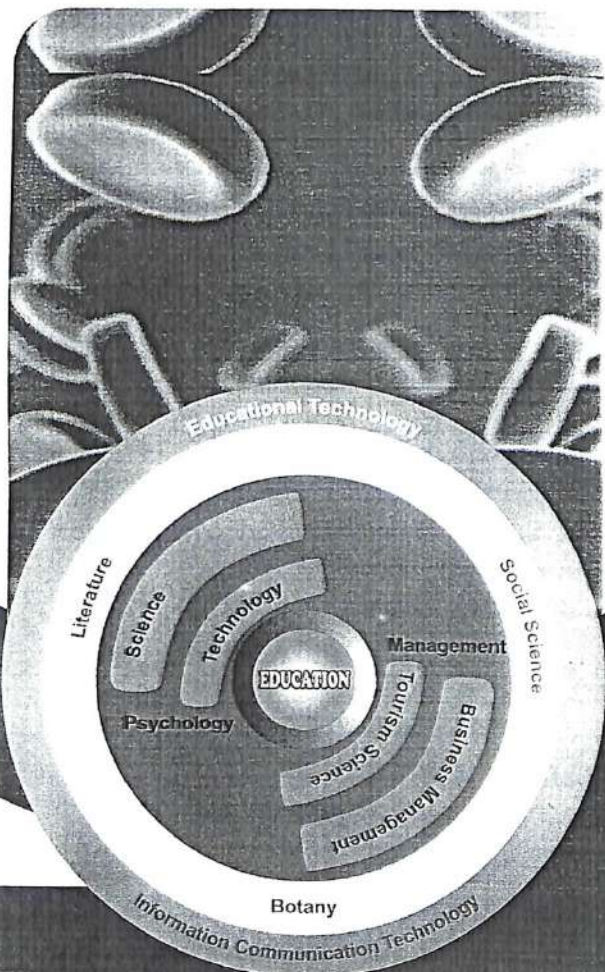


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AGING POPULATION AND ITS PROBLEMS

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Introduction: In India, elderly population consists of 7% of the total population, in which two third resides in villages and almost half of them live in poor conditions. There is rapid growth in number of older population in India that present issues that need to be taken care of if economic and social development is to proceed effectively. It is affected by the change in socio-economic condition of the elderly that adversely affects the individual's way of life after retirement. Economic loss comes from a change that is due to transformation from salaried to pensioner or unemployment leading to economic dependency on children or closed ones i.e., from independency to dependency. A feeling of low self-worth creeps in that is due to the loss of social recognition and earning power. Traditionally, elderly had occupied the position of power and prestige but now they are becoming inactive, dependent, sick and weak. All these phenomena lead to many physical, psychological and sociological problems. This mental status of a person is harmful. In coming times this stress needed to be taken care of effectively because if not than many health related problems will rise. Though at present due to technical advancement in fields general health, education, medicine and medical facilities, national food related schemes and food availability, there is decline in death rate of all age groups resulting in continuous incline in population with the age of sixty years and more. As per India's 2011 Census, current population is more than 1.21 billion people, with total population of nation growing at the rate of 1.41 %. The expectation of life at birth has increased from about 32 years in 1941-51 to 62.8 years for males and 63.4 years for females in 1996-2001 and according to census 2011 life expectancy at birth increased about 65.77 years for males and 67.95 years for females. On one hand elderly population has increased over decades but on the other hand society based support system has weakened and currently it is showing signs of collapse.

Objectives of the study –

The study covers the following objectives

1. To know the aging population Scenario.
2. To know the Problems of aging population in India.

Research methodology – This study is based on secondary data. The data is collected from references books, research journals and websites.

Concept of aging/ Elderly: Elderly or old age consists of ages nearing or surpassing the average life span of human beings. The boundary of old age cannot be defined exactly because it does not have the same meaning in all societies. Government of India