

## HARIDWAR CONFERENCE

Under the aegis of SHEHJAAR HOMES & SENIOR CITIZEN FORUM HARIDWAR and the patronage of AISCCON a two day conference on 12-13 October 2019 was held at hotel Gardenia SIDCUL Haridwar. The theme was **Ageing & Senior Care -A Collective National Responsibility.**

Over 100 delegates from Mumbai, Pune, Hyderabad, Bhubaneswar, Lucknow, Prayagraj, Noida & Haridwar participated in the conference.

### Objectives

- As per 2011 census, population of senior citizens in India is 8.4%, expected 17.3% by 2026
- 2/3rd of population will depend on others for their daily needs and will be from Rural areas
- 1/3rd will be in BPL category and 90% will be from unorganized sector
- Looking at the above alarming data it is essential to bring together all stake holders such as GOI, State Govt. NGO, Senior citizen associations, corporate sectors, district level administration and most important senior citizen individuals, to develop the awareness and draw a road map to make the senior living better than today.

### Conference Proceeding

The inaugural session on 12th October was graced by HH Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswati ji President Parmarth Niketan Rishikesh. Chief Guest was Sh. Madan Kaushik Minister for urban development Government of Uttarakhand. Local MLA Sh Adesh Chouhan was also present. Sh M.K.Mital, Sh D.N.Chapke, Sh Sarvesh Gupta Sh

Jagdish Pahwa were amongst dignitaries present for Deep prajwalan.

Sh M.K. Raina in his welcome address set the agenda in simple and clear terms for the noble intended conference . In his KEY Note address Sh D N Chapke Out going AISCCON president assured of continuous efforts in taking senior citizens issue with central Government, citing an example of recent communication with social justice minister Mr. Thawar Chand Gehlot

HH Pujya Swami Chidanand saraswati ji blessed the conference and expressed the hope that senior citizens with their life experience of over 60 years and full of confidence will move forward for improving the condition of society at large. He advocated that the senior citizens should make in their WILL, a part of contribution for senior citizens welfare.

The chief guest Sh Madan Kaushik afer hearing the issues of senior citizens including Maintenance & Welfare Act 2007 promised to take up with C.M. and get it implemented in state

Founder & Managing Director of Guide Samaj Kalyan Sansthan, Lucknow Mrs Indu Subhash deliberated on various eforts being made by her sansthan for many social causes including abuse and loneliness of elders. She gave many live examples how through her initiatives like Youth Brigade,Dada Dadi , Golden Age Club and Golden Age Senior Citien Toll Free Number(1800-180-0060), is able to improve the lives of needy elderly.

Delegates and over hundred members of senior Citien Forum Haridwar enjoyed the evening cultural program of dance and songs presented by members from Bhuvneshwar,Prayagraj and Haridwar.Dr P K Sinha entertained audience by his mimicry, duets & dance, in which many senior citizens could not resist the temptation to come over stage for dancing. All delegates and members enjoyed the dinner hosted by Dr N L Zutshi from Mumbai. Medicinal kit to delegates was distributed by the courtesy of M/s Akums Pharmaceuticals Pvt Ltd.

The Garhwali dance Aachhari Jaagar by Haridwar team was appreciated by one and all.

Second day started with the presentation by Ex. Secretary General AISCCON Sh. Anil Kaskhedkar on Ageing & Elder care .Budhapeki Lathi is successfully run in Prayagraj by Dr. P K Sinha. This is really win win satisfaction for old and young both. Give purpose to life by life Long Learning (LLL) was the topic of Dr Vyasamurthy fom Hydrabad with his vast experience in this field,he deliberated on various tools of learning and its immense benefits . Presentation was made by Sh Avinash Lakare from Pune on Healthy Ageing & his eforts in improving digital literacy. Sh G K Khare EX Chairman Railway Board explained how small eforts like Anaai Bank has improved the lives of daily wage earners and old family members in his area. ITC a renowned FMCG company was represented by its Plant head Mr, Kaushik Mukherjee who assured due importance will be given by his company for the welfare of senior citiien under CSR program. Mr Sarvesh Gupta President Senior citiien Forum Haridwar gave his presentation on CSR specially amended schedule VII which includes the senior citiieni welfare under CSR and also informed that the high level commitee has submitted its report . Other speakers on CSR includes Sh Harendra Garg and,Sh D R Narula .Mr Narula gave details of the eforts made by him and CSR commitee headed by Mr R N Mital including Mr D N Chapke. A souvenir in the form of collection of relevant article was unveiled by the guests .Souvenir first page was the message received from newly elected AISCCON President Mr Inder Mohan Bhalla.

Lastly open session evoked interesting interaction among participants. Some of the delegates who expressed their views were S/Sh. Sheshagiri,GMV Uma Rao,R R Paul Kaushik,DR.B.Linga Reddy,K C Sharma,Dillip Mohanty,R M Patnaik,Chaitanya Upadhyay,Mrs Vaijayanti and Mrs Usha Gupta.

In the end ,Sh. Suresh Palgay President Shehjaar Homes presented the vote of thanks to one and all for making the conference useful, successful and memorable.

Comparing was very effectively done by Mr A K Sanadhya.

In the evening delegates were taken to Har Ki Pauri for Ganga Arti.

### Follow up points emerged out of conference

- To get implemented Maintenance and welfare of parents and Senior citizens act 2007 in the remaining states.
- To take up with state Government for creation of ministry/nodal ofcer for welfare of senior citizens.
- To create help line numbers for speedy help of senior citizens in district/city level
- To take up with district education officers for pledge by students giving respect to senior citizens
- To show existence among masses by organizing welfare camps in large gathering like Kumbh Mela
- Put in efforts for getting land allotted by district administration for creating Day Center/Life Long
- Learning centers with the help of corporates /donors.