Nature of Unemployment in Chanditala-I C.D Block of Serampur Subdivision of Hugli District

Sourav Das [1]

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Geography, Asutosh College, Kolkata
Corresponding Author: Sourav Das

Abstract: *Unemployment is the macroeconomic problem that affects people most directely and severely. For most people the loss of a job means a reduced living standard and psychological disress. It is no surprise that unemployment is a frequent topic of political debate. The paper deals with problem of unemployment especially rural areas with references to a typical rural C.D Block Chanitala-I located in Hugli district of west Bengal. An attempt has been made to identify the level of magnitude of this burning problem of the area and ascertain the main causes of unemployment and examine the effects of unemployment in socio-economic life of the inhabitants.*
Keywords: *Employment Status, Occupational Structure, Sectoral Transformation,Work Participation Rate*

I. INTRODUCTION

Unemployment (or **joblessness**) occurs when people are without work and actively seeking work. The unemployment rateis a measure of the prevalence of unemployment and it is calculated as a percentage by dividing the number of unemployed individuals by all individuals currently in the labour force. India as a nation is forced with massive problem of unemployment. Unemployment can be defined as a state of worklessness for a man fit and willing to work. It is a condition of involuntary and voluntary idleness. Some features of unemployment have been identified as follows:

1. **The incidence of unemployment is much higher in urban areas than in rural areas.**
2. **Unemployment rates for women are higher than those for men**.
3. **The incidence of unemployment among the educated is much higher than the overall unemployment.**
4. **There is greater unemployment in agricultural sector than in industrial and other major sectors**.

Study Area:

The study area covers the Chanditala – I C.D block of Serampur sub division of Hugli district of West Bengal. India. The area is located in the southern part of West Bengal. Its latitudinal extension is 22° 39' 32" N- 22° 01' 20" N and longitudinal extension is 87°30' 15" E - 88° 30' 20" E. The study area is bounded on the north by parts of Haripal and Singur C.D block. Jangipara and Chanditala – II C.D block is located in the eastern portion and in the southern portion Haora district is situated. The total area of c is   Sq. Km. It Has 9 Gram Panchayet and 56 villages. According to 2011 Census total population of Chanditala – I C.D block is 165837 with male population of 81635 and female population of 84202 so the male female ratio is 49: 51.

Source: Prepared by Researcher

Objectives:

The main objectives of the study are as follows-
1. To identify the pattern of rural unemployment in Chanditala C.D Block-I
2. To ascertain the main causes of unemployment.
3. To examine the effects of unemployment in socio-economic life of the inhabitants.

II. METHODOLOGY

Methodology is the way of achieving the goal through the drawing of inference by observation, collection and differential analysis of relevant data relating to the study of sectoral transformation of working population and nature of employment status in Chanditala – I C.D block. In order to achieve the aforesaid objectives, the methodology of work has been divided into several phases:

a. Collection of secondary data – At first choice of study area, then secondary data was collected from different government and non government agencies.
b. Sample size: Total 51 families are surveyed on the basis of questionnaire schedule. Among them males and females surveyed individually.
c. Sample Design: At first out of 9 Gram Panchayet 5 Gram Panchayet are selected by their location, one Gram Panchayet was selected from each direction i.e. north, south, east, west and central position. With the help of the systematic formulated questionnaire schedule primary data regarding nature of employment and sectoral transformation were collected by door to door survey.
d. Calculated data was tabulated and analyzed based on different cartograms and quantitative techniques which are followed by interpretation.

Causes of unemployment:
a. Rapid Population Growth:
b. Limited Land
c. Seasonal Agriculture:
d. Fragmentation of Land:
e. Backward Method of Agriculture:
f. Decline of Cottage Industries:
g. Wrong Education System:
h. Lack of transport and communication:
i. Inadequate Employment Planning:

Effects of unemployment
a. Loss of Human Resources:
b. Increase in Poverty:
c. Social Problems:
d. Political Instability:

e.   Exploitation of Labour:
f.   More Emphasis on Capital Intensive Techniques:
g.   Defective Education System:
h.   Slow Growth of Tertiary Sector:
i.   Decay of Cottage and Small Scale Industries:
j.   Lack of Vocational Guidance and Training Facilities
k.   Less Means for Self-Employment:

Analysis and Discussion:
Primary survey has done on the basis of a questionnaire schedule over the selected 5 villages in Chanditala-I C.D block of Serampur subdivision of Hugli district, West Bengal in 2016 for the assessment of unemployment situation. 84 percent of male and 16 percent of female population have been surveyed in different categories. Among them 58 percent are general, 22 percent are SC and remaining 20 percent are OBC category (Figure-1).
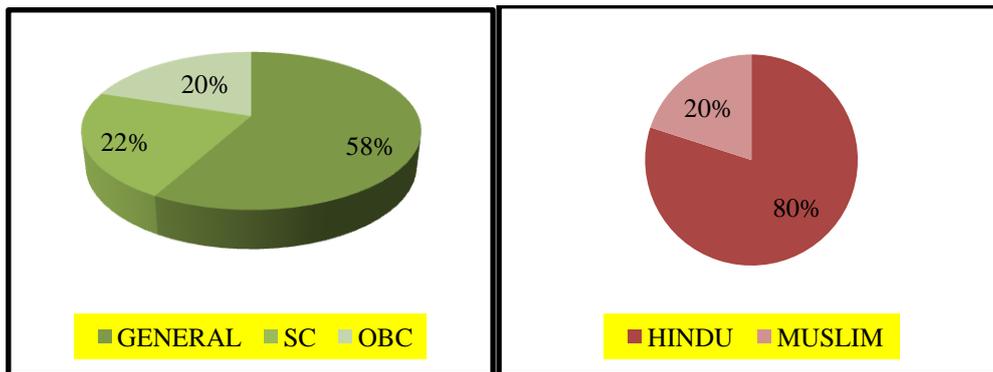
Figure- 1 Caste Composition

Figure- 2 Religious Compositions

All of them are spoken in Bengali language; few of them (22 percent) can speak in Hindi whereas only 6 percent people can able to speak in English. By religion 80 percent are Hindu and 20 percent are Muslims.(Figure-2) 6 percent people found illiterate, 2 percent can able to sign only their name, 28 percent got primary education, 28 percent also got secondary education. Only 6 percent has taken up to higher secondary level and 20 percent complete the graduation level. (Figure-3).Monthly income of the families of the surveyed people is not so high. 68 percent family earned less than 5000 rupees per month and remaining 42 percent people earned more than 5000 rupees per month. (Figure-4)
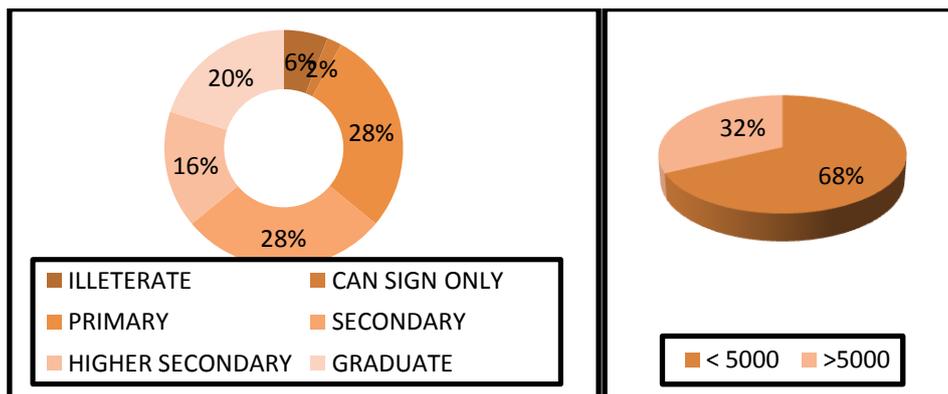
Figure- 3 Levels of Education

Figure-4 Income Condition

As current weekly status method have used to depict the real picture it is found that 38 percent people engaged in any kind of work during last week but 62 percent people are purely unemployed as they were not engaged any kind of work still now. Those persons who were found unemployed in the current week have several reasons to quit their job like low wage, lack of security etc. Most of the persons wanted to get any kind of job (94 percent), only 6 percent wanted to fixed on their earlier job. They have adopted different strategy for getting the job like wrote letter, applied in persons, friends and relatives, registered their name in Government employment exchange. Some persons tried to starts their own business. (Figure-5)

26 percent of population remains unemployed during last six months, 24 percent persons remains unemployed during last one year, 16 percent persons remains unemployed during last two years and surprisingly

34 percent of the surveyed people remained unemployed during more than last two years. (Figure-6) The reasons behind their unsuccessfulness of their unemployed condition or the question arise here that why were they became unemployed? The fact which came out from the primary survey that 26 percent persons believe that due to scarcity of job in the area they are unable to find any job, 16 percent persons said that there are jobs but they did not have enough information about the available jobs, 30 percent persons said that they did not have the right skill to get any job whereas 14 percent persons said that due to lack of enough education they could not find any job still now. Rest of the people believes that low wage is the main factor behind unemployment of the many persons. (Figure-7)Primary survey tells that the expected lowest monthly income ranges between 2000 to 10000 rupees.
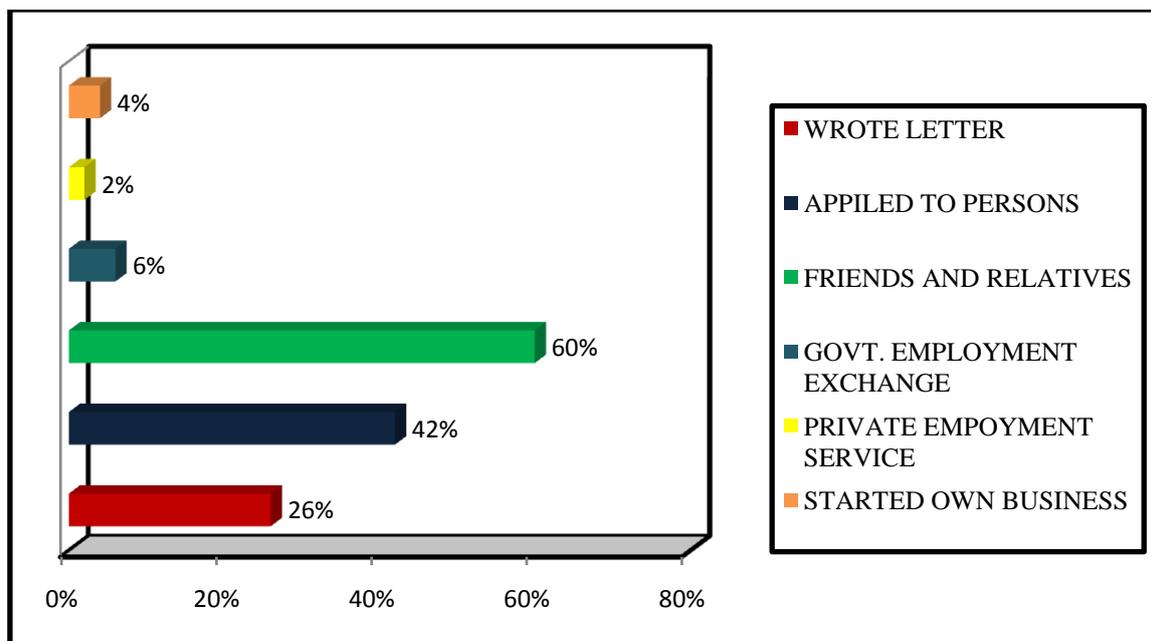
Figure- 5 Methods of Searching

56 percent of people wanted to get job within small distance as they could travel in less time and 44 percent said that distance does not matter.
One surprising fact came out from the primary survey in the context of unemployment as concern is that only 30 percent of people have registered their name in the Government employment exchange. Another feature which indirectly related with this context that only 8 percent people have taken training from any institution to developed their abilities. Same picture came out in terms of extracurricular activities like computer knowledge, driving, and spoken English power etc by which they could enhanced their personal ability to get a job early. Though the area is belongs to rural area but 52 percent people have computer knowledge which is a basic criteria now-a-days.

Unemployment is a burning problem in the society but people have some choice in job preference. Primary survey showed variety of jobs where people have tried to engaged like Government service, private job, business, jewellary making, electrical work, driving, software professional, photography, manual work etc. But most of them (52 percent) have no choice as they wanted to engage in any kind of work. (Figure-8)
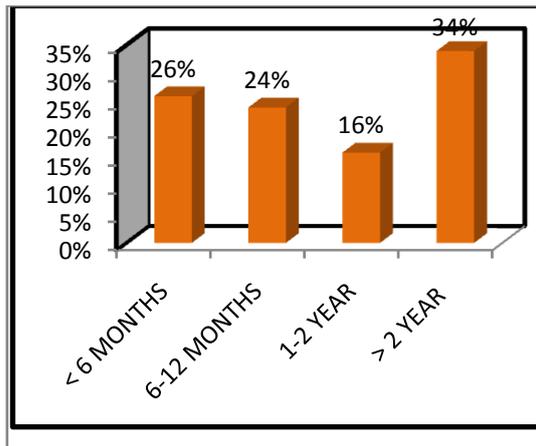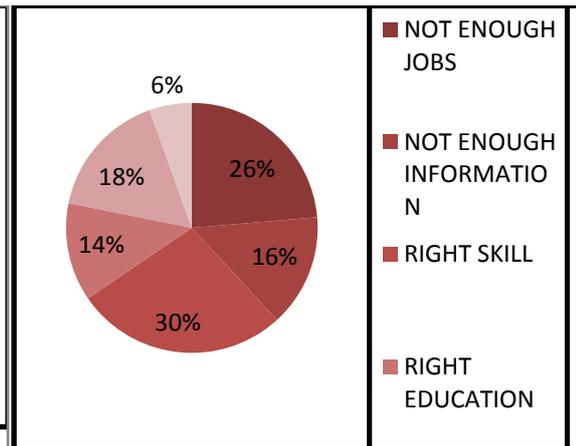
Figure-6 Duration of Unemployment

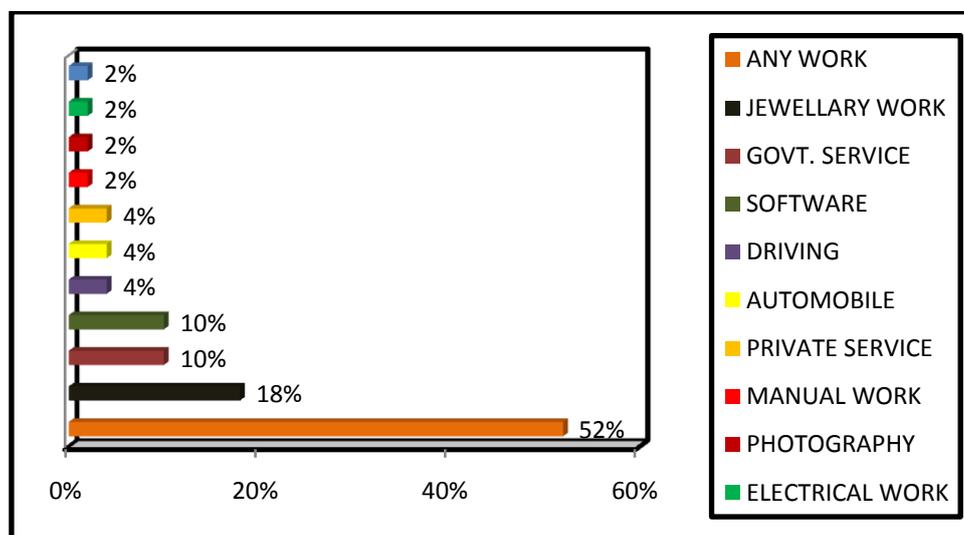
Figure- 7 Reasons of Unsuccessfulness

Figure-8 Job Preference

In this context of unemployment the question emerges that is how the unemployed persons have spent their time. Through analysis of the primary data the facts reveals that 16 percent people spend their time in searching job which is a good indication, 20 percent people spend time in the preparation of competitive examination. Rest of the people spend their time in many activities like watching television, listening music, reading books, household works, playing indoor and outdoor games etc.

One item which is directly related with present unemployed youth that is use the of mobile phone. Primary survey reveals that 88 percent persons used mobile phone. 86 percent persons have spent 500 to 1000 rupees whereas only 4 percent have spent more than 1000 rupees per month for their personal expenditure. Despite the several efforts and planning taken by the state and central government it is surprising that nobody get unemployed allowance yet.

Among the different types of unemployment, primary survey reveals that 34 percent persons are open unemployed, 34 percent are educated unemployed, 10 percent are structurally unemployed and 4 percent falls in other category. (Figure-9)

Educated unemployment rate is maximum because present education system does not produce such level of skills by which a person can make himself fit with any type of job. Wrong education system is responsible for that. Lack of technical education, training course programme, unwillingness of join in other format of jobs, lack of government initiatives leads the scenario more complex. In an economy where people tried to engage any work but unable to find any job is known as open unemployment. In the surveyed villages open unemployment rate was also high(34 percent)Through the analysis of the primary data it is found that main causes of unemployment are inadequate work, low economic development, wrong education system, rapid population growth, improper employment planning, unscientific agriculture etc.(Figure-10)
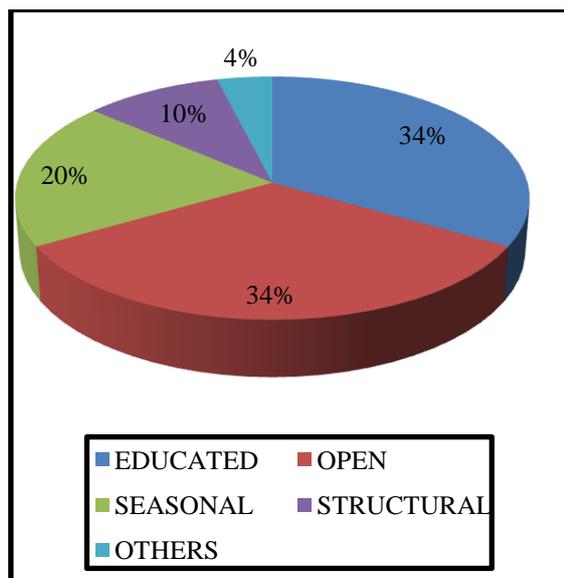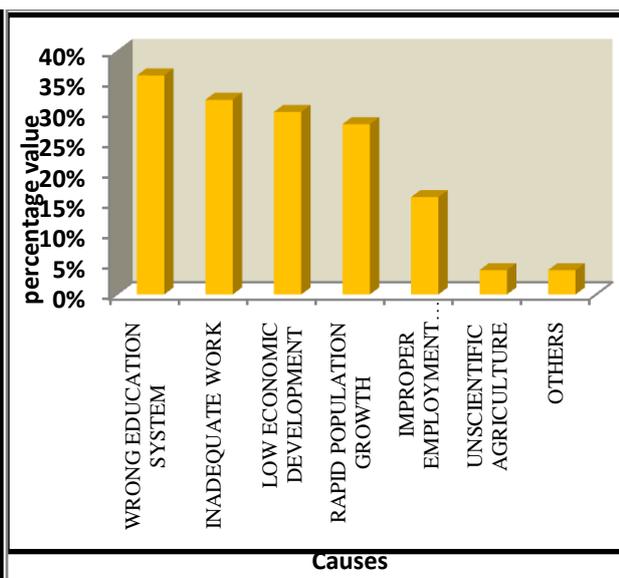
Figure:9 Types of unemployment | **Figure: 10** Cause of unemployment

III. FINDINGS

Major findings of the analysis are as follows-
1. Nature of Rural Unemployment in Chanditala C.D Block is gradually changing.
2. Rural unemployment shifted from traditional seasonal and disguised unemployment to modern open and educated unemployment.
3. Rural Unemployment rate is more pronounced in among male than female.
4. Work participation rate is lower among male than female which is an exceptional case.
5. Females are mostly engaged in household works which is not productive.
6. Due to unscientific agriculture many people remained unemployed throughout or most of the times in the year.
7. Many agricultural lands turned into settlement or human habitation.
8. Difference of unemployment rate gradually reduced between rural and urban areas.
9. Changing landuse pattern slightly affected the enhancement of job opportunity.
10. Rural youth unemployment rate increased day by day.
11. Political disturbances in rural area make the situation more uncomfortable.
12. The incidence of unemployment among the educated is much higher than the overall unemployment.
13. There is greater unemployment in agricultural sector than in industrial and other sectors.

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