The Vijayawada city is one of the major trading and business centers of the state and hence, it is known as “The Business Capital of Andhra Pradesh” and the city has also been recognized as a “Global City of the Future” by McKinsey Quarterly.
The Research Setting
CHAPTER-III

THE RESEARCH SETTING

Profile of the Krishna District

The research study “THE AGEING POPULATION” (A Socio-Geriatric Study of Elderly People Living in Vijayawada City of A.P) was carried out in Vijayawada City of Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh State. Chapter III, the Setting examines the profile of the Study Area in demographical, geographical detail and also examines the old age homes as present in Vijayawada.

Krishna district is a district in the coastal Andhra region of Andhra Pradesh, India. Machilipatnam is the administrative headquarters and Vijayawada is the biggest city in the district and falls under the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region. As of 2011 Census, the district had a population of 4,529,009, of which 41.00% is urban and a literacy rate was 74.37%. Guntur District was separated from Krishna in 1904 to form Krishna district which was further divided in 1925, to Krishna and West Godavari districts. Krishna district is the most developed district in Andhra Pradesh.

The district has four revenue divisions, namely Vijayawada, Nuzvid, Machilipatnam and Gudivada, each headed by a sub collector. These revenue divisions are divided into 50 Mandals in the district. These 50 Mandals consists of 49mandal parishads, 973panchayats, 1005 villages and 5 Municipalities. There are 20 towns (or urban settlements) in the district, including 1Municipal Corporation, 5Municipalities, 3 nagar panchayats and 11census towns. Vijayawada city is the only municipal corporation and the 5 municipalities in the district are Gudivada, Jaggaiahpetta, Machilipatnam, Nuzvid and Pedana Vuyyuru, Nandigama and Tiruvuru were constituted as Nagar panchayats in the year 2011. The 11 census towns are
Kanuru, Poranki, Tadigadapa, Yanamalakuduru, Kankipadu, Ramavarappadu, Prasadampadu, Guntupalli, Ibrahimpatnam, Kondapalle, and Tiruvuru.

Profile of the Study Area – Vijayawada City

City: Vijayawada
Administration: Municipal Corporation
Urban Agglomeration: Vijayawada Metropolitan
State: Andhra Pradesh.

Vijayawada is a city on the banks of the Krishna River, in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh. It is a Municipal corporation and the headquarters of Vijayawada (urban) mandal in Krishna district of the State. The city is one of the suburbs of the state capital Amaravathi, under the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region, and the headquarters of APCRDA. The city is one of the major trading and business centers of the state and hence, it is also known as “The Business Capital of Andhra Pradesh”.

The city is one of the two metropolis in the state, with the other being Visakhapatnam. As of 2011 census, the city had a population of 1,048,240, making it the second largest city in the state in terms of population and it had an urban agglomeration population of 1,491,202.

The city has been recognized as a “Global City of the Future” by McKinsey Quarterly. It is one of the commercial hubs of Andhra Pradesh with a GDP of $3 billion in 2010, and is expected to increase to $17 billion by 2025. The political, agricultural, industrial sectors are a boon for its recognition. It is the hub of transportation with one of the largest railway junctions in India.
Geography

Vijayawada is surrounded by the Krishna River on the east and west, and the Budameru River on the north. The northern, northwestern parts of the city are covered by a low range of hills, while the central, southwestern and northwestern parts are covered by rich and fertile agriculture lands with three major irrigation canals. The topography of Vijayawada is flat, with a few small to medium – sized hills. The Krishna River runs along the city. These hills are part of the Eastern Ghats cut through by the Krishna River. These canals originating from the north side of the Prakasham barrage reservoir, Eluru, Bandar and Ryves, run through the city.

The List of Mandals Under Vijayawada Division

1. G.Konduru
2. Ibrahimpatnam
3. Jaggayyapeta
4. Kanchikacherla
5. Kankipadu
6. Mylavaram
7. Nandigama
8. Penamaluru
9. Penuganchiprolu
10. Thotlavalluru
11. Vatsavai
12. Veerullapadu
13. Vijayawada (Rural)
Cityscape and Landmarks

The city has many landmarks both in and around the city. Some of the notable places includes, Prakasham Barrage, built by “Sir Arthur Cotton”, Krishnaveni Mandapam, also known as “River Museum” is situated beside Prakasham barrage.

Kanaka Durga Temple on Indrakeeladri hill, at the banks of Krishna River, Hazarat Bal Mosque being a holy relic of the Prophet Mohammed and Mary Matha Church installed by St. Joseph’s Orphanage at Gunadala are religious landmarks.

Nearby landmarks in the surrounding suburbs include Mogalarajapuram Caves (5th century AD), Undavalli Caves (7th century AD), and Kondapalli Fort (7th century AD), Bhavanipuram Island, Gandhi hill, Rajeev Gandhi Park, etc.

Vijayawada Art Society promotes Telugu arts. The city had hosted Poetic Prism-2015, a multi-lingual poet’s meet in the city on 19 September 2015. All these activities are organized in collaboration with organizations like the Cultural Centre of Vijayawada. Kondapalli Toys are handmade toys by local artisans at Kondapalli village, a suburb of Vijayawada. Victoria Jubilee Museum is an archeological museum which has sculpture paintings and artifacts of Buddhist and Hindu relics, dated back to 2nd and 3rd centuries.

Education

The Vijayawada named “The Educational Sahara”. The first collage built in Vijayawada was SRR&CVR Government Collage. Andhra Loyola Collage was established in 1953. The Government Polytechnic Collage was established here in 1960. The first private engineering collage in Andhra Pradesh, V.R. Siddhartha Engineering Collage, is located here. School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada (SPAV) was established in 2008, is one of the three School of Planning
and Architecture established by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. It is an autonomous and central funded institution. There are many other technology and Arts and Science collages at Vijayawada.

**Transportation**

**Road** Vijayawada is well connected to the rest of the country by National Highways. Two National Highways, the NH -16 from Chennai to Kolkata and the NH-65 from Machilipatnam to Pune, pass through the city connecting it to other parts of the country. The Pandit Nehru Bus Station was inaugurated on 23rd September 1990. It is fourth largest and busiest bus terminals in India. State run APSRTC buses are operated from the terminal, which include Ordinary, Metro Express and City Sheetal (A/C Buses).

**Rail** Vijayawada railway station is an important junction in South Central Railway Zone of Indian Railways. It is situated along the Howrah-Chennai main line and categorized as an A-1 station under the jurisdiction of Vijayawada railway division. It is one of the busiest stations, handling more than 320 trains per day next to Howrah and Mumbai. It has an Electro Loco Shed with a capacity to maintain 100 electric Locomotives and a Wagon workshop at Guntupalli, near Vijayawada.

**Climate**

Vijayawada has a tropical climate with hot summers and a monsoon season. Temperature can reach 47°C (117°F) in May-June, while the winter temperatures rarely fall below 15°C (59°F). The average humidity is 78%, and the average annual rainfall is 921.5 millimeters (36 in). Vijayawada gets its rainfall from both the southwest monsoon and northeast monsoon. With its hot and humid conditions, the city is often referred as Blazewada.
Demographics

As of 2011 Census of India, the city had a population of 1,048,240. The total population constitute, 524,918 males and 523,322 females—a sex ratio of 997 females per 1000 males, higher than the national average of 940 per 1000. 92,848 children are in the age group of 0-6 years, of which 47,582 are boys and 45,266 are girls—a ratio of 951 per 1000. The average literacy rate stands at 82.59% (male 86.25%; female 78.94%) with 789,038 literates, significantly higher than the national average of 73%.

The Vijayawada Urban Agglomeration had a population of 1,491,202, of which males constitute 750,770, females constitute 740,432—a sex ratio of 986 females per 1000 males and 133,396 children are in the age group of 0-6 years. There are a total of 1,107,903 literates with an average literacy rate of 81.60%. The city’s population is expected to reach 2.5 million by 2025. The Muslims constitute about 250,000 or approximately 21% of the total 1.2 million populations in Vijayawada.

Civic Administration

Vijayawada Municipal Corporation is the civic governing body of the city. It was constituted on 1st April 1888, and was upgraded to selection grade municipality in 1960 the municipality was then became corporation in the year 1981. The jurisdictional area of the corporation is spread over an area of 61.8 Km² (23.9 sq mi) with 59 wards.

Utility Services

Water supply, maintenance of roads, drainage and solid waste management services are provided by the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation. There exists underground drainage system in the city since 1967-68. Fire fighting services are maintained by the Andhra Pradesh Fire Services Department with five fire stations operating around the city. India Post provides physical mail services. As per National
Urban Sanitation Policy, the city was ranked 24\textsuperscript{th} in the country in 2009-10. The corporation won many awards and achievements such as National Urban Water Award\textsuperscript{(2009)}, Siti e-Governance Project by CRISIL, CSI Nihilent runner-up, finalist in Stockholm Challenge, ISO 9001 certification for Quality Management System.

**Economy**

Agriculture, commercial trade, tourism, transportation and tertiary sectors are the major sectors that contribute to the economy of the city. Vijayawada is famous for processing of agricultural products, automobile body building, hardware, textile, consumer goods and small scale industries. GDP of Vijayawada was $3 billion (Rs.180 billion) in 2010. The city is promoting the usage of renewable energy sources. It is one of the cities in the state to use biodiesel. The city is covered under Solar/Green Cities scheme launched by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

Agro-based industries such as cotton, turmeric, and Virginia tobacco are located in the surrounding areas. There are oil, dal and rice mills located at Kondapalli. Real Estate is another sector in Vijayawada which is very high in property prices and are comparable with top cities of India.

**Industrial Estates**

The Jawaharlal Nehru Auto nagar Industrial Estate in Vijayawada is one of the largest auto industry hubs of Asia. The industrial estate in Kondapalli suburb is spread over 450 acres and is base to more than 800 industries. The Kondapalli Estate houses thermal power plants, and is base to more than 800 industrial units. Kondapalli suburb also houses Andhra Pradesh heavy Machinery and Engineering Limited factory. It is
also a hub for storage, bottling and transportation of petroleum products of all major companies like BPCL, HPCL, and IOC etc.

Profile of Old Age Homes

Old age homes have largely located in India at two locations: Metropolitan cities and Tier-two cities that have been known for their cool climate or that have religious/ spiritual interest for the elderly.

In the present study out of the total 300 respondents who happen to be elderly people in the age of 60-80 years, 150 were residents of old age homes situated in and around of Vijayawada city and another 150 respondents were those elderly people who were living with their respective families of Vijayawada city. The study tries to explore a comparison between these two groups, known as institutionalized and non-institutionalized elderly people, regarding to their quality of life, life-satisfaction and their morbidity status.

In this context it is necessary to give a brief profile of old age homes under study. Out of the 12 old age homes, which were working actively, 7 were randomly selected, and the researcher take a prior permission with the home keepers to carry out the study. Out of these 7 old age homes under study, 4 were inhabited by orphan elderly people, the home provides food, shelter and services for free of cost to these elderly people. Another 3 old age homes were inhabited by both orphan elderly people and as well as paid inmates. Out of the 7 old age homes 4 homes were running at rented buildings and another 3 homes had their own buildings. The male and female distribution of respondents living in these old age homes were given below-
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the old age home</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Orphan old age homes</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Aruna Mahila Mandali</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Country Women’s Association of Home for Old age-India</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Adarana Mahila Mandali/old age home</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Nightingale Home for Aged</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>---</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Paid &amp; Orphan old age homes</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Amma Nanna</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Good Sheppard Home for Aged</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Senior citizen’s Home for Aged</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>48</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The old age homes, which gave shelter to the orphan elderly people, had separate kitchen, dining room, bath rooms and lavatories. They are providing facilities like cot & bed, chair, cup-board, bucket & mug, plate & tumbler etc to their inmates. The other things provided by the home was bed sheets, blankets, towels, bathing soaps, shampoo and washing soaps etc. twice in a year the inmates were given new
clothes by donors. Both vegetarian and non-vegetarian food was provided in the home and once in a week fruits also given to the inmates of the home. Medical facilities also provided to them who were in need.

The Researcher Interviewing aRespondent

In these homes the inmates has to share one room with two to four members. Usually the inmates engage in the activities of home like kitchen gardening, cooking, cleaning the home premises and rooms, purchasing the vegetables and provisions to the home. The other leisure time activities include attending the spiritual meetings, Satsung and Bhajans. The elders who were disabled and unable to do their daily living activities was provided a personal attendant by home, the attendant may be one of the abled inmate of that home, who was willing to help. The financial support to run these homes was partially with government aid, donations by public and with the support of other charitable trusts.
In case of orphan and paid old age homes, the food, accommodation, services and activities of the inmates were different to elderly who were living free of cost and the elderly who were paid. The paid inmates of these homes were provided single occupancy rooms for those they use to pay Rs.6000/- per month and double occupancy they use to pay Rs.4000/- per month. The food, facilities and services provided to these inmates was of high quality and more hygienic than others. Any of these paid inmates who were disabled and sick; the home provides a personal attendant to them on their own expenses. The inmates who do not pay money have to do some home activities as per their physical ability and interest, but the paid inmates does not involve in any home activities. The financial support to these homes was the money paid by inmates, donations given by public and by the home keeper himself has to bear the expenses.

The Profile of the Research Setting reveals that Vijayawada is the biggest city in Krishna district with over one million populations and the city has been recognized as a “Global City of the Future” by McKinsey Quarterly. Rich in agriculture and industry, the City and District has provided vast potential for its population to develop
in terms of economy and offered challenges and opportunities which in turn had affected the family, especially the aged. The City has twelve old age homes of which seven were randomly selected by researcher for the purpose of data collection. It is from this setting the respondents of the Study were approached; the Chapter IV of the Study, ‘The Respondent’s Socio Economic and Demographic Profile’ presents the details of the respondents.