ECONOMICS OF AGING AND HEALTH CARE: A STUDY ON VAPPANKULAM VILLAGE IN SIVAGANGAI DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

This study is to analysis the increasing adversity of old age which has emerged as a global phenomenon. Number of person with old age worldwide is estimated to be around 605 million today. This aging population is posing insurmountable challenges both for the developed as well as developing countries. India’s older population will increase dramatically over the next four decades. The share of India’s population ages 60 and older is projected to climb from 8 percent in 2010 to 19 percent in 2050, according to the United Nations Population Division (UN 2011). By mid-century, India’s 60 and older population is expected to encompass 323 million people, a number greater than the total U.S. population in 2012. This profound shift in the share of older Indians taking place in the context of changing family relationships and severely limited old-age income support brings with it a variety of social, economic, and health care policy challenges. In this context, the current study identifies the socio-economic problems as well as factors responsible for employment status and current status old age people, and identify the major health problems and health care services and to analysis the pattern of expenditure. For the present study 30 respondents were selected through random sampling because sampling frame of the persons with old age was not available in the universe. Samples were selected from Veppankulam village in Sivangangai district of Tamilnadu. The quantitative approach has been used in order to analyze the data with the help of frequency and percentage. They have low social status in the community as well as in their families. The persons with old age are facing problems in health due to expensive medicines and lack of personal money to spend for their health. It has been suggested that proper role of family members, revival of religious values, media and government intervention will promote the status of persons with old age people.

KEY WORDS: Ageing Problems, Current Living Status, Employment Status and Health Problems.