



## SOCIAL SECURITY OF ELDERLY RESPONDENTS IN ANANTAPURAMU DISTRICT

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### **Abstract**

*The increasing life expectancy resulting from medical and technological advancements, coupled with declining fertility rates has led to a significant increase in the number of older individuals worldwide. According to the latest population projection by World Population Prospects 2022, the proportion of individuals aged 65 and over is projected to rise from 10% to 2022 to 16% in 2050. However, living longer does not necessarily mean better health. Ageing has been associated with declining physical and cognitive functions and an increased risk of non-communicable diseases, which can lead to challenges in public health and healthcare resources. Ageing pathways vary from person to person due to differences in genetic profiles and life course health exposures. It is therefore crucial to identify lifestyle behaviours that are associated with ageing. The present paper highlighted that social security among the elderly in drought prone area of Anantapuramu district.*

**Key words:** *Physical Energy, Social Security, Elderly, etc.*

### **Introduction**

The increasing life expectancy resulting from medical and technological advancements, coupled with declining fertility rates has led to a significant increase in the number of older individuals worldwide. According to the latest population projection by World Population Prospects 2022, the proportion of individuals aged 65 and over is projected to rise from 10% to 2022 to 16% in 2050. However, living longer does not necessarily mean better health. Ageing has been associated with declining physical and cognitive functions and an increased risk of non-communicable diseases, which can lead to challenges in public health and healthcare resources. Ageing pathways vary from person to person due to differences in genetic profiles and life course health exposures. It is therefore crucial to identify lifestyle behaviours that are associated with ageing.

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines healthy ageing as “the process of developing and maintaining the functional ability that enables wellbeing in old age”. Functional ability refers to people’s ability to meet their basic needs, learn, grow and make decisions, be mobile, build and maintain relationships, and contribute to society. Intrinsic capacity varies among individuals based on their genetic inheritance, physical and mental proficiency, and specific living and interacting environments. These environments can change over time depending on political, economic, social norms, values, and resources. The interaction between intrinsic capacity and environmental characteristics determines functional ability.

As individuals age, they lose functional abilities due to declining health and an increased risk of non-communicable diseases. Apart from that, exposure to different lifestyle behaviours might also affect health outcomes. Age-related diseases could be delayed by adopting a healthy lifestyle. Regular engagement in physical activity and refraining from smoking can delay the ageing process.



### Significance of the study

A wide range of abuse such as physical, verbal, economic, disrespect, neglect has been observed in the Indian elderly population. The abuse of elders is very common in India, and unfortunately, it is the children, mostly sons, who are the wrongdoers. Although many elderly people are experiencing various types of abuse and financial exploitation at home; they do not come out and seek help regarding this, in spite of the existence of specific laws in the country. In addition, many older people may not be aware of such laws; therefore efforts should be taken for improving awareness in the community and ease of utilisation of such laws. There are many laws protecting the rights of the elderly in India; however their implementation and use are seriously flawed. It has been observed that those with formal education (8 years or above) among the elderly is associated with reduced violence against them. This paper exhibit that the awareness levels of the sample respondents in the study area.

### Objectives of the present study

The specific objectives of the study are as follows

- To the concept of welfare programmes especially for elderly
- To analyse the opinion of the elderly on social security

### Methodology

#### Sampling design

The present study is depending on empirical analysis. Anantapuramu district is very drought prone area and majority of the population depending on agriculture and allied sector. For taken up present study – 400 (200 from urban areas and 200 from rural areas) sample elderly people was selected by using simple random techniques. And it covers Anantapuramu and surrounding mandal namely Rapthadu, Bukkarayasamudram, Garladinne, Anantapuramu rural, and Atmakur.

### Data collection

The present study is based on both primary and secondary data. The primary data was collected from the selected sample elderly respondents through using a structure interview schedule after pre-tested (pilot study). And secondary data was also collected from various sources like dailies, journals, books, theses, dissertations, websites, and various universities libraries.

### Results and discussions

**Table 1 , Opinion of the elderly respondents on they have lot of physical energy**

S.No	Opinion	Frequency	%
1	Strongly agree	124	31.00
2	Agree	64	16.00
3	Can't say	59	14.75
4	Disagree	97	24.25
5	Strongly disagree	56	14.00
	Total	400	100.00

Source : Field Survey

The table discloses that the elderly people respondents on their lot of physical energy of rural and urban area respondents in the Ananapuramu district of Andhra Pradesh state. It can noted that 47 per cent of the respondents opinion ranges from strongly agree to just agree on about the statement, 38.25 per cent of the opinion ranges from disagree to strongly agree and it can be surprisingly noted that nearly 15 per



cent of the respondents don't give any response i.e., neutral opinion on the statement in Anantapuramu district of Andhra Pradesh state.

**Table 2, Opinion of the elderly on health restricts me locking after myself or my home**

S.No	Opinion	Frequency	%
1	Strongly agree	278	69.50
2	Agree	65	16.25
3	Can't say	21	05.25
4	Disagree	16	04.00
5	Strongly disagree	20	05.00
	Total	400	100.00

Source : Field Survey

The elderly people have facing some of the problems after getting 60 years of age generally health problem. Especially in present polluted society, every one gets health problems in the study. According to this background, the researcher has raised a question and collected information regarding the health of elderly people and analysed hereunder. The present table exhibited that 69.50 per cent of the sample respondents have stated that they were strongly agreed, 16.25 per cent of the elderly people have expressed that just agreed, and less than 10 per cent elderly people opinion ranged from disagree to strongly disagree on above statement. It is clearly shows that majority of the elderly respondents have stated that their health is not permit to do so much of activities hence, they agreed.

**Table- 3, Opinion of the respondents on social security is less**

S.No	Opinion	Frequency	%
1	Strongly agree	156	39.00
2	Agree	15	03.75
3	Can't say	08	02.00
4	Disagree	123	30.75
5	Strongly disagree	98	24.50
	Total	400	100.00

Source: Field Survey

The table reported that the opinion of the sample elderly people on social security is less. According to this above statement, the respondents were giving their responses and analysed hereunder. It can be noticed that 39 per cent represent 156 selected sample elderly people have stated that they have strongly agreed, 30.75 per cent reported 123 sample respondents have stated that they are disagree, 24.50 per cent have expressed that they have strongly disagree and only 3.75 per cent of the respondents have stated that they have just agreed on above statement. It can be concluded from the above statistical data that, after 60 years of any individual or elderly people do not feel as social secure in their surrounding areas. Hence, the statistical data were also proved and agreed.



**Table -4,I have someone who gives me love and affection**

S.No	Opinion	Frequency	%
1	Strongly agree	153	30.25
2	Agree	69	17.25
3	Can't say	24	06.00
4	Disagree	123	30.75
5	Strongly disagree	31	07.75
	Total	400	100.00

Source: Field Survey

Generally, at age of 60 years or more they need moral support and also love & affection from their family members. But, in commercial world, majority of the families have been converted into nuclear families and settled away from their villages. And also parents have been living at villages only. According to this background, the researcher has raised a statement on social security- with love and affection from somebody. In this direction, 47.50 per cent represents 222 elderly respondents have expressed their opinion ranges from strongly agree to just agree, 38.50 per cent respondents opinion ranges from disagree to strongly disagree. Here, it can be concluded from the table that half of the elderly people can required love and affection from family members, relatives or friends and other half of the respondents were stated that they don't agree because of they have positive attitude in present society acted according to situation.

## Conclusions

As is well-known, in India social security is on the concurrent list as per its Constitution, but in our judgment the Union government should take primary responsibility for putting in place a comprehensive social security framework. The reason for such a view is that given the nature of fiscal federalism in place, the Union government has been enjoying much wider authority fiscal space in terms of augmenting resources compared to the states of the Indian Union. Hence, it is high time to go for comprehensive social security schemes in place with appropriate institutional mechanism. As is evident from our discussion in the foregoing, India's experience on the whole has been disappointing with reference to addressing the social security needs of the elderly. There have been hesitant and limited sporadic efforts, instead of a coherent policy approach of any significant.

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