

**SOCIAL SECURITY CONCERNS FOR VISUALLY
CHALLENGED PERSONS: A STUDY OF SELECT
DISTRICTS OF WEST BENGAL (2000-2021)**

ABSTRACT

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(Abstract)

Social Security for the vulnerable sections of the society in both developed and developing countries occupy a very insignificant place in the decision-making process at the National and Regional level. In the context of developing countries, the provisions for vulnerable section of society have not been adequately reflected in the democratic discussion on welfarism. This may be due to insufficient economic resources of the states to support the provision of social security measures or there has been lack of political will and interest at the decision-making level to carry forward such social security measures. Contextualising the issues of social security for the visually challenged persons in the state of West Bengal with reference to the district of Purba Medinipur and South 24 Parganas, they have been suffering from inadequate social security provisions provided by the Government of West Bengal. They have been leading very miserable life with respect to the satisfaction of basic economic needs and requirement along with proper health care services. There have not been adequate social security provisions for them offering their socio-political and economic upliftment. In every walk of life, they are facing a sense of insecurity, and that sense of insecurity has not been reflected through policy-making initiatives. Besides, they are also suffering from the social stigma of accepting and recognizing them and their problems. Even if in most of the cases, they are debarred from family supports. They are suffering from the issues of social acceptability and dignity. They are suffering from similar nature of problems, though the magnitude of their problems differs from district to district,

taking into account the overall developments of such districts. What is alarming in this context is that, while they have been suffering from multifarious problems and challenges, the solutions measures to their problems including the social security measures are very limited in nature. The present research is an attempt to discuss and analyse the multifarious problems and challenges faced by the visually challenged persons in both of districts of Purba Medinipur and South 24 Parganas, West Bengal with reference to the issues of social security provisions meant for them.