

## **Chapter V:**

### **Main findings and Discussion of the results**

#### **5.1: The framework of the study:**

The framework of the study explains the conceptual definition of youth unemployment and extensively analyses about the different type's problem of youth unemployment. It also explains in detail about the definition of unemployment (from different agencies, sociologist, and economists), youth (from different agencies and authors), causes of unemployment, the impact of unemployment, patterns of unemployment, policies (as described in different studies all over the world). The chapter also gives a detail description of the study area, the percentage of literacy in the study area that has increased from 73.10% of (2001) to 81.35% (2011). Along with the rapid development of education, educated unemployment has been also amplified in the state. The data confirm that there exists a wide gap between the expansion of employment opportunities and the number of people seeking for work. This imbalance compels many educated to render jobless. Available data on unemployment exchange record in Ukhrul District, Manipur shows that during 2007 there were just 23,827 jobseekers in the live register of Employment Exchange in Ukhrul. The corresponding figure has increased 34,021 in the year 2016. But in reality all the unemployed may not register their name in the Employment Exchange; therefore the number may not reveal the actual picture of the extent of unemployment in the area which can be far more than what is revealed in the Employment Exchange data.

In order to understand the problems and the extent of constraints faced by the educated unemployed youth, a sample of 600 unemployed youth have been carefully selected from among the educated unemployed youth, from higher secondary till Ph.D. degree holders in arts, science and commerce streams. Then, personal interviews were undertaken with the help of a carefully framed questionnaire to get the desired information of the study. The study widely uses the data and related information provided by various agencies like the Directorate of Employment; Directorate of

Economics & Statistics of the Government of Manipur; Employment Exchange, Lamphelpat, Imphal, and Ukhrul. Related books and journals as a secondary data are collected from books, government documents, archive materials etc. This chapter in briefly highlights some original work done on youth unemployment. Unfortunately, there is a paucity of literature published on youth unemployment in Manipur.

As a scholar in the field of social research, I came across many unfamiliar incidents and difficulties mainly during the fieldwork. I must say the fieldwork was a very challenging experience. The prevailing unstable law and order situation has acted as a major impediment to conducting the fieldwork. The major limitation of this study is the difficulty to trace educated unemployed youth in a defined area. This difficulty of tracing educated unemployed youth was a major problem for the research as they are not found to be in a particular place at a particular time.

## **5.2: Socio-Economic profile of the respondent's**

Socio-Economic profile of the respondent's of the present work presents the socio-economic background of the respondents. In the study of the total 600 unemployed youth, 384 are males and 216 females. Entire respondents are from rural background. All of them fall in the age group 20-38, out of which 48.8% belongs to the age group of 26-30 years, and another group of 26.5% is between 20-25 years. Most of the respondents are single (74.3%) whereas 23.7% are married. The educational background of the respondents reveals an optimistic picture (Uriah, Ololube, & Egbezor, 2015), as majority of the educated youth has completed their bachelor degree (54.0%) followed by master degree (30.0%), higher secondary 10+2 with (14%) and Ph.D. with (2%) in the study area. Besides educational qualification, 95% of the respondents are multi lingual as they can speak Manipuri, Hindi, and English.

The reason for discontinuation of studies shows that majority (50.3%) of them discontinued their education as they finished their course and wanted to start working after that Batu, (2016), followed by those who (21.7%) discontinued from studies as they finished their course/studies, 14.8% opted to discontinue their education as they believe it doesn't guarantee job. Agriculture and self-employment among the 50.2% of

the respondent's household are found to be the main source of household income for the respondent's families followed by household income by selling home made products (26.5%), pension (14.0%), and rent 7.0%. The size of the family of the respondents reveals that majority of them (63%) have a large family with 5-7 members (Vikash, 2014) followed by 2-4 family members (23.3%). Regarding the monthly household income, there are 37.7% in the range of 30,001 and above, 17.2% in 15,001- 20,000, 16.8% in 10,000-15000, 16.2% in 25,001-3000 and finally 12.2% 20,001- 25,000.

The extent of unemployment can be observed by finding the number of members in the family who are actively looking for work, it shows that 33.8% of them have 3 members in their household who are actively looking for work, followed by 2 members (30.2%) who are looking for employment opportunities, and 4 members (16.3%), 1 member (14.3%) and finally with 4 and above members (5.3%). The educated youths who are looking for a job want to be engaged in an administrative positions (36.5%) followed by professional job 27.7%, followed by manual job (24.2%) whereas the share of respondents who want to do the technical job and managerial job 4.5% together with clerical job 2.7% is fewer.

More than half (53.2%) of the respondents feel that mismatch of the profession is responsible for the extent of unemployment in the area, whereas 57% claims that quality of education is the cause for the unemployment (European Youth Forum, 2013). The surprising thing among the educated unemployed youth is that though they are unemployed still 71.3% of them get money for their daily expenditure. But 34.8% get it frequently whereas 33.3% get it rarely while 31.8% of the respondents got it most of the time from their parents and family for any other purpose. It reveals from the 600 respondents that 39.2% of the educated youth feel free to ask money from their parents and 60.8% do not feel free. With all the problem faced with the present scenario, 63.3% of the youth think poverty in Ukhruul district will increase over the next 10 years.

### **5.3: Patterns of unemployment in Ukhrul District**

Patterns of unemployment in Ukhrul District deals in two parts i.e. impact and patterns of unemployment in the study area. When checking about the pattern of unemployment in the study area, we can observe that the economic status of the respondents also plays a vital role in capturing the patterns of unemployment and measuring its impact on them and their family (Khan, & Hassan, 2011). It is found that an overwhelming majority of the respondents 83.0% feels that population growth is one of the rising problems contributing to the ascending of unemployment (Bhebhe et al; 2015), but it has not stopped the educated youth from looking for job as 69.5% of the respondents are still actively seeking for a job (Gomathi, & Neela, 2016). Moreover, 83.3% of the respondents did not ever stop their education to work whereas 16.7% discontinued in the middle and re-enter school as they were too poor to continue their studies. Besides, 81.3% of the respondents believe that they are suffering from unemployment, mostly (40.0%) as it is giving birth to other family problems. followed by economic impediments (38.3%), psychological stress (13.3%), addiction to different drugs (8.3%) (Weich, & Lewis, 1998, Majumder, & Mukherjee, 2013, Mansingh, & Legesse. 2016).

Therefore, the majority of the respondents describes themselves as an under unemployment (45.0%) where their qualification does not match job's requirement or it may be due to lack of skills, followed by seasonal unemployment (23.0%), voluntary unemployment (17.7%), casual unemployment (11.0%) and involuntary unemployment(3.3%) (Khan, Tarique, 2012). Consequently, the majority of them (18.2%) are thinking of joining the insurgency, followed by (17.7%) those who are thinking of spending time with friends, helping in the family business (15.3%), and also responsible for household chores (14.2%). Hence, the majority of the respondents left their job in the study area because of low wages (65.7%) Singha, (2009). Hence, most of the respondents feel that the reason for their unemployment is the lack of the requirements of the employers which raises a question on the quality of the education that is provided in the state making them almost unemployable (Dev, & Venkatanarayana, 2011, Himanshu, 2008.)

#### **5.4: Problems of unemployment in Ukhrul District**

The impediments of unemployment often de motivate youth to pursue educational training and remain unskilled. The reason or causes of unemployment may differ in different settings, but in order to address the crisis of unemployment in any setting, one has to first understand the patterns of the unemployment in the area (Abbott, 2016). But the aspiration has clearly not reflected in their present status of the unemployed youths as majority of them (86.2%) are supporting themselves without any regular paid employment, and the source of income for supporting them without any paid employment is mostly parents (37.8%), followed by other family members (27.8%), agriculture (26.3%) and so on, hence family is playing a significant role in keeping this unemployed youth attached to their aspirations and not get distracted, (Peek, 2007). Hence family as an institution is playing a positive role by supporting the unemployed youth, both financially and psychologically. It also revealed that the respondents who are totally unemployed are looking for jobs through seeking the assistance of friends, relatives, colleagues, unions, etc by 29.0%, followed by public employment office 22.5% and direct application for employers, participation in a competition 18.5%. The shocking part from the data is the role played by the employment exchange in the area which is just doing its job on paper as a ritual with having a negligible impact on the status of employment in the area as 82.0% of the respondents did not get any help or assistance from the employment office. On the other hand, the majority of the respondents (64.8%) did not have any vocational or technical school training. Whereas, out of the respondents (35.2%) who have vocational training, the majority of them find it very useful (47.1%) and somewhat useful (43%) in getting a job. The past work experience of the respondents shows that most of them (27.7%) were engaged with community volunteer work followed by a private company (19.2%), in nonprofit organization (17.3%) and work in farms (13.3%). When asked about whether they have refused any job that was offered, they hold that 88.3% of respondents have not got any chance to refuse any job as it is yet to be offered to them (European Youth Forum, 2010).

When we looked at the obstacle in finding a good job for these educated youth most of them viewed that it is mainly because lack of enough job creation (44.3%), community

biasness (38.3%), and lack of work experience of the respondents (17.3%), though majority of them completed their education 3 years (22.7%) followed by 5 years back (22.3%) and 4 years (18.7%). The lack of employment opportunities has forced them to take any job they get if it is stable without being choosy by 51.2% (Alan, & and Maleckova, 2013), but most of them (57.3%) are still expecting a minimum level of income per month to accept a job. It also revealed that majority of the respondents (59.7%) are not moving out of the district for seeking job as they wanted to remain in the study area, mainly because of financial problem (47.7%), family problem (23.5%), personal issues (22.5%) Anurag, R. (2013), Batu, (2016). On the other hand, from the perspective of the respondents the main reason for their present status of unemployment is their lack of employer's requirement (23.2%), could not find suitable job (18.0%), believe no suitable work is available (17.0%), personal family responsibilities (15.0%). The data also revealed that majority of the respondents (89.7%) held poor political leadership as the reason for unemployment in the area. Which is giving birth to much social crises as addiction to alcoholic drinks (35.2%) followed by gambling (24.7%), insurgency (14.7%), addiction to drugs (13.8%), crime (11.7%).

Majority of the respondents (67.7%) have expressed that they still share the similarity of opinion with the family head in family matters. The study shows that unemployment is a problem for the individual, family and society as it hampers their and their social image because significant majority 87.5% of the respondents believed that unemployment undermines their status at home as well the status of their family in the community, which shows that unemployment is a problem for the individual, family, and society as it hampers their familial and social image (Fineman, 1983). Therefore, 59.2% of the respondents are not sure if they can fulfill the expectations of their parents in the future. Therefore, it is clear that majority of the respondents are doubting their chances of fulfilling their parents or guardians' expectations in the near future, (Osemengbe, 2013). At the same time, 69.3% have an interaction with their unemployed friends only which shows the level of inferiority complex of the respondents who are not comfortable in regularly spending time and interacting with

employed friends of theirs. In the status of the problem of unemployment in the area 48.3% of the respondents are not sure whether they will get a job of their choice or not whereas 39.7% of the respondents still hope of getting a suitable job of choice and 12.0% of the respondents have no hope at all for getting a suitable job of their choice. On the other hand, 70.8% think that their life will end up doing something different from what they have learned or trained. Therefore, with the entire problem faced by these educated youth of the study area, 51.7% in the past have felt isolated or depressed because of unemployment.

### **5.5: Causes of unemployment in Ukhrul District**

Causes of unemployment in Ukhrul District analyze the factors that led to the crisis of unemployment. The chapter discusses in details about the educated unemployed attitudes towards the functioning of vital societal agencies like educational system, bureaucracy, political parties, judiciary, police and other security forces including family and community.

According to the interview with the respondents on the status of satisfaction level of the respondents on present educational system, the study shows that majority (63.3%) are partially satisfied whereas 23.8% of the respondents are not satisfied and a mere 9.8% of them are satisfied with the present educational system that clearly indicates the lack of trust of the respondents in the present educational system Carnoy, (1987) Kengoo, (2012). Moreover the study also reveals that the level of satisfaction regarding the role and functioning of bureaucracy, functioning of political parties and politicians, functioning of judiciary, police and other security forces are not satisfied by the respondents as they do not carry their responsibilities in a proper way, Gray, (2001), Holte, (1988). It reveals that perspective of respondents towards the level of satisfaction in the functioning of bureaucracy, it shows that the majority of the respondents are not satisfied (71.3%) by the functioning of bureaucracy in the study area, followed by those (18.7%) who are highly unsatisfied, and a very small share of the respondents (9.8%) who finds it satisfactory. Hence, it reveals that bureaucracy clearly fails to reach to the youths and fails to cater to their expectations Sinha, (1987).

Moreover, also is also questionable as most of the respondents (68.0%) are unsatisfactory with the functioning of political parties and politicians, whereas (28.8%) of the respondents find it highly unsatisfactory. The study established the distrust of the youth in the functioning of the local political parties where they seem to have lost hope in it, Sinha, (1987), Imphal Free Press (2012). It also reveals that majority of the respondents are not satisfied with the functioning of judiciary in the study area as most of the respondents (68.5%) are not satisfied with the functioning of judiciary, followed by those (28.8%) who are highly unsatisfied, and a negligible share of those who are satisfactory (2.7%). The study proves that judiciary in the area failed to convince the youth about its transparent functioning, as the majority of the respondents are unsatisfied with the functioning of the judiciary that includes corruption practices involved in the judiciary in the area. Role and functioning of police & security forces in the area is visibly not optimistic according to the respondents as majority of the respondents (51.0%) are highly unsatisfied with the role and functioning police & security forces in the area, followed by those who are (46.5%) unsatisfied, and few respondents who are still (2.5%) satisfactory that clearly reveals the imperfect image of the police in the eyes of the youths of the area, mainly for their engagement misuse of power and human rights violations. Therefore, the study also shows that the state government is not bringing the change for the unemployed youths, as majority of them (71.7%) believe in that, followed (23.0%) of the respondents who are not sure about its role in bringing change Carnoy, (1987), Jha, (2013), Kurien, (1978). The loss of hope in the state government rises because of the existence of corruption that is practiced by the main stream politics towards the hill population that is reflected.

#### **5.6: Alternatives means of livelihood for employment in Ukhrul District**

Alternatives means of livelihood for employment in Ukhrul District deals with identifying the resources and scopes that are available or can be made available to act as an alternative to livelihood for employment in the study area. The available data shows that a majority of the respondents 66.5% are aware of the government programmes and policies and the remaining 33.5% are not aware of such programmes.



It is believed and known from the respondents that 89.2% feels that self-employment or entrepreneurship is the demand of the hour whereas only 10.8% of the respondents do not believe in the concept. Majority of the respondents faced financial difficulties to even think of starting an entrepreneurship project because of shortage in capital for investment by 53.5% and lack of raw materials 22.8%. But according to the respondents from the study area, there are different areas where a youth of the village can start a new employment like through petty business (34.5%), business agencies (25.2%), technological avenues (16.2%), and public contract (15.5%). The study also reveals the status of financial impotency is mostly not availing the self-employment avenues in the due to a financial problem (47.7%) and lack of avenues (36.8%). The youth from the study area mostly prefer to work in government jobs (65.3%) followed by own business (19.0%), NGO's sector (10.7%). It also shows that majority of the respondents (79.7%) do not have any connectivity with the political association and only 20.3% have reported to have any interactions with such associations. Moreover, the majority of the respondents (79.8%) does not even have any link with the cultural association and mere 20.2% respondents have such links. It also revealed from the data that majority (76.3%) do not have a link with welfare association in the study area and even in the field of sports, it was found that majority of the respondents (83.5%) do not have any link with the sports association.