

# UNEMPLOYMENT SCENARIO IN MEGHALAYA

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**KEY MESSAGE:** Unemployment can have a life altering effect on a person's life. Besides financial stress and rising poverty, unemployment crumbles one's confidence and alienates one from society. Gradually addressing the issue will go a long way in improving people's livelihood and the state's economy.

## ISSUES:

### **A: CMIE reports unemployment rate stands at 2.1% as of Nov,2022**

- This may not fully reflect the state's unemployment situation

### **B: Employability & productivity in the Agriculture Sector**

- 81% of the population is involved in Agriculture but their contribution to GDP is about 17.36%. This suggests the presence of disguised unemployment

- Employment may look good, but income levels are stressed, leading to an increase in poverty

### **C: Migration from rural to urban areas**

- Shortage of opportunities in rural areas might compel migration to urban areas, leading to mass unemployment

- Disguised unemployment may persist in agriculture and small businesses in rural areas.

### **D: Quality of education remains a key concern**

- Outdated curriculum, a lack of infrastructure, and an outdated teaching style

### **E: Inadequate industrial growth**

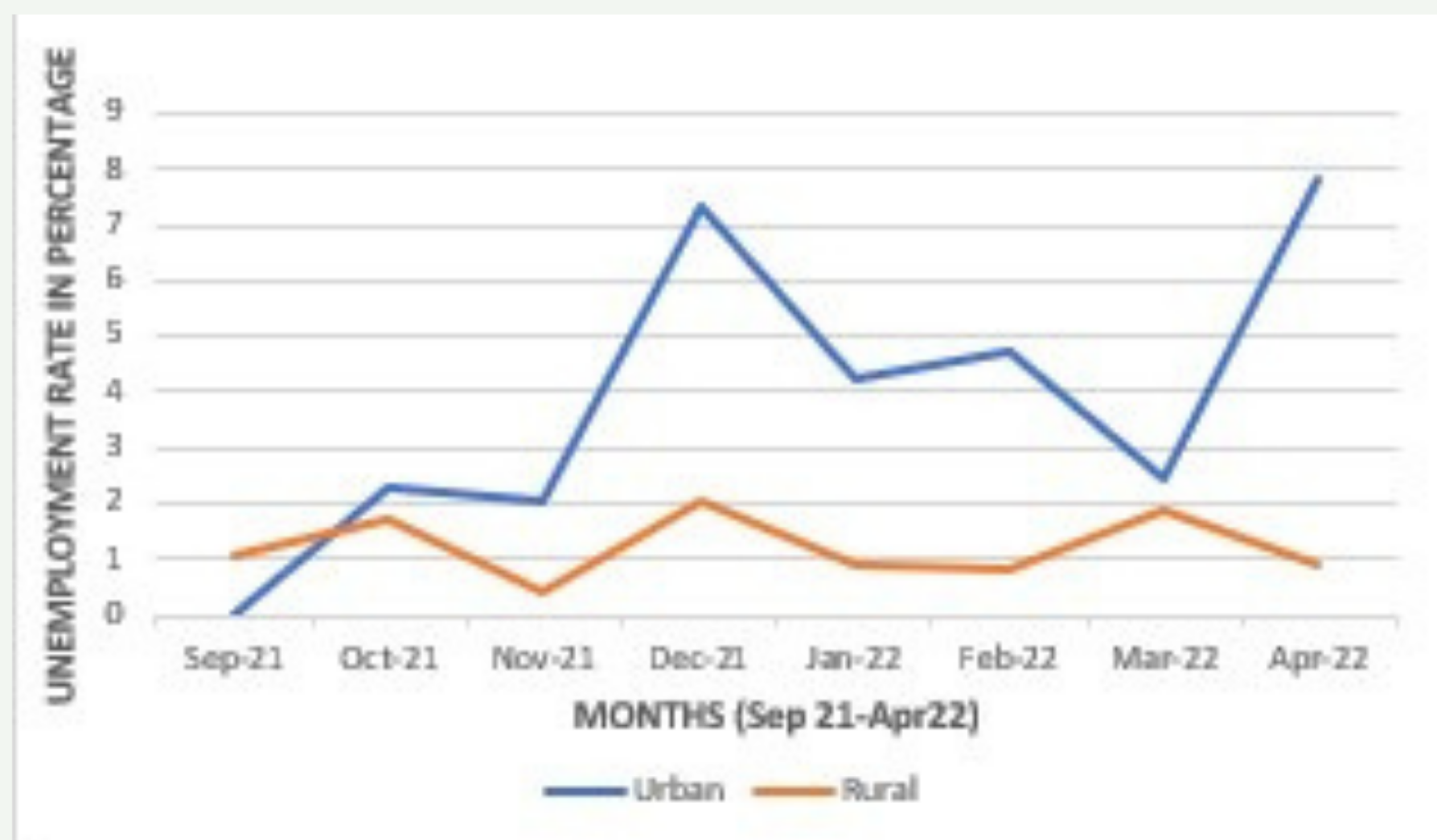
- This limits the population from engaging in productive economic activities



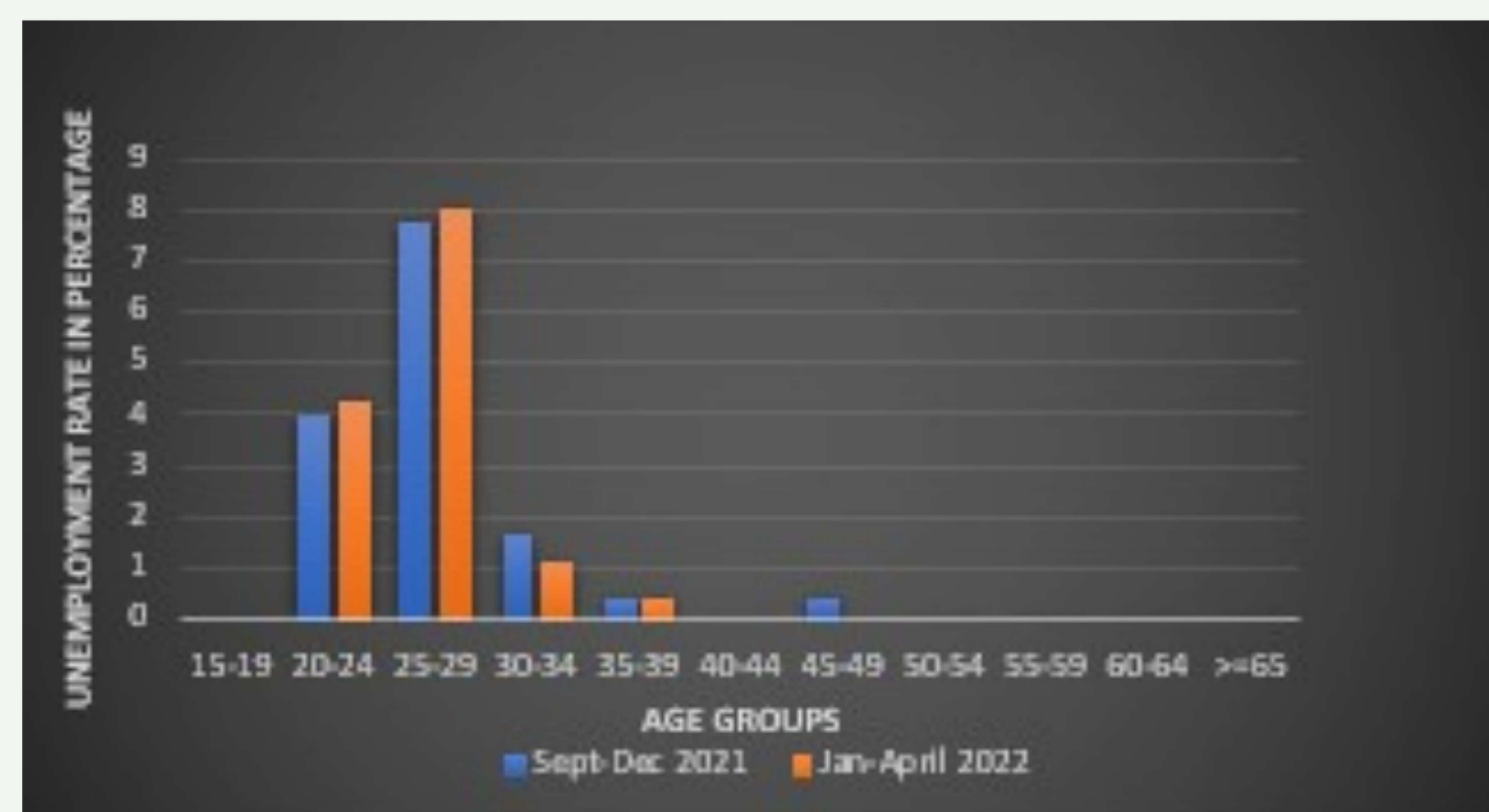
**Image 1:** At the directorate of Employment and Craftsmen Training, job seekers are seen being guided in filling up registration forms



**Image 2:** Learning/enhancing skills in demand is crucial in present times



**Figure 1:** Unemployment rate in Urban vs Rural areas of Meghalaya  
*Source: Unemployment in India- A Statistical Profile, CMIE*



**Figure 2:** Unemployment rate across various age groups from Sep 2021 to April 2022 in Meghalaya  
*Source: Unemployment in India- A Statistical Profile, CMIE*

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

### **A: Identification and creation of Labour Intensive sectors/industries**

- The surplus labour force in the Agriculture sector would lead to wastage of workforce resources if not aptly absorbed.

- Population control

### **B: Rural development**

- Establishment of small scale industries that utilise the strengths in a rural community

### **C: Education reforms**

- Emphasizing on the practical application of theory learnt

- Inculcate skill development in academic curriculum

**CONCLUSION:** Rising unemployment among the educated youth accompanied by unskilled workers in the labour force is a critical issue that needs to be addressed by the policymakers. It may be suggested that practical and rigorous skill training accompanied with a vision and perseverance for self-entrepreneurial ventures could ease unemployment in the state.