

Impact of SEVANA Pension among Beneficiaries of The Scheme

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ABSTRACT

The research analyses the objectives, importance and the impacts of Sevana pension scheme among common people and it reveals that most of the respondents of survey are the beneficiaries of National Old age Pension. The respondents are meet some their basic needs by this social welfare pension scheme like purchase of medicines etc... the research analyses how the scheme will help the desired people in their daily livings. It measures the level of satisfaction among the people and their response towards such schemes and also the awareness level about the programmes and its various terms and conditions. This scheme mainly focused on those common people, who cannot get any other financial assistance in their present living conditions. Thus, the government should take some additional measures to improve the benefits of Sevana pension scheme for uplifting the standard of living of beneficiaries.

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I. NATIONAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (NSAP)

The National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) is a welfare programme administered by the Ministry of Rural Development, government of India. It is a significant step towards the fulfilment of the Directive Principles of State Policy enshrined in the Constitution of India which promoting the State to undertake various number of welfare measures. The objective of the programme is to secure for the citizens adequate means of livelihood, raise the standard of living, improve public health, provide free and compulsory education for children etc. In particular, Article 41 of the Constitution of India directs the State to facilitate public assistance to its citizens in case of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement and in other cases of undeserved want within the limit of its economic capacity and development

The NSAP scheme comprised of National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS), National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) and National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS). These programmes are meant for providing social assistance benefit to vulnerable and under treated sectors of society. These programmes aimed to ensure minimum national standards in addition to the benefits that the States were then providing or would provide in future.

The Sevana Pension application is aimed at streamlining the disbursement of social welfare benefits to the poor in the society. Sevana Social Welfare Pension is the application software deployed in the local governments within the intention of providing efficient and transparent mechanism in the social security services executed through them. Currently this application covers seven schemes with as a part of these social security scheme, govt. of Kerala implemented a welfare pension scheme named as Sevana Pension Scheme. Implementation of sevana pension scheme has resulted in the total improvement in the efficiency and service delivery of local governments in this sphere.

Pension Schemes

1. National Old Age pension
2. Widow Pension
3. Pension to Unmarried Women above 50 years
4. Pension to the Physically Challenged Persons
5. Pension to the Mentally Challenged Persons
6. Agriculture Labour Pension
7. Unemployment wages

This study mainly focused on the impact of Sevana pension scheme among the desired people. It discusses on how the scheme will help the desired people in their daily livings. It also measures the level of satisfaction on among the people and their response towards such schemes

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To analyse the impact of Sevana pension scheme among the beneficiaries of the scheme.
- To assess the level of satisfaction of beneficiaries of Sevana pension scheme.
- To analyse the adequacy and efficiency of benefits provided by scheme.
- To know the reachability of Sevana pension among desired people.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Pension schemes provide financial assistance to desired people. It gives a good help in the life of people after sixty years and also provides help to those needy ones through different schemes. The government provides certain pension schemes for the upliftment of common people. Widow pension, National Old age pension, etc are such pension schemes provided. The cost of living of people is increasing day by day and so the people are unable to meet their financial requirements. We need to find whether the Sevana pension scheme provide adequate amount for its beneficiaries. Therefore, the study regarding the impact of Sevana pension scheme is very relevant under the present situation. This study will help to find out the impact of the Sevana pension scheme.

II. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study is designed to measure the impact of Sevana pension scheme and suggest the measures to improve the effectiveness of pension. The accessible population of the study is the beneficiaries of Sevana pension scheme of Meenachil taluk. In this survey data is collected from 100 beneficiaries in Meenachil Taluk of Kottayam district of Kerala state. The samples are obtained through convenient sampling technique. Primary data are collected from samples and secondary data from published sources. Secondary data are collected from various websites, journals, articles, etc. The collected data is analysed by using statistical tools like percentage, weighted average mean square and co relation analysis.

III. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

(quadagno & pederson, 2012), the USA endured a profoundly high margin such as the Great Depression of the 1930s between 2000 and 2010. Yet despite allegations that Social Security, the social pension benefit, was responsible for the lack of social security, no changes were made to the law. at this time. The study used the 2000 and 2010 General Social Survey to determine whether social support for social security had decreased and whether channels had changed between certain groups more than others. Between 2000 and 2010, the channels have kindly changed the view that the most important thing is to use Social Security. Change is at the forefront of the minds of young people and those who believe in subordination. Despite this change, the greater maturity of citizens still believes that the government spends less or less on appropriate quantum. (LONG & PFAU, 2009), Using the Vietnam Household Living Standard Survey in 2004, this invention aims to quantify the ambiguity and implications of the public pension system in order to reduce poverty in Vietnam. The authors pretend that changes in the level of poverty, the poverty gap and the instability of the upper castes in the context of arguing that such a system has been introduced in Vietnam in history. They analyzed a number of targeted groups according to adult categories and color transfer parameters to assess the impact of the program on social weal. They concluded that, depending on the nature of the pension, there would be a significant reduction in poverty, but also a greater benefit for non-poor people. By various measures, the results suggest that identifying elders in pastoral care may be an effective use of a limited fund. Imitating various popular issues shows that, indeed with a limited budget, the social pension system can significantly reduce the prevalence of poverty among the elderly. Similarly, at a given program cost, combining low benefits with low eligibility conditions works better in reducing poverty than providing significant benefits to a very limited group of donors. (UNNIKRISHNAN & IMAI, 2020), As the Indian population has grown due to declining fertility rates and mortality, policy is also being emphasized on reducing adult poverty. The current study aims to assess the effect of the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) on ménage weal indicators, such as operating costs, income, methods, and poverty. Using ménage longitudinal data based on the India Human Development Survey 2004 - 5 and 2011 - 12, we used Propensity Score Matching to create a false group and used a model of weighted fixed assets to exclude time stability. invisible ménage features. The results show that IGNOAPS participation has increased spending, food and non-food expenses, while reducing staff capacity. Small sample ratings indicate that these assets are considered only if the sponsors are women. However, the results of the Difference-in-Difference model show that the effect of poverty reduction became worse in 2011 - 12 after the government made a few changes to its program plans in 2007. This was possible

because some households that joined IGNOAPS after 2007 reduced staff. significantly while maintaining the position of use.

Table 1: Type of scheme opted by the respondents

Type of scheme	Percentage
National old age pension	60
Widow pension	14
Agricultural labour pension	20
Pension to unmarried women above 50 years	-
Pension to physically challenged persons	2
Pension to mentally challenged persons	4
Total	100

Source: primary data

60% of respondents belong to the scheme of National old age pension, 20% of the respondents belong to the scheme of Agricultural labour pension, 14% of respondents belong to the scheme of widow pension, only 4% are belong to pension to Mentally challenged person and only 2% of the respondents belong to Pension to physically challenged persons. It reveals that most accepted pension scheme in Kerala is old age pension scheme

Table 2: Time duration for enjoying benefits by beneficiaries

Duration	Percentage
Less than 1 year	20
1-5 year	44
5-10 year	14
More than 10 years	22
total	100

Source: primary data

44% of the respondents are beneficiaries of the scheme between 1to 5 year, 22% of the respondent are the beneficiaries of the scheme more than 10 years, 20% of the respondent are the beneficiaries of the scheme less than 1 year, 14% of the respondents are the beneficiaries of the scheme between 5 to10 years. It means that the programme has a public acceptance for approximately more than 5 years.

Table 3: pension Act as a way of financial assistance

Financial assistance	Percentage
Yes	70
No	30
Total	100

Source: primary data

Majority of the respondents believes that pension scemes provided by pension act serves as a way of financial assistance for their lively hood. It symbolically indicates that the system supported many of people for their life and meeting their financial needs of life.

Table 4: providing improvement in standard of living.

Improve the standard of living	Percentage
Yes	30
No	70
Total	100

Source: primary data

70% of the respondents believes that Savana pension scheme does not provide any improvement in their standard of living. It helps only for meet ups their minimum financial requirements only. It means they need extra financial support for increasing their standard living, pension amount is not enough.

Table 5: pension amount at the adequate time.

Adequate time	Percentage
Yes	24
No	76
Total	100

Source: primary data

76% of respondents say that they do not get the pension money at the adequate time when they have need of money. Only 24% of respondents say that they get pension money timely. It indicates that the payment of pension is not prompt.

Table 6: usage of pension money.

Use of pension money	Percentage
For buying medicine	32
For day-to-day needs	40
Others	28
Total	100

Source: primary data

40% of respondents use their pension amount for day-to-day needs. 32% of respondents use their pension amount for buying medicine and only 28% respondents use their money for other purpose. Majority of the respondents use their pension for essential needs of their life. It means, the pension scheme is very crucial for major sector of the society.

Table 7: expecting increment in pension.

Increment for pension	Percentage
Expected	70
Not expected	30
Total	100

Source: primary data

70% of respondents say that they expect an increment in pension. Only 30% of respondents say that they do not expect increment in pension. The increased cost of living may compel them for expecting the increment.

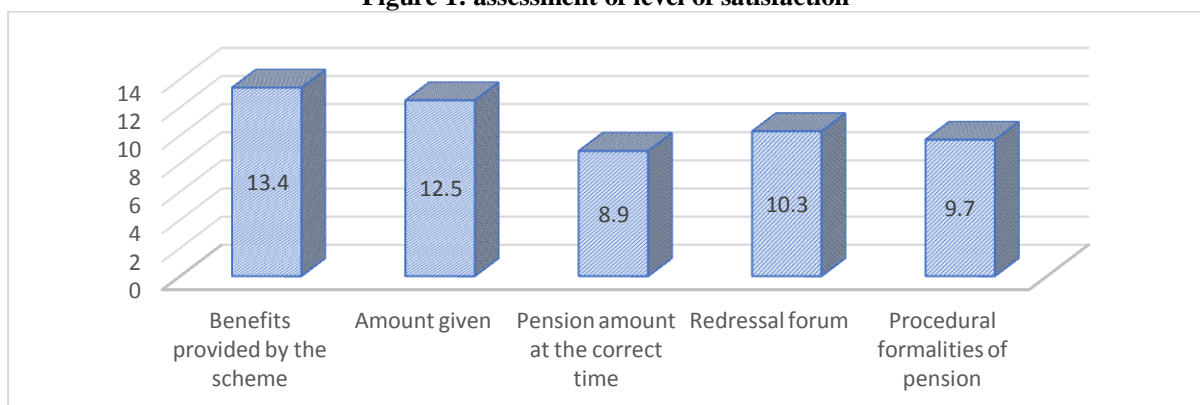
Table 8: additional expectations from pension scheme

Expectations from pension	Percentage
Timely payment	24
Increment	30
Medical treatment	16
Total	100

Source: primary data

60% of the respondents say that need an increment for pension and 24% of respondents need timely payment of pension money. Only 16% of respondents need medical facility with pension. The three factors are equally important for improving satisfaction among beneficiaries.

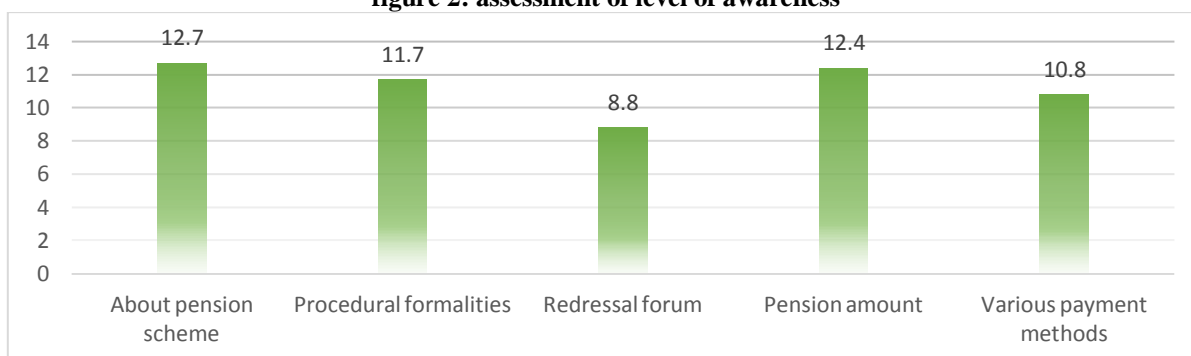
Figure 1: assessment of level of satisfaction



Source: primary data

Here the benefits provided by the scheme is ranked first with mean value of 13.4, means the factor which give more satisfaction the beneficiaries is benefits provided by the scheme. Pension amount given is ranked second with mean value of 12.5 , means beneficiaries are feel fine with the amount given, even if they have soe extra suggestions. satisfaction level with the redressal forum is ranked next with mean value of 10.3. that means, the got adequate grievance redressal and query clearance from authority. And the least ranked are timely payment and procedural formalities of pension with mean value of 8.9 and 9.7. these factors provide the least satisfaction to the beneficiaries.

figure 2: assessment of level of awareness



Here the awareness about the scheme is ranked first with 12.7. Awareness about the pension amount is ranked second with 12.4. The respondents are highly aware about the programme and its benefits. Awareness of procedural formalities is ranked next with 11.7, awareness about various payment methods is ranked next with 10.8 and the least ranked is the awareness about redressal forums with 8.8. The respondents are highly unaware about the redressal forums and they are informed about where their grievances should be informed.

IV. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Most of the respondents are the beneficiaries of National Old age Pension. Majority of the respondents are the beneficiaries of the scheme about 1-5 years or more. The study reveals that Sevana pension scheme act as a way of financial assistance but not contributory for improvement in standard of living. Most of the respondents do not get adequate money for pension and is not provided for the needed time. The pension amount is distributed during festival seasons. Most of the respondents use their pension amount for buying medicine and essential livelihood needs. Beneficiaries are highly satisfied about the benefits and amounts provided by the pension scheme and they are least satisfied about the timely payment and procedural formalities. The beneficiaries of the scheme are highly aware about the pension scheme and they are less aware about the grievance redressal mechanisms exist in pension scheme. Beneficiaries are strongly believing that the scheme is highly helpful and is necessary for meeting their basics needs even if it has some minor defects.

V. SUGGESTIONS

The scheme should make necessary arrangements for an increment in amount provided by the scheme and ensure the timely payment of the amount. The government should provide additional benefits to the beneficiaries through pension scheme for improving their standard of living. The government should provide

adequate information about pension scheme and its grievance redressal mechanism to reduce the increased rate of unawareness. The procedural formalities of pension scheme should be made simple and easy to understand by the common people. Information about the redressal forums, various payment methods of pension amount should be provided to the people.

VI. CONCLUSION

The study is about the impact of Sevana pension scheme among the beneficiaries of meenachil thaluk of Kottayam district. The study followed by a questionnaire method for collecting necessary information. It was conducted among 100 beneficiaries and collected information through structured questionnaire. The study analyses the objectives, importance and the impacts of Sevana pension scheme and reveals that most of the respondents are the beneficiaries of National Old age Pension. It proves the fact that most of the respondents are unaware about the procedural formalities of pension scheme and about redressal forums. It discusses on how the scheme will help the desired people in their daily livings. It also measures the level of satisfaction among the people and their response towards such schemes. This scheme mainly focused on those common people, who cannot get any other financial assistance in their present living conditions. Thus, the government should take some additional measures to improve the benefits of Sevana pension scheme.

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