## The Hindu

## Union government not willing to create job opportunities: AIDYO

Around 1.3 crore young people are added to the list of unemployed a year, G.S. Kumar, State secretary of the All-India Democratic Youth Organisation (AIDYO), has said.

Speaking at the Belagavi district-level youth conference here on Wednesday, he said that the government was keen on extending tax rebates and incentives to the industry but was not willing to take concrete steps to generate employment opportunities for the educated and skilled youth, whose energy was not being utilised for the growth and progress of the nation.

Mr. Kumar said that there were 6 lakh vacancies in primary schools across the country. Around 2.7 lakh vacancies remain unfilled in government departments in Karnataka. The promises and claims of employment generation by governments were hollow.

Writer S.B. Jogur from Dharwad, who inaugurated the conference, pointed out that unlike in the past, the present generation of youth did not have role models. Rather, the do's and don'ts of leaders had created a confusing socio-political atmosphere in the country. The semester system in colleges and universities had kept the youth preoccupied with academics and was preventing them from thinking about the developments in society.

Those who raised questions were being harassed, humiliated and sidelined, which was not only an attack on the freedom of expression but was also a discouragement of creative thinking among the youth, he said.

The conference adopted resolutions demanding the government to create more employment opportunities for the youth in urban and rural areas; adequate security for women and children; steps against commercialisation of sports and games; and early resolution of the Mahadayi dispute. The conference also condemned the police excesses on students protesting against injustices.

The Dharwad district unit of the AIDYO was constituted with Chetan Mugalihal being elected as the new district president.