

National Institute of Open Schooling
Senior Secondary Course: Economics
Lesson 4: The Problem of Unemployment, Poverty and Inequality
Worksheet-4

1. Kundan was working as an employee in a hotel located in Manali during the tourism period of approximately 6-7 months. But when the tourism period got over, his employer asked him to quit because there were no tourists coming in the hotel and hence Kundan's services were not required. However, after 5 months Kundan got his job back in the same hotel as the tourism period began again. Can you identify the type of unemployment mentioned in this case? If yes, explain one more suitable example of this type of unemployment.

Manoj recently completed his graduation and for a project he visited a small village. In the village he met Ramlal and his family. Ramlal owned a piece of land where he does his farming. Manoj enquired about the crops, fertilizers and soil quality from Ramlal as he wanted to note the details for his project. However, when Manoj visited Ramlal's farm he was rather surprised because on a very small piece of land 6 of Ramlal's family members were working. Manoj suggested that such small piece of land could be cultivated by only 2 persons and not 6 hence the 4 extra persons should be removed from the farm as they were not making any contribution as such but Ramlal told Manoj that the other four members will otherwise be sitting idle altogether and they are there at the farm as they could not find any other work elsewhere. On the basis of the given case answer the following questions.

2. Do you think India suffers from the problem of unemployment? If yes, what are the causes of unemployment in India?
3. What type of unemployment do you observe in the above-mentioned case? Cite some other example of such type of unemployment.
4. Can you think of any other types of unemployment as well? Name them.
5. Manoj is concerned about the increasing unemployment rate in rural economy. Can you guess how he would have calculated the rate of unemployment? Explain the methods of measuring unemployment in India.

No one wants to be poor yet a large portion of population is poor. Any person who is incapable of satisfying the basic needs of life can be termed as poor but the interesting part is that a person who is poor in one country may not necessarily be a poor in other country. Also, a person may not be a poor in real terms but may be a poor in relative terms which means in comparison to others. Keeping this paragraph in mind answer the following questions.

6. Does India have a standard definition of poor? If yes how will you define a poor?

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7. What according to you are the main reasons for poverty in India?
8. Do you think education and caste system play an important role in determining the poverty of an individual? If yes, how if not, why?
9. Is it possible for a person to get rid of his poverty? How?
10. Do you think that government schemes to alleviate poverty are sufficient? Name some schemes of poverty alleviation programmes of government of India and suggest how these programmes can be improved?