

ILC India

ADVOCACY

- ILC-I conducted a one day workshop on “Human Rights of the Elderly” with the support of UNFPA and the University of Pune on the 21st of March 10.
- A one day workshop on “Awareness on the Maintenance and Welfare of the Parents Act, 07” was held on the 21st of August 10 with the support of the Planning Commission of India & in collaboration with the New Law College of BVU.
- A two days workshop on “Orientation of Medical Practitioners to Geriatrics & Gerontology” was held in Pune on the 4th & 5th of September with the support of WHO-SEARO.

Planning for Retirement:

- ◇ ILC-I in collaboration with the Maratha Chambers of Commerce & Industries has organised a lecture series for its Senior Executives Forum. The purpose of this lecture series is that the senior citizens are given information by experts on issues and concerns of the elderly covering the economic, social, health aspects of their lives.
- ◇ Dr. S. D. Gokhale spoke on “Participatory Ageing” on the 20th of July.
- ◇ Mr. D. S. Gade, financial expert spoke on “Financial Planning for Retirement” on the 18th of August.
- ◇ Mr. Jayant Umranikar spoke on “Property Offences Against Abuse of the Elderly” on the 17th of September.
- ◇ The topics in the coming months on which lectures will be given are- Volunteerism, Pension and the Senior Citizens Movement in India.

RESEARCH

- ILC-I completed the study on the “Review of Housing Designs and how they match with the Needs of the Elderly” which was supported by the Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India.
- ILC-I also prepared the booklet on “Frequently Asked Questions on Ageing” with the support of WHO.
- ILC-I is also conducting a research study on “Identifying Health Markers as Determinants of Dementia (with special reference to Alzheimers) in the elderly of the city of Pune”.
- ILC-I is in talks with the Chaitanya Mental Health Care Centre to provide technical expertise to their following three projects-
- A monthly magazine on “Mental Health”, a memory clinic for elders, a Reminisces Therapeutic Group.

Launch of the project “Medical Sustenance for Needy Grandmothers”

ILC-I launched the project of providing partial medical sustenance to needy elderly grandmothers above the age of 60 years on 20 June 2010. Forty such needy grandmothers have been sponsored under this project. The project is a medium through which the women who are barely able to sustain themselves but also require medical treatment will benefit. With the help of individual and corporate sponsors, ILC-I provides for the expenses of medicines and nutritional supplements to needy elderly women living alone or who are uncared for. A network of doctors and chemists who provide medical treatment and medicines respectively at concessional rates has been formed under this project.

The B. G. Deshmukh Awards for “Excellence in Qualitative Ageing” and “Lifetime Achievement Awards” were launched by ILC-I.

Under this project, ILC-I confers the award for promoting “Excellence in Qualitative Ageing” to three senior citizens’

organizations in the state of Maharashtra and the “Lifetime Achievement Awards” to three individual senior citizens above the age of 70 years for remarkable achievements by them.

The first BG Deshmukh awards were distributed on 3 July 2010 in the august presence of the Board of Directors of ILC-I and at the hands of the former Justice of the High Court of the state of Maharashtra, Honourable Chandrashekhar Dharmadhikari. Senior citizens in large numbers were present to applaud the achievements of the awardees.

POLICY

The Government of India has appointed a Committee to review the National Policy on Older Persons originally formulated in 1999. The Government requested Dr. S.D. Gokhale, Hon. President, ILC-I, to be a member of the Review Committee which is holding its meetings with different Ministries, different State Governments and Regional meetings with NGOs so as to come up with a revised policy more suitable to the changed times. The Committee is expected to give the revised draft to the Government of India by January 2011.

Proposals in the pipeline

1. Sensitisation of students of schools and colleges to the issue of senior citizens.
2. Research study on “Rural Ageing in the state of Maharashtra”.
3. A workshop on “Ageing related Disabilities”.