Dynamics of Poverty and Social Determinants of Health of Elderly belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Class categories in India

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ABSTRACT
The increasing of the 60+ elderly population has been leading to serious concern in India. As perceived, the health problems of the elderly are different from the general population. The impact of poverty and social factors make elderly problems more critical and complex in society. The present article is an attempt to understand the dynamics of poverty and social determinants that affect the life of the elderly belonging to Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST), and Other Backward Class (OBC) categories in India. Data from the secondary sources - especially from the census of India 2011 have been collected and used to accomplish the objective of the study. A sample size of five states out of its total states in India has been taken into consideration to draw a comparative analysis of the facts and figures related to the subject. Major findings of the study show that in India, the percentage of the population living below the poverty line is highest among the ST people followed by the SC population, then OBC and others in the rural areas. But, in the urban areas, people living below the poverty line are more among the SC population followed by ST people than OBC and others. Thus, the ST migrants are found more than SC and OBC in the urban areas. The 60+ ST elderly dependants exist more in Madhya Pradesh. In fact, 60+ ST elderly people are found more illiterates, non-workers, and health disabilities than SC and OBC/Other categories in India. Thus, the removal of poverty and suitable provision of public health care service facilities for the elderly in India are challenging tasks for the government as the available resources are not trapped and prioritized as per the requirements of the elderly in the states.

Key Words: SC/ST/OBC, Poverty, Education, Workforce, Unemployment, Health Disability

I. INTRODUCTION:
In developing countries like India, more reduction in birth rates than in the death rates is a recent phenomenon. The "declines in the Total Fertility Rate, Crude Birth Rate, Crude Death Rate, and Fertility have been the primary determinant of population aging"(United Nations, 2015). The World Health Organization describes old age as "the period of life when impairment of physical and mental functions is increasingly recognized by comparison in the previous period of life." Old age means "the reduced physical ability that involves the giving up of role-playing in socio-economic activities and a change in economic status moving from economic independence to economic dependence upon others for support" (WHO, 2014). Thus, the issue of "active aging has also fostered an interest in society's well-being and life satisfaction dimension". The determinants of quality of elderly life have turned into a major concern (Smith AE, 2004). The individuals come across changes as they advance age, these changes include not only bodily or biological but also societal vicissitudes such as a change in role, status, etc. Smith has "highlighted the subnational variations by presenting an analysis of the available data for measuring key social

determinants of health in India over the past two decades and assessed inequities by geography, caste, and gender which are identified as priorities for public policy". However, the central and state governments have been trying to reduce inequalities in all determinant factors in India.

The government has recently disclosed that the 60 plus population would increase to about 340 million by 2050. While the United Nations has projected the same as to grow to 316.8 million by 2050 (UN, 2015), but HelpAge India has estimated the same as 324 million (Helpage India, 2014). Since the "life expectancy of the people has increased due to improvements of the health care services" (WHO, 2014), the dynamics of aging are getting changed in the age structure of the population even in India. Therefore, the 60 plus elderly people have come to the stage of aging after going through different conditions of their earlier stages of life. It includes their growing up situations from childhood to adulthood education including living in a working atmosphere and reaching the aging stage. During the earlier period of life, the elderly must have encountered different social dynamics which have shaped their present health status. How these social determinants are affecting and influencing elderly health and quality of life, needs to have a deeper understanding.

Poverty is the most significant social determinant which works in the mind of the pregnant mother. After delivery, it nurtures when the new-born starts getting supplementary foods and nutrition. Thus, poverty plays important role in socializing the children, their education, and adulthood. It not only forces people to work, but also gives the shape of the life of the elderly people. Therefore, the dynamics of poverty cannot be ignored in understanding the determinants of health of the elderly in a given situation. As stated that about 22% of the Indian population lives below the poverty line. Out of the total population in India, the people living below the poverty line were found about 25.7% in rural areas and 13.7% in urban areas (Samrat Sharma, 2019).

Furthermore, poverty widens the scope of a complex interplay of intrinsic and extrinsic factors that reflects in the Indian caste systems – especially the lower caste social groups like the SC and ST population. The prevalence of the 'untouchability' social phenomenon continues to be a contentious issue in Indian society. Thus, the poverty and social evils together push the lower caste social groups of the population into more deprivation and deterioration from all fronts of life. The elderly people of these social groups are falling into precarious conditions in India. Therefore, the

social determinants of health of the elderly belonging to SC, ST, and OBC categories have been the serious concerns in India.

In this context, a comparative analysis of the determining factors such as the magnitude of poverty, educational level, marital status, workforce, health disability, crimes, migration, and beggars and vagrants among the 60+ elderly SC, ST, and OBC population has been attempted to establish the facts and figures in order to facilitate and device suitable strategic measures for a better quality of life of elderly people in India.

II.   MATERIALS AND METHODS:

The presentation of the article is based on secondary data. The main sources of the data are the census of India 2011 and different forms of publications such as papers, books, government reports, etc. But the main focus of the analysis of data pertains to the census of India 2011. Data from a sample of five states i.e. Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu have been assembled to oversee the national significance and classified to overview the comparative analysis of the study variables among the states.

The assembled data from a total sample of all Indian populations as well as the population from five states have been scrutinized, categorized, and tabulated according to the context variables of the subject. Thus, the templates of the information or data pertaining to the SC, ST, and OBC/all other categories of the population have been discussed and deliberated in the presentation of the article. The Government of India has made the census of 2011available in the public domain for analysis and discussion. The present article is a systematic effort to place the relevant and significant information in the context of the subject of SC, ST, and OBC/Other categories of population in India.

III.   FINDINGS OF THE STUDY:
3.1. Total 60+ SC, ST, and OBC/Other Population in India

In India 60+ total elderly people were 8.58% (male 4.22% and female 4.36%) among the OBC/Other, 7.81% (male 3.82% and female 3.99%) among SC population and 6.88% (male 3.25% and female 3.63%) among the ST category of people as shown in chart 1.

State wise, 60+ total OBC/Other people were more in UP (1.28%) followed by Tamil Nadu (0.62%), MP (0.47%), Gujarat (0.40%) and Assam (0.17%). While 60+ total SC people were also more in UP (1.52%) followed by Tamil Nadu (0.59%), MP (0.44%), Gujarat (0.15%) and Assam (0.08%). But 60+ total ST people were more in MP (0.91%),

then in Gujarat (0.57%), Assam (0.23%), UP (0.07%) and Tamil Nadu (0.05%).

CHART 1. TOTAL 60+ SC, ST AND OBC/OTHERS POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX IN INDIA- 2011
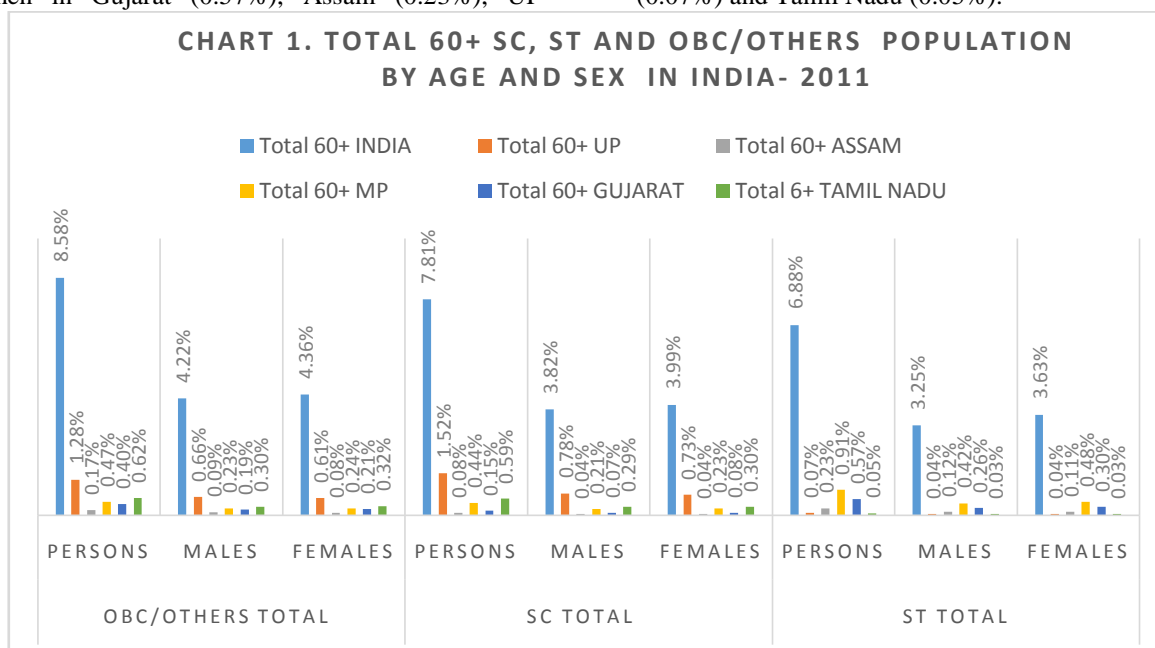
3.2. Population living below the Poverty Line among SC, ST, OBC & Other:

According to the Planning Commission Report (2004-2005), the percentage of the population living below the poverty line in India was 47.3% among the ST people, 36.8% among the SC population, 26.7% among the OBCs, and 16.1% among Others category of the people in the rural areas. While the same 33.3% of STs, 39.9% of SCs, 31.4% of OBCs, and 16% of Others category of the population were reported living below the poverty line in the urban areas as shown in table 1.

Table 1. Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line (social groups wise) -2004-05								
	Rural				**Urban**			
Social Groups	**ST**	**SC**	**OBC**	**Others**	**ST**	**SC**	**OBC**	**Others**
All India	47.3	36.8	26.7	16.1	33.3	39.9	31.4	16
Assam	14.1	27.7	18.8	25.4	4.8	8.6	8.6	4.2
Uttar Pradesh	32.4	44.8	32.9	19.7	37.4	44.9	36.6	19.2
Madhya Pradesh	58.6	42.8	29.6	13.4	44.7	67.3	55.5	20.8
Gujarat	34.7	21.8	19.1	4.8	21.4	16	22.9	7
Tamil Nadu	32.1	31.2	19.8	19.1	32.5	40.2	20.9	6.5
Source: Planning Commission (2004-2005)								

Table 1 shows that in the five selected states, the percentage of population living below the poverty line among ST people was seen more in Madhya Pradesh (58.6%) followed by Gujarat (34.7%), Uttar Pradesh (32.4%), Tamil Nadu (32.1%) and Assam (14.1%) in the rural areas. In the urban areas of five states, the percentage of population living below the poverty line among ST people was more in Madhya Pradesh (44.7%) followed by Uttar Pradesh (37.4%), Tamil Nadu (32.5%), Gujarat (21.4%), and Assam (4.8%).

The percentage of the population living below the poverty line among SC people was more in Uttar Pradesh (44.8%) followed by Madhya Pradesh (42.8%), then in Tamil Nadu (31.2%), Assam (27.7%), and Gujarat (21.8%) in the rural areas. In the urban areas of five states, the percentage of

population below the poverty line among SC people was more in Madhya Pradesh (67.3%) followed by Uttar Pradesh (44.9%), Tamil Nadu (40.2%), Gujarat (16%), and Assam (8.6%).

While the percentage of the population living below the poverty line among the OBC category of people was more in Uttar Pradesh (32.9%) followed by Madhya Pradesh (29.6%), then in Tamil Nadu (19.8%), Gujarat (19.1%), and Assam (18.8%) in the rural area. In the urban areas of five states, the percentage of the population living below the poverty line among OBC people was more in Madhya Pradesh (55.5%) followed by Uttar Pradesh (36.6%), then in Tamil Nadu (20.9%), Gujarat (22.9%), and Assam (8.6%).

It has been observed that ST people living below the poverty line are more in Madhya Pradesh (58.6%). But SC people below the poverty line are more in Uttar Pradesh (44.8%). OBC people living below the poverty line are also more in Uttar Pradesh (32.9%) as compared to other sampled states.

3.3. Minimum Per-Capita Expenditure (MPCE) of SC, ST, OBC & Others:

The Planning Commission, Government of India had categorized and established per 1000 distribution of persons by Minimum Per Capita Expenditure (MPCE) class in rupees. The MPCE classes were established into four levels such as Rs. 0-410/-, 410-580/-, 580-1155/- and 1155+ for the rural area. Similarly, MPCE classes were calculated as Rs. 0-675/-, 657-1100/-, 1100- 2540/- and 2540 + for the urban area as shown in table 2.

Table.2. In India Per 1000 distribution of persons by Minimum Per Capita Expenditure (MPCE) class (Rs.)						
	MPCE Class	STs	SCs	OBCs	Others	All
Rural	0-410	597	509	395	258	405
	410-580	239	290	311	294	295
	580-1155	150	176	249	356	252
	1155 & above	14	24	46	92	50
Urban	0-675	458	567	490	269	399
	675-1100	323	284	306	298	299
	1100-2540	205	134	183	350	252
	2540 & above	15	15	22	84	49
Source: Planning Commission(2004-2005)						

It clearly shows that Rs. 0-410 MPCE class was more among STs (597), followed by SCs (509), OBCs (395), and others (258) per 1000 population in the rural areas. While Rs. 1155 and above MPCE class was less among STs (14), followed by SCs (24), OBCs (46), and others (92) per 1000 population in the rural areas. Similarly, Rs. 0-675 MPCE class was more among SCs (597), followed by OBCs (490), STs (458), and others (269) per 1000 population in the urban areas. While Rs. 2540 and above MPCE class was less among STs (15) and SCs (15), followed by OBCs (22) and others (84) per 1000 population in the urban areas.

It clearly shows that the minimum per capita expenditure is found more on the lower class interval among the ST population in both rural and urban areas as compared to SC, OBC, and Others in India. Despite the facts, hardly any strategic plan of action was taken to improve the economic status of the ST and SC population in India.The impact of poverty could be seen first in the educational background of 60+ elderly SC. ST and OBC social groups of population in India.

3.4. 60+ SC, ST, and OBC/Other elderly Never attended Educational Institutions:

In India 60+ elderly people never attended educational institutions were 4.85% (male 1.73% and female 3.12%) among the OBC/Other, 5.70% (male 2.23% and female 3.46%) among SCs and 5.34% (male 2.10% and female 3.24%) among ST people.

State wise, 60+ OBC/Other elderly people never attended educational institutions were found more in UP (0.82%) followed by Tamil Nadu

(0.31%) then in MP (0.30%) Gujarat (0.20%), and Assam (0.09%). 60+ SC elderly people never attended Educational Institutions were also more in UP (1.19%) followed by Tamil Nadu (0.42%) then in MP (0.34%) Gujarat (0.09%), and Assam (0.04%).But 60+ ST elderly people never attended educational institutions were more in MP (0.78%), Gujarat (0.43%), Assam (0.14%), UP (0.06%) and Tamil Nadu (0.05%) as shown in table 3.

As noted that 60+ elderly never attended educational institutions are more among SC and ST social groups compared to OBC/Other population in India. State-wise, these elderly from OBC/Other and SC category are more in the state of UP. While 60+ ST elderly never attended educational institutions are more in MP state. It implies that the elderly people – especially the elderly tribal might have faced all odds which were required educational knowledge and skills in their earlier life. Reasons must have been their poor socio-economic conditions in the given social settings.It has also been observed in their illiterate level of education.

| Table 3. 60+ Elderly SC, ST, and OBC/Other Population Never attended Educational Institutions in 2011								
	OBC/Other			SC			ST		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Total 60+ INDIA	4.85%	1.73%	3.12%	5.70%	2.23%	3.46%	5.34%	2.10%	3.24%
Total 60+ UP	0.82%	0.33%	0.50%	1.19%	0.51%	0.68%	0.06%	0.03%	0.03%
Total 60+ ASSAM	0.09%	0.03%	0.06%	0.04%	0.01%	0.03%	0.14%	0.05%	0.09%
Total 60+ MP	0.30%	0.11%	0.20%	0.34%	0.13%	0.21%	0.78%	0.32%	0.46%
Total 60+ GUJARAT	0.20%	0.06%	0.13%	0.09%	0.03%	0.06%	0.43%	0.16%	0.27%
Total 6+ TAMIL NADU	0.31%	0.10%	0.21%	0.42%	0.16%	0.25%	0.05%	0.02%	0.02%

3.4. Illiterate Level of Education among 60+ SC, ST, and OBC/Other

In India 60+ elderly people having the illiterate level of education were 4.84% persons (male 1.72% and female 3.12%) among OBC/Other, 5.68% persons (male 2.23% and female 3.46%) among SCs and 5.35% persons (male 2.10% and female 3.25%) among ST social groups as shown in chart 2. As observed 60+ SC and ST elderly were having more illiteracy level of education than the OBC/Other categories of population in India.

In the selected states, 60+ OBC/Other elderly having illiteracy level of education were more in UP (0.82%) followed by MP (0.31%) and Tamil Nadu (0.31%) then in Gujarat (0.20%) and Assam (0.09%). Similarly, 60+ SC elderly having illiteracy level of education were also more in UP (1.19%) followed by Tamil Nadu (0.42%) then in MP (0.34%), Gujarat (0.09%), and Assam (0.04%). But 60+ ST elderly having illiteracy level of education were more in MP (0.77%) followed by Gujarat (0.43%) then in Assam (0.14%), UP (0.05%), and Tamil Nadu (0.04%).

It appears that OBC and SC elderly having illiteracy level of education are more in UP while ST elderly having illiteracy level of education are more in the state of MP. This picture of educational levels among different social groups is the result of the then education policy and educational facilities provided to the people of the state- especially the ST and SC population.

CHART 2. ILLITERATE LEVEL OF EDUCATION AMONG 60+ SC,ST AND OBC/OTHER
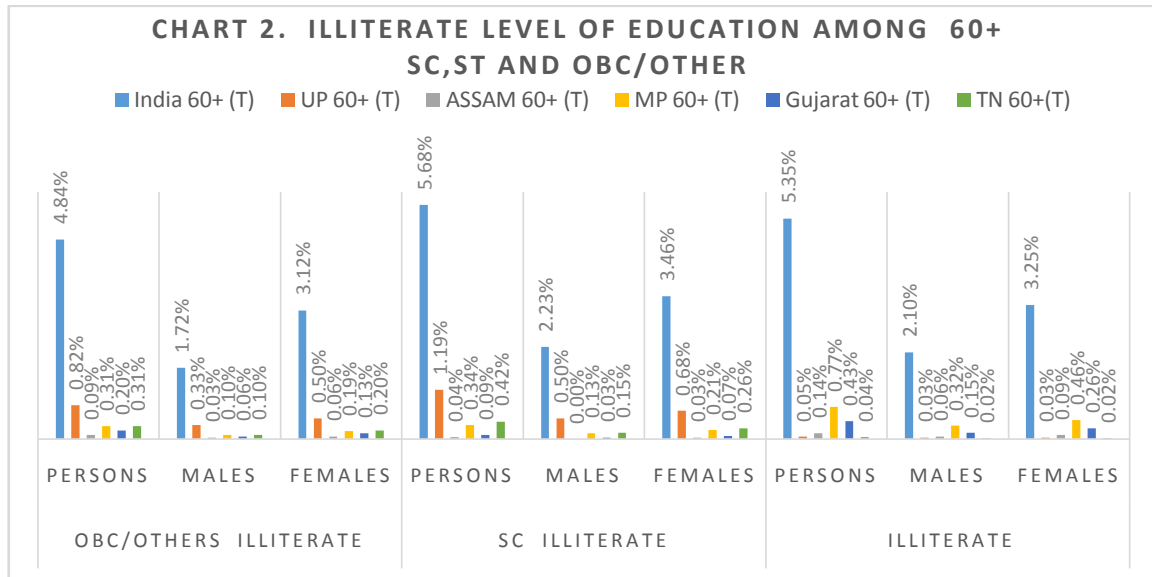
3.5. Distribution of Total Workers among SC, ST and OBC/Others:

In India as per census 201, the percentage distribution of total workers was found 68.89% male and 31.11% female among the OBC/Other, 51.41% male and 48.59% female among SCs and 55.59% male, and 44.41% female among the ST population. This shows the female workers are less than males among OBC/Other population compared to SC and ST people in India.

In the selected states, the percentage of OBC/Other workers was more in UP (75.74% male and 24.26% female), followed by Gujarat (72.68% male and 27.32% female) than in Assam (71.36% male and 28.64% female), Tamil Nadu (65.18% male and 34.82% female) and MP (63.81% male and 36.19% female).

The percentage of SC workers was slightly more in UP (52.41% male and 47.59% female), followed by MP (52.09% male and 47.91% female), Gujarat (51.79% male and 48.21% female), Assam (51.33% male and 48.67% female) and Tamil Nadu (49.9% male and 50.1% female). The ST workers were slightly more in UP – especially male 64.41% and female 3 5.59%, followed by Assam (60.77% male and 39.23% female), then in Gujarat (57.37% male and 42.63% female), MP (53.74% male and 46.26% female) and Tamil Nadu (55.3% male and 44.7% female) as shown in table 4.

This shows that the percentage of male and female workers among all SC, ST, and OBC/Other categories of social groups are more in the state of Uttar Pradesh compared to Assam, MP, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu. The nature and type of work, these workers are involved in - draw attention to whether the wages paid to them are sufficient to maintain their decent living standards in the society or keeping them just hand to mouth in the state.

| Table 4. State-wise Percentage Distribution of Total Workers						
States	OBC/Other		S C		ST	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
All India	68.89	31.11	51.41	48.59	55.59	44.41
Uttar Pradesh	75.74	24.26	52.41	47.59	64.41	35.59
Assam	71.36	28.64	51.33	48.67	60.77	39.23
Madhya Pradesh	63.81	36.19	52.09	47.91	53.74	46.26
Gujarat	72.68	27.32	51.79	48.21	57.37	42.63
Tamil Nadu	65.18	34.82	49.9	50.1	55.3	44.7
Source: Census 2011						

3.6. Non-Workers among 60+ SC, ST, and OBC/Other:

According to the 2011 census, 60+ elderly non-worker population in India were found 8.32% among OBC/Other social groups, 7.21% among SCs, and 6.11% among the ST people in India.

In the selected states, 60+ non-worker population of OBC/Other were more in Uttar Pradesh 1.11% followed by 0.58% in Tamil Nadu then 0.42% in Gujarat, 0.41% in Madhya Pradesh, and 0.16% in Assam. 60+ non worker population of SC category were more in UP (1.28%) followed by Tamil Nadu (0.48%) then in MP (0.36%), Gujarat (0.17%) and Assam (0.08%). But 60+ non workers of ST category were found more in MP (0.73%) followed by Gujarat (0.49%), Assam (0.20%), UP (0.07%) and Tamil Nadu (0.04%) as shown in chart 3.

From these findings, it could be stated that 60+ non-workers elderly populations are more among the OBC/Other population compared to SC and ST elderly in India. In UP state 60+ OBC/Other and SC, the non-worker population is more compared to the selected other states. But, the 60+ non-worker ST populations are more in MP state. This is because of a higher percentage of the tribal population in MP.

CHART 3. 60+ SC, ST AND OBC/OTHERS NON WORKERS IN INDIA 2011
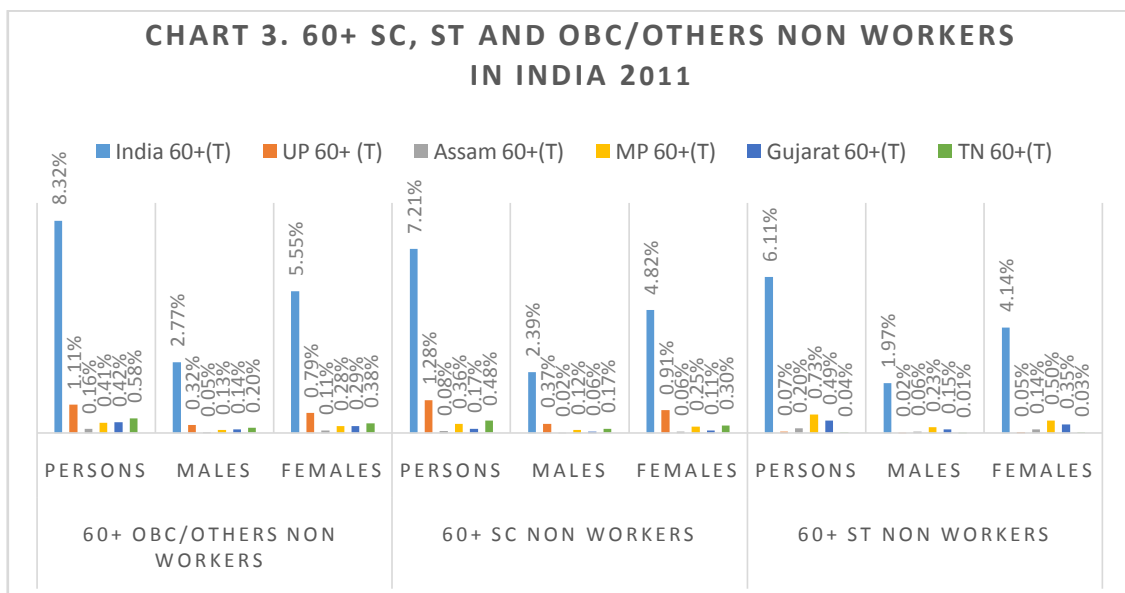
3.7. Household Duties among 60+ SC, ST and OBC/Other:

In India 60+ elderly performing household duties were found 2.29% (male 0.12% and female 2.16%) among OBC/Other population, 1.77% (0.11% male and 1.67% female)among SC and 1.06% (0.09% male and 0.97% female) among the ST people. Female elderly doing household duties were considerably higher than male elderly in all social groups (OBC/Other/SC/ST) in India.

State wise, 60+ elderly performing household duties among OBC/Other population were more in Uttar Pradesh (0.43%) followed by Tamil Nadu (0.13%) and Gujarat (0.13%) then in MP (0.10%) and Assam (0.05%). Similarly, 60+ SC population involved in household duties were more in UP (0.46%) followed by Tamil Nadu (0.08%), MP (0.07%), Gujarat (0.05%) and Assam (0.02%). But 60+ ST population doing household duties were more in Gujarat (0.11%) followed by MP (0.09%) then in Assam (0.06%), UP {0.02%) and Tamil Nadu (0.01%) as shown in table 5.

This shows that 60+ OBC/Other and SC population involved in household duties are more in Uttar Pradesh compared to other selected states. While 60+ ST population engaged in the household duties are found more in the state of Gujarat as compared to other selected states. The tribal elderly are doing the household duties in Gujarat, probably due to their better socio-economic conditions in the state.

| Table 5. 60+ SC, ST and OBC/Others Household duties in India 2011								
	60+ OBC/Others			60+ SC			60+ ST		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
India 60+(T)	2.29%	0.12%	2.16%	1.77%	0.11%	1.67%	1.06%	0.09%	0.97%
UP 60+ (T)	0.43%	0.02%	0.41%	0.46%	0.03%	0.44%	0.02%	0.00%	0.02%
Assam 60+(T)	0.05%	0.00%	0.04%	0.02%	0.00%	0.02%	0.06%	0.00%	0.05%
MP 60+(T)	0.10%	0.00%	0.09%	0.07%	0.00%	0.07%	0.09%	0.01%	0.08%
Gujarat 60+(T)	0.13%	0.00%	0.12%	0.05%	0.00%	0.05%	0.11%	0.00%	0.11%
TN 60+(T)	0.13%	0.01%	0.12%	0.08%	0.00%	0.08%	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%

3.8. Dependents among 60+ SC, ST and OBC/Other:

According to census 2011, the 60+ dependents in India were 3.89% (male 1.32% and female 2.57%) among the OBC/Other social groups, 3.61% (male 1.22% and female 2.29%) among SC population, and 3.44% (male 1.11% and female 2.33%) among the ST people as shown in chart 4. Elderly female dependants were more than the male dependants in India.

State wise, 60+ OBC/Other dependants were more in UP (0.45%) followed by Tamil Nadu (0.31%), Gujarat (0.24%), MP (0.20%) and Assam (0.08%). Similarly, 60+ SC dependants were more in UP (0.54%) followed by Tamil Nadu (0.28%) then in MP (0.19%), Gujarat (0.10%) and in Assam (0.04%). But 60+ ST dependants were found more in MP (0.44%) followed by Gujarat (0.33%) then in Assam (0.10%), UP (0.03%) and Tamil Nadu (0.02%).

It could be stated that 60+ dependents from SC and OBC/Other social groups are more in the state of Uttar Pradesh compared to other selected states, while the 60+ ST dependants are found more in the state of Madhya Pradesh. It might be due to their strength of more population and socio-economic and socio-cultural reasons of the state.

CHART 4. 60+ SC, ST AND OBC/OTHERS DEPENDENTS IN INDIA 2011
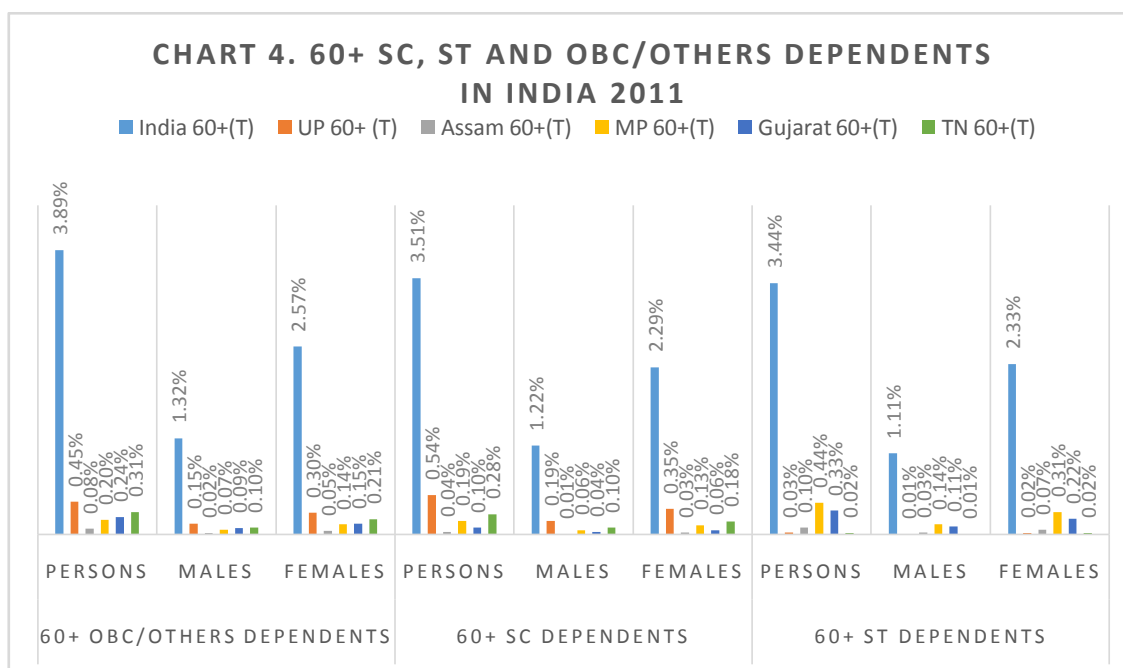
3.9. Pensioners among 60+ SC, ST and OBC/Other:

60+ elderly pensioners in 2011 census were 1.50% persons (male o.92% and female 0.58%) among OBC/Other category of social groups, 1.36% persons (male 0.73% and female 0.63%) among SCs and 1.17% persons (male 0.52% and female 0.65%) among ST population as shown in table 6.

It shows that 60+ OBC/Other pensioners were more than the 60+ SC and ST population in India. The 60+ female pensioners were relatively more than male among ST while male pensioners were more than female among the SC and OBC/Other social groups.

State wise, 60+ OBC/Other pensioners were found more in UP (0.13%) followed by Tamil

Nadu (0.10%) than in MP (0.08%), Gujarat (0.04%) and Assam (0.03%). Similarly, 60+ SC pensioners were also found more in UP (0.16%) followed by Tamil Nadu (0.09%) than in MP (0.08%), Gujarat (0.02%) and Assam (0.01%). But 60+ ST pensioners were found more in MP (0.14%) followed by Gujarat (0.03%), then in Assam (0.02%), Tamil Nadu (0.01%) and UP (0.01%).

Thus, it could be mentioned that elderly SC and OBC/Other pensioners are more in the state of UP while the 60+ ST pensioners are more in the state of MP. These elderly people might be getting old-age pensions provided by the governments through different schemes in the state.

Table 6. 60+ SC, ST and OBC/Others Pensioners in India 2011								
	60+ OBC/Others Pensioners			60+ SC Pensioners			60+ ST Pensioners		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
India 60+(T)	1.50%	0.92%	0.58%	1.36%	0.73%	0.63%	1.17%	0.52%	0.65%
UP 60+ (T)	0.13%	0.08%	0.05%	0.16%	0.08%	0.08%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%
Assam 60+(T)	0.03%	0.02%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%	0.02%	0.01%	0.01%
MP 60+(T)	0.08%	0.05%	0.03%	0.08%	0.04%	0.04%	0.14%	0.06%	0.08%
Gujarat 60+(T)	0.04%	0.03%	0.01%	0.02%	0.02%	0.00%	0.03%	0.02%	0.01%
TN 60+(T)	0.10%	0.07%	0.04%	0.09%	0.05%	0.04%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%

3.10. Rentiers among 60+ SC, ST and OBC/Others:

It was recorded in the 2011 census that 60+ elderly rentiers were 0.05% persons (male 0.03% and female 0.02%) among the OBC/Other social group, 0.02% persons (male 0.01% and

female 0.01%) among SCs and 0.02% persons (male 0.01% and female 0.01%) among the ST people in India. None of the 60+ elderly rentiers among SC, ST, and OBC/Others social groups was found in the state of Assam, UP, MP, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu in 2011 as shown in table 7.

Table 7. Rentiers among 60+ SC, ST and OBC/Other in India 2011								
	OBC/Other			SC			ST		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
India 60+(T)	0.05%	0.03%	0.02%	0.02%	0.01%	0.01%	0.02%	0.01%	0.01%
UP 60+ (T)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Assam 60+(T)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
MP	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

60+(T)									
Gujarat 60+(T)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
TN 60+(T)	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

3.11. Other Activities among 60+ SC, ST and OBC/Other:

According to census 2011, Other Activities were classified as one category of the workforce in India. 60+ elderly workforce involved in other activities were 0.42% persons (male 0.29% and female 0.14%) among the OBC/Other, 0.38% persons (male 0.23% and female 0.15%) among SCs and 0.29% persons (male 0.17% and female 0.11%) among ST people in India. As observed 60+ elderly involved in other activities were more among OBC/Other than SC and ST categories of people in India.

State-wise, 60+ OBC/Other elderly involved in other activities were relatively more in UP (0.06%) followed by Tamil Nadu (0.03%) than in MP (0.02%), Gujarat (0.01%), and Assam (0.01%). Similarly, 60+ SC elderly involved in other activities were also more in UP (0.07%) followed by Tamil Nadu (0.03%) than in MP (0.02%) and Gujarat (0.01%). While 60+ ST elderly involved in other activities were more in MP (0.03%) followed by Gujarat (0.01%) and Assam (0.01%) as shown in table 8.

It shows that 60+ elderly OBC/Other and SC workforces involved in other activities are more in the state of UP, while 60+ ST elderly involved in other activities are more in the state of MP. It displays that the nature and trend of workforces involved in different types of works depend on the total strength of the population in the state.

Table 8. 60+ SC, ST and OBC/Others on Others Activities in India 2011									
	60+ OBC/Others on Others Activities			60+ SC Others Activities			60+ ST Others Activities		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
India 60+(T)	0.42%	0.29%	0.14%	0.38%	0.23%	0.15%	0.29%	0.17%	0.11%
UP 60+(T)	0.06%	0.04%	0.02%	0.07%	0.05%	0.02%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Assam 60+(T)	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%
MP 60+(T)	0.02%	0.01%	0.01%	0.02%	0.01%	0.01%	0.03%	0.02%	0.01%
Gujarat 60+(T)	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%
TN 60+(T)	0.03%	0.02%	0.01%	0.03%	0.02%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

3.12. Unemployment among SC, ST, OBC, and Other:

National Sample Survey (NSS) Report on Employment & Unemployment Situation among Social Groups (2012) established the unemployment rate (number of persons unemployed per 1000 persons in the labour force) for persons of age 15 years and above according to the usual status of different general educational levels for each social group in India as shown in table 9.

Table 9	General Educational Level in India								
Social Group	Not Literate	Liter- ate And Up To Primary	Middle	Secondary	Higher Secondary	Diploma/ Certificate	Graduate	Post Graduate And Above	Secondary And Above	All
Rural male										
ST	1	15	24	46	28	27	115	21	49	16
SC	3	13	25	33	48	73	60	57	43	17
OBC	5	8	11	14	28	78	78	37	31	13
others	6	8	19	19	40	119	48	62	35	20
all (incl. n.r.)	3	10	18	21	35	90	65	52	35	16
Rural female										
ST	0	15	26	33	53	30	269	280	61	9
SC	0	10	36	71	127	313	397	78	134	15
OBC	0	2	26	40	150	435	169	234	120	15
others	0	4	11	47	188	275	188	167	123	25
all (incl..)	0	5	23	47	153	331	211	184	118	16
Rural person										
ST	0	15	25	44	33	28	136	52	51	14
SC	2	13	27	41	58	120	109	62	58	16
OBC	2	6	15	18	44	153	93	88	43	13
others	4	7	18	24	61	146	66	80	48	22
all (incl. n.r.)	2	9	18	26	51	138	86	80	48	17
Urban male										
ST	0	28	41	25	124	72	83	20	69	45
SC	8	27	29	31	55	100	47	34	44	29
OBC	10	13	21	24	45	55	57	58	42	27
others	14	14	28	16	38	40	34	43	30	27
all (incl. n.r.)	10	16	26	22	45	53	42	46	36	28
Urban female										
ST	0	0	14	121	170	221	117	227	150	42
SC	3	4	54	71	159	88	210	138	134	43
OBC	8	8	28	133	113	123	212	244	169	62
others	7	8	50	121	102	63	83	63	87	65
all (incl. n.r.)	9	5	37	118	113	94	135	112	122	57
Urban person										
ST	0	22	36	42	129	98	91	86	84	45
SC	6	22	33	37	68	97	82	53	59	32
OBC	9	12	23	35	54	67	86	99	60	34
others	12	13	32	26	46	43	42	48	39	33
all (incl. n.r.)	9	15	28	32	52	61	58	61	49	33
Source: NSS report no.543.Employment & unemployment situation among Social groups 2012										

Table 9 shows that the ST unemployment rate per 1000 population was more with Graduate (136), followed by postgraduate and above (52), then secondary and above (51), secondary (44), higher secondary (33), diploma/certificate (28), middle (25) and literate and up to primary (15) levels of education in rural India.

While SC unemployment rate per 1000 population was more with diploma/certificate (120) followed by graduate (109), then postgraduate and above (62), secondary and above (58), higher secondary (58), secondary (41), middle (27), literate and up to primary (13) and not literate (2) levels of education in rural India.

Similarly, OBC unemployment rate per 1000 population was more with diploma/certificate (153) followed by graduate (93), then postgraduate and above (88), higher secondary (44), secondary and above (43), secondary (18), middle (15), literate and up to primary (6) and not literate (2) levels of education in rural India.

For Others unemployment rate per 1000 population was also more with diploma/certificate (146) followed by postgraduate and above (80) then graduate (66), higher secondary (61), secondary and above (48), secondary (24), middle (18), literate and up to primary (7) and not literate (4) levels of education in rural India.

In urban India the ST unemployment rate per 1000 population was more with secondary (129) followed by diploma/certificate (98), then graduate (91), postgraduate and above (86), secondary and above (84), secondary (42), higher, middle (36) and literate and up to primary (22) levels of education.

For the urban SC unemployment rate per 1000 population was more with diploma/certificate (97), followed by graduate (82) then higher secondary (68), secondary and above (59), postgraduate and above (53), secondary (37) middle (33), literate and up to primary (22) and not literate (6) levels of education in India.

The OBC unemployment rate per 1000 population was more with postgraduate and above (99) followed by graduate (86) then diploma/certificate (67), secondary and above (60), higher secondary (54), secondary (35) middle (23), literate and up to primary (12) and not literate (9) levels of education in urban India.

In urban India, the Others unemployment rate per 1000 population was more with postgraduate and above (48) followed by higher secondary (46), then diploma/certificate (43), graduate (42), secondary and above (39), secondary (26) middle (32), literate and up to primary (13) and not literate (12) levels of education.

Thus, the nature of unemployment could be stated that in the rural area ST unemployment rate (136) per 1000 population has been confined more with Graduate, while SC unemployment (120), OBC unemployment rate(153) and Others unemployment rate(146) per 1000 population have been recorded more with diploma/certificate levels of education. But, in the urban area, the ST unemployment rate (129) per 1000 population has been found more with a secondary level of education, while SC unemployment rate (97) per 1000 population has been recorded more with diploma/certificate level of education. Whereas, the OBC unemployment rate (99) and Others unemployment rate (48) per 1000 population has been tagged more with the postgraduate and above level of education in the urban areas.

3.13. Migration rate for different Social Groups:

Due to employment reasons, people have been getting migrated from one place to another. The National Sample Survey Report on Migration in India has established the migration rate for different social groups (number of migrants per 1000 persons of each social group for each category of persons during 2007-08) as shown in table 10.

Table 10: Migration rate for different social groups (Number of migrants per 1000 persons of each social group for each category of persons during 2007-08) in India						
Social group	Rural			Urban		
	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female	Person
55th round (1999-2000)						
scheduled tribe	56	357	204	282	411	345
scheduled caste	64	434	244	225	393	305
other backward class	65	428	242	237	417	323
others	81	443	259	276	426	347

All (incl. n.r.)	69	426	244	257	418	334
64th round (2007-08)						
scheduled tribe	47	440	238	288	430	356
scheduled caste	49	482	260	235	447	337
other backward class	51	468	255	230	437	331
others	68	506	281	290	477	379
All (incl. n.r.)	**54**	**477**	**261**	**259**	**456**	**354**

Source: NSS Report No. 533: Migration in India, NSS 64[th]Round (July 2007 – June 2008), MOSPI

According to the 64th round (2007-08) of NSS report, the number of migrants per 1000 population increased from 244 (55th round during 1999-2000) to 261 in a rural area, while the same increased from 334 to 354 per 1000 population in the urban areas.

ST migrants (238) were less than OBC (255) followed by SC (260) per 1000 population in the rural area. Whereas, in the urban area ST migrants (356) were more than SC (337) followed by OBC migrants (331) per 1000 population. The migrants of ST, SC, and OBC social groups were marginally increased from 55th round during (1999-2000) to 64th round (2007-08).

From the data shown above, it could be stated that the ST migrants are less than OBC followed by SC per 1000 population in the rural area. But in the urban area, ST migrants are more than SC followed by OBC migrants per 1000 population. This variation has been emerging because of employment reasons, the tribal people are migrating into urban areas in India.

3.14. Crimes Committed against Elderly People in India:

Due to poverty, unemployment, migration, and other social and familial reasons, the crimes committed - especially against senior citizens have been precipitated in India. Incidence of crimes committed in India against senior citizens had been reported by the National Crime Record Bureau, 2016 as shown in table 11.

State/UT	The population of Senior citizens (in lakhs)	Total cognizable IPC crimes Against Senior Citizens		
		Incidence	Victims	Rate
Assam	20.8	6	6	0.3
Gujarat	47.9	496	497	10.4
Madhya Pradesh	57.1	3877	3900	67.9
Tamil Nadu	75.1	2895	3207	38.5
Uttar Pradesh	154.4	621	624	4.0
INDIA	**1024.6**	**21410**	**22040**	**20.6**

Table 11. State/UT-Wise Incidence of Crimes Committed in India Against Senior Citizens During 2016

Source: National Crime Record Bureau, 2016, Crime in India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi

As per table 11, there was a total of 1024.6 lakhs, senior citizens, in India. But about five sample states, Uttar Pradesh was having more senior citizens 154.4 lakhs followed by Tamil Nadu 75.1 lakhs, Madhya Pradesh 57.1 lakhs, Gujarat 47.9 lakhs, and Assam 20.8 lakhs.

Total incidences of cognizable IPC crime against senior citizens were 21,410, victims were 22,040 and the rate was 20.6 in India. In the sample states, the maximum incidence was 3877 in Madhya Pradesh followed by Tamil Nadu 2895,

Uttar Pradesh 621, Gujarat 496, and Assam only 6 incidences.

The maximum victims of cognizable IPC crime against senior citizens in the five sample states were 3900 in Madhya Pradesh followed by Tamil Nadu 3207, Uttar Pradesh 624, Gujarat 497, and Assam only 6 incidences.

The rate of total cognizable IPC crimes against senior citizens was high 67.9 in Madhya

Pradesh, followed by 38.5 in Tamil Nadu, 10.4 in Gujarat, 4.0 in Uttar Pradesh, and 0.6 in Assam.

This clearly shows that Madhya Pradesh has got the highest number of total cognizable IPC crimes against senior citizens followed by Tamil Nadu which is a severe concern for both states. It means, hardly any systematic efforts have been undertaken to understand the root causes of the

problems of crimes against elderly people in the state.

3.15. Incidence of Crimes against Elderly Tribal in India:

Among all social groups, the ST category of the population has been seen at the lower level of all developmental indicators in society. Incidences of crimes against ST elderly people had been recorded by the National Crime Record Bureau in 2016 as shown in table 12.

Table 12. State/UT-Wise Incidence of Crimes Committed in India Against Elderly Tribal During 2016				
State/UT	**Incidence**	**% Contribution To All India Total**	**Population of STs (in Lakhs)**	**Rate Of Total Cognizable Crimes**
Assam	1	0.0	38.8	0.0
Gujarat	281	4.3	89.2	3.2
Madhya Pradesh	1823	27.8	153.2	11.9
Tamil Nadu	19	0.3	7.9	2.4
Uttar Pradesh	4	0.1	11.3	0.4
INDIA	**6568**	**100.0**	**1042.8**	**6.3**
Source: National Crime Record Bureau, 2016, Crime in India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi				

Table 12 shows that as compared to five sample states, the incidence of crimes committed against elderly tribal was highest in Madhya Pradesh (1823) followed by Gujarat (281), Tamil Nadu (19) Uttar Pradesh (4), and Assam (1). The rate of total cognizable crimes was also highest in Madhya Pradesh (11.9), followed by Gujarat (3.2), Tamil Nadu (2.4), and Uttar Pradesh (0.4), while the same crime rate against elderly tribal was 6.3 in India.

It could be stated that the incidence of crimes committed for elderly tribal is highest in Madhya Pradesh as compared to other sample states. Because, the percentage of the tribal

population is also higher in Madhya Pradesh including its higher percentage of poverty, illiteracy, and socio-economic backwardness.

3.16. Elderly Beggars and Vagrants

Begging and vagrant activities are the results of poverty, unemployment, and the absence of social security in society. Elderly people are more vulnerable in these circumstances. Therefore, the Government of India enumerated the individuals and established the prevalence of elderly beggars and vagrants in census 2011 as shown in table 13.

Table 13. Distribution of Elderly Beggars and Vagrants by Age Group in India									
Age Group	Total			Rural			Urban		
	Person	**Male**	**Female**	**Person**	**Male**	**Female**	**Person**	**Male**	**Female**
India Total	372217	197725	174492	236850	118048	118802	135367	79677	55690
All Total	100.00%	53.12%	46.88%	63.63%	31.71%	31.92%	36.37%	21.41%	14.96%
60-69	20.27%	9.50%	10.77%	8.55%	5.73%	7.86%	6.68%	3.77%	2.29%
70-79	13.14%	6.24%	6.90%	9.31%	4.09%	5.23%	3.83%	2.15%	1.67%
80 +	5.15%	2.56%	2.59%	3.67%	1.75%	1.92%	1.48%	0.81%	0.68%
60+	38.56%	18.30%	20.26%	26.58%	11.57%	15.01%	11.99%	6.73%	5.25%

Source: Census of India, 2011

The census of 2011 enumerated that 38.56% beggars and vagrants of its total were 60 + elderly people. Female elderly were more than males (18.30% males and 20.26% females) in India. In the rural area, the elderly beggars and vagrants were more 26.58% (11.57% males and 15.01% females) than in the urban area 11.99%

(6.73% males and 5.25% females) as seen in chart 5.

It could be mentioned that 60+ elderly beggars and vagrants are more than 1/3 of its total population. They are also more than double in a rural area, among them females are higher in percentage than males. Elderly female beggars and vagrants are a serious matter in the states.

CHART 5. DISTRIBUTION OF ELDERLY BEGGARS AND VAGRANTS BY AGE GROUP IN INDIA
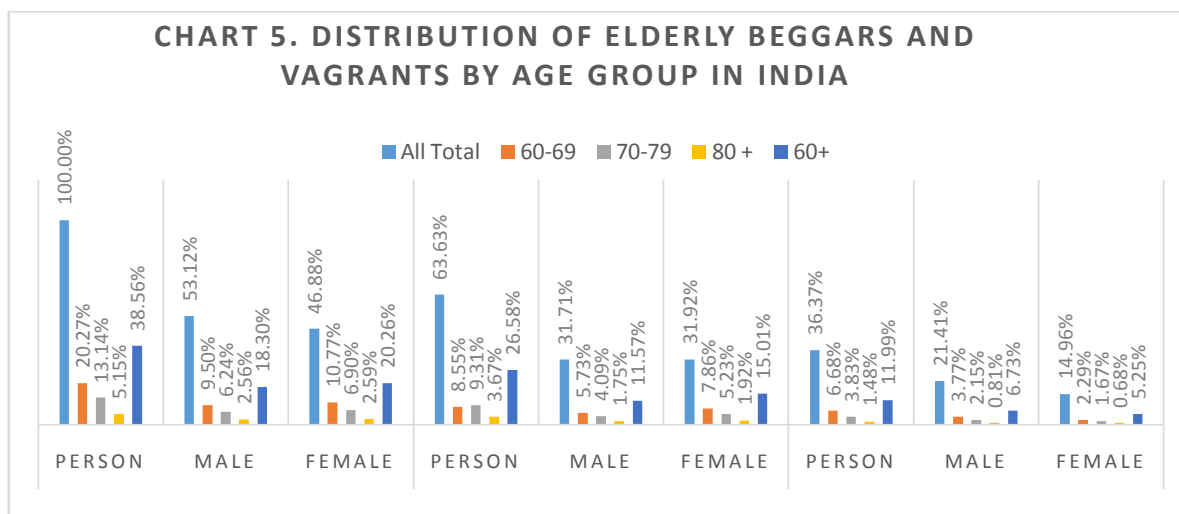
3.17. Beggars & Vagrants among 60+ SC, ST and OBC/Others in selected States:

As observed in table 13 there was 0.02% of beggars and vagrants among 60+ OBC/Others, 0.03% beggars and vagrants among 60+ SC

elderly, and 0.02% beggars and vagrants among 60+ ST elderly population in India. None of beggars and vagrants among all three categories of social groups was found in the selected states of Assam, UP, MP, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu in 2011.

Table 13. 60+ SC, ST, and OBC/Others Beggars, Vagrants in India 2011								
	60+ OBC/Others Beggars, Vagrants, etc.			60+ SC Beggars, Vagrants, etc.			60+ ST Beggars, Vagrants, etc.		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
India 60+(T)	0.02%	0.01%	0.01%	0.03%	0.01%	0.02%	0.02%	0.01%	0.01%
UP 60+ (T)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Assam 60+(T)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
MP 60+(T)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Gujarat 60+(T)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
TN 60+(T)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

3.18. Health Disability among Elderly SC, ST, and OBC/Other:

According to the 2011 census, 60+ disabled population in India were found 20.05% persons (male 10.12% and female 9.93%) among OBC/Other, 19.21% (male 9.73% and female 9.49%) among SCs and 21.93% persons (male 10.29% and female 11.63%) among the ST population as shown in table 14.

	Table 14. 60+ SC,ST and OBC/Others Disabled Population in India 2011								
Age-group	OBC/Other Total number of disabled persons			SC Total number of disabled persons			ST Total number of disabled persons		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	**Persons**	Males	Females
60+ (IND)	20.05%	10.12%	9.93%	19.21%	9.73%	9.49%	21.93%	10.29%	11.63%
60+ (UP)	2.47%	1.31%	1.15%	3.06%	1.61%	1.45%	0.17%	0.09%	0.07%
60+ (ASS)	0.40%	0.19%	0.20%	0.18%	0.08%	0.09%	0.56%	0.28%	0.29%
60+ (MP)	1.24%	0.62%	0.63%	1.29%	0.64%	0.65%	2.72%	1.28%	1.44%
60+ (Guj)	0.71%	0.34%	0.37%	0.32%	0.15%	0.16%	1.01%	0.48%	0.53%
60+ (TN)	0.71%	0.39%	0.32%	0.72%	0.40%	0.33%	0.09%	0.04%	0.03%

In the selected states, 60+ OBC/Other disabled population were more in UP (2.47%) followed by MP (1.24%) then in Gujarat (0.71%), Tamil Nadu (0.71%) and Assam (0.40%). 60+ SC disabled population were more than OBC/Other disabled as found 3.06% in UP, 1.29% in MP, 0.72% in Tamil Nadu, 0.32% in Gujarat, and only 0.18% in Assam. While 60+ ST disabled population were more than SC and OBC/Other disabled as it was observed 2.72% in MP, 1.01% in Gujarat, 0.56% in Assam, 0.17 in UP, and 0.09% in Tamil Nadu.

It shows that the 60+ ST people are having more disabilities than SC and OBC/Other categories. In the selected state, disabilities among SC and OBC/Other are more in UP while 60+ ST disabled people are in MP as compared to the other four states.

IV. DISCUSSION:

Poverty has been established as a root cause of the socio-economic and educational backwardness of the people in India. This is an imperative determinant in the rural and tribal areas. It has also been considered without eradicating poverty no society can progress towards all-around development. Therefore, the Government of India had undertaken a number of poverty-removing policies and programs in its Five Year Plan periods. But the Fifth Five Year Plan (1974-1979) had mainly focused on the elimination of poverty (GaribiHatao). Later on, the eradication of poverty was the core objective of the Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-1985). Thereafter, the"Indira Gandhi Nation Old Age Pension Scheme" was launched in 1995 and the "Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act" was implemented in 2005 (Planning Commission, 2012). But the poverty has not been removed from Indian soil.

Despite the facts, in India, the percentage of the population living below the poverty line has been counted as 47.3% among ST people, 36.8% among SC population, 26.7% among OBCs, and 16.1% among other people in the rural area. While 33.3% of ST, 39.9% of SC, 31.4% of OBC, and 16% of Others population have been living below the poverty line in the urban areas (Planning Commission Report, 2012). The lower class of Rs. 0-410/- Minimum Per Capita Expenditure (MPCE) is highest among STs followed by SCs, then OBCs and others per 1000 population in the rural areas. The higher class of Rs. 1155/-and above MPCE is also seen very less among STs followed by SCs than OBCs and Others in the rural areas. But, in the urban area the lower class of Rs. 0-675/- MPCE is more among SCs followed by OBCs than STs and Others per 1000 population While the higher class of Rs. 2540/- and above MPCE is very less among STs and SCs followed by OBCs and Others per 1000 population in the urban areas.

This implies that the consequences due to poverty are prevalent among ST and SC populations in both rural and urban areas. ST people living below the poverty line are highest in Madhya Pradesh. But SC and OBC people living below the poverty line are highest in Uttar Pradesh as compared to other selected states.

The impact of poverty has been seen in the field of education. As noted that 60+ elderly never attended educational institutions are more among SC and ST social groups compared to OBC/Other population in India. State-wise, these elderly from OBC/Other and SC category are more in the state of UP. While 60+ ST elderly never attended educational institutions are more in MP state.

In India, 60+ elderly illiterates have been seen as 4.84% persons among OBC/Others, 5.68% among SCs, and 5.35% persons among ST people in 2011. It shows 60+ SC and ST elderly are having more illiterates than the OBC/Others category of population in India. This qualifies the provisions of the reservation made in the Constitution of India for the SC and ST people. In the selected states 60+ OBC/Others and SC elderly illiterates are more in UP. But 60+ ST illiterates are more in MP. The concerned states need to take serious note of these facts and figures. So that appropriate policy strategies could be devised on education to overcome illiteracy issues in the states.

As observed illiteracy and economic dependence adversely affect the health of the elderly (Srivastava, Sharma, Gupta, Kaushal, &Chaturvedi, 2012). The lower educational level could also influence self-help knowledge and the way that a person seeks and gets medical assistance. (RenuTyagi and TattwamasiPaltasingh, 2017). Some other studies have shown pieces of evidence that low education is associated with poorer self-rated health, greater difficulties in performing daily activities, and poor quality of life (Hirve et al., 2010). However, other education levels give a clear picture of elderly people in India.

It has been established in a study that among 60+ elderly people 4.84% of OBC/Others, 5.68% of SC, and 5.35% of ST people are illiterates. This is certain, that a majority of SC & ST elderly illiterates have been carrying on their old age life within their given environment of health care services in rural and tribal areas. As stated by NabanitaDeka (2016) that lack of education and its facilities is one of the socio-economic causes of backwardness among Scheduled Caste people. The same insinuation appears to be more in the tribal population. Due to illiteracy, ignorance, and lack of health care facilities and health services, the tribal people are hardly getting the benefits of the modern concepts of health hygiene and sanitation.

According to the Census of 2011, the percentage distribution of total workers has been established as 68.89% male and 31.11% female among the OBC/Others, 51.41% male and 48.59% female among SC and 55.59% male and 44.41% female among the ST social groups. This shows the female workers are less than males among OBC/Other category compared to SC and ST population in India. It has also been observed that the percentage of male and female workers among all SC, ST, and OBC/Other categories are more in the state of Uttar Pradesh compared to Assam, MP, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu. Thus, it could be stated that the UP state has been contributing more to the workforce market in India but its dividends are reflected in other indicators like TFR, IMR, etc. of human development.

The Census of 2011 has recognized that 60+ elderly non-workers population are 8.32% persons among OBC/Others, 7.21% among SCs, and 6.11% persons among ST people in India. It shows that 60+ non-workers elderly populations are more among the OBC/Other categories of people as compared to SC and ST elderly in India. In UP state 60+ OBC/Others and SC non-worker populations are more as compared to the selected states of Assam, MP, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu. But, the 60+ non-workers among the ST population are more in MP state. In this context, it has been observed that the elderly who are not working at present have the highest prevalence of multiple health problems followed by minor health ailments, hypertension, and arthritis RenuTyagi and TattwamasiPaltasingh, 2017).

In India household duties for 60+ elderly have been calculated 2.29% persons (male 0.12% and female 2.16%) among OBC/Other population, 1.77% persons (0.11% male and 1.67% female) among SC and 1.06% person (0.09% male and 0.97% female) among the ST people. It clearly shows that the female elderly engaged in household duties are much higher than male elderly in all social groups (OBC/Other/SC/ST) in India. As observed that household duties for 60+ OBC/Others and SC population are more in Uttar Pradesh compared to other selected states. While the household duties among 60+ ST population are more in the state of Gujarat as compared to other selected states of Assam, UP, MP, and Tamil Nadu, though the percentage of tribal population is much more in Madhya Pradesh.

As census 2011 in India 60+ elderly dependents have been established as 3.89% persons (male 1.32% and female 2.57%) among the OBC/Other social groups, 3.61% persons (male 1.22% and female 2.29%) among SC population and 3.44% persons (male 1.11% and female 2.33%) among the ST population. This shows that 60+ elderly female dependants are more than the male dependants in India. It could be stated that 60+ dependents from SC and OBC/Other social groups are more in the state of Uttar Pradesh compared to other selected states, while the 60+ ST dependents are more in the state of Madhya Pradesh.

This dependency has several implications for older people. In this context, MoneerAlam briefly presents a few specific details about the older population (60 years and above), particularly their economic dependence and habits of certain things with its likely repercussions on later life and health. He also talks about the trends in self-perceived health morbidity and disability conditions of the older population (Alam M and Tyagi R P, 2009). But, the study findings of RenuTyagi and TattwamasiPaltasingh (2017) reveal that there is an increase in the old-age dependency ratio and a decline in the health status of elderly people in coming decades.

60+ elderly pensioners have been recorded in the 2011 census as 1.50% persons among OBC/Other population, 1.36% persons belonging to SC, and 1.17% persons among ST people in India. It shows that 60+ OBC/Other pensioners are more than the 60+ SC and ST pensioners in India. As observed that SC and OBC/Other pensioners are more in the state of UP, while the 60+ ST pensioners are more in the state of MP. In this regard, it has been stated that little incomes and poverty among elderly people tend to be tenacious, rather than transitory (Department for Work and Pensions, 2004).It also provides information on the accumulated sum of past saving and borrowing if the pensioners have, it can provide measures of lifetime living standards. However, it is not so straightforward to save sufficient to provide an income for old age. In Britain, the Pensions Commission (2004) recognizes that there are no easy options, there are major barriers to sufficient voluntary saving. A problem for the health and social services is to find resources to do preventive work alongside management of existing disease, disability, and care needs. However, retirement stands out as a key period of transition when thinking about social determinants of health in older age (Banks J and Casanova M, 2003).

In the 2011 census, 60+ elderly involved in other activities have been counted as 0.42%

persons among the OBC/Others, 0.38% persons among SC population, and 0.29% persons among ST people. This type of 60+ elderly involved in other activities is seen more among OBC/Others than SC and ST categories of people in India. In the selected states, 60+ OBC/Other and SC workforces involved in other activities are more in the state of UP, while 60+ ST people involved in other activities are more in the state of MP. It is also clear that the nature and trend of workforces involved in different types of activities depend on the total strength of the population in the states.

The marital status of the people plays a significant role in the life of people. 60+ elderly people never married have been counted in 2011 census as only 0.21% persons (0.12% male and 0.09% female) among OBC/Other population, 017% persons (0.10% males and 0.07% females) among SC population and 0.16% persons (0.08% males and 0.08% females) among the 60+ ST people in India. As observed never-married elderly people are more among the OBC/Other population compared to SC and ST people. These older people have been living single or living together or in a joint/extended family. The old-age health problems facing by these never-married elderly are precarious if they do not have money or purchasing power for health care and social support services. In the sampled states only 0.04% persons among 60+ OBC/Other population and 0.05% persons of 60+ SC elderly are found never married in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Rest states of Assam MP, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu are not having any never married 60+ elderly belonging to SC, ST, and OBC/Other categories. UP state is having never married the elderly probably due to socio-economic and socio-cultural reasons that need investigation/research.

60+ elderly people currently married have been detected 5.62% persons among OBC/Other population, 4.99% among the SC population, and 4.27% persons among the ST population in India. Among the 60+ OBC/Others and SC population, currently married is more in UP followed by Tamil Nadu then MP, Gujarat, and Assam. Currently married among 60+ ST population is more in MP followed by Gujarat then Assam, UP and Tamil Nadu. For the old age health problems, these currently married elderly people require a different set of strategies and plans of action, not like never-married elderly in the states. In a study, statistically, significant differences have been observed between mean scores of physical health, psychological health, social relationship, and environmental health between single and married elderly people. The mean QOL scores of these

domains are higher among married elderly people (Abhishek Gupta, Uday Mohan, Sarvada C. Tiwari, Shivendra K. Singh, Vijay K. Singh, 2014).

60+ elderly widowed people are counted as 2.71% persons (0.61% males and 2.08% females) among the OBC/Other, 2.61% persons (0.61% male and 1.99% female) among SC population and 2.39% persons (0.55% male and 1.85% female among the 60+ ST population in India. This shows that elderly females widowed are much more than male elderly. This qualifies that the life expectancy of the female is more than male. Among the 60+ OBC/Other and SC population, the widowed persons are more in the state of UP. While the widowed people among the 60+ ST population are more in the state of MP. It shows that the increased widowed depends on the increased number of its total population in the state. However, UP state has its Hindu religious and cultural tradition concerning female widowed in some places.

Due to poverty, unemployment, migration, and other social and familial factors, the crimes committed especially against senior citizens have been precipitated in India. Incidences of crimes committed in India against senior citizens had been reported by the National Crime Record Bureau, 2016. Madhya Pradesh has got the highest number of total cognizable IPC crimes against senior citizens followed by Tamil Nadu. The incidence of crimes committed for elderly tribal is also highest in Madhya Pradesh which is a severe concern for the tribal population in the state.

Elderly Beggars and Vagrants: The census of India 2011 has also enumerated a total of 372217 persons (197725 males and 174492 females) beggars and vagrants in the country. 38.56% beggars and vagrants of its total are 60 + elderly, their female elderly are more than males in India. In the rural area, the elderly beggars and vagrants are more than in the urban area. 60+ elderly beggars and vagrants are more than 1/3 of its total population. They are also more than double in a rural area, among them, females are the higher in percentage than males which is a serious concern about the 60+ females in India. However, Uttar Pradesh has got the highest percentage of males as well as total beggars and vagrants. But Assam has got the double females of its total beggars and vagrants. This draws the attention of investigation for both states of Assam and UP. On account of these social groups, it is interesting to note, why Tamil Nadu represents the highest percentage of 60+ SC beggars and vagrants while its SC population is much less than Uttar Pradesh and

Madhya Pradesh? This needs a thorough investigation and sociological research.

According to the 2011census, 60+ disabled people in India have been counted as 20.05% persons (male 10.12% and female 9.93%) among OBC/Other, 19.21% persons (male 9.73% and female 9.49%) among SC, and 21.93% persons (male 10.29% and female 11.63%) among the ST population. The 60+ ST people are having more disabilities than SC and OBC/Other categories of people in India. In the selected states, SC and OBC/Other disabled people are more in UP, while 60+ ST disabled people are in MP as compared to the other four states. This implies that the higher numbers of the population use to face poor socio-economic problems by leading to their poor health conditions and consequently generate more disabilities in the state. Similarly, it has been indicated by a study (World Bank, 2001) that the incidence of disability is significantly higher among elderly people in lower-income social groups.

In a study, it has been stated that the elderly, disabled persons are more in 60-69 age group and it has gradually been declining into other age groups such as 70-79, 80-89 and 90+ age group. This elderly, disability among the ST population is more in India. It has been stated that they have had hardly any access to any alternatives other than their traditional means of disability prevention, diagnosis, and cure for any of their diseases (Bala SM, 2009). The vulnerability of disabilities is highest in the rural areas - especially among the ST people followed by the SC population. This directly draws attention to the given rural health and education infrastructure development and its service provisions in India. Krycia et al (2014) have stated that social determinants of health challenges are not uniform across the country. Their study findings highlight striking inequities by geography, caste, and gender; rates or percentages for disadvantaged groups are in some cases worse now than they were for advantaged groups two decades ago. The significance of the same observation implies to the ST population in India as the percentage of ST elderly, disabled is much higher than the SC and OBC/Others elderly categories of the rural population. Therefore, for the policymakers, it is a serious matter as per as tribal health and development are concerned.

V. CONCLUSION:
The age structure of the population in India is getting changed due to the 'demographic transition'. The growth of the population has been

transforming the changing aspects of elderly aging and their levels of morbidity and mortality in different forms. But the sizable population living below the poverty line has been a serious concern in India. The dynamics of poverty and social determinants of elderly life are surfacing as challenging tasks. It is affecting the way of life of older people belonging to SC, ST, and OBC social groups. As the caste systems in India are inevitable not only for the social and economic development but also in the health care service development in the community.

It has been evident that the changing aspects of poverty relatively influence all other social determinants of the people living in rural, tribal, and urban circumstances. This has been prevailing in the social groups such as ST, SC, and OBC categories but the magnitude of poverty varies from one group to another. Therefore, in India, the percentage of the population living below the poverty line is more among ST people followed by SC population than OBC and Others category of people in the rural area. But, in the urban areas, it is more among the SC followed by ST population. Hence, the proportion of poverty is more prevalent among ST and SC populations in both rural and urban areas. ST people living below the poverty line are highest in Madhya Pradesh.

Ever since poverty is the key or directing factor, all other social determinants such as education, non-workers, unemployment, dependants, health disability, etc. shadow the level of poverty of the people. As observed that the elderly who never attended educational institutions are more among SC and ST social groups compared to OBC/Other population in India. State-wise, ST elderly never attended educational institutions are more in MP state. Non-workers among the 60+ ST population are also more in MP state. Similarly, the ST elderly people are having more disabilities than SC and OBC/Other categories of people in India. In the selected states, SC and OBC/Other disabled people are more in UP, while 60+ ST disabled people are in MP as compared to the other four states. Elderly ST widowed, the percentage of 60+ ST household duties, 60+ ST dependents, 60+ ST pensioners are more or higher in the state of MP. All these determining factors show the significant relationships with the magnitude of poverty existing in the states.

Apart from socio-economic and health implications emerging due to poverty, the crime against elderly people has been found significant in the social setting. Madhya Pradesh has got the highest number of total cognizable IPC crimes

against ST elderly. Consequently, the people living in rural and tribal areas continue to have worse indicators for human development and all other facets of life. Caste-based inequities are significantly prevalent amongst the SC and ST people, which are consistently predominant against humanity. However, their illiteracy level of education and living in backwardness implies a significant health risk to the elderly people and their healthy aging.

As poverty has been playing a dominant role in shaping all other social elements of life, the government should devise the poverty removing strategic plan of actions in such a way, so that societal facets - especially the inequalities among the elderly ST, SC and OBC getting shaped due to poverty can be controlled to a large extent. The ST people are the more vulnerable and disadvantaged social group. Particularly, the 60+ ST people who are mostly confined in the rural and remote tribal areas are indeed deprived of and put into trouble in accessing medical care and treatment facilities in the states like Madhya Pradesh. Disabilities in old age are susceptible to all forms of diseases, therefore, the special attention on policy decisions and strategic plans of action for the ST and SC population is of urgent need in rural and tribal areas.

Further, the old-age problems must be studied and understood concerning the wider socio-economic, socio-cultural, and biological behaviour of the aging population through multidisciplinary approaches for the effective, efficient, and quality elderly life in India. Special attention should also be given to generate information about different Jatis/castes (SCs, STs, and OBCs) because the Census of India 2011 has not classified these social groups and sub-groups except ST/SC for suitable measures by the State Governments as well as the Government in India.

VI. SUGGESTIONS:

Since poverty is the key determining factor of the life of the people, the government of India should ensure effective and efficient social security measures including an increased amount of old-age pension in order to remove poverty. As the problems of the elderly are varying from one state to another, the state government should devise a plan of action accordingly on a priority basis. The state of MP should have special attention to the ST elderly population and their felt needs, while the UP state should focus on the needs of the SC elderly population.

The government of India should devise an integrated educational program for the health care

of the elderly. It should have short and long-term measures to overcome the existing situation that emerged due to poverty, lack of educational environment, and socio-economic factors during their young age. Thus, elderly people can be empowered for their healthy aging and self-care with family supports and social security in the community.

Hence, a wider national-level research study may be conducted on the aging population. Since it is a vastly varied field, the study needs multidisciplinary approaches such as anthropology, sociology, psychology, and biology, etc. The ICSSR and ICMR should take the lead role in funding such research studies in the country.

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