ABSTRACT

The thesis entitled “A STUDY ON HEALTH CONDITION AND DISEASE OF THE AGED KAIBARTAS OF BARPETA TOWN, ASSAM” contains eight different chapters besides the bibliography and the chapters are-

Chapter 1 Introduction
Chapter 2 Demography
Chapter 3 Physical or biological health, Social health and Psychological health
Chapter 4 Anthropometric and Physiometric measurements and indices
Chapter 5 Perception of health and nature of treatment
Chapter 6 Food habit, Nutritional status and Disease
Chapter 7 Discussion
Chapter 8 Summary and Conclusion

Contents of the chapters

Chapter 1: In the introduction chapter it has been tried to give the definitions of ageing, demographic composition of the aged and importance of study. A brief review of literature of ageing in international and national level has also been incorporated. A description about the survey area and the people is also there. Aims and objectives, methods of data collection, sample size are the other contents of this chapter.

Chapter 2: This chapter covers the demographic and socio-economic profile of the aged Kaibartas of the present study. Total populations, distribution of population by age and sex, educational status, occupational status, type of family, size of family, marital
status, type of houses, sources of drinking water and types of sanitation are some of the demographic and socio-economic parameters considered and the results are presented in tabular form. Graphic presentation and analysis of the tables are also there. These have given a picture of the demographic and socio-economic profile of the people.

**Chapter 3:** In this chapter it has been tried to study the health and disease of the aged Kaibartas. 250 males of age 55 years and above and 250 females of age 50 years and above have been considered. The health of the people have been studied not only from physical aspect but also studied from social and psychological aspects. To see the physical health, twenty one major and minor diseases have been recorded and most of them are diagnosed by the doctors. The diseases have been co-related with different factors like age, education, occupation, family type etc. Similarly different socio-economic problems of the people like source of income, living arrangement, loneliness etc. have been considered to see its effect on physical health and disease. Psychological health have been studied taking into consideration the factors like sense of worthlessness, lack of courage, memory failure, lack of concentration, inefficiency, laziness, aimlessness and difficulty of taking decision.

**Chapter 4:** Some anthropometric and physiometric measurements and indices of the aged Kaibartas have been shown in this chapter. Six anthropometric measurements namely height (cms), weight (kg), chest circumference (cms), waist circumference (cms), hip circumference (cms), and calf circumference (cms) and two physiometric measurements like systolic blood pressure (Hg/mm) and diastolic blood pressure (Hg/mm) are considered for the present study.

**Chapter 5:** In this chapter it has been tried to know the perception of people about health, perception of illness and causes of illness and preventive measures for maintaining their health. Nature of treatment, types of medical attention and uses of traditional medicines by the Kaibartas are also included in this chapter.

**Chapter 6:** This chapter dealt with the food habit, nutritional status and disease of the aged persons. Food habit and food restriction of the people are also studied. It is tried to see the diseases of the aged persons in relation to their food habit and nutritional status.
The nutritional status of the aged Kaibartas are calculated with the help of Body mass index. Diseases in relation to body mass index have also been studied.

**Chapter 7:** In this chapter it has been tried to discuss the findings of the present study in relation to the findings of some previous studies of same nature.

**Chapter 8:** The findings of the whole study has been summarized in this chapter. It has also been tried to draw conclusion on the basis of findings of the present study.
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