

Government and the Rulers towards Unemployment Problem Joblessness, Lack of any Hope of Employment and Insensibility of the Government and the Rulers towards Unemployment Problem, is Goading Unemployed to Resort to Illegal Immigration Risking their own Lives and Limbs

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Elections to the parliament have been announced. Prime Minister Narendra Modi of BJP who has been ruling our country for the last two terms is aspiring to become the prime minister for this time also. For the past few months, he, his government along with BJP have been incessantly propagating that he would take forward Indian economy within three years to \$ five trillion economy making it the world's third largest, and it could hit the \$ 7 trillion dollar mark by 2030. By depicting such a rosy picture of Indian economy, they imply that Narendra Modi shall be elected for the third time also. Moreover, through manipulated survey reports of governmental agencies they are projecting as if the unemployment rate has come down and that the number of people below poverty line has been considerably reduced. With such false claims they are making every effort to hood-wink the people and voters and gain these votes to ascend in to governmental power once again.

However, the reality is grim and hopeless in terms of well-being of the majority of people in India.

According to a report of Bahutva Karnataka, a forum for concerned Citizens and organisations, released on March 11, which analysed 'Employment, Wages and Inequality' in India ever since NDA came to power, including employment generation, formalisation of jobs and improvements in wages, that in April 2019 though P.M. Modi claimed that 2.5 crore jobs have been added annually, the data reveals that the share of formal employment with social security and other advantages attached to it has remained stagnant. On the other hand the number of so called self-employed individuals has increased substantially. This came from the rise of unpaid family workers, such as helpers in family run kirana store etc. On the other hand, the number of own account workers such as someone running a corner shop or selling tea and snacks on a cart etc., has considerably risen their quality of work worsening; becoming a main component of informal employment and precarious in nature.

While employment generation is stagnated unemployment and joblessness is increasing every year leading to despair in youth. Unemployment, joblessness, insensitiveness of the rulers and ruling-classes for creating the mostly needed jobs of gainful employment, ever increasing agricultural crises and rural distress have been forcing and goading the unemployed youth including the educated to risk their lives and resort to illegal international immigration to U.S.A, U.K and anywhere to find out gainful employment and bettering lives in distress.

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The incidents occurred in recent months only describe the horrendous plight, distress and desperation of the unemployed particularly the jobless youth of India aged between 18-29, how they are forced to resort to illegal immigration to US, UK and other countries risking their lives and limbs; underscoring the immediate necessity of creation of gainful employment and jobs as well the looming employment crisis in India.

According to the available data the number of Indian clothing in to US illegally has surged recently, with close to 1 lakh people doing so in 2023. Likewise, people crossing illegally in to UK has doubled from previous year, searching for jobs and seeking asylum. The share of illegal migrants from India aged 18-29 formed close to 60% of total number of illegal Indian migrants in 2023.

The recent episode of the forced return of 303 Indians including miners who were detained at a French airport, speaks volumes about the distress of unemployed and jobless people in India. It is particularly noteworthy that majority of them are from Punjab, Haryana and Gujarat. According to them due to distress in farming, and exacerbated situation of crisis they face in farming with plummeting incomes and over exploited and fragmentation of farmland had goaded them to take the risk and bear enormous difficulties to become legal migration. No doubt this situation is being exploited by human traffickers and agents to gain abnormal profits on human trafficking with false promises of job offering. This became easy for them when the government and rulers are looking the other-way and insensitive to the plight of unemployed, without taking any action to resolve the employment crisis. By blaming the human traffickers and agents, the government and rulers are attempting to absolve themselves from the responsibility of creating this situation of distress, hopelessness and despair for the unemployed to risk their lives and limb in resorting for illegal immigration.

Again, the instance of unemployed youth being lured to go to Russia's war zone with Ukraine and work as 'helpers' but forced to participate in the war, either to be killed or loose limbs and become disabled. Now the government is arguing that they (the unemployed) are lured by agents through YouTube channel promising unemployed people a decent life in Russia. Falling prey to such promising advertisements scores of unemployed Indians reached Russia and are caught in the warzone losing their lives and limbs. Their calls for rescue and protection from Indian embassy are to no avail. The passport and other documents of these workers are being confiscated by the military authorities with whom these workers enter in to contract disallowing them to become free but are forced to work in the warzone and fight. The insensitive and irresponsible attitude of the government and rulers towards unemployed and non-creation of jobs is the real and fundamental cause behind this plight of unemployed; even to the extent of risking their lives in desperation of seeking livelihood.

On the other hand, we are witnessing how the government (of Modi, BJP) itself is acting, as an agent/human trafficker authorizedly by facilitating the migration of 42,000 workers from India to Israel as a substitution to use Indian workers for Palestinians whose work permits

were suspended by Israel government, in pursuance of its inhuman war of aggression on Palestine in a bid of Israel policy of exclusion and ethnic cleansing. The government conducted recruitment for the workers to Israel in UP, Haryana through Labour departments, encouraging the media to publicise the recruitment to the war-affecting zones of war. To qualify the candidates must have no previous employment in Israel and no immediate family residing or employed in Israel. More over the selected candidates have to pay for a pre-joining medical test at Rs. 5,500/- and the flight ticket between Rs. 25,000 to 26,000 besides the selected candidates have to pay Rs. 10,000 as processing fee to the NSDC. Thus, the government is presenting itself as a beneficial employment provider. On the other hand, by sending these workers to Israel, India is benefitting from the remittances of these workers, by having access to foreign exchange, which has been crucial for India's balance of payments.

The employment crisis is pushing workers to take any kind of work, even if there are risks to life and limb associated with it.

Activists have been expressing alarm warning that working in Israel can put life in danger and that workers from outside Israel were often mis-treated and accessing healthcare there was difficult and that costs are three times higher than India.

But the candidates who are desperately seeking the job are stating that "people like us are at war with society and internally with our souls from the time of birth", and have decided to take up the jobs in Israel's war situation even at the risk of their lives and limb.

This is the ground reality of the distress and despair of unemployed and jobless people of India, calling the bluff of the claim of P.M. Modi, of adding 2.5 crores of jobs every year.

The failure of the traditional trade union movement in taking up this vital cause too is a reflection of the grim reality existing in India.