

# The Effects of Unemployment on Afghanistan War

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## Abstract

Unemployment means the number of jobless people in a country. Those people who have the energy and ability of a job and want to do the job, but he/she cannot find the job to meet their basic needs or it's the situation in which someone in the age of working but unable to get full time employment unfortunately, Afghanistan is one of those countries with the highest unemployment rate around the world. According to the World Bank research in 2019, the unemployment rate in Afghanistan was 11.12%. In 2020 and 2021, the unemployment rate got increased, which harms the purchasing power of civilians. People need a job if there is no job; they try to find other ways to survive; in Afghanistan, there are many terrorist groups like, Taliban, Al-Qaida, Dahesh (ISIS), Haqqani network, smugglers, etc. These groups welcoming the youths, and they pay money for them. It's an excellent opportunity for terrorism and smugglers to hire youth and teenagers to fight for them and their goals. From 2004 up to 2021, the unemployment rate is gradually increasing day by day, and the security situation also is getting worse; it shows unemployment and security interrelated; in villages, most people are jobless, which is why most of the villagers join these groups.

**Keywords:** Unemployment rate • The effects of unemployment • The opportunity for terrorism and smugglers • Unemployment and security interrelated

## Introduction

Afghanistan has the youngest population worldwide; it has more than 63% under the age of 25 years, and most of them do heavy work in the villages and cities. More than 42% of Afghanistan's population lives below poverty, and just 20% of people live above poverty. The World Bank and Afghan government joint reports show that the unemployment rate is increasing from 2014 up to 2021, and these are the following year's percentages [1,2].

- The unemployment rate in 2020, 11.16%
- The unemployment rate in 2019, 11.12%
- The unemployment rate in 2018, 11.06%
- The unemployment rate in 2017, 11.18%
- The unemployment rate in 2016, 11.31%

There are various reasons for the unemployment in Afghanistan, like withdrawal of foreign troops or military, deactivation of numerous NGOs, bribery, and security. But, on the other hand, that time it was the most significant opportunity for terrorism and smugglers to use youth properly for their goals and objectives [3]. As per many research shows that Taliban, Al-Qaida, Dahesh (ISIS), Haqqani network, and smugglers pay for their fighters, even more than police and school teachers' salaries, that is why illegal armed militias are getting more power and, they are controlling more geography in Afghanistan nowadays, and the battlefield flame [4].

## Literature Review

The Afghan government should take a step for unemployment, there are many ways to reduce or break down unemployment, and these steps are the following [5].

- Legally send of labors or workforce to the other countries which need human resources.
- To reduce bribery in the government offices.
- To fill the vacant position in government offices.
- Making of FDI (foreign direct investment) policies in a reasonable manner.
- Review of taxation policies and motivate the investor to invest more.
- Invest in minerals like (Oil, Rocks, Gas, Gold, Iron, Copper, etc.).
- Permission of new investment without taxation for few years.
- Support of Afghan products.
- Change agriculture ministry to the investing based (change from expenses to the earning church).

If the government applies these steps, the unemployment rate will be decreased, and the security situation will change. Most of the terrorism and smugglers fighters will return and start an everyday life, and the fight flame will drop, and the illegal trips will lose their power [6].

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## Effects of unemployment on security

Changes have some cost; when the unemployment rate increased, it has some price as well. It is not just financial issues but creating psychological or mental problems as well for societies [7]. For surviving, they try to select the following ways.

- Leaving the country.
- Joining terrorism, and smugglers groups.
- Robber ring.
- Selling drugs.
- Kidnapping/abduction.
- Cultivation of narcotics (opium).
- Bribing.
- Working for foreign intelligence.
- Suicide their self.

The above steps directly affect the country's security situation. these come from unemployment [8]. Therefore, there should be a all strategy for decreasing unemployment; otherwise, the security situation will worsen.

## Effects of unemployment on the economy

The unemployment is one of the most significant issues which have direct effects on the country's economic growth. These harmful effects have the following:

- Increase of poverty.
- Social issues.
- Exploitation of labors.
- Industrial disputes.
- Political instability.
- Loss of human resources.

**Increase of poverty:** In this situation of unemployment, he/she has no income sources and the debt burden increasing, and with that, economic issues increase.

**Social issues:** Due to unemployment the dishonesty, immorality, gambling, and robbery, etc. arising, causes social disturbance in society.

**The exploitation of laborers:** Laborers have to work for low wages due to the unemployment has broken. They accept low wages under the un-favorable situation.

**Industrial disputes:** Because of unemployment, industrial disputes arise. And it also has adverse effects on employee and employer relationships. So unemployment occurs due to industrial disputes.

**Political instability:** Due to unemployment, there is political variability in the country. Under political unrest, the unemployed people think economic development becomes tricky and engages them in critical activities.

**Loss of human resources:** All the human resources going to be waste due to unemployment. They lose their potions, confidants and not using them properly; that is why economic growth will decrease in the county.

## The effects of unemployment on family relationship

Unemployment hurts families, and it is also a danger for the future of children. Most of the family's crime exists of unemployment; research shows in 2020, due to COVID 19, family's crime increased because of unemployment [9]. When unemployment exists, the following steps will happen.

- Poverty and hardship.
- Poorer health.
- Strained relationship.
- The causal relationship is not always clear.
- Housing stress.
- Harm children's development and their future employment.
- Oppression on women.
- Using more drugs and wine or alcoholic at home.
- Increasing of crimes.

## Cost of unemployment

Nothing is free. Everything has some cost; unemployment also has a price that the societies should pay for it. Unemployment not just brings financial or economic problems; it brings psychological, mental, depression, loss of self-esteem, and suicidal behavior. The unemployment social cost is a result of the psychological and economic effects. Unemployment tends to feel frustration, despair, and anger the costs of societal o high unemployment reducing the rate of volunteerism and include higher crime [10]. Unemployment hurting the economy and unemployed people cannot buy fewer things, and they may not pay their credit or loans. They have changed their financial objectives and goals.

There are four types of unemployment as the following:

- Unemployment of frictional.
- Unemployment of structural.
- Unemployment of cyclical.
- Unemployment of seasonal.

The most dangerous unemployment is called structure unemployment, which are such seismic changes in the economic model we have in Afghanistan. People willing, have the energy to work but unable to find employment lose their income, and the living standards are getting worse and decline in spending power.

## Discussion

### How to reduce unemployment

Reducing unemployment should increase agriculture mechanization in various states that employment has lower elasticity of growth of output agriculture. There are some steps as well as the following for reducing unemployment.

- Education and training.
- Monetary policy.
- Fiscal policy.
- Lower minimum wages.
- Geographical subsidies.

- Employment subsidies.
- Reduce the control the union trade power.
- Improve the market labor flexibility.

For increasing employment and reducing unemployment, there some strategies steps which should be followed [11-14]. These are strategies steps as a following:

- We need to be improved the quality of growth through hands-on strategies.
- The policy of bank and capital markets can be lead to an acceleration of accumulation capital.
- The policy of monetary is more focusing on inflation target.
- The total factor of productivity increased.
- Special incentive for labor.
- Strengthening vocational education.
- The anti-unemployment program that is regionally specific.

### The impact of unemployment in Afghanistan

Unemployment in Afghanistan has a positive effect on the violence of rising and instability of the economy. Most people believe that unemployment is the primary source of insurgency continuous in Afghanistan. Many examples are that the youth unemployed Afghans during 20 years joined the against government armed groups the child has not joined the insurgents based on their ideology. Sometimes, these youth are against their ideology. Still, they joined these groups to earn some money and buy bread for themselves and their families [15].

It's a clear fact in Afghanistan that the killing of insurgents has not weakened that the insurgent's groups forces and they look like to be more robust; the main reason is the high rate of unemployment in Afghanistan. It leads more Afghan unemployed youths to join against government insurgent trips. These insurgents groups used the unemployed youths as suicide attackers, laborers for explosive devices, battle forces, and poppies, led people to grow opium, and encourage joining the extremist trips or groups.

### Conclusion

According to this review, one thing is cleared; unemployment is the main reason for insurgents in Afghanistan. Since 2014 the unemployment rate has increased, and the security situation also day-by-day getting worse, which is why we can say unemployment and security, are interrelated with each other in the country. The strategies that can fight unemployment and poverty in the country are a drop in poverty. Unemployment needs sustainable employment opportunities, which is straight, linked with the company's development in our country. At the same time, the companies are said to reduce the countries' economy and play a vital role in the economy's growth and decrease the unemployment rate and poverty.

Suggestion for the Afghan government should review the investment policies, role, and regulations and give some taxation relief to industries and new investors; on the other hand, Afghanistan is an agriculture country. More than 60% of people are busy with agriculture in the country, and they play a vital role in the economy. The government of Afghanistan should provide transportation facilities for

the agricultural market opportunities for productions, find these productions, improve the qualities, packing process of these productions, distribute compost and improved seeds to the Afghanistan farmers, and support domestic shows. Agriculture in Afghanistan can play a vital role in the country's economic growth and reduce unemployment and poverty. If the country's economic growth rate is in a good situation and creates job opportunities and improves community welfare, it affects the peace and security situation; fighting against corruption, bribe, and political stability is the excellent governance duty and obligation. Poverty and unemployment in the country are related to the upkeep of peace and security in the country.

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