

THE INTERNATIONAL LONGEVITY CENTRE-INDIA

ILC-I Activity Report for the ILC Global Alliance Board Meeting on September 30, 2011 (November 2010 to August 2011) at Leiden, Netherlands organized by ILC-Netherlands.

ILC- Board of Directors:

- *President: Dr. R. A. Mashelkar*
- *Hon. President: Dr. S. D. Gokhale*
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- *Director : Mr. R. H. Belavadi*

Executive Director: Ms. Anjali Raje

Dy. Executive Director: Mr. Prakash Ahirekar

✓ **ADVOCACY:**

- *A three days National Consultation on “Active and Healthy Ageing” was organized by ILC-I in collaboration with another NGO, the Janaseva Foundation and with the support of WHO-SEARO from the 24th to the 26th of November 2010, in Pune. The Guest of Honour at this Consultation was Dr. Kunal Bagchi, Regional Adviser, WHO-SEARO, with Dr. Jane Barratt, Secretary-General of IFA as the Chief Guest on the occasion. Govt. representatives from the Ministries of Social Justice & Empowerment from the Central and the State Governments of India attended this Consultation along with the other stakeholders. Dr. S. D. Gokhale, Hon. President of ILC-I wrote a paper on “To review and draft the National Policy on Older Persons of the Govt. of India*

in relation to the international-recognised norms, standards and policy studies for promoting the situation of older persons including healthy ageing”.

- *A one day workshop on “Ageing Related Disabilities” was organized by ILC-I on the 25th of February 2011 with the support of the Programme, Research, Evaluation and Monitoring Division of the Central Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India. The resource persons for this workshop were medical doctors who made interesting presentations on various health issues- orthopaedics, cardiology, oncology, ophthalmology and other such common health problems faced by the senior citizens. The workshop was attended by fifty senior citizens who had an interesting and very informative interaction with the doctors who spoke on the occasion.*
- *A one day workshop on “Sensitisation of Government Officials to the issues of Population Ageing” was organized by ILC-I on the 11th of July 2011.*
- *A two days workshop on “Awareness of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007” was held by ILC-I on the 3rd and 4th of August 2011.*
- *The Hon. President of ILC-I, Dr. S. D. Gokhale delivered the keynote address at the National Consultation on Empowerment of Older Women held at Thiruvananthapuram from the 21st to the 23rd of March 2011*

✓ TRAINING:

- *ILC-I organized a seven days’ short-term course on “Gerontology” of the United Nations’ International Institute on Ageing (UN INIA), Malta at Pune in collaboration with the Bharati Vidyapeeth University from the 15th of December 10 to 21st December 10. The participants in this course included representatives of NGOs working in the field of ageing, social workers in the field of community development, faculty from the School of Health Sciences of the University of Pune, statisticians,*

medical doctors, nursing professionals, officers of old age homes, senior citizens, students of social work amongst many others. Prof. Joseph Troisi, Director, UN INIA, Malta, and Prof. Rajgopal Dhar Chakraborti were the international faculty and Prof. Siva Raju, Professor, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai was the Indian faculty member. The successful participants were given certificates by Prof. Troisi at the end of the training programme.

✓ RESEARCH:

ILC-I has undertaken a national online survey to study the housing needs of the elderly with regard to a retirement community complex for the elderly and the amenities and facilities that would be required in such a complex.

✓ POLICY:

- The Hon. President of ILC-I was invited as an expert on the Review Committee set up by the Govt. of India to review and revise India's National policy on Older Persons; he is also a member of the Committee of the Planning Commission of the Government of India to review the 11th Five Year Plan and plan for the 12th Five Year Plan of India on the issues of disability and ageing and other related areas; he is also an invited expert of the Core Group on Protection and Welfare of the Elderly Persons by the National Human Rights Commission.

✓ FORTHCOMING PROGRAMMES:

- ILC-I in collaboration with the Chaitanya Mental Health Care Centre, is launching the Alzheimers Related Disorders Society, Pune Chapter on World Alzheimers Day, the 21st September 2011.
- ILC-I in collaboration with the Leelabai Thackersey College of Nursing (SNDT), Mumbai, is organizing a two days conference on "Healthy and Productive Ageing-The need of the Hour" on the 3rd and 4th of October 2011.

- ILC-I in collaboration with the Alzheimer Related Disorders Society of India, Pune Chapter is organizing an international conference on "Alzheimer's & Dementia Related Diseases- Emerging Challenges" on the 26th and 27th of November 2011.

✓ THE ILC-I AWARDS:

Since this year, ILC-I has instituted the ILC-I Awards which has three types of awards-

a) The Anjani Mashelkar Inclusive Innovation Award- this is a national award and has been instituted through the donation given by Dr. R. A. Mashelkar, President of ILC-I in the name of his late mother. This award will be given to a scientist who has made an exceptional contribution to the cause of population ageing and which caters to the best innovation for helping to improve the quality of life of the poor old people.

b) Since last year, the B. G. Deshmukh Awards for "Promoting Excellence in Qualitative Ageing" and the "Lifetime Achievement Awards" have been instituted. This award is supported by a grant given by the late Mr. B. G. Deshmukh. The first set of awards are given to three senior citizens organisations and the second set of awards are given to three senior citizens over the age of 70 years for outstanding achievements in the field of music, literature, science, sports, arts and other areas.

c) The SD Gokhale Award for "Qualitative Journalism in Ageing" has been instituted under the ILC-I Awards to honour an upcoming journalist (age limit-35 years) for his/her advocacy of the cause of population ageing through the media through the amount given by Dr. Gokhale.

- *All these awards are to be given as the ILC-I Awards. This year the function will be held on the 17th of December 2011.*

Finally, the ILC-I wants to inform about and deeply mourn the loss of our Vice President, Mr. B. G. Deshmukh, former Cabinet Secretary to the Govt. of India and former Advisor to the Prime Ministers of India.

Mr. B. G. Deshmukh was the first Vice President of ILC-I. He rendered yeoman services to the cause of the elderly, including the financial support given by him to institute the annual Awards for "Promoting Excellence in Qualitative Ageing" and the "Lifetime Achievement Awards" to be given to three senior citizens' organizations as well as three senior citizens over the age of 70 years. He was 81. BG, as he was fondly called, will be missed by all of us at the ILC-I for his erudition, wisdom and his deep understanding of the cause of population ageing.