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**The Effect of Unemployment in Nigeria.**

Unemployment is one of the major issues affecting the growth of Nigeria and its economy. Unemployment is basically when an individual who is actively capable and of the right age to work is searching for a job and is unable to find job. Unemployment is not healthy for any country’s economy, it can cause negative effect on the social, political and physical aspect of the country aside from the economical effect.

**Causes of unemployment**

There are a lot of things thatcause of unemployment, various habits, beliefs and mentality of both the citizens and the government. We would look into some:

* High and rapid population growth: one of the major factors responsible for the high level of unemployment in Nigeria is the rapid growth in the population of the country without caution and lack of planning for these large amount of people. There has been an increase in the growth of those who are capable of working (labor force) without an increase in job supply, thereby causing jobs to be unavailable for a lot of people as jobs can’t go round everyone leading to a lot of unemployed individuals in the country.
* Lack of infrastructural facilities: lack of good roads, steady and sustainable power supply has made the economy hostile to investors. The lack of infrastructure has led to high cost of production. This is because production is not as suitable and comfortable as it is meant to be. The absence of investors influences the number of available jobs. The operating companies also use fewer people because of the production cost. Aside from that, foreigners would not want to expand their businesses in Nigeria because of they are not enough facilities to make them grow well, this affects employment rate a lot.
* Recession: recession is a period of economic decline during which trade and industrial activity are reduced. It is a temporary period of time but could take time before the economy could rise up. Unemployment in Nigeria has been worsened by the recent decline in the country’s economy. A lot of people have been laid off, while new jobs were not created. Most companies laid off employees because they can’t afford a lot of workers.
* Lack of education: most employers believe that Nigerian graduates are unemployable. This is the result of the educational program which usually include theories and a lack of practical use of knowledge. Also, most tertiary educational courses lack entrepreneurial training. For example, a graduate of agriculture course knows the theory but lacks necessary practical skills. Aside from that a high percentage of the labor force are not educated enough to fit the jobs available. The ratio of the educated people to the uneducated people in the labor force is small in relation to the population size in Nigeria
* Unstable and corrupt political environment: another key problem in Nigeria is poor leadership and high level of corruption. The failure of the government to perform their constitutional duties has resulted in the high level of unemployment. Also, the high level of corruption in Nigeria among politicians has resulted in the mismanagement of the funds and resources supposed to be used for the creation of job opportunities for the people.

**Effect of unemployment in Nigeria.**

Due to the increasing unemployment rate in Nigeria, there have been adverse effects on both the economy and the society at large. The consequences of unemployment are much, but we would only focus on few.

* High crime rate: it would interest you to know that most people who partake in criminal activities are those without jobs, people who are unemployed and do not have means of livelihood, they tend to take part in criminal activities.
* Increase in the number of dependent people: people of the independent age who do not have jobs and are unemployed would be dependent on the government and those earning salaries, because they cannot take care of them selves.
* High level of poverty in Nigeria: the number of people suffering from poverty would be more than its supposed to be, therefore affecting the country’s economy.
* Increased rural-urban migration: people would want to live in the urban area as much as possible because it will seem to look like the place with greener pastures and more job opportunities therefore causing rural-urban migration, and poor rural development.
* Reduction in the production of goods and services: much goods and services wouldn’t be produced as they aren’t enough people working
* Slow economy growth: unemployment definitely affects the growth of the economy, it brings depreciation and slow growth of various sectors.

This few points above shows how unemployment affects the country socially, physically, politically and overall economically.

**Solution of unemployment in Nigeria.**

There are solutions to the various problems of unemployment in Nigeria. Such as;

* productive and effective government: to overcome the problem of unemployment in Nigeria, the government must be effective in performing their duties. A socio-economic environment should be created. The government need to foresee looming crises and to make all possible actions to prevent it. It is also very important to understand the scope and type of unemployment in Nigeria and where the problem is coming from.
* Industrial friendly environment: the government is to consider each sector of the economy and to provide the necessary infrastructure and provide an industrial friendly environment.
* Working on the various sectors: Agriculture is one of the major sectors and the government has to do everything possible to attract private investors. Therefore, creating new job opportunities and looking at the problems affecting the poor growth of the sector.
* Improvement of energy supply and transport system: this will encourage investors and people to work as the cost of production would be lower. Therefore, there will be no need to cut jobs
* Reformation of educational system: the educational system needs to be reformed in order to produce skilled graduates, innovators, and entrepreneurs. Also, the government needs to create schools, and provide good amenities, infrastructure and job opportunities in rural areas. This will cut the level of migration to cities, thus reducing high population, cluster and unemployment in the cities.

Every Nigerian has a part to play in curbing the issue of unemployment in the country. The government needs to be more effective and citizens need to change their attitude towards work, together we would have a progressing country moving forward.