

A CASE STUDY OF OLD AGE HOME IN SATARA CITY

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Introduction: In preindustrial societies, the elderly person had the high status. They were esteemed and used to have assumed position of power in family and society. They were treated as the community's experts. Traditionally the elderly person were looked after within the family and they were respected and honored. Their words were a command and when they progressed in age, they attained a consultative status. There were no sociological problems like loneliness and isolated from social life. Grandparents had a Storehouse of stories which they shared with the children. In many societies, however, the norms itself changed when industrialization occurred. The elderly lost their previous role and status. The growth of nuclear family system became so popular day by day and the social, economic and health problems of old age people are worsening. According to Indian census, the percentage of elderly person above 60 years has risen from 5.7% in 1960 to 7.7 in 2001.

These figures show that the percentage of 60+ years population will gradually increase day by day. As per 2011 census report, it is 11.11% increasing the percentage of old age people. The problems of old age gave the birth to Old Age Home. The first old age home was established in Mumbai in 1843. The second old age home was established in Pune in 1863. Now the number of old age homes are increasing day by day. 60+ old person are admitted in the old age home. Baba Amte established "Utharayan" Institute for the old people. Bhausaheb Firodia Old age Home is famous in Ahmednagar, "Shradhanand" old age home is ideal old age home in Vasai. 26 old age homes are running under the Matoshri Vrudhshram Yojana in Maharashtra. One of them is in Satara at Mahagaon. Satara city is known as pensioner's city. Most of the senior citizens are interested to live in Satara after their retirement. So A Case Study of Old Age Home in Satara City is the subject of present paper

Objectives:-

- 1) To study the administration of the Old Age Home.
- 2) To study the background of the old age people.
- 3) To understand Socio-Economic condition of the old age people.

Hypothesis

- 1) Industrialization gave birth to old age home.
- 2) In the modern age, percentage of old people is increasing.
- 3) Social, Economic and physical are the main problems of the old people.

Methodology:- The paper is mainly based on the data collected from interviews with schedule and fieldwork observation.

Administration of the old age home. – Late Josef Farnandis was working in mill at Bombay. After his retirement in 1972 he established Sevashram Institution in Sangli for deserted old people. He expended his entire provident fund for this sanstha. After his death Prof. Sharad Patil took this work in his hand. He developed the work of late Farnandis. He started another branch of the sanstha in Miraj near Sangli for leprosy patients.

Bhartiya Janata Party and Shivsena government announced to start Matoshri Old Age Homes in 26 District, when their government was established in 1994. One of them is Matoshri Old Age Home at Mahagaon which is 10 km away from Satara city. But unfortunately old age home was not started. The construction of old age home was also incomplete. But in 2007 government of Maharashtra (Satara), have to start this old age homes, but no funds will be provided for the same. Sevashram Sanstha's Prof. Sharad Patil accepted this challenge and took charge of Matoshri Old Age Home of Mahagaon (Satara) in

2007. Only three elders were admitted in the first year. Reference. Day by day number of elders increased. Sevashram Sanstha took much more efforts to run this old age home. They provided various facilities for the elders. Now they have provided residential facility for 50 elders. Two buildings of their own complete in which one is for male and the other is for female. The campus of this old age home is two hectares. Surrounding and atmosphere of this old age home is calm, quiet and picturesque. There are various kinds of trees in the campus. All the elders take care of the trees. They grow various types of the crops in the field.

Now twenty three elders are living in the old age home. Shri. Sagar, the care taker of the old age home is working honestly and carefully. He takes care very carefully of the elders. His wife cooks meal for the elders. Some old women help her in cooking willingly. Following are the conditions for the admission of the elders-

- 1) Residential proof.
- 2) Age proof.
- 3) Medical Certificate.
- 4) Income proof.

The monthly fees for the old people is only rupees 500/- Those who have no relatives, helpless and no sources of income can also get admission at free of charge. The age limit for male is above 60 years and for female is above 55 years. They get tea for three times, breakfast for one time and meal for two times per day. In other facilities they can get hot water, cot bed, medical facility etc. Radio T.V. is also made available for their Entertainment. The expenditure of the old age homes is run successfully without any fund from government. Free handed donors visit to the old age home time to time and donate in cash and in various type of goods. Today eleven elders are living free of charge in the old age home.

Days like 15 August, Independence Day and 26 January Republic day, 1 October International Senior citizen day, are celebrated in the old age home.

Social Economic condition of the Elders. 23 elders are living in old age home out of them 18 elders are in the age group of 60-70 years. 4 are in the 71 to 80 and one female is in 55 to 59 age group. 6 elders are childless. 5 are unmarried. Majority of elders near about 20 are Hindu and only three Buddhist. 15 elders are in open categories. 4 are backward classes and 4 are other backward classes. Their mother tongue is Marathi, out of 23, 12 elders are from urban area and 11 are from rural area. In the case of education, 18 elders illiterate. 2 are educated until S.S.C. One is graduate and only two elders are post graduate. Seven elders are alone they have no one in the family. Remaining elders have three/four or more than four members are in their family. In the case of marriage status 1 female is unmarried 11 are widows and seven are widowers. There is no couple is living in the old age home.

In the case of economic condition 8 elders were serviceman, 8 were fieldwork and 7 females were housewives. Only 2 elders getting pension. Remaining 21 have no any source of income. Anyone have not get the pension of Niradhar Pension Yojana. Expenditure of old age home bears 4 elders themselves. 8 elders expenditure bear their relatives and 11 elders living free of charge. Economic investment is useful for elders for their future life but only 4 elders invested money in fix deposit. Reason for admission in the old age home in the case of 8 elders is alone, 8 elders have come willingly and seven are sent by their children.

Health is wealth but the old age physical health is decline rapidly. 4 elders are complaining about body and 10 elders falls sick frequently. Daily routine is differently by person to person. Generally they go for morning and evening walk in the afternoon they take rest. They spend their leisure time hobbies. Educated elders read newspaper, magazines. Elders who are unable to read spend their time in chatting and watching T.V. Healthy elders work in garden, kitchen and field. In the case of medical expenditure out of 23, 6 elders monthly medical expenditure is Rs. 300/- to 900/- and only 2 elders monthly expenditure is Rs. 500- 1000/- Remaining 9 elders are healthy, so they do not need any medical expenditure.

About physical condition 8 elders have not any physical problem. One is suffering from diabetes. There are four blood pressure patients, seven are suffering from arthritics and four are other diseases. As per opinion of all elders is that the old age home is the need of the society. It is a good option for helpless, alone and economically weak elders. 17 elders are happy to live in the old age home. But it is adjustment hence forth they are feel sad for missing family life. They miss their grandson and grand daughter.

Findings- 1. Satara city is known as pensioners city. The atmosphere of satara is good, clam quiet and good for health. So Matoshri old age home is very good for elders.

2. All over the management of the home is good and basic facilities they provides are satisfactory.
3. Problem of the old age is increasing day by day because of nuclear family system but the tendency of the children to send their parents into the old age home or elders willingly go to old age home is not Indian culture. So only 23 elders are in old age home. Actually residential facility is good for elders.
4. Majority of elders are 60-70 age group
5. Near about 21 elders are Hindu and between open categories
6. All the elders mother tongue is Marathi.
7. 18 elders are illiterate.
8. All the female members are widows only one is unmarried.
9. All the male elders are widowers only 4 are unmarried.
10. 90% elders have no source of income.
11. Only two elders invest money in fix deposite.
12. Helpless and economically 11 elders are living in free of charge.
13. Elders are admitted in old age home backward for three reason-1) Willingly
2) Helpless 3) Send by children.
14. Daily routine of the elders is morning and evening walk, chatting, reading, taking rest, watching T.V., gardening, working in the field, help in the kitchen etc.
15. Only 4 elders are healthy. Most of the elders have physical diseases
16. 10 elders fall sick frequently.
17. Out of 23 elders, 17 elders are happy in old age home.
18. Sometimes children, relatives, grandsons and granddaughters come to meet the elders
19. Very few times elders go to their home.
20. In short, old age home is need of the society. Matoshri old age home is good for elders

Suggestions-

1. Helpless, alone and elders s facing family problems should take shelter in the old age home. They will get security, satisfaction in the home.
2. Number of old age homes should be increased.
3. Govt. should provide fund for old age home.
4. Like foreign countries day care centers should be given preference alternate for the old age home
5. It is the duty of the society to visit the old age home, donate various types of goods and money.

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