PREFACE

Organising the unorganised labour in India is an herculean task. Here and there some attempts have been made in the past to improve the conditions of unorganised labour, but those attempts are very meager in nature. Unless something is done concretely, the real economic development cannot be seen.

The inability of organizing sector to attract the unemployed due to raged policy of job cuts and retrenchment, and continuous monsoon failure in the immediate past and the present agriculture gambling with rainfall and together with failure of Government sponsored self-employment schemes forced the unemployed to take up some kind of self-employment.

The slogan of poverty and unemployment which rented the political and economic horizon of the country since 1969 has now become a wild cry of a bygone era since 35 per cent of the population still living below poverty line. The G.D.P deceleration significantly 5 per cent in 1997-98 from 7.5 per cent in 1996-97, was mainly attributed to fall in the growth rate in agriculture due to deceleration in growth of industry and continued sluggishness in export rate.

Economic growth implies improvement in the material well-being of people which includes better health, education and sanitation. The trickle down approach did not have any significant impact on the lives of the population at the bottom level, as growth in the economy was moderate in the first three decades after Independence. The changes impacted by poverty alleviation
programmers were also not to the desired level. Enhanced human development expenditure cannot be sustained over a long period unless supported accelerated economic growth.

Top priority expectation has been made already and said that the future of industrial growth will depend on the performance of private sector. Therefore, the policies must be redefined and the role of private sector has to streamlined so that they may not resort or carry on more firing than hiring.

As education spread, the economy must have the ability to absorb the growing number of the educated. Economic growth and social development must move in tandem so as to reap the synergic effects of the two moving together. Hence, human development indicators and economic development there could be always a source of social tensions.

Poverty anywhere constitutes a danger to prosperity every where. Economic growth is worth while only when it leads to social justice in the form of equitable distribution, reduction in poverty and unemployment. The future poverty and unemployment eradication programs should clearly address effectively tackling the issues of unemployment and poverty. Hence the present study. An attempt has been made in the present study to examine the potentials and performance of self-employment schemes in Karnataka with special reference to urban Bangalore through a study on auto-rickshaw transport service and made suggestions for the economic development of the Karnataka.
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