdown. So all economic activates were stopped. Many people lost their jobs and rate of unemployment reached at its highest point in many countries. In this research paper, researcher tried to show unemployment situation in India and how COVID- 19 makes this situation the worst. This research is based on secondary data. In COVID0- 19 India faced huge job loss. Unemployment rate reached at 10.35%. while Puducherry recorded 75.8% in month of April.*

**Keywords**_ Unemployment, COVID- 19, Lockdown.

## Introduction-

Growing unemployment is one of the measure problems for any country. Even America, a developed country also faces the unemployment problem. Country like India, where total population is already high but important thing is working population (age group 15-64) of country is 64.5% in 2010 which was projected rise to 68.3% by 2040 (Chaitanya Talreja, 2014). So the Indian government has to look towards this problem of unemployment very seriously. Researchers, experts, economists and others are always try to give some measures for eradication of unemployment. Role of government is important in this case because, different government policies are helpful for creation of new jobs in market. High unemployment creates some negative effects like Political instability, increase in crimes, socio-economic problems etc. When a person searching for job or available for work but he/she unable to find job at existing remuneration then it called unemployment.

**Table No. 1: Unemployment rate as of January 01, 2020.**

| Sr. No | Country | Unemployment Rate | Sr. No | Country | Unemployment Rate |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Singapore | 2.25% | 6 | U.K. | 3.17% |
| 2 | Switzerland | 2.31% | 7 | Malaysia | 3.30% |
| 3 | Japan | 2.36% | 8 | China | 3.64% |
| 4 | Hong Kong | 2.93% | 9 | U.S.A. | 3.89% |
| 5 | Nepal | 3.00% | 10 | India | 8.50% |

Source: www.indexmundi.com

The above table no. 1 shows that some countries are developing and some are developed but still they have less than 5% unemployment rate in their respective countries. But India is showing unemployment rate more than 8%.

One side Indian government trying to overcome on the problem of unemployment whiles other side global health issue, COVID- 19 born in Wuhan city of China. In 2020 this corona virus spread all over the world and it has impacted on almost all the sectors. It disturbed socio-economic life human beings. Many countries announced complete lockdown like India. All he economic activities were stopped in that period. Resulted many people lost their jobs. Even after lockdown (in unlock phases) all sectors were not working at full capacity. Many employers started cost cutting so again some people lost their jobs. If we talk about India, in months of April May and June unemployment rate reached at high level.

## Objectives of the study -

1) To understand overall unemployment rate of India form 2011 to 2020.
2) To study the monthly unemployment rate in 2020 in India.
3) To study the highly unemployed states in lockdown period in India.

## Research Methodology-

This paper is descriptive in nature. Researcher has used secondary data for this research study. The data was collected from different books, research papers and researcher agencies' websites. Tables and chart used for making this paper more simple and easy to understand.

## Data Analysis and Interpretation-



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Initially we will understand the overall situation of unemployment in India from 2011 to 2020.

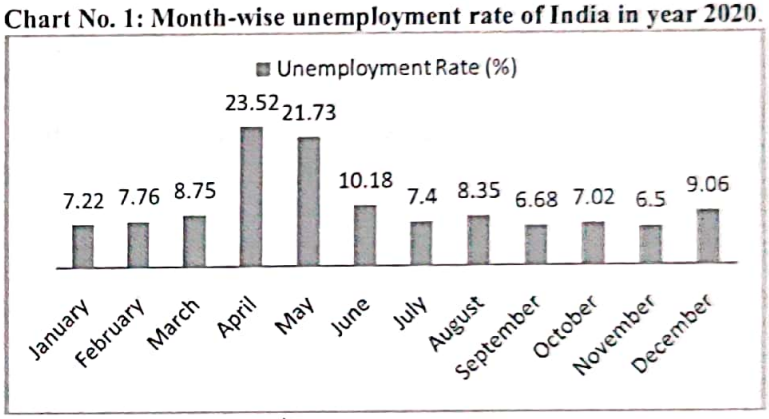
**Table No. 2: Year-wise unemployment rate in India from 2011 to 2020**

| Sr. No. | Year | Unemployment rate (%) |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | 2011 | 5.64 |
| 2. | 2012 | 5.65 |
| 3. | 2013 | 5.67 |
| 4. | 2014 | 5.61 |
| 5. | 2015 | 5.57 |
| 6. | 2016 | 5.51 |
| 7. | 2017 | 5.42 |
| 8. | 2018 | 5.33 |
| 9. | 2019 | 5.36 |
| 10. | 2020 | 10.35 |

Source: www.microtrends.net
www.cmie.com

This table no. 2 shows that, year-wise unemployment rate. We can observed that form 2011 to 2019 unemployment rate was varying between 5% to 6% and average unemployment rate in that period is 5.52%. If we add value of 2020 then the average become 6.01%. As we know that, due to corona virus or COVID- 19 people lost their jobs in 2020. So in 2020 the unemployment rate reached at 10.35% in India.

**Chart No. 1: Month-wise unemployment rate of India in year 2020.**




Source: www.cmie.com

Above chart shows that, in months April and May India faced high unemployment rate. In April 2020, rate reached at 23.52% this was highest unemployment rate ever in India (Business Today, May 2020).

**Table No. 3: State-wise unemployment rate in lockdown period (April- May 2020)**

| Sr. No. | State | Unemployment Rate (%) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | April | May |
| 1 | Delhi | 16.7 | 42.3 |
| 2 | Tripura | 41.2 | 21.5 |
| 3 | Haryana | 43.2 | 29.0 |
| 4 | Bihar | 46.6 | 46.0 |
| 5 | Jharkhand | 47.1 | 59.2 |
| 6 | Tamil Nadu | 49.8 | 33.2 |
| 7 | Puducherry | 75.8 | 58.2 |

Source: www.cmie.com

The above table no. 3 indicates that, state-wise unemployment rate in lockdown period. For simplicity, only those states are included who have unemployment rate more than 40% in month of April or May 2020.

In lockdown period in month of April rate of unemployment was highest that is 75.8% recorded in Puducherry. Only in Delhi in month of April rate was 16.7% but suddenly it hiked by 42.3% in month on May 2020.



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Only Uttarakhand state had less than 10% of unemployment rate in both the month viz. 6.5% in April and 8.0% in May (CMIC report, 2021)

**Conclusion-**

CIA world Factbook provided information regarding ranking of 214 nations of the world on the basis of unemployment rate. In that index India stands at 130$^{th}$ rank. It means 129 countries are having less unemployment rate than India.

Government of India should take some important steps for eradicate unemployment problem. Government should focus on young population for self employment so they will get employed and also provide some employment opportunities for others. Then proved that education, skills and training which is demanding in industries. Make some extra expenditure in public work. Also governments encourage and provider good environment for rural unemployed for agriculture based industries so they will not migrate to urban area.

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