

Unemployment in North East India: Some Issues

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I Introduction

Widespread unemployment and under-employment along with poverty have been two major challenges to development planning in India since independence. Consequently, alleviation of poverty and removal of unemployment have been the major objectives of earlier five-year plans. These two problems still persist though the degree and extent varies across regions in the country. Out of these states, most of the states in the Northeastern region (NER) are considered economically backward.

The NE region of India consists of seven states, namely, Arunachal Pradesh (ARP), Assam (ASS), Manipur (MAN), Meghalaya (MEG), Mizoram (MIZ), Nagaland (NAG) and Tripura (TRI). Individually, most of these states depict lower level of economic development compared to even national averages as suggested by the various indicators for which information is available except for higher literacy rates.

There had been growing concern about increasing unemployment as a vital economic problem in NER. However, the extent and nature of unemployment is not properly known for these states. In fact, very few attempts have been made in the past to explain the various facets of unemployment at regional levels in India. This is more so in the case among states in the NER where we have not come across any systematic study dealing with this issue.

In this paper we provide an elaborate exposition of different facets of unemployment within the NER. The main purpose of this paper is to analyse the incidence of unemployment among the seven Northeastern states. This study also highlights other relevant issues like relationship of unemployment with education and poverty.

Rest of the paper is divided in three parts. Next section deals with data and methodology issues. This is followed by the discussion of empirical findings in section 3. The conclusions are reported in section 4.

II Data and Conceptual Issues

In this paper we use household level survey (unit record) data on employment and unemployment in India. The data were collected by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO). The reference period was the agricultural year (i.e. July to June) 1993–94 (50th round). The survey covers all the states, including NE and union territories of India, which are divided into 78 relatively homogeneous agro-climatic regions.

The employment and unemployment data is further supplemented by expenditure data collected from the same households during the survey. The expenditure data provides the distribution of households according to their per capita monthly total expenditure (PCTE). This has been used in this paper to measure the incidence of poverty, which in turn was used to study its relationship with the incidence of unemployment. For the purpose of identifying the poor households in NE states, we have applied the official poverty line (OPL) used by Dubey and Kharpuri (1999).

To analyse the nature of unemployment, certain conceptual clarity is needed. In this connection first comes the concept of labour force, because the entire population is not included in the labour force. Traditionally, adult segment of population in the age group of 15 to 59 years (both included) is considered economically active population and constitutes the "labour force", though there is no apparent restriction on people below and above this age group to participate in economic activities. However, those out of this age group will not be considered for calculating incidence of unemployment, in the current paper.

The population in the labour force is divided in two groups: those who are working and those who are not working but the seeking and/or are otherwise available for work. Observe that all those who are within the working age group but neither working nor seeking or available for work are treated outside the purview of the set of labour force, e.g., students, persons engaged in domestic duties, rentiers, pensioners, living on alms, disabled persons etc.

The well-accepted norm of employment stipulates that it is sufficient for a person to be engaged in an economic activity for at least one hour or any day during the period of reference to be classified as employed. There are also implicit rules in the labour force framework according to which activity status gets priority over inactivity. On the basis of this conceptual framework the unemployment is considered to be an extreme situation of total lack of work.

For making unemployment statistics more reliable and meaningful, it is conventionally reported according to time dimension also, i.e., a person is unemployed since last one year, last one month or last one week prior to the date of

survey by the NSSO. This is more relevant issue in a developing economy like India, where large sections of the labour force gets employment in unorganised sector like agriculture and household industries. Often the employment is seasonal, infrequent and/or otherwise irregular. Accordingly, NSSO collects information for three reference periods, one to capture the employment/unemployment status for a long period in past one year and calls it the "Principal Usual Status (PUS)". The status prevailing for entire week is known as "Current Weekly Status (CWS)". The "Current Daily Activity Status (CDS)", for a person is determined on the basis of his/her activity status on each day of the reference week. A person is considered employed for the entire day if he/she had worked for at least four hours during the day.

The PUS measures the status of person, which prevailed over a "long last period". People belong to this category can be called chronically unemployed. This type of unemployment is, supposedly the lowest in a developing economy, because most of unemployed by this definition cannot afford to remain unemployed for a very long period. The CWS reduced the reference period to one week. At this juncture it is important to mention that CWS measures the unemployment in a more precise way, i.e., if during the reference week a person is employed even for one hour on any of the seven days of the week, is termed as 'employed' for that week, even though he has been unemployed for rest of the days in the reference week.

In order to tackle this tricky issue NSSO, also, collects the statistics on the current activity status on daily (actually half day) basis for all the days of reference week. This gives the information on period of unemployment during the week for a person. In an aggregated form total unemployed person-days can be estimated and when divided by total number of labour force days gives rate of unemployment what is termed as "on daily basis". This rate, however, does not give unemployment rate as described by PUS and CWS.

In this paper, we have discussed first two types of unemployment, i.e., on the PUS and CWS basis to investigate the incidence of unemployment among the states in the NER. Besides these, we have used information on age and sex of all the members of surveyed households along with their social group and consumption levels. This allowed us to look at various aspects of the incidence of unemployment like, youth unemployment, unemployment by the social group and education levels as well as the relationship between poverty and unemployment.

III Empirical Findings

In this section we report the incidence of unemployment among the seven states of the NER. We have also, reported for the purpose of comparison, wherever possible, the all India figures with the NER figures.

Population structure

Table 1 reports the gender-wise distribution of population among the seven states and the NER, i.e., the sex ratio (number of females per thousand of males). This ratio is higher in Manipur and Meghalaya but lower in the remaining of the five states compared to all India average. Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh have Scheduled Tribes as the most dominant population group. In general, all the NER states have higher percentage of Scheduled Tribes population (higher than all India average of about 8 percent).

Population distribution between the rural and urban sectors of the region is such that 87.6 percent population lives in the rural areas. This is much lower (72 percent, 2001) at all India level. This is indicative of predominant rural sector with lower degree of urbanization in NER. Within the rural sector of NER, all the seven states have higher population of Scheduled Tribe population. Tripura is the only state where Scheduled Caste population is found to be as high as 21.99 percent where as Nagaland, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh have less than 1 percent total rural population belong to Scheduled Caste group. Similar population distribution holds in the urban sector except that SC population is slightly higher (than 1 percent in rural sector) in ARP and MEG.

Labour force participation

Recall that labour force is defined as the subset of the population in 15–59 year age group, who are either employed, or unemployed and seeking/available for work. Table 2 reports the salient features of labour force among the NER states for rural and urban sectors. This table details the rate of labour force participation and proportion of population out of labour force, which can be derived conveniently. For example, 55.39 percent of persons in NER are in labour force; consequently, 44.61 per cent (i.e., $100.00 - 55.39$) persons are out of labour force.

The table also, suggests that the labour force participation rates for rural male varies in the range of 65–92 percent and for rural female 16 to 74 percent. Similarly, in the urban areas, male labour force participation rates vary between 67–80 percent and for the females it is 14–40 percent. The economically active population ratios are on the higher side in the rural sector in comparison to the corresponding figures for the urban sector of NER. However, compared to national average, proportion of persons belong to labour force in NER is smaller for both males and females. This gap is much higher for females, which shows that relatively a large section of female population does not participate in the economic activities. The male female differential is more striking within the NE states, where, female labour participation is lowest among the states like Assam, Nagaland and Tripura. On the contrary, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh have much higher (68.53 and 63.16 percent respectively) proportions of female labour forces than all India average (32.92 percent).

Status of unemployment

Table 3 reports the incidence of unemployment based on principal usual activity status (PUS) by sex and place of residence. The figures presented in the form of rate of unemployment are based on the concept of usual activity, taking in to account the principal status and subsidiary status. It is to be noted that this type of unemployment represents the situation where people remained unemployed for fairly longer period (one year) and called 'chronically' unemployed. This indicates relatively persistent structural unemployment in these states.

The figures shown in the table are in terms of rate of unemployment. In fact this rate represents the total number of unemployed persons in a particular group divided by the total number persons belonging to labour force in the same group in percentage form. For example, 1.49 percent of rural males are unemployed in Arunachal Pradesh out of the total labour force of the rural male in Arunachal Pradesh. The rates based on the usual status approach would be pointers about the relatively persistent unemployment situation during the reference year, i.e. 1993-94.

First, the incidence of unemployment in the NER at 5.73 percent is almost double to that at all India level. Gender-wise break-up shows that it is about three times higher among the females in NER. Among the NE states, the unemployment rate is highest (7.91 percent) in Assam. The degree of unemployment is lowest in Meghalaya (0.4%) and other NE states like Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Mizoram having the rates lower than all India. Nagaland shows the second highest male unemployment rate among the NER states after the Assam. The unemployment rates for rural males vary between 0.5-6.0 percent and for rural females from 0-15 percent, similarly, for urban males from 0.5 to 7 percent and for urban females 0.7-32 percent for NE States.

General trends that can be highlighted are that the degree of unemployment is significantly higher in urban sectors than rural sector in the NER like at all India level. However, unemployment rate in the rural sector is much higher than at all India level of which the major contribution is coming from female unemployment.

In rural sector of the NER, the percentage of unemployment for females is highest for Assam (14.56 percent) followed by Tripura (9.32 percent). But in the remaining five states, there is lesser degree of unemployment for rural females. Higher female unemployment in rural Assam may be because of the division of work in agricultural practices is strictly gender biased in favour of male and against the female labourers whereas this may not be true in the case of other tribal dominated NE states.¹ The female unemployment rates are higher in Assam (31.80 percent), followed by Tripura (21.06 percent) comparing to all India average (8.81 percent).

As noted earlier, the unemployment on weekly basis suggests that a person is called unemployed if he/she remained unemployed on the all the seven days of the referenced week, but was 'seeking and available' for work at the time of

survey conducted by the NSSO. This measures the unemployment for relatively shorter period. Table 4 reports the incidence of unemployment based on current weekly status (CWS).

It is evident from table 4 that the incidence of unemployment based on CWS is higher than we got on the basis of PUS for both NER as well as for all India level. This result is expected as the CWS reflects under-unemployment also.² Unlike the incidence of unemployment reported in table 3, the NER states have lower incidence of unemployment compared to all India. But by the place of residence, the unemployment rate is higher in the NER than all India in the urban sector with a prominent female bias. Within the states in the NER, Assam and Tripura have very high unemployment rates in both rural and the urban sectors. Other states have much lower incidence compared to all India.

Unemployment of youth

In recent times, there has been a strong concern expressed by various social scientists, youth organizations and student groups in NER that there is very high incidence of unemployment among youth in almost all the states. To investigate this point, we tabulated the incidence of unemployment in five age groups, 15–23, 24–32, 33–41, 42–50 and 51–59 years based on CWS.

Table 5 shows that indeed the incidence of unemployment is highest in the first two age groups among the states in the NER compared to national level. However, it is in the urban sector that male unemployment among the youth is phenomenally higher at over 77 percent compared to national average of nearly 40 percent. Further, male unemployment in rural sector is as high as 38.41 percent in the age group 15–23 years, whereas female unemployment is higher in 24–32 age group. This proportion is significantly higher than all India average. Male unemployment in the age group 15–23, under which most of the youth finish their education and achieve the adulthood, such high youth unemployment is alarming.

This observation motivated us to take-up the issue of youth unemployment in more detail. For this purpose state-wise distribution of unemployment within the age group 15–23 years is reported in table 6. The proportion of youth unemployment is in general higher in NER compared to all India levels. But Assam and Tripura are having highest level of youth unemployment. It is significantly high for both males and females in rural sector of Assam.

As mentioned earlier, the youth unemployment is higher in urban sector of NER, but state-wise distribution suggests that Tripura has highest male youth unemployment (17.35 percent) followed by Assam (14.64 percent). Female youth unemployment is highest for Nagaland (19.02 percent) followed by Tripura (17.47 percent) and Assam (16.92 percent).

Alarming higher level of unemployment is given as one of the major explanation for youth unrest, root cause for on going insurgencies and social tensions in these states. This requires an immediate attention of policy makers and planners.

Unemployment and education

Table 7 presents the distribution of unemployed by their level of education. The entire population is divided into four groups, illiterate, literate but below primary, above primary and below secondary and secondary and above. Table clearly shows that at all India levels, the majority of unemployed are illiterate. It declines as we go down the column. Thus, the incidence of unemployment declines with the increasing level of education. This trend is more clearly visible for rural India, whereas urban India has highest proportion of unemployed coming from the education level above primary and below secondary level education.

We get a completely different picture in the Northeastern states. In the rural sector of NER, the highest proportion of unemployed is not the illiterate. This is indicative of higher literacy rate even in the rural sector both for male and female populations. As pointed out earlier, this is more so, for urban sector of NER, where only 6.65 percent of unemployed are illiterate and about 50 percent of unemployed belong to above primary and below secondary level of education. Significantly higher level of unemployed (27.45%) have educational level secondary and above.

This finding suggests that jobs in the urban sector require higher investment in human capital development. The finding that even in the highest education category, there is alarmingly high incidence of unemployment in the NER suggests that the job opportunities in the urban formal sector are almost approaching saturation level.³ With very little investment going in the manufacturing sector among the states in NER, the employment situation is unlikely to improve in the coming years.

Unemployment and poverty

In development economics literature, we find a close link between poverty and unemployment. It is suggested that people are poor because they are unemployed. On the contrary, some economists suggested that poor person couldn't afford to remain unemployed for longer period and take up the first available opportunity of unemployment even on lower wage and adverse job conditions. To analyse this aspect we estimated the proportion of unemployed who are living below and above the standard poverty line.

Table 8 has the incidence of unemployment among the households divided into two mutually exclusive groups, poor and non-poor for NER and also at all India level for rural and urban sectors separately. Recall that the poor households have been identified using state-wise official poverty line (Planning Commission poverty line) and NSS expenditure distribution of the households for the two sectors separately. The rate of unemployment is based on current weekly status (CWS). At all India level the incidence of unemployment among the poor households is higher than of those who are unemployed and coming from non-poor households in both rural and urban sectors. But this situation is

reversed in case of NER. The rate of unemployment is lower among the poor compared to non-poor households. This observation is more pronounced in the urban sector of NER, where proportion of unemployed in the poor households is as low as 4.86 percent than 11.77 percent in the non-poor group.

This could imply that at all India level unemployment appears to have a causal link with poverty. This linkage appears more clearly in the rural sector. But in the NER lower incidence of unemployment among the poor implies that the rural workers are willing to take up jobs at prevailing wages. In urban sector, however, the implication could be that those who are in the labour force are willing to wait to take up work that is more rewarding. This could also be due to weaker causal link between poverty and unemployment, especially in the urban sector of NER. However, this result should be taken with a caution because relationship between poverty and unemployment is a complex one. An in depth analysis of this issue is required to unravel the linkages.

Unemployment among social groups

Table 9 reports the degree of unemployment by social groups for the NER and all India. At all India level, unemployment is higher among the SCs and lowest among the STs. Similar result holds for rural India. In the urban sector also SCs continue to have highest incidence of unemployment followed by the STs. The lowest proportion of unemployed is in the group OTH. In the NER too, exactly same pattern holds at the aggregate level as well as in the rural sector. It is in the urban sector where unemployment rate is highest in the OTH group.

It is interesting to note that the rate of unemployment among the STs is least in both the sectors of NER. Most surprising is the highest incidence of unemployment among OTH households. One possible explanation could be that the highest proportion of OTH households is in Assam and could be migrants from neighbouring countries.

The lowest incidence of unemployment among the STs compared to SCs in the NER could be due to the fact that STs have access to land, forest and other common property resources. The SCs on the other hand are scattered lot and often do not have access to these resources. Other explanation could be that STs have higher education level that could have resulted in better access to public sector jobs. These issues and its relationship with unemployment require detailed investigation.

V Concluding Remarks

In this paper, we investigated the incidence of unemployment among the seven Northeastern states of India and compared it with all India figures. We used household level data on employment and unemployment collected by the NSSO for the year 1993-94. The level of unemployment has been estimated

considering the principal usual activity and current weekly status of the persons in the working age group of 15–59 years.

The incidence of unemployment in NER is in general higher than national average. It is highest for Assam among these states. The data suggest that the common belief that youth unemployment is high in NE states is indeed true. There is an urgent need of all out efforts for a “job oriented economic growth” Encouraging non-farming activities in the rural areas and enlarging the scope of economic activities in urban areas. It may help in creating additional employment opportunities. The improved intra- and inter-regional trade links coupled with international trade links with neighbouring countries like Myanmar, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Nepal could create additional employment opportunities in the long run. Of course, these linkages might not take shape unless proper infrastructural facilities are created. But how this could materialize is the biggest challenge for the policy makers in the region.

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Notes

- 1 Saikia (1989) also observed that by and large, women do not go for wage employment in agricultural sector of Assam except when driven by acute economic hardship.
- 2 Recall that under CWS, a person is classified as unemployed even if he might have been employed in the earlier weeks.
- 3 In the NER, urban formal sector consists of jobs in the government and other related service sector like education.

Table 1: Demographic and Social Group-wise Distribution of Population in the NER States in (1993-94)

States	Rural			Urban			Total					
	Sex Ratio	ST*	SC*	Gen	Sex Ratio	ST*	SC*	Gen	Sex Ratio	ST*	SC*	Gen
ARP	914	16.40	0.20	83.39	841	4.13	5.20	90.68	912	16.05	0.34	83.60
ASS	836	14.15	9.23	76.62	910	4.18	7.13	88.69	843	13.14	9.02	77.85
MAN	982	38.96	0.09	60.95	943	8.27	0.52	91.21	966	26.88	0.26	72.86
MEG	957	81.38	0.07	18.55	952	62.64	4.33	33.02	957	78.79	0.66	20.55
MIZ	887	86.28	0.32	13.40	955	98.08	0.63	1.29	908	90.01	0.42	9.57
NAG	902	95.04	0.30	4.76	715	67.39	1.24	31.37	848	87.66	0.33	12.01
TRI	923	12.36	21.99	65.65	982	3.20	15.42	81.38	931	11.14	21.12	67.74
NER	864	20.68	8.81	71.04	917	7.16	5.91	79.50	871	19.93	7.99	72.09
INDIA	944	10.22	20.12	69.66	904	2.90	12.67	84.43	933	8.40	18.27	73.34

Source: National Sample Survey (NSS) 50th Round (1993-94).

Note: * denotes that the figures are the percentages of the respective social groups out of the total population of the respective states.

Table 2: Labour force in the North Eastern states in the Age Group of 15-59 in 1993-94

States	Rural			Urban			Total		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
ARP	79.20	64.52	72.14	79.00	16.54	51.13	79.19	63.16	71.50
ASS	84.60	16.12	53.00	78.00	15.31	48.92	83.84	16.03	52.54
MAN	70.71	34.31	52.54	69.00	14.98	41.50	69.94	26.83	48.30
MEG	92.81	74.29	83.76	80.00	30.85	56.12	91.03	68.53	80.05
MIZ	81.57	47.53	65.49	76.00	40.01	57.94	79.70	45.04	63.06
NAG	65.88	18.40	43.56	67.00	15.66	45.25	66.26	17.71	44.01
TRI	82.98	17.49	51.10	79.00	21.45	50.43	82.40	18.05	51.01
NER	83.47	25.83	56.44	76.00	17.82	48.46	82.50	24.77	55.39
ALL INDIA	88.38	37.35	63.19	83.00	20.05	53.19	86.85	32.92	60.54

Source: As in Table 1.

Note: The figures spell out labour force as a percentage of the total population in the age group 15-59 years.

**Table 3: Rate of Unemployment (Principal Usual Activities)
in the NER States in 1993-94**

States	Rural			Urban			Total		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
ARP	1.51	0.57	1.11	0.75	5.80	1.48	1.49	0.61	1.12
ASS	6.51	14.56	7.64	6.45	31.80	10.12	6.51	16.43	7.91
MAN	2.17	0.86	1.74	3.60	3.83	3.64	2.71	1.50	2.37
MEG	0.43	0.00	0.25	1.43	3.51	1.98	0.55	0.21	0.41
MIZ	1.76	0.73	1.40	0.43	0.74	0.54	1.37	0.73	1.15
NAG	2.46	0.06	1.98	7.12	7.03	7.10	3.80	1.59	3.39
TRI	1.67	9.32	2.94	6.73	21.06	9.74	2.33	11.29	3.88
NER	5.05	6.94	5.46	5.42	19.26	7.83	5.09	8.12	5.73
ALL INDIA	2.16	1.50	1.97	4.70	8.81	5.43	2.82	2.64	2.77

Source: As in Table 1.

Note: The figures denote the proportion of unemployed persons out of the total labour force (15-59 years).

**Table 4: Rate of Unemployment (Current Weekly Status) in the
Labour Force among the NER States in 1993-94**

States	Rural			Urban			Total		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
ARP	1.94	1.68	1.81	1.91	4.60	3.00	1.94	1.72	1.84
ASS	9.66	9.32	9.51	12.87	13.61	13.20	9.92	9.68	9.82
MAN	3.95	3.96	3.96	4.94	4.61	4.77	4.23	4.15	4.19
MEG	0.53	0.73	0.63	2.90	3.16	3.02	0.70	0.89	0.79
MIZ	2.00	1.86	1.94	0.34	0.50	0.41	1.56	1.48	1.52
NAG	2.47	1.50	2.01	10.15	12.33	11.07	4.36	3.77	4.09
TRI	7.23	7.48	7.35	15.74	18.79	17.26	8.35	9.14	8.72
NER	7.74	7.31	7.55	10.55	11.22	10.86	7.85	7.53	7.70
ALL INDIA	7.61	7.49	7.55	10.29	9.85	10.08	8.17	7.97	8.07

Source: As in Table 1.

Note: As in Table 1.

Table 5: Age Group-wise distribution of Unemployment among the States in the NER (in Percent) in 1993-94

<i>Regions</i>	<i>M/F</i>	<i>15-23</i>	<i>24-32</i>	<i>33-41</i>	<i>42-50</i>	<i>51-59</i>	<i>Total</i>
NER: Rural	Male	38.41	30.45	8.96	12.2	9.99	100
	Female	8.93	28.75	18.05	29.74	14.53	100
	Persons	28.3	29.87	12.08	18.21	11.55	100
All India: Rural	Male	35.96	26.2	15.17	13.72	8.95	100
	Female	33.21	24.16	16.46	17.34	8.83	100
	Persons	34.65	25.23	15.78	15.45	8.89	100
NER: Urban	Male	77.01	11.84	3.61	3.74	3.81	100
	Female	37.02	30.06	8.88	17.11	6.93	100
	Persons	66.99	16.4	4.93	7.09	4.59	100
All India: Urban	Male	39.86	27.5	11.36	12.4	8.88	100
	Female	35.22	21.98	16.17	18.21	8.43	100
	Persons	37.74	24.98	13.56	15.05	8.67	100
NER: All	Male	36.99	26.55	14.15	13.37	8.93	100
	Female	33.71	23.62	16.39	17.56	8.73	100
	Persons	35.45	25.17	15.21	15.34	8.84	100
All India: All	Male	49.74	24.99	7.39	9.71	8.18	100
	Female	14.83	29.03	16.12	27.09	12.93	100
	Persons	38.63	26.27	10.17	15.24	9.69	100

Source: As in Table 1.

Table 6: Status of Youth Unemployment (in the age group of 15-23 years) in NER in 1993-94

<i>States</i>	<i>NER Rural</i>			<i>NER Urban</i>			<i>NER Total</i>		
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Persons</i>
ARP	2.48	2.13	2.32	3.99	6.83	5.61	2.50	2.23	2.38
ASS	10.85	11.36	11.08	14.64	16.92	15.72	11.13	11.82	11.44
MAN	3.49	3.69	3.59	4.46	6.61	5.58	3.76	4.52	4.15
MEG	0.67	1.04	0.85	5.85	2.09	4.02	0.94	1.09	1.01
MIZ	2.17	2.45	2.29	0.17	0.39	0.28	1.72	1.95	1.83
NAG	1.66	0.82	1.29	5.77	19.02	11.82	2.42	4.28	3.26
TRI	7.08	7.97	7.49	17.35	17.47	17.41	8.19	9.22	8.67
NER	8.63	8.79	8.70	11.71	13.58	12.62	8.88	9.24	9.04
ALL INDIA	7.92	7.75	7.84	11.78	10.83	11.36	8.74	8.38	8.57

Source: As in Table 1.

Table 7: General Educational Standard of Unemployed in 1993-94

<i>Educational Standard</i>	<i>NER</i>			<i>All India</i>		
	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Illiterate	26.48	6.65	23.87	53.25	25.03	45.95
Literate Primary	28.78	16.34	27.14	22.92	23.56	23.08
Above Primary but Below Secondary	31.47	49.56	33.86	18.34	33.66	22.30
Above Secondary	13.26	27.45	15.13	5.50	17.75	8.67
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: As in Table 1.

Table 8: Unemployment among the Poor and Non-poor in 1993-94

<i>Economic Group</i>	<i>NER</i>			<i>All India</i>		
	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Unemployed among the Poor	7.01	4.86	6.95	9.13	10.56	7.44
Unemployed among the Non-poor	8.08	11.77	8.65	6.32	9.79	7.10
Total	7.54	10.86	7.86	7.55	10.08	5.99

Source: As in Table 1.

Table 9: Unemployment among the Social Groups in 1993-94

<i>Social Group</i>	<i>NER</i>			<i>All India</i>		
	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Scheduled Tribe	4.36	4.20	4.35	5.75	10.72	6.08
Scheduled Castes	9.53	7.46	9.39	12.26	14.70	12.60
Others	8.36	12.19	8.78	6.50	9.39	7.20
Total	7.54	10.86	7.86	7.55	10.08	8.08

Source: As in Table 1.