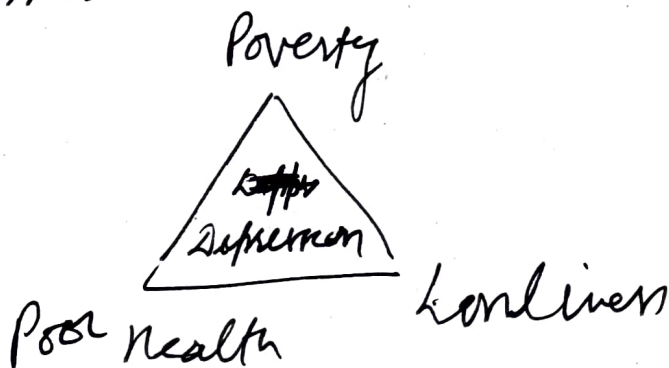


Q Near-universal social security pensions would be significant in expanding the public support for the elderly in the country. Discuss (200 words)

Ans: → The share of the elderly (persons aged 60 years and above) in India's population, close to 9% in 2011, is growing fast and may reach 18% by 2036 according to National Commission on Population

Given the conservative estimates of the elderly people, they are going through various medical conditions

• 30% to 50% of total elderly have symptoms of depression.



- Health conditions, loneliness and poverty account for depression
- The proportion of depression symptoms is much higher in women.
- Widows and disabled elderly are more vulnerable

To tackle the exacerbating situation of elderly and provide safety net, the govt can adopt Mean-universal pension

- through National Social Assistance Programme. (NSAP)
- By widening the base of beneficiary so that elderly across all the class could be covered
- Government can launch a targeted scheme like Vayo Vasan, in that direction.

- Government can utilise JAM Trinity to provide direct transfer.
- Other states of India should replicate the model of Tamilnadu ~~for~~ and Rajasthan. to provide safety net in the form of ~~safety~~ ^{elderly} pension.
- Government should rope in private organisation to get correct estimate of beneficiaries.

Though it may cost public exchequer but providing near universal security, government may realise the DPSP principle partially.