A policy perspective assessment of elderly in India: Evidence from Longitudinal Ageing Study of India, 2017-19

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Background- Ageing is a later stage of human life. It is an indication of poor performance of body parts as well as physical activeness. On this ground, happiness plays a significant role towards healthy ageing. Happiness transforms positivity over negative affect and satisfaction with life. The adaptation-level theory suggests that people judge the pleasantness or unpleasantness of events or circumstances based on the positive and negative experiences of the individual. Various programmes and policy designed and works for the elderly in India. Annapurna yojana is one of them, which provided minimum quantity of foodgrain to lower wealthier person. According to the welfare perspective, these initiatives aim to achieve healthy ageing and stand with sustainable development goals.

Objective- This paper investigates the satisfaction of life and possible determinants to assess the life among the elderly.

Method- This paper is based on secondary data sources about India's ageing population. The Indian longitudinal ageing study includes all behavioural choices related to living conditions, happiness, health status, social affiliation, and detailed information about the quality of life. Survey includes people aged 45 years and above population. but this study only includes people aged 60 and up in two different cohorts. Policy assessment can be done by the utility index method. It also helps to assess and investigate the quality of life among the elderly in India.

Result- National policy for older adults designed explicitly for the elderly in India. It has numerous provisions to improve the quality of life among the elderly. Results suggest that the composite score for the elderly varies within age and gender. The study indicates that Mizoram (0.98), Kerala (0.92), Chandigarh (0.81), goa (0.655), and Puducherry (0.651) have a high quality of life. In contrast, Arunachala Pradesh (0.130), Telangana (0.161), Jammu and Kashmir (0.209), Rajasthan (0.238), and Bihar (0.253) are low-performing states. Besides that, two different age levels have another picture. In the case of early ageing, some of the northeast state, including Kerala and Karnataka, has good performance. Similarly, in late ageing (age 75 and above), these states are doing well with a little deviation of the score.

Conclusion- Utility desire and satisfaction from commodities are different to each other for the different age groups. Happiness is subjective and varies individually, while the utility is a way to assess the quality of care by some methods. In an ageing life, majorly 15 items (such as; food availability, living arrangement, spousal support, social connectedness, fear of crime etc.) have a significant role in good quality of life. This study will help the nation have an excellent policy to achieve healthy ageing.

Keywords- Quality of care, Elderly, Ageing, Satisfaction of life, Happiness, LASI, India.

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