

Unemployment In India



*Employment - Programmes Under The Five Year
Plans*

Various Schemes to Reduce Unemployment and Underemployment

❖ Following the publication of the Bhagwati committee report in 1973, the Government took the following measures to provide employment and alleviate under-employment.

1. *Rural works Programme.*
2. *Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers.*
3. *Small Farmers Development Agencies*
4. *Integrated Dry Land Agricultural Development.*
5. *Agro- service Centres.*
6. *Area Development Schemes.*
7. *Crash programme for Rural Employment.*

Employment-Programmes under the Five Year Plans

Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-1985)

- ❖ This plan also stressed upon alleviation of poverty and employment generation.

The following programmes were implemented in the sixth five year plan:

(a) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)

(b) Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP)

(c) National Rural Employment Programme (NREP)

Integrated Rural Development Programme

- ❖ IRDP stands for *Integrated Rural Development Programme*. It is a rural development program of Government of India launched on 2 October 1980 across the country
- ❖ It aims to provide *self-employment* program to poor rural families to help them increase their income and cross the poverty line.
- ❖ It mainly targets the *poor families* which are living below the poverty line such as small farmers, agricultural labourers including the rural artisans.
- ❖ It is *funded equally by state and centre* on a 50:50 basis.

❖ IRDP is implemented through *District Rural Development Agencies*. At the ground level, the blocks are responsible for implementing the programme. At the state level, the State level Coordination Committees monitor the programme.

❖ **The main objectives are:**

1. *Employment guarantee Schemes*
2. *Food for Work Programme*
3. *Small Farmers Development Agencies*
4. *Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers*
5. *Draught Prone Area Programme*
6. *Dessert Development Programme*
7. *Command Area Development Programme*

Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP)

- ❖ It was launched on *15th August 1983*. The programme was funded by the Central Government on 100% basis.
- ❖ **The main objective of this programme are:**
 1. *Generating gainful employment*
 2. *Creating productive assets in rural areas*
 3. *Improving the overall quality of rural life.*

SEVENTH FIVE YEAR PLAN (1985-1990)

- ❖ This plan laid stress on *food, employment and productivity*.
- ❖ The objectives of the plan included: *Development, modernisation, self-reliance, social justice, improving the techniques of production, to achieve an yearly increase in national income of 5% and increase food grain production.*

The following programmes were started in this plan:

(1) *Jawahar Rojgar Yojana*

(2) *Indira Awaas Yojana*

(3) *Scheme of 10 lakh wells.*

The seventh plan *proved to be important* from the point of view of employment generation.

Jawahar Rozgar Yojana

- ❖ Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi announced on 28th April, 1989 the launching of the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana.
- ❖ All the existing rural wage employment programmes were merged into JRY.
- ❖ This implies that NREP and RLEGP have been merged so as to be brought under this umbrella programme referred to Jawahar Rozgar Yojana.
- ❖ ***Main Features of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana:***
 1. As a result of the operation of the NREP and RLEGP during 1980-81 to 1988-89, rural employment programmes reached only 55% of the village panchayats around the country. JRY aimed at reaching every single panchayat.
 2. Scheme was administered by the Village panchayats to implement rural employment programmes benefitting 440 lakh families living below poverty line in India.
 3. JRY had stipulated that Central assistance would finance 80% and the States share would be 20%.

Objectives of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana

- ❖ **Primary Objective-** *Generation of gainful employment* for the unemployed and under- employed men and women in rural areas.
- ❖ **Secondary Objectives-**
 1. Creation of *sustained employment* by strengthening the rural infrastructure
 2. Creating *community and social assets*
 3. Creating *assets in favour of the poor* for their direct and continuing benefits
 4. To produce *positive impact* on wage levels
 5. To bring about *over-all improvement in quality of life* in rural areas

Indira Gandhi Awaas Yojana

- ❖ Indira Gandhi Awaas Yojana aimed at *providing houses, free of cost, to the members of the SC/ST, freed bonded labourers*
- ❖ From 1993-94, *the scheme was extended to other poor categories (besides SC/ST) as well*