

- There will be 12.5% of total population being over 60 by 2030
- Sex ratio of elderly has increased from 938 women to 1000 men in 1971 to 1033 in 2011 and is projected to increase to 1060 by 2016
- According to study done by Age well foundation, 65% of old people are poor with no source of income
- Growing urbanization: the ever growing urbanization, nuclear family has created social alienation among elderly population,
- Globalization: the people of India are embracing western life style where parents are given less care.
- Growing materialism: traditional values of taking care of parents are degrading rapidly due to materialism.
- Technological issue: earlier children used to spend time with their parent but now due to advancement of mobile phone, internet and other technologies the old parents are greatly neglected.

Vulnerability of elderly population in India:

- Physiological: the elderly people suffer from number of old age related illness
- Psychological problem: older people are susceptible to psychological depression
- Emotional problem: due to loss of spouse, friends negligence and indifferent attitude of family members, abuse, fear, boredom, loss of control
- Social problems: due to loss of work associated, death of relatives, loss of work associated, lonely and isolation
- Financial problem: due to absence of inadequate or absence of pension
- Women stand at greater risk in old age as they are by and large poorly paid for work done during their lifetime and have meager or no savings
- 93% of workforce is in informal sector. There is no social security for them. Among them SC, ST, poor remain the most vulnerable

Analysis of the issue:

While the government and civil society needs to tackle the issue of growing elderly population. But unlike other countries, still there is rich tradition in India to look after the parents in old age. The old Indian tradition of carrying the parents by children in basket may not exist today; still even today Indians consider the serving of their parents as door to reach paradise.

Steps taken by India in this regard:

- Apart from old age house the government is opening large number of day care center for elderly.
- Rashtriya Vyoshriyojana has been launched to assist senior citizen suffering from old age relation ailment. Unclaimed fund lying in Employee state insurance and Provident fund as well as in banks will be used for empowerment of senior citizen.
- Vayoshreshtha Sammans - A Scheme of National Award for Senior Citizens. The main objective of the Scheme is to improve the quality of life of the Older Persons by providing basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care and entertainment opportunities and by encouraging productive and active ageing through providing support for capacity building