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EDUCATED UNEMPLOYMENT IN KERALA:  
SOME OBSERVATIONS BASED ON  
A FIELD STUDY.

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Growing unemployment among persons especially those having secondary or higher education has been one of the most serious socio-economic problems of Kerala since 1960's. Though Kerala has achieved much progress with regard to the spread of education, health services, social welfare measures, infrastructural development, the state has not been able to solve the problems of poverty and unemployment to any significant extent during the last 30 years.<sup>1/</sup> And Kerala has the highest rate of unemployment in the country today.<sup>2/</sup>

According to an estimate in 1980, which covers mostly the wholly unemployed, the total unemployment in Kerala was 14 lakh constituting 18 percent of the labour force.<sup>3/</sup> The employment exchange statistics shows that about 27 lakh persons are in the live register as on December 1986, of which 55 percent have an educational level of S.S.L.C. and above.<sup>4/</sup> According to a recent report, the Kerala Public Service Commission has received about 26.33 lakh applications since 1980 and which are in the processing stage.<sup>5/</sup>

Though we have some surveys,<sup>6/</sup> committee reports,<sup>7/</sup> manpower studies<sup>8/</sup> and academic studies<sup>9/</sup> available on unemployment only a few have dealt with educated unemployment. And the studies on educated unemployment mainly examined the characteristics of unemployment rather than offering an explanation of its causes. The objectives of the study is to examine the characteristics and magnitude of educated unemployment and to offer an explanation for its causes. And for explaining the problem we present the following hypotheses: (1) the unsuitability and unadaptability of the educated labour to the changing employment pattern in Kerala result in massive unemployment among educated people; (2) the lack of suitable remunerative and regular jobs for educated people in private sector compel the educated people to rush for public sector jobs; (3) as there is much difference in wages, service conditions, regularity of jobs between public sector and private sector, the educated people prefer the lowest grade jobs in public sector than private sector; and

(4) due to less job opportunities of women compared to men in public and private sectors, the gravity of unemployment among women is more than men.

The plan of the paper is as follows: Section I discusses the definitional issues of the study. Section II gives the estimates of unemployment, educated unemployment and employment exchange statistics of the job seekers. Section III contains an analysis of economic development and changing structure of employment. Section IV presents <sup>the</sup> survey results of the sample survey conducted at Trivandrum. And the last section gives the concluding observations.

## I

### Definitional Issues

Measuring unemployment and explaining its causes are the two important issues in a study of unemployment. Measuring unemployment is a complex problem, because a single measure or estimate does not adequately capture the dimensions of the problem. Let us examine the definitions used to measure unemployment in Kerala. The National Sample Survey Organisation (N.S.S.) 14th and 16th Rounds and the Bureau of Economics and Statistics (B.E.S.) Survey 1965-66 have estimated unemployment of Kerala based on the definition of N.S.S. The N.S.S. definition <sup>10/</sup> classified the economic status of individuals into three viz., (1) gainfully employed if they have some gainful work, however nominal, on at least one day during the reference period, namely, a week; (2) unemployed if they are without gainful work throughout the week and report themselves as seeking or available for work and (3) not in the labour force. The definition was modified in the 27th Round Survey and there were three definitions of unemployment. <sup>11/</sup> The population of age 5 years and above are classified into the following three statuses; usual status with a reference period of 365 days preceding the date of survey; current week status with a reference period of 7 days preceding the date of survey; and the current day status with a reference period being each day of the 7 days preceding the date of survey.

The Survey of Directorate of Economics and Statistics, 1960 (D.E.S) defined unemployed as "those persons between the age of 15 and 60 who were not able to secure job even for a day during the previous year and are actively searching for a job".<sup>12/</sup> The major weakness of the definitions mentioned above is that they cover only open unemployment and hence the estimate covers only the wholly unemployed or the category of chronically unemployed.

Taking into consideration the above definitional issues, in this study we define the current activity status of a person into four, viz., wholly unemployed, wholly employed, partly employed and not in the labour force. The wholly unemployed are those active job seekers in the age groups 15 and 60 and who were not able to secure any gainful employment throughout the reference period, namely a month. The wholly employed are defined as those who are engaged in any gainful full time employment i.e. more than four hours a day on at least one day during the month. The partly employed are those engaged in any gainful part time employment i.e. between one to four hours a day, on at least one day during the month.

Another definitional problem is to define educated unemployment. On the basis of the general education level of the majority of unemployed, the relation between educational level and grading of jobs, social status associated with jobs, social preference for certain grade jobs, we can classify people into educated and uneducated. In Kerala, the minimum educational requirement for a white collar job in public service such as clerk, school teacher and other intermediate jobs is a pass in S.S.L.C. or S.S.L.C. with a pass of a certificate course. Generally a pass in S.S.L.C. is considered as a moderately good educational attainment in Kerala. Of the total students enrolled in first standard, only 15 percent have finally passed in the S.S.L.C. after 10 years.<sup>13/</sup> Hence in this study we classify educated as those who have an educational attainment of a pass in S.S.L.C. and above. Among the three categories of educated unemployed - post graduate in different subjects, persons having technical qualifications in technical subjects and those having general education from matriculation to graduate level our study is confined only to the third category as the category constitutes the largest share of educated unemployed.

The second issue is to offer an explanation of causes. Unemployment is largely viewed as a reflection of the state of labour market in an economy.<sup>14/</sup> And the qualitative, quantitative and structural changes in labour market are largely determined by socio-economic pattern of a country as well as their development. Hence an examination of the pattern of development and changing employment structure will throw light on the magnitude of changes taking place in the labour market, which we shall take up in Section III

## II

### Estimates on Unemployment

The N.S.S. had estimated unemployment in the 14th Round (1958-59) and 16th Round (1960-61) based on the unemployment definition mentioned earlier. The estimates were made within the overall framework of N.S.S. methodology and the surveys had a fairly good coverage throughout Kerala. The 14th Round (1958-59) survey estimated that 10.6% of the labour force in rural areas and 7.5% in urban areas were unemployed.<sup>15/</sup> Here the labour force is defined as those whose age was 5 and above. In the N.S.S. 16th Round (1960-61) it is estimated that about 10% of the labour force in rural areas and 8% of the labour force in urban areas were unemployed.<sup>16/</sup> Compared to the earlier round this estimate gives the educational status of the unemployed. It was found that the educated unemployed, having an educational level of metric or above account for 9 per cent of the total unemployed persons in 1960-61.<sup>17/</sup>

The B.E.S. Survey 1965-66, also adopted the same definitions for employed and unemployed with a minor change. The minor change in the definition of unemployed is that the age group of the person was limited to 15 to 59.<sup>18/</sup> The survey had a better coverage than earlier N.S.S. surveys and the unemployed was estimated as 5.47 lakh constituting 9.1 per cent of the labour force (Table 1). The survey found

Table 1

Unemployed Persons in Kerala (in lakh)

Activity Status	B.E.S. Survey 1965-66.		NS.S.27th Round 1972-73			D.E.S. Survey 1980.	
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Persons
1. Employed Persons	39.74	14.94	54.68	48.10	17.15	65.25	63.90
2. Unemployed Persons	3.04	2.43	5.47	2.98	1.46	4.44	14.02
3. Total labour force	42.78	17.37	60.15	51.08	18.61	69.69	77.92
4. Unemployed as Percent of labour force	7.1	14.0	9.1	5.8	7.8	6.4	18.0

Source: B.E.S., 1976 Planning for Employment in Kerala;  
D.E.S., 1978 N.S.S. Report No.20 and D.E.S. Survey on  
housing and Employment 1980.

that intensity of unemployment among women were greater than men and unemployment among youth is chronic compared to older people. It was found that of the total unemployed 65 percent of the persons belonged to the age groups 15-24. Another significant finding of the survey was that by 1965, educated unemployment emerged as a serious problem, accounting for about 25% of the total unemployed.<sup>19/</sup>

The N.S.S. 27th Round (1972-73) Survey, which used the usual activity status definition, estimated unemployed as 4.44 lakh constituting 6.4 per cent of the labour force (Table 1). The estimate of unemployment includes all persons of age five and above. It was found that the intensity of unemployment among women was greater than men and unemployment was severe in urban areas as compared to rural areas.

The D.E.S Survey in 1986, which used a definition to cover mainly the wholly unemployed, as mentioned earlier estimated employment seekers or unemployed as 1.4 lakh constituting 18 percent of the labour force (Table 1). Among the Surveys conducted so far to estimate unemployment, this survey has the merit of the largest coverage, as it covered the entire households of Kerala except a few in hilly pockets and the like. It was found that the highest rate of unemployment was in Quilon district followed by Trivandrum, Kottayam and Ernakulam all belonging to the erstwhile Travancore-Cochin region. Compared to Travancore Cochin region the incidence of unemployment was found lower in the districts coming under Malabar region. The incidence of unemployment was found high in urban areas compared to rural areas, likewise, incidence of unemployment was high in those districts where the literacy rates are high.<sup>20/</sup>

The Survey also found that the outmigrants from Kerala as 5.1 lakh <sup>off</sup> which 3.02 lakh <sup>work</sup> in other states and 2.08 work in foreign countries.<sup>21/</sup>

We may conclude the foregoing discussion with the following observation. Among the unemployment estimates conducted so far, only the N.S.S 16th Round and BES Survey of 1965-66 have estimated the educated unemployed. The other surveys do not provide an estimate of the share of educated unemployed to the total unemployed. Hence we lack estimates about the magnitude of educated unemployment prevailing today.

In the absence of recent estimates on educated unemployment, we have to rely on the employment exchange figures to get an idea about the educated unemployed. Though we cannot consider the job seekers in the live register of employment exchanges as unemployed persons, the growth in their number will give us an indication about the growing magnitude of unemployment. Comparable data on the total job seekers excluding professional and technical job seekers are available from 1960 onwards and the total job seekers had increased by about 18 times between 1960 and 1986. (Table 2). Of the 27 lakh job seekers in the general category 55 percent are having an educational level of S.S.L.C. and above. A categorywise job seekers as shown in Table 2 indicates that the S.S.L.C. holders constitute the largest share followed by Pre-Degree holders, graduates and post-graduates. Between 1960 and 1986, the highest rate of growth was for Pre-Degree holders followed by graduates and post-graduates. Besides the general category, another 68,728 professional and technical work seekers are also there in the live register in December 1985.

### III

#### Economic Development and Changing Structure of Employment

In this section we attempt an analysis of the economic development and changing structure of employment based on state income data of D.E.S., census data of workers, employment data covered under E.M.I. and wage data of the D.E.S. As the definition used to define workers in 1961 census and 1981 census are comparable,<sup>22/</sup> we use the data of the above Censuses to indicate the change in the structure of employment.

The major factors which influenced Kerala's economic development during the post formation period of the state are the plan efforts, the inflow of foreign remittances and the severe drought in 1982 and 1983. Since the inception of five year plans till 1980, the broad plan objectives of Five Year and Annual Plans were: to attain rapid economic growth with an objective to enhance the



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**Table 2**

Number of General Education Category work seekers (Live Register)

Period	Total work seekers	S.S.L.C.	Pre-Degree	Graduates	Post-graduates	S.S.L.C. and above	S.S.L.C. and above as per-centage of work seekers.
31.12.1960	151469 (100)	69230 (100)	1568 (100)	3489 (100)	NA	74287 (100)	49.0
31.12.1966	157156 (104)	9261 (118)	2923 (186)	3581 (103)	445 (100)	86210 (116)	54.9
31.12.1970	293754 (194)	151279 (219)	7469 (476)	17707 (508)	1994 (448)	178450 (240)	60.8
31.12.1975	691242 (456)	281989 (407)	28329 (1807)	44456 (1274)	4840 (1088)	359614 (484)	52.0
31.12.1980	1579164 (1043)	658652 (951)	79310 (5058)	67841 (1944)	8220 (1847)	814023 (1096)	51.6
31.12.1986	2704874 (1786)	1251793 (1808)	136193 (8686)	97217 (2786)	10209 (2294)	1495412 (2113)	55.3

Figures in parentheses are Indices.  
Source: B.E.S. 1966, Fact Book on Manpower; B.E.S., 1977, Fact Book on Manpower, Kerala 1976; S.P.B. 1987, Economic Review 1986 and Office of the Directorate of Employment, Trivandrum.

per capita income of Kerala to that of national level; to attain self-reliance in food by increasing rice production; to effect land tenures in favour of real tillers of the soil; to create employment opportunities to solve massive unemployment; reduce regional disparity in economic development; and to uplift the vulnerable sections of society especially scheduled castes and tribes.<sup>23/</sup> The plan objectives of the Sixth and Seventh Five Year Plans are not much different from the earlier plans except giving more emphasis for poverty alleviation and employment generation programmes.<sup>24/</sup> Between 1951 and 1985 a sum of Rupees 3263.67 crore was spent as plan expenditure in Kerala.

Kerala is one of the most densely populated parts of the world with a density of 655 persons per square kilometre. The higher rate of growth of population<sup>25/</sup> coupled with a high density in a land scarce industrially backward region has compelled people to migrate to other parts of India and abroad. Since the mid 1970's a large number of persons went to Middle East countries. It is estimated that the number of workers from Kerala working in Middle East Countries was 1.87 lakh in 1980.<sup>26/</sup>

According to one rough estimate the foreign remittances received in Kerala from Middle East countries has varied between 150 to 187 crore in 1976-77.<sup>27/</sup> And the amount has further increased to a range between 734 and 917 crore in 1980-81. Except for a small share, the rest of the money was mainly spent by the receiving households for improving their living standards, luxury consumption and enhancing their social status.<sup>28/</sup> The large scale spending for purchasing land, construction/repair of buildings, consumer durables, luxury articles, health services and education resulted in a boom in activities like speculative investments in land, real estate, expansion of trade and commerce, emergence of new private financing institutions, migration of Tamil construction workers to Kerala etc. But the oil crisis in Middle East Countries in 1983 resulted in the retrenchment of large number of migrant workers and reduced the flow of remittances.<sup>29/</sup>

The severe drought in 1982 and 1983 inflicted considerable damage to the entire economy of Kerala.<sup>30/</sup> The drought of 1982, which lingered during most of 1983, led to the widespread damage of all major crops. The drought also led to low storages in the hydro reservoirs, reduction in power generation and imposition of power cuts since December 1982. A cut of 100 percent had to be imposed for sometime on H.T. and E.H.T. consumers.

The sectoral growth and sectoral change in the share of net state domestic product will give us an idea about the pattern of economic development and structural changes that have been taking place in Kerala. Table 3 shows the compound rate of growth and sectoral share of each sector for a period of 23 years from 1960-61 to 1983-84. It can be seen from the table that among the three sectors, the sector which achieved the lowest rate of growth during the decade 1960's is primary sector. During 1970's the sector shows a negative growth. Within the primary sector, the agricultural sub-sector accounting for more than 95 percent share of primary sector remained almost stagnant or declined since mid 1970's. The gross cultivated area, the gross area under paddy and area under food crops have been declining since the mid 1970's.<sup>31/</sup> In spite of the implementation of a number of measures to increase rice production, the state is producing only 30 percent of the food grains requirements of the state.<sup>32/</sup> The sector's share of the primary sector also declined by about 24 percent during the period. The fall in the size of holding and its smallness in size also made agricultural operation as a subsidiary occupation to the majority of cultivators.<sup>33/</sup>

Table 4 shows the changing structure of workers between 1961 and 1981. From the table, it is evident that there has been an increase in the share of primary workers from 45.9 percent in 1961 to 53.2 percent in 1981. A noticeable development was the fall in the share of cultivators and a steep increase in the share of agricultural workers. It is disturbing to note that there was a steep increase in a number of agricultural labourers in a region where there is very little scope for extensive cultivation and the size of the majority of the holdings are too small to make a living. Thus inspite of the economic development major share of the employment is still in the primary sector.

Industry of Origin	Sectoral share (per-centage) at 1960-61 prices		Sectoral share (Per-centage) at 1970-71 prices		Annual average compound rate of growth from 1970-71 to 1983-84 at 1960-61 prices.	Annual average compound rate of growth from 1970-71 to 1983-84 at 1983-84 prices.
	1960-61	1970-71	1970-71	1983-84		
1. Agriculture	53.4	47.7	46.4	30.5	2.72	(-)0.08
2. Forestry & logging	1.1	1.7	0.9	0.2	9.55	(-)5.00
3. Fishing	1.1	1.0	2.0	1.4	3.84	(-)2.23
4. Mining & Quarrying	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	(-)5.92	(+)4.75
5. Sub Total Primary	56.0	50.5	49.4	32.2	2.89	(-)0.22
6. Manufacturing registered	6.2	9.6	5.6	9.2	8.82	6.57
7. Manufacturing unregistered	6.2	4.6	6.9	7.2	0.48	3.16
8. Construction	2.3	2.1	2.9	3.5	1.19	3.93
9. Electricity, gas & water supply	0.5	0.8	0.9	2.0	8.05	10.37
10. Sub total secondary	15.2	17.1	16.3	21.9	4.95	5.17
11. Railway	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.5	3.67	4.15
12. Transport by other means of storage	2.6	3.3	3.7	5.0	6.22	5.60
13. Communication	0.4	0.8	0.7	1.3	11.14	7.96
14. Trade, Hotels & Restaurants	9.7	11.3	13.0	11.7	5.16	1.70
15. Banking & Insurance	0.9	1.3	1.3	2.9	5.17	8.44
16. Real estate, ownership of dwelling etc.	2.7	2.4	1.9	2.1	2.73	3.75
17. Administration	2.6	4.4	3.0	8.4	8.76	10.43
18. Other services	9.2	8.1	10.3	14.0	2.53	5.20
19. Sub Total Tertiary	28.8	32.4	34.2	45.9	4.79	4.95
20. Net Domestic product at factor cost	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	3.82	2.84

Source: B.E.S, 1977, Statistics for Planning 1977, p.77 and D.E.S, 1985, State Income and Related Aggregates of Kerala 1983-84, p.12 and p.13.

Industrial Classification of workers (in 1000)

Industrial Category	1961 Census			1981 Census (main and marginal workers)		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
1..Total Workers	3947 (100)	1683 (100)	5630 (100)	5624 (100)	2147 (100)	7771 (100)
2. Cultivators	904 (22.9)	274 (16.3)	1178 (20.9)	901 (16.0)	162 (7.5)	1063 (13.7)
3. Agricultural Labourers	517 (13.1)	461 (27.4)	978 (17.4)	1372 (24.4)	926 (43.1)	2298 (29.5)
4. Livestock, forestry, fishing, mining etc.	398 (10.1)	89 (5.3)	487 (8.6)	645 (11.5)	130 (6.1)	774 (10.0)
5. Total Primary	1819 (46.1)	824 (49.0)	2643 (46.9)	2918 (51.9)	1218 (56.7)	4135 (53.2)
6. Household industry	189 (4.8)	300 (17.8)	489 (8.7)	135 (2.4)	179 (8.3)	314 (4.0)
7. Other than house- hold industry	393 (10.0)	136 (8.1)	529 (9.4)	665 (11.8)	307 (14.3)	972 (12.5)
8. Construction	68 (1.7)	3 (0.2)	71 (1.3)	207 (3.7)	17 (0.8)	224 (2.9)
9. Total Secondary	650 (16.5)	439 (26.1)	1089 (19.4)	1007 (17.9)	503 (23.4)	1510 (19.4)
10. Trade and Commerce	298 (7.5)	24 (1.4)	322 (5.7)	731 (13.0)	62 (2.9)	793 (10.2)
11. Transport & Communication	145 (3.7)	8 (0.5)	153 (2.7)	345 (6.1)	32 (1.5)	377 (4.9)
12. Other services	1035 (26.2)	388 (23.0)	1423 (25.3)	623 (11.1)	332 (15.5)	955 (12.3)
13. Total Tertiary	1478 (37.4)	420 (24.9)	1898 (33.7)	1699 (30.2)	426 (19.9)	2125 (27.4)

Figures in parentheses are percentages.

Sources: Census of India 1961, Vol. VII, Kerala Part II B (i) and  
Census of India, 1981 Series 10 Kerala, Part III- A&E (i)

During the period the secondary sector achieved a growth rate of around 5 percent and there has been an increase in the sectoral share of the sector as shown in Table 3. But the growth can be attributed largely to the expansion of registered industries especially the manufacturing segment of industrial sector and expansion in construction, electricity generation, distribution and water supply. The highest rate of growth in secondary sector was for electricity, gas and water supply. And this was mainly due to the heavy investment made by the state in the successive plans. During the period there has been a spurt in construction activities in the public and private sector. A survey on the household construction has estimated that the total estimated cost of building construction works was Rs. 474 crores in 1980-81.<sup>34/</sup>

With regard to industrial development, the achievement is below the expectation. Rapid industrialisation is visualised as the solution for achieving development and generation of more employment opportunities. But except for the moderate growth of registered manufacturing sector, the unregistered sector registered only a small rate of growth. The traditional industries such as cashew, coir, handloom and handicrafts which provide the major share of industrial employment have been facing one crisis after another and are on the decline. Due to the industrial backwardness, the major share of the manufactured consumption goods, sugar, cement, steel and steel products machinery, medicine, liquor, textiles etc. are being imported from other parts of the country.<sup>35/</sup>

In spite of the modest rate of growth of the secondary sector, the share of the workers in the sector remained the same between 1961 and 1981 as shown in Table 4. While there has been a decline in the share of workers in household industry, the share of workers<sup>in other industries</sup> and construction have increased. This indicates that the new employment opportunities generated in the secondary sector is mainly in industries other than household industries and construction. Consequent on the enormous expansion of construction activities, Kerala experienced a shortage of construction workers. This resulted in the migration of large number of construction workers from Tamil Nadu to Kerala.<sup>36/</sup> The shortage of skilled construction workers may

be attributed to factors such as migration of construction workers from Kerala to Middle East Countries; lack of training facilities to train masons and carpenters, and the general unwillingness of the educated youth to work as construction workers. A recent study shows that 61 percent of the manpower requirement in construction activities are for skilled category of workers such as carpenter, mason, brick layer, floor layer, tile layer, blacksmith, plumber, fitter, electrician, painter etc.<sup>37/</sup>

The tertiary sector achieved a modest growth in terms of growth rate and sectoral share during the period as shown in Table 3. Within the tertiary sector, the sub sectors which achieved the highest growth are administration, banking and insurance, communication and Transport. A major factor contributing to the development of the tertiary sector was the high priority given in the successive plan for social services, transport and infrastructure development.

The high priority given for starting educational institutions grants for starting educational institutions in private sector and liberal travel and monetary concessions given to students had resulted in an enormous increase in the number of students and educational institutions.<sup>38/</sup> The amount spent for education was so huge that it accounted for nearly 30 to 35 percent of the total revenue expenditure of the state between 1957 to 1985.<sup>39/</sup> The basic approach of education has been to expand general education especially at the post-secondary level. This was partly due to the enormous increase in the demand for conventional type of courses in arts and science Colleges anticipating white collar jobs in public sector. With the upgradation of the minimum qualification for a clerk from S.S.L.C. to graduation in Universities, Kerala government Secretariat, autonomous bodies like K.S.E.B. and Co-operatives, graduation becomes a minimum requirement for those who aspire for a clerical job. And the growing number of arts and science colleges were not able to accommodate the enormous number of students seeking admissions in Colleges in spite of introducing **shift** system. Subsequently the Kerala University had introduced a system of private registration in 1971 and Calicut University in 1977, which ultimately resulted in a mushroom growth of private parallel colleges in Kerala.<sup>40/</sup>

The major weakness of the educational system was lack of job-oriented approach towards education. Even though there have been very great rush for various courses in medical sciences, engineering and agriculture, the government was not able to expand the number of institutions nor did it encourage the growth of institutions in private sector. As a result a large number of students were forced to go to other states and seek admissions in private medical and engineering institutions for various courses paying huge amounts as capitation fees.<sup>41/</sup> The state also failed to introduce a job-oriented system of education to train people for going the intermediary types of jobs available in the state and also train them for engaging in some gainful self-employment.

In tertiary sector there had been an increase in the share of workers of trade, commerce, transport and communications, but the share of workers in other services registered a steep fall between 1961 and 1981 as shown in Table 4. The significant development in the changing pattern of employment in the tertiary sector was the fall in the share of workers to about 50 percent. Thus in spite of the rapid growth in the employment in public administration and educational services, the share of the workers registered a fall.

The overall development that had taken place in the economy which we discussed above has its impact on the work participation rates. As shown in Table 5 the work participation rate fell by about three percent during the 20 year period. For male and female the rate has declined. A notable point is that the work participation rate was very low for female population. An age wise distribution of the workers shows that the rate has fallen in all age groups though the sharp fall is noticed for the age groups 15-34. A major contributory factor for the fall in the work participation rate of the age group may be attributed to the increase in the proportion of students in the age group. Between 1961 and 1981, the percentage of students to total population in the age group 15-34 had increased by about 7.6 percent.<sup>42/</sup> Thus we can attribute spread of education as a major factor which led to the decline in the work participation rate in Kerala.



Table 5

Work participation rate (age wise)  
 (Percentage of workers to total population)

Age group	1961 Census			1981 Census*		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons.
0 - 14	2.2	2.0	2.1	1.1	1.0	1.0
15 - 34	76.5	32.6	53.5	61.0	23.7	41.7
35 - 59	94.3	37.3	66.0	90.9	31.9	61.0
60 +	65.6	14.8	39.1	49.1	10.0	28.4
Total for all ages	47.2	19.7	33.3	44.9	16.6	30.5

Sources: Census as given in Table 4.

To study the changing pattern of employment for the educated, we have attempted an industrial classification of workers by educational level from the census data. Table 6 shows that the educated category of workers had increased from 4.8 percent in 1961 to 13.4 percent in 1981. In primary sector and household industry only a small share of workers are educated. In industries and construction nearly eleven percent of the workers are educated. The educated workers in Transport and Commerce have more than doubled within the 20 years. The largest increase in educated workers was in other services, from 12 percent to 49 percent. The composition of the educated workers also reflects the job preference of the educated. And the evidence also helps us to give an explanation for the growing educated unemployment. A major factor for the growth in educated unemployment is due to the fact that the educated people are unsuitable or unwilling to work in primary activities and household industry accounting for 57 percent of the total employment. In industries and construction, the educated are not much interested as only 11 percent are educated workers. It is significant to note that though there was massive unemployment among educated people, the increase in construction workers was only 3 percent between 1961 and 1981 as shown in the Table 6. From the Table it is evident that compared to primary and secondary sectors, the educated are more interested in tertiary sector jobs. But in the tertiary sector only the sub sectors Trade and Commerce and Transport and Communications generate new employment opportunities. Though the educated mainly prefer the service sector jobs, they cannot obtain employment in the sector as the employment opportunities are declining in the sector.

As the educated persons largely prefer jobs in the organised sector, we may also examine the trends in the growth of employment in the organised sector. Table 7 gives the trend in the organised sector employment in public and private sector and its distribution over different major industry groups between 1961 and 1984. A trend in the growth in employment during the period shows that while the employment in private sector grew marginally, the employment in public sector grew substantially. In public sector the largest rate of

Table 6

Percentage Distribution of Workers by Educational Level.

Educational Level	Primary workers (cultivators, agricultural labourers and workers in livestock and mining etc.)	Secondary				Tertiary		Total
		Household Industry	Other household industry	Construction	Trade & Commerce	Transport & Storage	Other Services	
<u>1961 Census</u>								
1. Illiterate	48.8	52.3	29.7	25.1	22.1	29.6	41.3	43.1
2. Below SSLC	49.7	47.4	67.3	66.9	70.7	60.9	46.8	52.1
3. Matriculation and above	1.5	0.3	3.0	8.0	7.2	9.5	11.9	4.8
4. Total workers	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<u>1981 Census</u> (main and marginal workers)								
1. Illiterate	30.3	24.8	14.1	11.3	10.4	11.6	10.5	22.2
2. Below SSLC	65.3	71.9	74.3	78.1	70.6	70.0	40.5	64.8
3. Matriculation & above	4.4	3.3	11.6	10.6	19.0	18.4	49.0	13.1
4. Total Workers	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: Census as given in Table 4.

Table 7

Employment in the Organised Sector in Kerala (covered under EMI) as on 31st March (in Nos.)

Year	Public Sector		Private Sector		Total	Trade & Transport Services		Manufacturing Commerce and communications		Trade & Transport Services		
	Employment	(in 100)	Employment	(in 100)		Employment	(in 100)	Employment	(in 100)	Employment	(in 100)	
1961	199041	(100)	9195	(100)	385020	107983	29221	29061	179856	42297	8762	75676
					(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)
1971	315332	(158)	20868	(227)	386434	135752	14087	48260	168056	17465	5952	117718
					(100)	(176)	(48)	(166)	(93)	(41)	(68)	(156)
1981	499297	(251)	73255	(797)	518031	262000	36247	69911	250104	27908	4541	147358
					(135)	(243)	(124)	(241)	(139)	(66)	(52)	(195)
1984	550637	(277)	77430	(842)	510415	280125	44614	86657	232040	33669	3541	155757
					(133)	(259)	(153)	(298)	(129)	(80)	(40)	(206)

\* Related to 1962.

Source: D.E.S., Statistics for Planning 1986 and B.E.S. Fact Book on Manpower 1966.

growth of employment was for manufacturing followed by transport and communications and services. The employment in the sector grew rapidly mainly due to the plan activities and the expansion in governmental activities in the initial phase of development after independence. As the recruitment in public sector jobs is based on educational qualifications, the larger share of the persons entered into public sector are educated people as most of the jobs require a pass in S.S.L.C.

On the other hand the growth in employment in private sector was only marginal during the period. In private sector there had been a steep fall in employment in trade and commerce and transport and communications. The growth in employment in manufacturing was marginal. Only the services show a growth in employment. The trends in growth of public and private sector organised employment also help us to explain the growing educated unemployment. The unemployment among educated people is growing because they cannot find jobs in the organised private sector as the sector is stagnating. Consequently the educated job seekers have little option except to make a desperate attempt to secure a public sector job.

Another reason for the heavy rush for public sector jobs is the low wage rate of private jobs compared to public sector jobs. Besides the higher wages, a public sector job is also entitled to a number of service benefits. Compared to the monthly wage rate of private shop assistants and attenders in urban areas, a last grade servant in government service (Peon) gets a higher monthly wage.<sup>43/</sup> The lower division clerk in government service who requires an educational qualification of a pass in S.S.L.C. gets a higher salary compared to the shop assistants. It may be noted that the shop assistant will have to work on an average about 10 hours per day compared to 6 hours of work of a last grade servant or Lower division clerk. Compared to a teacher in a parallel college the junior lecturer in government college also gets a higher monthly salary.<sup>44/</sup> Usually jobs in public sector are regular jobs and entitled to a number of service benefits other than the monthly salary, which is composed of basic pay, dearness allowance and house rent. The other

benefits include medical benefits, retirement benefits and other allowances like uniform allowance, depending on the category of jobs. A job in public sector also commands much social status and ensures life long security. The commercial banks issue certain categories of loan simply on the basis of a surety of an employed person in public sector. But, usually a person employed in private sector is not eligible for the other benefits except the monthly salary.

#### IV

##### A Survey of Educated Unemployed

To study the characteristics and magnitude of unemployment among educated people, we conducted a sample survey of the job seekers in the live register of the Divisional Employment Exchange in Trivandrum in April 1987. This exchange was selected because it has the largest number of persons in the live register compared to all other exchanges in Kerala as on December 1986.<sup>45/</sup> Of the 1.98 lakh persons in the live register, the S.S.L.C. holders, Pre-Degree holders and graduates accounted for 36 percent; 5 percent and 4 percent respectively. Among the districts, Trivandrum has the second highest rate of unemployment in Kerala, with a total of 2.05 lakh of persons unemployed, constituting 24 percent of the labourforce.<sup>46/</sup> Among the two categories of job seekers - general education category and professional and technical - the survey covers only the general category which constitutes the major share of the total job seekers. Among the general education category the survey is restricted to three categories of registrants such as S.S.L.C. holders, Pre-Degree holders and Graduates. The sample for the survey was selected on a random basis from those who came to the exchange for renewing their registration or for other purposes during April 1987.<sup>47/</sup> The sample consists of 75 S.S.L.C. holders, 33 Pre-Degree holders, 27 graduates and 5 post graduates. While interviewing graduates we also come across 5 post-graduates who have passed Masters degree courses. As the exchange has the jurisdiction over the entire taluk of Trivandrum, the

sample registrants belonged to the entire taluk including Trivandrum City.

The data collected from the sample registrants can be grouped into three categories: (1) data relating to the socio-economic characteristics of the households of the registrants: (2) characteristics of the sample registrants such as educational level, period of waiting, current activity status etc. and (3) views of the registrants regarding the educational system, conception of jobs, preference of job and related issues.

(i) Socio-Economic characteristics of households of registrants

We have split the total households into three broad groups viz., forward castes, other backward castes and scheduled castes and tribes to show the socio-economic background of the registrants. Of the total sample households, 49 percent belong to forward castes, 39 percent belong to other backward castes and 12% belong to scheduled castes and tribes.

Table 8 gives a castewise distribution of the land owned by the households. The smallness of the holding is evident from the fact that 41 percent of the households have land below 10 cents. Compared to forward and backward castes the size of the holding of the scheduled castes and tribes households is the lowest. The smallness of size of land indicates that except for a few households, the rest of them cannot rely on land as a source of income. One reason for the smallness in the size of land possessed by the households is that about 38 percent of the households come within Trivandrum City limits.

Table 9 shows that while 30 percent of the households in the bottom have a monthly income below Rs. 300, the top 34 percent have a monthly income of Rs. 750 and above. A castewise break up shows that the OBC and SC and ST households have a larger portion having a lower monthly income compared to forward castes.

The monthly income they earned largely depends on the nature of the job, regularity of the job and whether the job is in the private or public sector. As Table 10 indicates, the monthly income is lower in the case of households, where the occupation of the main

Table 8

Land possessed by Registrants Households  
(Number of households: Percentage distribution)

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Land owned (in cent. )	Forward caste	Other Backward Caste	Scheduled caste and Tribe	Total house holds	Percentage of urban households	Percentage of rural households
Below 5	14(20.3)	12(22.2)	5(29.4)	31(22.2)	71.0	29.0
5 - 10	12(17.4)	10(18.5)	5(29.4)	27(19.3)	48.1	51.9
10 - 20	12(17.4)	10(18.5)	2(11.8)	24(17.1)	25.0	75.0
30 - 40	13(18.9)	9(16.7)	4(23.5)	26(18.6)	23.1	76.9
40-50	3(4.3)	2(3.7)	1(5.9)	6(4.3)	-	100.0
50 - 60	5(7.2)	3(5.6)	-	8(5.7)	37.5	62.5
60 - 100	4(5.8)	4(7.4)	-	8(5.7)	25.0	75.0
100 & above	6(8.7)	4(7.4)	-	10(7.1)	10.0	90.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>69(100.0)</b>	<b>54(100.0)</b>	<b>17(100.0)</b>	<b>140(100.0)</b>	<b>37.9</b>	<b>62.1</b>

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Table 9

Monthly Family Income of Registrants households  
(Number, percentage distribution)

Family income per month (Rs)	Total number of Households			
	Forward Caste	Other back- ward caste	Scheduled cast & tribe	Total
0 - 300	16 (23.2)	21 (38.9)	6 (35.3)	43 (30.7)
301 - 500	6 (8.7)	11 (20.4)	1 (5.9)	18 (12.9)
501 - 750	2 (2.9)	3 (5.6)	-	5 (3.6)
751 -1000	15 (21.8)	5 (9.2)	5 (29.4)	25 (17.8)
1001 & above	13 (18.8)	6 (11.2)	4 (23.5)	23 (16.4)
Not available	17 (24.6)	8 (14.8)	1 (5.9)	26 (18.5)
<b>Total</b>	69 (100.0)	54 (100.0)	17 (100.0)	140 (100.0)

Monthly family income and Occupation of main earner in the family  
(number, percentage distribution)

Family income per month (Rs)	Occupation of main earner in family							Total
	Self employed in agri- culture	Self employed outside agriculture	Public sector (Month- salary)	Private sector (Month- salary)	Casual labourers (daily wages)	Retired people	Rent and interest	
0 - 300	4 (100.0)	6 (40.0)	-	3 (30.0)	17 (73.9)	10 (62.5)	3 (75.0)	43 (30.7)
301 - 500	-	6 (40.0)	1 (2.4)	3 (30.0)	5 (21.7)	3 (18.7)	-	18 (12.9)
501 - 750	-	1 (6.7)	-	1 (10.0)	-	3 (18.8)	-	5 (3.6)
751 - 1000	-	1 (6.7)	20 (47.6)	3 (30.0)	-	-	1 (25.0)	25 (17.8)
1001 & above	-	1 (6.6)	21 (50.0)	-	1 (4.4)	-	-	23 (16.4)
Not available	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26 (18.6)
Total	4 (100.0)	15 (100.0)	42 (100.0)	10 (100.0)	23 (100.0)	16 (100.0)	4 (100.0)	140 (100.0)

earner is self-employed in agriculture, casual labourers, retired people or rent or interest receivers. The households which receive the highest monthly income are those who are employed in public sector regular jobs. This shows that the public sector job is the only category of job which provides a regular and assured monthly income to the households in the present context. This indicates the absence of adequate remunerative job opportunities in private sector.

A caste-wise distribution of the main earners as shown in Table 11 indicates that scheduled castes and tribe households account for a larger portion of the casual workers compared to other castes. The survey results show that in the case of forward caste about 50 percent of the main earners are either working in public sector or retired people. Thus the majority of the forward caste households have a regular source of income either as salary or pension.

As shown in Table 12, the survey results give an alarming picture about the unemployment prevailing in the households. It is reported by the sample registrants that in the case of majority of the households (59%) the number of persons reported as unemployed ranged between 2 to 4. The rate of unemployment among the households is found very high in all the three categories of castes.

A significant characteristics of the unemployed in the households as shown in Table 13 is that, the unemployed in the households are mainly educated unemployed. Except 14 percent, the rest of the reported unemployed have an educational level between S.S.L.C. and post-graduation. Among them, the S.S.L.C. holders constitute the largest share followed by graduates and Pre-Degree holders. The survey results also suggest that female unemployed constituted the major share of the total unemployed.

#### (ii) Characteristics of the Sample Registrants

Table 14 shows that the distribution of sample registrants by their educational attainment including typewriting and other courses. Here other courses include courses like ITI, laboratory technician, printing and composing, health inspectors course, T.T.C., B.Ed., catering and computer courses, either completed or attended after their basic qualifications. As shown in the table, of the total

Table 11

Occupation and Caste-wise distribution of households  
(Number, percentage distribution)

Occupation of the main earner in family	Forward Caste	Other Backward community caste	Scheduled Castes & Tribes	Total
1. Self employed in agriculture	3 (4.4)	1 (1.9)	-	4 (2.9)
2. Self employed outside agriculture	3(4.4)	10(13.5)	2(11.8)	15(10.7)
3. Public sector (monthly salary)	25(36.2)	9(16.7)	8(47.0)	42(30.0)
4. Private sector (monthly salary)	4( 5.8)	6(11.1)	-	10(7.1)
5. Casual labourers (daily wages)	5(7.2)	12(22.2)	6(35.3)	23(16.4)
6. Retired people	10(14.5)	6(11.1)	-	16(11.4)
7. Rent/interest earners	2(2.9)	2(3.7)	-	4(2.9)
Not available	17(24.6)	8(14.8)	1 (5.9)	26(18.6)
Total	69(100.0)	54(100.0)	17(100.0)	140(100.0)

Table 12

Number of Persons unemployed per household

(Number of households: percentage distribution)

Number of Un- employed per household	Forward caste	Other back- ward commu- nities	Scheduled castes & Tribes	Total house holds	Number of persons unemployed
1	29(42.0)	21 (33.9)	7 (41.2)	57(40.7)	57(21.0)
2	22(31.9)	18 (24.1)	6 (35.3)	41(29.3)	82(30.1)
3	13(18.9)	18 (33.3)	4 (23.5)	35(25.0)	105(38.6)
4	5( 7.2)	2(3.7)	--	7(5.0)	28(10.3)
Total	69(100.0)	54(100.0)	17(100.0)	140(100.0)	272(100)

Table 13

Educational level of unemployed in Registrants  
households

(Number, percentage distribution)

Level of education	Male	Female	Persons
1. Below S.S.L.C.	19 (14.4)	20 (14.3)	39 (14.3)
2. S.S.L.C.	52 (39.4)	68 (48.6)	120 (44.1)
3. Pre-Degree	27 (20.5)	21 (15.0)	48 (17.7)
4. Graduates	25 (18.9)	24 (17.1)	49 (18.0)
5. Post graduates	5 ( 3.8)	5 ( 3.7)	10 ( 3.7)
Not available	4 ( 3.0)	2 ( 1.4)	6 ( 2.2)
Total	132 (100.0)	140 (100.0)	272 (100.0)

Table 14

Educational level of sample Registrants

(Number, percentage distribution)

Educational level	Sex wise		
	Male	Female	Persons
1. S.S.L.C.	11 (16.2)	5 ( 6.9)	16 (11.4)
2. S.S.L.C. with Typewriting	10 (14.7)	30 (41.7)	40 (28.6)
3. S.S.L.C. with other courses	11 (16.2)	8 (11.1.)	19 (13.6)
Total S.S.L.C.	32 (47.0)	43 (59.7)	75 (53.6)
4. Pre-Degree	8 (11.3)	2 ( 2.8)	10 ( 7.1)
5. Pre-Degree with Typewriting	4 ( 5.9)	12 (16.7)	16 (11.4)
6. Pre-Degree with other courses	6 ( 8.8)	1 ( 1.4)	7 ( 5.0)
Total Pre-Degree	18 (26.5)	15 (20.8)	33 (23.5)
7. Graduation	3 (4.4)	3 (4.2)	6 (4.3)
8. Graduation with Typewriting	9 (13.2)	5 (6.9)	14 (10.0)
9. Graduation with other courses	3 (4.4)	4 (5.6)	7 (5.0)
Total graduation	15 (22.1)	12 (16.7)	27 (19.3)
10. Post graduation	3 (4.4)	2( 2.8)	5 (3.6)
<b>Total</b>	<b>68 (100.0)</b>	<b>72(100.0)</b>	<b>140 (100.0)</b>

sample registrants, S.S.L.C. holders constitute 54%, P.D.C. holders 23%, graduates 19% and post-graduates 4%. A notable characteristic is that nearly 50% of the registrants have acquired typewriting qualifications in English or Malayalam typing or both. Compared to men a higher proportion of women studied typewriting. They have studied typewriting with the main intention of securing a white collar job in public sector. The registrants studied other courses mainly with the objective of securing a public sector job, rather than working in a private establishment or equipping themselves for self-employment.

As Table 15 indicates, majority of the sample registrants are in the age group of 21 to 27. This is probably due to the fact that an average student undergoing general education in Kerala usually completes his education by around the age of 21. In Kerala a student can complete S.S.L.C. at the age of 16 and P.D.C. at 18 and graduation at 21 if he is continuously studying without failing in any of the above courses. The survey results also suggest that 21 percent of the registrants are having an age of 31 years or above showing prolonged unemployment.

As shown in Table 16, wholly unemployed, defined as the active job seekers in the age group 15 and 60 and who were not able to secure any gainful employment throughout the month constitute 73 percent of the sample registrants. Of the rest, the wholly employed constitute 14 percent, partly employed 10 percent and whole time or part time students 3 percent. The survey results also suggest that the rate of unemployment among S.S.L.C. and P.D.C. holders are almost same. Compared to S.S.L.C. and P.D.C. holders, the rate of unemployment is found lower for graduates.

Table 17 shows that the intensity of unemployment is very high among women compared to men. Wholly unemployed constitute 87 percent of the total women registrants compared to 57 percent of men. Of the total 72 women interviewed, only one women is wholly employed while other seven women are partly employed in home tuitions. The social factors restricting the womenfolk from working the lack of suitable white collar categories of jobs for women in private sector and the lack of opportunities for self-employment are some of the

Table- 15

Age group of Sample Registrants  
(Number, percentage of distribution)

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Age group	Male	Female	Persons
Below 19	---	2 ( 2.8)	2 (1.4)
19-21	5 (7.4)	7 (9.7)	12 (8.6)
21 - 23	14 (20.6)	11 (15.3)	25 (17.9)
23 -25	17 (25.0)	12 (16.7)	29 (20.7)
25 - 27	10 (14.7)	12( 16.7)	22 (15.7)
27 -29	7 (10.3)	5 (6.9)	12 ( 8.6)
29 - 31	6 ( 8.8)	3 (4.2)	9 (6.4)
31 -33	5 ( 7.4)	5 (6.9)	10 (7.1)
33 - 35	2 ( 2.9)	3 (4.2)	5 (3.6)
35 and above	2 ( 2.9)	12 (16.6)	14(10.0)
Total	68 (100.0)	72(100.0)	140(100.0)

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Table 16

Current activity Status of Sample Registrants  
(Number: Percentage distribution)

Educational level	Wholly employed	Partly employed	Whole time or part time student	Wholly unemployed	Wholly unemployed as percentage of each category
1. S.S.L.C.	9 (45.0)	6 (42.9)	1 (25.0)	59 (57.8)	78.7
2. Pre-degree	4 (20.0)	3 (21.4)	-	26 (25.5)	78.8
3. Graduation	7 (35.0)	4 (28.6)	3 (75.0)	13 (12.8)	48.2
4. Post graduation	-	1 (7.1)		4 (3.9)	80.0
6 Total	20 (100.0)	14 (100.0)	4 (100.0)	102 (100.0)	72.9

Table 17  
Character, activity status of sample Registrants - Sex wise (Number: Percentage distribution)

Educational Level	Wholly employed		Partly employed		Whole time or part time student.		Wholly un-employed		Wholly unemployed as percentage of each category	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1. S.S.L.C.	9 (47.4)	-	2 (28.6)	4 (57.2)	-	1 (100)	21 (53.9)	38 (60.3)	65.6	88.4
2. Pre degree	3 (15.8)	1 (100.0)	2 (28.6)	1 (14.3)	-	-	13 (33.3)	13 (20.6)	72.2	86.7
3. Graduation	7 (36.8)	-	2 (28.6)	2 (28.6)	3 (100.0)	-	3 (7.7)	10 (15.9)	20.0	83.3
4. Post Graduation	-	-	1 (14.3)	-	-	-	2 (5.1)	2 (3.2)	66.7	100.0
Total	19 (100.0)	1 (100.0)	7 (100.0)	7 (100.0)	3 (100.0)	1 (100.0)	39 (100.0)	63 (100.0)	57.4	87.5

factors which contributed to the chronic and acute unemployment among women.

As shown in Table 18 majority of the wholly employed are working either as casual labourers or technical workers. Teaching jobs in private schools and parallel colleges give employment for another 20 percent of the wholly employed. Another 15 percent is working in white collar jobs and the rest as agriculturists and sales workers. Among the wholly employed, the casual labourers and technical workers get a lower monthly income due to the few days of work they have compared to white collar and teaching jobs.

All the partly employed are engaging in home tuitions to the ongoing students in schools and colleges. Majority of them are teaching about 3 hours per day for about 25 days in a month and getting a monthly salary ranging between 100 to Rs. 150. The survey results show that the only employment opportunity for the educated people available is part time teaching.

The registrants mainly register their names in the employment exchange to secure a job in the public sector. A good number of the registrants registered their names after passing S.S.L.C. even though they continued their studies. Whenever they pass a course, they approach the Exchange and include the additional qualification in the records of the Exchange.

The sample registrants registered their names in the Exchange between 1964 and 1986. Among them the majority have registered since 1980. An education wise distribution of the waiting period of the sample registrants as shown in Table 19 shows that the longest waiting period is for S.S.L.C. holders followed by the post-graduates. In the case of 22 per cent of the sample registrants, the waiting period in the exchange is more than 11 years; denoting prolonged and acute unemployment. The waiting period of another 46 percent of the registrants is 6 to 10 years.

Our enquiry at the Divisional Employment Exchange, Trivandrum also confirm the prolonged waiting periods. It is reported that in the Exchange, the S.S.L.C. and P.D.C. job seekers will have to wait about 17 years to get the first intimation for interview of a post

Table 18

Nature of job of wholly employed

Educational Level	Name of job					Total
	White collar	Casual labourers	Technical workers	Teaching	Others	
1. S.S.L.C.	1 (11.1)	4 (44.5)	3 (33.3)	-	1 (11.1)	9 (100.0)
2. P.D.C.	1 (25.0)	-	1 (25.0)	2 (50.0)	-	4 (100.0)
3. Graduation	1 (14.3)	-	1 (14.3)	2 (28.6)	3 (42.8)	7 (100.0)
	3 (15.0)	4 (20.0)	5 (25.0)	4 (20.0)	4 (20.0)	20 (100.0)

Table 19

Period of Waiting in Employment E change

(Number of Registrants: Percentage distribution)

Educational level	1-5 years	6-10 years	11-15 years	16-20 years	21 and above	Total
1.S.S.L.C.	22 (29.3)	30 (40.0)	13 (17.3)	8 (10.7)	2 (2.7)	75 (100.0)
2. P.D.C.	15 (45.5)	16 (48.5)	1 (3.0)	1 (3.0)	-	33 (100.0)
3. Graduates	5 (18.5)	18 (66.7)	3 (11.1)	1 (3.7)	-	27 (100.0)
4. Post Graduates	2 (40.0)	1 (20.0)	1 (20.0)	1 (20.0)	-	5 (100.0)
Total	44 (31.43)	65 (46.43)	18 (12.86)	11 (7.86)	2 (1.42)	140 (100.0)

after registration.<sup>48/</sup> For persons having typewriting qualifications and graduates, the waiting period is more than 14 years and more than 12 years respectively. Of the 1.98 lakh persons in the live register of the Divisional Employment Exchange, Trivandrum, the number of persons who got placements through the Exchange was only 1457 in the year 1986. The placements through the Exchange is limited because the Exchange is not a major recruiting agency for recruiting people for public sector jobs. Except for a few vacancies of central government agencies and a few temporary vacancies coming under state government or semi government bodies the rest of the permanent vacancies in central, state and semi government bodies are recruited through other agencies like state and central public service Commission.

From the Table 20 it is evident that the registrants are constantly trying to secure a job and 41 percent of them have applied for more than 10 posts on an average. The situation is so desperate that even though 10 percent of the registrants have applied for posts ranging between 30 to 75, no one could secure a job. More than 90 percent of the posts applied belong to public sector comprising of central or state governments, semi government bodies, autonomous institutions and co-operatives. The survey results suggests that the registrants have a very strong preference for public sector jobs. This can be attributed mainly to the higher wages, better services conditions, life long security and social status associated with public sector jobs compared to similar jobs in private sector.

As shown in Table 21, 81 percent of the posts applied are white collar categories such as clerk, typist, other office categories and teaching. This is largely because of the type of education of the registrants and the nature of the jobs available in public sector. Compared to men, women prefer mostly the white collar categories of jobs. Due to the reservation of certain categories of jobs such as conductor in K.S.R.T.C, personnel in police and defense forces, skilled and technical workers in industrial units mainly for men and the social stigma discouraging the educated women from doing manual categories of job, women mainly prefer white collar jobs.

The survey results suggest that only 4 percent of the registrants went outside the state in search of employment. The registrants who attempted to do some type of gainful employment was only 10%.

Table 20

Distribution of Sample Registrants by number of posts applied (Number: percentage distribution)

Educational Level	Number of Posts, applied						Total
	1 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 19	20 - 29	30 - 75	
1. S.S.L.C.	37 (49.3)	14 (18.7)	7 (9.3)	2 (2.7)	9 (12.0)	5 (3.0)	75 (100.0)
P.D.C.	15 (45.5)	5 (15.2)	2 (6.0)	3 (9.1)	7 (21.2)	1 (3.0)	33 (100.0)
3. Graduates	4 (14.8)	6 (22.2)	4 (14.8)	3 (11.2)	5 (18.5)	5 (18.5)	27 (100.0)
4. Post graduates	--	2 (40.0)	-	1 (20.0)	-	2 (40.0)	5 (100.0)
Total	56 (40.0)	27 (19.3)	13 (9.3)	9 (6.4)	21 (15.0)	14 (10.0)	140 (100.0)

Table 21

Category of the post applied by Sample Registrants

Category of post applied	Percentage of posts		
	Male	Female	Persons
1. Clerk and Typist	57.2	79.1	66.8
2. Other office categories	13.7	9.9	12.0
3. Teacher	0.9	4.4	2.4
4. Technical	1.7	-	1.0
5. Conductor	4.3	-	2.4
6. Police or Defence	9.4	-	5.3
7. Others	12.8	6.6	10.1
	100.0	100.0	100.0

As Table 22 indicates, one of the factors for the prolonged waiting for public sector jobs is due to the financial and other support received by the registrants from the other members of the household. Except the wholly employed, the rest of them are getting financial support from the parents or other members of the household for meeting their food and other items of expenditure. Compared to men, women are mostly depending on other members for their livelihood. Among the total women, 40% are married.

(iii) Views on Sample Registrants on conception of job and related issues:

In our interviews with the sample registrants we enquired their views on objective of education, educational system, conception of job, job preference, willingness to accept low grade jobs, their future plans, governments and political parties approach to the problem and suggestions to solve unemployment.

As Table 23 indicates, the prime objective of education of 93 percent of the men and 96 percent of the women is to secure a public sector job. This shows the registrants pursued their studies at secondary school level and post secondary level mainly for securing a secure and regular job in public sector.

Regarding the educational system, 35 percent of men and 49 percent of the women registrants were of the view that, the type of education they receive is simply a waste. One third of the men and more than two thirds of women who underwent graduation and post-graduation feel that their education is simply a waste. Another 10% registrants feel that the education should be job-oriented. The general impression of the registrants is that the present type of education is not very relevant to the present context as it is not job-oriented.

As shown in Table 24, the conception of a job of 78 percent of men and 89 percent of the women is a public sector regular job. While for 53 percent of men and 72 percent of women, the conception of job is a white collar public sector job. Due to this conception of job, the registrants are constantly trying to get a job in public sector even if they are employed otherwise. And in the case of most

Table 22

Financial support received by sample registrants  
(Number of registrants: percentage distribution)

Supporter (Relationship)	Male	Female
1. Father	31 (45.6)	23 (31.9)
2. Mother	3 (4.4)	8 (11.1)
3. Brother	4 (5.9)	2 (2.8)
4. Husband	-	28 (38.9)
5. Members Collectively	10 (14.7)	9 (12.5)
6. Self	20 (29.4)	2 (2.8)
Total	68 (100.0)	72 (100.0)

Table 23

Objective of education of Sample Registrants  
(Number; percentage distribution)

Basic educational Level	Public sector job		Others		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1. S.S.L.C.	28 (87.5)	40 (93.0)	4 (12.5)	3 (7.00)	32 (100)	43 (100)
2. P.D.C.	17 (94.4)	15 (100.0)	1 (5.6)	-	18 (100)	15 (100)
3. Graduates	15 (100.0)	12 (100.0)	-	-	15 (100)	12 (100)
4. Post graduates	3 (100.0)	2 (100.0)	-	-	3 (100)	2 (100)
Total	63 (92.8)	69 (95.8)	5 (7.4)	3 (4.2)	68 (100)	72 (100)



Table 24

Conception of job of Sample Registrants  
(Number; percentage distribution)

Basic educational level	White collar job in public sector		Any regular job in public sector		Others		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	1. S.S.L.C.	9 (28.1)	27 (62.8)	9 (28.1)	9 (20.9)	14 (43.8)	7 (16.3)	32 (100)
2. Pre-Degree	14 (77.8)	13 (86.7)	4 (22.2)	1 (6.6)	-	1 (6.7)	18 (100)	15 (100)
3. Graduation	11 (73.3)	10 (83.3)	3 (20.0)	2 (16.7)	1 (6.7)	-	17 (100)	12 (100)
4. Post graduation	2 (66.7)	2 (100.0)	1 (33.3)	-	-	-	3 (100.0)	3 (100)
Total	36 (52.9)	52 (72.2)	17 (25.0)	12 (16.7)	15 (22.1)	8 (11.1)	68 (100)	72 (100)

Table 25

Willingness of Sample Registrants for lower grade public sector jobs.

Basic educational level	Percentage of Registrants willing to accept the job									
	Peon		Watcher		Sweeper		Cook		Gardener	
	Male	Female	Male	female	Male	Fem- ale	Male	fem- ale	Male	Fem- ale
1. S.S.L.C.	96.9	69.8	93.8	55.8	90.6	60.5	96.9	58.1	96.9	55.8
2. P.D.C.	66.7	46.7	66.7	33.3	38.9	40.0	33.3	46.7	50.0	40.0
3. Graduates	66.7	58.3	46.7	50.0	13.3	50.0	13.3	41.7	20.0	33.3
4. Post graduate	66.7	50.0	66.7	-	33.3	--	33.3	--	33.0	-
Total	80.9	62.5	75.0	48.6	57.4	52.8	58.8	51.4	64.7	47.2

of the registrants they usually apply for almost all available vacancies notified in the public sector which suit their educational level till they reach the maximum age limit. In Kerala, the maximum age limit fixed for a job in public sector is 35 years for forward caste, 38 years for other backward communities and 40 years for scheduled castes and tribes. The survey results also suggest that 59 percent of the men and 78 percent of the women prefer white collar categories such as clerk, typist, other office categories and teaching jobs.

Table 25, which gives the views of the registrants about their willingness to accept low grade public sector jobs, shows that 81 percent of men and 62 percent of women are willing to accept the job of peon. Another 75 percent of the men and 49 percent of women are willing to accept the job of a watcher. Likewise majority of men and women are willing to accept the job of sweeper, cook or gardener. Though the jobs are considered as low grade jobs, the registrants are prepared to accept it because of the chronic and massive unemployment and lack of alternate regular and remunerative employment opportunities in private sector. This may be largely attributed to the better wages, service conditions of the public sector jobs compared to private sector jobs.

As shown in Table 26, 70 percent of the men are interested in starting a business or seek some self-employment if they fail to secure a public sector job. But only 31 percent of women are interested in doing self-employment if they fail to secure a public sector job. One female registrant told us that she had no other alternative but to commit suicide in the event of not getting a public sector job. This shows the extent and magnitude of despair and frustration of women registrants. The survey results suggest that the unemployment among women is more chronic and acute than men.

From Table 27 it is evident that 71 percent of men and 85 percent of the women feel that government cannot solve the problem. **Ninety** six percent of the men and 99 percent of the women are of the view that the political parties have no genuine interest to solve the problem of unemployment. They feel that political parties are projecting this as a major problem just for making capital out of it. In this context it is significant to note that in the last assembly

Table 26

Views of the Sample Registrants about their future plan  
(Number; percentage distribution)

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If fails to secure a public sector job what will they do - views.	Male	Female
1. Start a business	34 (50.0)	10(13.9)
2. Some self employment	13 (19.1)	4(5.6)
3. Start a Typewriting Institute	1 ( 1.5)	6 (8.3)
4. Try for home tuition	-	3 (4.2)
5. Others	3.(4.4)	5 (5.9)
6. No idea	3 (4.4)	15 (20.8)
7. No comments	14 (20.6)	28 (38.9)
8. Suicide	-	1 ( 1.4)
Total	63(100.0)	72 (100.0)

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Table 27

Views of Sample Registrants about government and Political Parties  
& (Number; percentage distribution)

Basic educational Level	Government cannot solve the problem		Political parties have no genuine interest to solve unemployment	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
1. S.S.L.C.	24 (35.3)	36 (50.0)	31 (45.6)	42 (58.3)
2. Pre-Degree	11 (16.2)	14 (19.5)	17 (25.0)	15 (20.8)
3. Graduation	11 (16.2)	10 (13.9)	14 (20.6)	12 (16.7)
4. Postgraduation	2 ( 2.9)	1 (1.4)	3 ( 4.4)	2 (2.8)
5. No comments	20 (29.4)	11 (15.3)	3 ( 4.4)	1 (1.4)
Total	63(100.0)	72(100.0)	68(100.0)	72(100.0)

elections held in March 1987, one of the major issues on which election was fought by the two political fronts in Kerala was on unemployment.

A few suggestions were also put forward by the sample registrants to solve the problem of unemployment. Of the total suggestions 38 percent are on starting new industries, 16 percent on encouraging self-employment programmes, 6 percent on introduction of job-oriented education. About 10 percent of the suggestions relate to giving preference to educated persons or persons nearing the upper age limit for public sector employment.

V

Concluding Observations

The foregoing analysis may be concluded with the following observations. The rate of growth of Kerala has been lower in seventies compared to sixties. The economic development also failed to strengthen the productive base or activities in agriculture and industry and the state is importing nearly 70% of the foodgrains and major share of the manufactured consumer goods and industrial products from other parts of the country. And there had been a steep increase in the unemployment, especially among the educated category. The work participation rate has also declined. The economic development that had occurred had not altered the structure of employment between 1961 and 1981. During the period the share of primary workers increased, the secondary workers remained same and the tertiary workers showed a decline.

The survey results presented earlier also suggest that the unemployment among educated people is very chronic and acute. Nearly 79 percent of the S.S.L.C. holders, 79% of the pre-degree holders 48 percent of the graduates are wholly unemployed. Compared to men, the rate of unemployment among women is found very high as 87 percent of them are wholly unemployed. Two to four persons are unemployed in the case of the majority of registrant's households. The educated people could not secure any gainful employment even after prolonged waiting ranging from one to two decades. One female registrant told us that she has no other alternative but to commit suicide in the event of not getting a job. This gives an indication about the desperation and frustration among the educated unemployed.

- - -

The macro data on employment and the survey results presented earlier fully support the hypothesis we put forward to explain educated unemployment. As pointed out earlier, a major factor for the growth of unemployment is that the educated are unsuitable or unwilling to work in primary activities accounting for 53 percent of the employment. Even in industries and construction only less than eleven percent of the workers are educated. Though the educated gave a growing preference for job in services sector, the employment opportunities in the sector have been declining.

Due to the lack of suitable and remunerative employment opportunities for the educated in the private sector and the low wage rate for the private jobs, there has been a great rush for public sector jobs. The employment in the organised private sector is almost stagnant since 1961. Due to higher wages, better service conditions, life long security and social status associated with a public sector job compared to private sector, the educated job seekers prefer the lowest grade jobs in public sector than a job in private sector. The survey results shows that majority of the registrants both men and women are willing to accept the job of a peon, watcher, sweeper, cook or gardener in public sector rather than accepting a private job.

As unemployment is a complex social problem having many dimensions, it is not easy to prescribe simple and ready made solutions to solve the problem. Achieving rapid economic development with a view to generate more employment opportunities within the state especially for the educated and encouraging the unemployed educated to migrate to other parts of India and abroad are the basic solutions to the problem. Introduction of a job-oriented system of education and implementing schemes for promoting self-employment will also provide more employment to the unemployed.

The basic development issue of Kerala is that the productive base of primary and secondary sectors are weak forcing Kerala to depend on imports of bulk share of foodgrains, consumer goods and other industrial products. Among the three sectors there is considerable scope for the development of secondary and tertiary sectors. Rapid industrialisation with an emphasis of generation of more employment should be one of the basic goals of development. In the tertiary

sector there is considerable scope for the development of trade, commerce, catering business, tourist activities, transportation and other services which can generate more employment for educated people.

For achieving rapid economic development government can start its own ventures as well as encourage private investment by creating favourable conditions through various policy measures. In the present context of Kerala encouragement to private investment is very crucial as the organised private sector is stagnating. There is scope for generating more employment for educated people in the organised private sector, by giving liberal encouragement to private entrepreneurs. As Kerala could not achieve much industrial development, the state government should promote industrial development through its own ventures, even though a number of public sector undertakings are not functioning efficiently. The state and central governments should start bigger industrial units having large employment potential.

Policies should also aim at encouraging the migration of educated job seekers to migrate to other parts of India and abroad. The government should start job-oriented courses to train people for encouraging migration. The courses may be started taking into consideration the type of man power or skills required in major cities and other industrial centres of India, defence services and foreign countries. Encouragement and financial support should be given to those who wish to start small ventures or self-employment occupations in other parts of the country and also to those who go abroad.

A major shift required with respect to educational policy is that the education should equip the youth to engage in employment opportunities available within the state as well as to encourage migration to other parts of India and abroad. Measures are required to restrict the rush for general education in post-metric, graduate and post-graduates courses. More intermediate courses should be started in different medical sciences and engineering subjects which have very great demand. A number of

short-term job-oriented cum-work experience courses should be started in order to equip people to work as skilled, technical workers or to start self-employment activities. The basic objective is to equip them to work in some gainful employment, and not to provide a certificate for qualifying for a public sector job. The courses may be open to all those who aspire for getting a training for work and should be formulated on the basis of employment opportunities and resource endowments of each district or region. For instance, **sources** may be started in cultivation practices, live-stock rearing, dairy business, agro-processing, small scale industries, repairing and servicing, transportation, catering, trade, commerce, business, tourist activities etc. The courses may be introduced through the existing institutions or through unaided private institutions.

Promoting self-employment schemes is another measure. Due to poor background and small size of holding of land of the households, most of the youth find it difficult to start a self-employment project. The government and banks sponsored employment assistance schemes are mainly schemes which give financial assistance on the assumption that finance is the only requirement for gainful employment. But for starting a self-employment project one requires a number of infrastructural requirements besides the working capital. Due to the huge cost as well as difficulties in procuring a shop, a workshop or a place for starting a small scale industrial unit, most of the unemployed cannot start a project. Hence the suggestion is to start industrial estate type of estates for industrial units, commercial estates for starting commerce and business category units and agricultural estates for production of new breeds of plants and livestock-rearing. More credit facilities may be also provided to encourage the educated people to start self-employment projects.

There is scope for generating more employment opportunities connected with sports, cultural and entertainment activities. Policies may aim at starting sports cum entertainment complexes in a number of places either by government or through private sector for promoting sports, cultural and entertainment activities. Measures may also be taken to encourage the full time sportsmen and artists by giving financial assistance.



NOTES

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1. State Planning Board (S.P.B.) 1984, Draft **Seventh Five** Year Plan 1985-90 and Annual Plan 1985-86; p.1.
2. According to National Sample Survey (N.S.S.) 38th Round (1983) Survey, Kerala has the highest rate of unemployment in the country. The percentage of unemployed to total persons of age five and above was found the highest for male and female and also for rural and urban areas.  
Source: Sarvekshana, Vol.9, No.4, April 1986.
3. Directorate of Economics and Statistics (D.E.S.) 1982, Survey on Housing and Employment 1980, Chapter 5.
4. Office of the Directorate of Employment, Trivandrum.
5. The Mathrubhumi Daily, dated July 3, 1987.
6. Bureau of Economics and Statistics (B.E.S.) N.S.S. Report No. 1, N.S.S. Report No.4; N.S.S. Report No.5; N.S.S. Report No.12, Kerala Employment Survey 1965-66, D.E.S., N.S.S. Report No.20, and Survey on Housing and Employment 1980.
7. Government of Kerala, Report of the Committee on Unemployment in Kerala, 1971 and Kerala, S.P.B., High level Committee on Education and Employment, 1984, 5 volumes.
8. B.E.S., 1978, Man Power Studies **3 volumes** and D.E.S., 1981 Man Power Studies Vol. IV and Vol. V.

9. Centre for Development Studies, (C.D.S.), 1977 poverty, Unemployment and Development Policy - A case study of selected issues with reference to Kerala, Orient Longman, Bombay; Chandan Mukherjee 1975, "The market for the educated in Kerala, C.D.S. Working paper No. 32, Gopinathan Nair P.R. et. al. 1984, "Paradox of the market for the educated a hypothesis about unemployment acting as a stimulant to provide demand for higher education", C.D.S. Working Paper No. 195; Gracy C.C., 1974, Unemployment of Kerala, Ph.D thesis, University of Kerala and Mridul Eapen, 1979, "Some aspects of the unemployment problem in Kerala", C.D.S. Working Paper No. 79.
10. B.E.S., 1966, N.S.S. Report No. 5, Section I
11. D.E.S., N.S.S. Report No. 20, Section I
12. D.E.S. 1982, Survey on Housing and Employment 1980, Chapter 5.
13. Of the total students enrolled in first standard in 1970-71, only 37 percent have finally reached the 10th standard. And the number of students passed in S.S.L.C. examination in March 1980 was only 15 percent of the total enrolled in the first standard.  
  
Source: D.E.S., 1985, Fact Book on Man Power Kerala, 1984, P. 49.
14. Simone Morio and Yarrise Zoctizoum, 1980, Two Studies on Unemployment among educated people, Paris, Unesco, Part I.
15. B.E.S., N.S.S. Report No.1 and No.5.
16. B.E.S., N.S.S. Report No.4 and 12.
17. B.E.S., N.S.S. Report No.12 and Table 13.3.
18. B.E.S. 1976, Planning for Employment in Kerala P.19.
19. Ibid., P.41.
20. D.E.S.. 1982, Survey on Housing and Employment 1980, P.39.
21. Ibid., Detailed Table No.5.
22. Conceptually the workers of 1961 was almost comparable with workers plus non-workers with secondary work of 1971 and main workers plus marginal workers of 1981 Census.  
  
Source: Census of India 1981, -Series - 10, Kerala Paper 5 of 1981, P. 11.

23. S.P.B., 1978, Draft Five Year Plan 1978-83, Vol. 1.P.1.
24. S.P.B., 1984, Draft Sixth Five Year Plan 1980-85 and Annual Plan 1981-82, Vol. 1, Chapter 2 and Draft Seventh Five Year Plan 1985 - 90 and Annual Plan 1981-82, Vol. 1, Chapter 4.

25. Population growth in Kerala

year	Population in lakh	Decennial growth rate (percent)	Density of population (per Sq. Km.)
1951	135.49	22.8	349
1961	169.03	24.8	435
1971	213.47	26.3	549
1981	254.54	19.2	655

26. D.E.S., 1982, Survey on Housing and Employment 1980, Chapter 6.
27. I.S. Gulati and Ashok Mody, 1983, Remittances of Indian migrants to the Middle East: An assessment with special reference to migrants from Kerala State, C.D.S. Working paper No. 182.
28. The major studies which examine the impact of gulf remittances are: B.A. Prakash 1978, "Impact of foreign Remittance: A case study of Chavakkad village in Kerala, Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 13 No. 2, July 8; Mathew E.T. et. al 1978 Socio-economic Characteristics of Emigrates and Emigrants households - A case study of two villages in Kerala, E.P.W., Vol. 13, No. 28, July 15, Commerce Research Bureau, 1978, Emigration: Inward Remittances and economic growth of Kerala, Report of a Survey, Bombay; and Radhakrishnan and et. al., 1981, Emigration, Inward remittances and economic development, The Man Power Journal, Vol. 16, No. 4.
29. It is reported that the fall in remittances from Gulf countries to India in 1984 and 1985 was nearly 50%.  
Source: Indian Express Daily dated March, 3, 1986.
30. S.P.B., Economic Review 1983, p.p 2-6.
31. Between 1975-76 and 1984-85 the gross cropped area fell by 3.6 percent. The gross area under paddy has declined from 3.84 lakh hectares in 1975-76 to 7.30 lakh hectares in 1984-85.  
Source: D.E.S., Statistics for Planning 1986, Part II

32. In 1985, total rice production in Kerala available for consumption was 11.3 lakh tonnes, The import of rice and wheat through state excluding import through private traders was 18.8 lakh tonnes. If we assume the share of foodgrains imported through private traders as 10% the total import of grains will be more than 70%.  
See: S.P.B. 1986, Economic Review 1985, P.18.
33. The average size of holding has declined from 0.73 hectares in 1966-67 to 0.49 hectares in 1976-77. According to agricultural Census of 1976-77, nearly 42% of the area of agricultural holdings have an average size of 0.22 hectares.  
Source: D.E.S. 1982, Agricultural Census 1976-77, Report for Kerala State, Vol. 1, P.27.
34. D.E.S., 1985, Report on the Survey of Household Construction activities in Kerala 1980-81 (Mimeo) p. 16.
35. According to a study by State Planning Board, on inter state goods movement, Kerala has been importing major part of the foodgrains, sugar, major share of manufactured consumption goods, textiles industrial raw materials, machinery and other item of manufacture from other parts of India. According to D.E.S. Survey on inter state movement of goods in 1980-81 by road, it is estimated that the total value of goods transported, in coming goods accounted 59% and outgoing goods accounted for 41%. The coming goods are mainly steel, steel products, machinery, medicines, liquor, tobacco, rice, sugar, grocery, cotton piece goods and cement.  
See: S.P.B. 1980, Inter state goods Traffic and balance of trade of Kerala and D.E.S., 1986, Report on the Survey on inter-state movement of goods by road 1980-81.
36. For a case study of migration of Tamil Workers from Kanya Kumari district to Kerala.  
See: Anand S., 1986, Migrant Construction Workers: A case study of Tamil Workers in Kerala (M.Phil Dissertation) C.D.S.
37. D.E.S., 1985, Report on the Survey on household construction activities in Kerala 1980-81, p.15.

38. Growth of educational Institutions in Kerala.

Institutions	1956-57 (Number)	1984-85 (Number)	Growth (Percent)
1. Lower Primary Schools	7882	6849	(-.)13
2. Upper Primary Schools	1665	2857	71
3. High Schools	763	2404	215
4. Arts and Science Colleges	28	172	514
5. Students in Arts and Science Colleges	25254	29774	1079
6. Engineering Colleges	1	6	500
7. Polytechnics	4	25	525
8. Medical Colleges	1	5	400
9. Junior Technical Schools	--	34	---
10. Industrial Training Institutes	2	21	950

Source: D.E.S., 1986, Progress of Kerala in three decades 1956-'85, P.22 and S.P.B. 1984, Report of the High Level Committee on Education and Employment, Vol. 3.

39. D.E.S., Progress of Kerala in three decades 1956-'85, p.26.

40. The proportion of private candidates presented for examination to total number of candidates for regular colleges is 34% for Pre-Degree, 40% for B.Com. and 46% for MA.

Source: S.P.B. 1984, High Level Committee on education and employment, Vol. II, p.12.

41. According to a news paper report the capitation fee for getting admission for various professional courses in private professional educational institutions in Tamilnadu and Karnataka is as follows:

For B.Ed. about Rs. 15,000; for diploma in Pharmacy about Rs. 12,000; for Engineering degree courses between Rs.45 and 80 thousand, and for M.B.B.S. between Rs. 2.5 to 3 lakh. It is reported that majority of the students studying in the private institutions which collect capitation fees are Keralites.

Source: The Malayala Manorama daily dated 1st October, 1987, 3rd October 1987 and 5th October 1987.

42. Percentage of full time students to total population

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>1961 Census</u>	<u>1981 Census</u>
0 - 14	40 .3	56.1
15 - 34	9. 3	15.9
Total population	20.0	25.8

Source: Census of India, 1961, Vol. VII, Part II B(ii) p.408 and Census of India 1981, Series 10, Kerala Part III A+B (iii) p.512.

43. Average Monthly Wage Rate (Rs) 1981-82

(a) Wage rate of Pettail shops (Urban)

1. Shop Assistant (foodgrains)	322
2. Shop Attender (foodgrains)	264
3. Shop Assistant (Textiles)	408
4. Shop Attender (Textiles)	303
5. Shop Assistant (Stationary)	363
6. Shop Attender (Stationary)	273

(b) Wage rate in State Government Services

1. Last grade Employee (who joined on 1.1.82) 490
2. Lower Division Clerk (who joined on 1.1.82) 554

Source: D.E.S., Report on Wage Structure Survey in Kerala 1977-1982 and Government of Kerala, Government Orders on the recommendations of the Fourth Kerala Pay Commission relating to scales of pay and Allied Matters, 1985.

44. According to a study, the salary of the majority of Parallel Colleges teachers (Private Sector) in Kerala was on an average between Rs.300 and Rs.500 per month in March 1980. But the monthly salary of a junior lecturer who entered in Government service in March 1980 was Rs. 628.

Source: P.R.Gopinathan Nair et.al, Parallel Colleges in Kerala: Enrolment Costs and Employment, Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 19, No. 42+43, 1984 and Fourth Pay Commission Report cited above.

45. Office of the Divisional Employment Exchange, Trivandrum.

46. D.E.S. Survey on Housing and Employment 1980, p.36,

47. Every day nearly 60 to 80 educated persons used to come to the exchange for renewing their registration or for other purposes. From them we selected a sample of 6 per day on a random basis for 24 days.

48. As on January 1988 the registration seniority required for inclusion in the list for selection was 17 years for S.S.L.C. and Pre-degree holders. For graduates it was 12 years and 2 months.

Source: Office of the Divisional Employment Exchange, Trivandrum.

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