

DEMOGRAPHIC TRANSITION AND ITS IMPLICATIONS ON THE AGEING POPULATION IN KERALA

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DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (ECONOMICS)

Under the Faculty of Social Science

By

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2015

DECLARATION

I, J. Georgi Neernal, do hereby declare that the thesis entitled “**DEMOGRAPHIC TRANSITION AND ITS IMPLICATIONS ON THE AGEING POPULATION IN KERALA**” is an authentic record of research work carried out by me under the supervision and guidance of **Dr.T.M.George, Research Guide, School of Gandhian Thought and Development Studies, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam**, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi University Kottayam, and that no part of this work has been presented for the award of any degree in any other University.

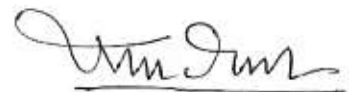
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CERTIFICATE

Certified that the thesis entitled "DEMOGRAPHIC TRANSITION AND ITS IMPLICATIONS ON THE AGEING POPULATION IN KERALA" is a record of bona fide research work done by Mr. J Georgi Neernal, under my guidance and supervision at the School of Gandhian Thought and Development Studies, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Development Studies (Economics), under the faculty of Social Sciences.

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ABSTRACT

The present study is an attempt to examine the demographic transition and its demographic, social, economic and health implications in Kerala. First occurred in the industrialised Western European countries in the context of economic growth, this demographic phenomenon is rapidly progressing currently in the less developed regions of the world. In India such a demographic change is visible in the south Indian states, notably in Kerala. The onset of fertility transition in Kerala dates back to 1960s and attained below replacement fertility rate in 1990s.

The state has made spectacular achievements in fertility and mortality transition against a very adverse economic profile with per capita income below the national average, high poverty, unemployment and under nutrition. The state had also a very weak industrial base and stagnant agricultural sector.

Against this backdrop, the thesis attempts to explain the underlying gender (women) related factors that led to demographic transition in the state. It also examines the demographic process of population ageing, its implications and the fiscal challenges thereof.

Key Words: Fertility-mortality transition, Female literacy, Age at marriage, Female work participation rate, Population ageing, Young-old balance, Index of ageing, Median age, Dependency ratio, Potential support ratio, Elderly vulnerability, Subjective well-being, General health index, Productive ageing, Demographic dividend.

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