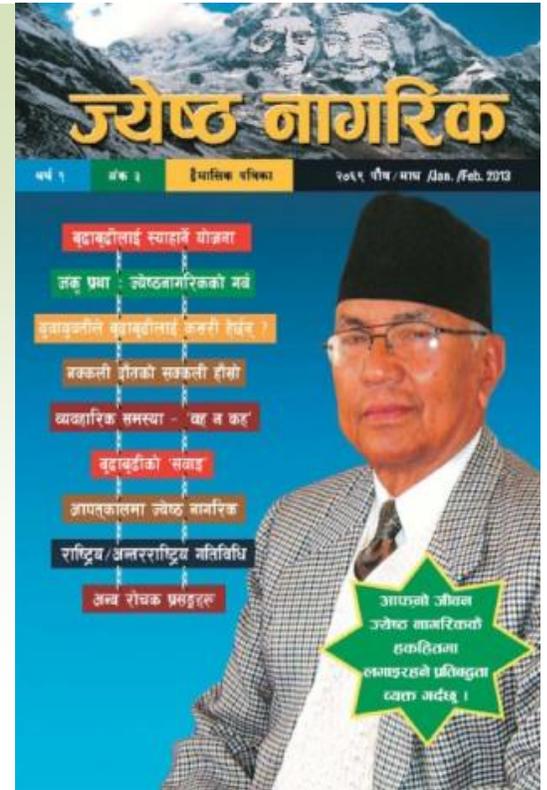


Voice of Senior Citizens



Joint Venture of:



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AGEING IN NEPALI PRESS, MARCH 1-31, 2013

SOCIAL SUPPORT

Elderly felicitated

A total of 4 programmes were organised in the month of March 2013 to felicitate senior citizens. Details are given below:

S.N.	No. of elders felicitated	Age	Sex	Address	By whom	Where	When (March 2013)	Source
1.	Data not available	Above 60	Data not available	Data not available	Daffodil School	Kapan, Ktm	4	Annapurna Post
2.	5	60-96	Data not available	Data not available	Dhamma Padam Viajaya, Buddhist org.	Ktm	17	Kantipur
3.	5	Above 60	Data not available	Data not available	Nepali Congress (Political party)	Gaighat	21	Annapurna Post
4.	More than 200	Above 60	Data available	Data not available	Civil society	Butwal	31	Gorkhapatra

Senior Citizens Service Society formed

Gorkhapatra

Kathmandu, March 3, 2012

Eleven members Senior Citizens Service Society was formed under Mr. Purusottam Tiwari to work for well-being of the senior citizens. The Society will take initiatives to provide facilities to the senior citizens in public vehicles, flights and hospitals.

NASCIF participated in conference at Haridwar

NASCIF

Kathmandu, March 4, 2013

Members of National Senior Citizens Federation (NASCIF) including Secretary General Mr. Chhatra Pradhan and 18 senior citizens visited Rishikesh, India to participate in 3 days conference, Total Health Solution. The team was led by Dr. Gaurisankar Lal Das, Chairperson of NASCIF. The conference that held from 1st-3rd March 2013 was organised by Antar Rastriya Sahayog Parisad (ARSP), India.

More than 300 organisations working for well-being of ageing population in India participated in the conference. Several programmes/events on yoga, meditation including diseases like,



Member of NASCIF on 5th ARSP Conference

diabetes, high blood pressure, heart-attacks and osteoarthritis were organized. Yoga Guru Baba Ramdev graced the occasion. **The Chairperson and the Secretary General of NASCIF were felicitated by the Chief Guest Swami Chidananda Swaraswoti in the programme.**

Album released in an old age home

Samacharpatra

Kathmandu, March 7, 2013

Singer and lyrist Gayatri Thapa Magar released her album 'Aaradhana' at Pashupati Old Age Home by distributing foods and fruits to their inhabitants. The album was jointly released by CNN hero Anuradha Koirala and former Minister Gokarna Bista.

Social worker Dilshova felicitated

Gorkhapatra

Kathmandu, March 10, 2013

Vice President Parmananda Jha felicitated operator of Aamaghar, Dil Shova Shrestha and the teachers of Gyan Kunja Higher Secondary School on the occasion of the 23rd anniversary of the school.

Mahayagya to build old age home

Gorkhapatra

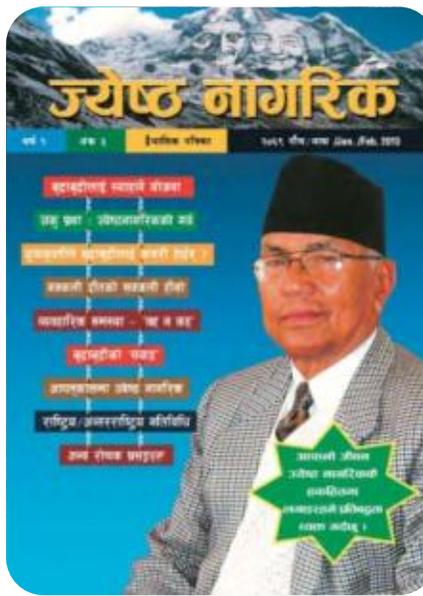
Solukhumbu, March 31, 2013

A week long religious ritual kicked off at the premises of Himaganga Higher Secondary school here to raise fund for construction of the first ever old age home in district. The OAH is being built to give protection to the senior citizens of the district, said one Prakash Basnet.

Support provided

Two OAHs received support in the month of March 2013. Details are as follows:

S.N.	Supporter	To whom	Reason	What	How much	When	Where	Source
1.	NRN	Aamakoghar	Charity	Financial support	Rs. 800, 000	25	Korea	Kantipur
2.	Individual	Pashupati OAH	In memory of deceased mother	Consumable products	Data not available	30	Kathmandu	Nepal Samacharpatra



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<http://www.ageingnepal.org.np/images/jn3.pdf>

SOCIAL SECURITY

Jorpati VDC distributes social security allowances

Samacharpatra

Kathmandu, March 3, 2013

Jorpati VDC has distributed social security allowance to 687 persons of the VDC. Among the recipients 387 were senior citizens from the Dalit communities.

Software saves 4.6 million rupees

Kantipur

Dolakha, March 21, 2013

Software prevented Rs. 4.661 million from being misused. After the complaints from the youths of the area, the District Development Committee started keeping the record of transactions using software. According to Local Development Officer Mr. Tubraj Pokhrel, a sum of Rs. 4661,000 has been returned to the state coffer this year. In the past, VDC secretaries used to receive and misuse money in the name of the deceased.

ADVOCACY

Struggle Committee for the rights of senior citizens

Annapurna Post

Kathmandu, March 9, 2013

Civil society, Divyashwori Nagaraik Samaj of Bhaktapur formed a 13 members committee called Struggle Committee led by its Vice-chairman Maha Prasad Parajuli to exert pressure on the government for implementation of the rights guaranteed by the constitution to senior citizens.

The committee put forward their demands that the senior citizens should be given discounts of 50% in public vehicles and hospitals as required by the prevailing law. They also demanded to increase monthly old age allowance to Rs. 3,000.

Rotaractors from Aberdeen on study tour to Nepal

Ageing Nepal

Kathmandu, March 25, 2013

Three students from Aberdeen University are in study tour to Nepal from 25th March to 18th April 2013. The students, Sara Casciello, Lili Z Nagy and Eugenia Angioni are also members of Aberdeen Rotaract Club. The purpose of their visit includes,

- To undertake a Feasibility Study for Supported Housing for elderly in Bhaktapur
- To undertake a Market Assessment for a planned Social Enterprise in Bandipur



From left, Sara Casciello, Lili Z Nagy and Eugenia Angioni

Study tour to Nepal

Ageing Nepal

Kathmandu, March 31, 2013

Mr. Yeshe Wangdi from Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health of Royal Government of Bhutan was on a study tour to Nepal from 23rd March to 1st April 2013. The main objective of his visit was to understand the issues of ageing population of Nepal and the efforts being made from government and civil societies to address the issue. During study tour to Nepal, he visited several old age homes run by government and private organisations. He also met with senior officers from concerned Ministries and Governments and Country Director of HelpAge International Nepal. The tour was organised by Ageing Nepal.



Mr. Wangdi meeting stakeholders at HelpAge International Nepal

Mr. Wangdi with Upendra Aryal, Joint Secretary of Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare (MoWCSW)



Photo courtesy: Ageing Nepal

ACTIVE AGEING

Successful farmer in social service

Gorkhapatra

Udayapur, March 9, 2013

All villagers were surprised to see the working zeal and success of 68-year-old farmer Mr. Jituharka Tamang of Rauta VDC-4 in the district. Tamang who earns NRs. one million annually by growing fruit and vegetables, rearing goats and operating water mill has also been active in social services. He has set up a Tamang school in his village and has also contributed for establishing a campus and higher secondary school at Murkuchi Bazaar. He has donated six ropanis of land in Nametar, his birthplace, to build a school.

Astha Women's School: Boon for Elderly Women

Samacharpatra

Kathmandu, March 15, 2013

Eleven elderly women above the age of 60 attended SLC examinations of this year from Astha Women's School of Gatthaghar, Bhaktapur. Most of them were housewives or domestic helpers. A total 300 women who quit or were unable to attend school, are studying in this school set up 25 years ago. (Feature article).

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<http://www.laketwentythousand.com/about.html>

ELDERS IN DEVELOPMENT

Generous Chana

Samacharpatra

Kathmandu, March 9, 2013

Chana Basnet, 80, of Tusal, Kirtipur-8, donated a piece of land to visually impaired, landless squatter Ms. Laxmi Sunwar Basnet, so that later she could build a home. She handed over the land to Sunuwar by organising a programme on the occasion of International Women's Day.

RIGHTS

Senior citizens picket Department of Transportation

Gorkhapatra

Kathmandu, March 23, 2013

Senior citizens have been staging sit-in at the Department of Transportation Management, Kathmandu for the past three weeks. They staged sit-in from 10am- 1pm everyday demanding that they should be provided 50% discount in the public vehicles and the monthly allowance of Rs. 500 should be increased to Rs. 3,000.

Septuagenarian gets citizenship certificate

Gorkhapatra

Lamjung, March 17, 2013

Khavi Ghale of a remote village of Dhodeni in eastern Lamjung was very happy after receiving her citizenship certificate for the first time at the age of 77. Ghale who was unable to walk to the district headquarters in Beshishar got the certificate from Chief District Officer Mr. Baburam Bhandari at a mobile camp that arrived in her village. Ghale reached the camp with her 80-year-old husband Narabir.



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Court order not implemented

Gorkhapatra, March 18, 2013

The government has failed to implement the Supreme Court order that elderly people aged over 60 should be provided 50% discount in the public vehicles. The order was issued two and half years ago. (Feature story)

Octogenarian still without citizenship certificate

Kantipur

Kaule (Chitwan), March 28, 2013

Thuli Maya Chepang of Jyandala is now 80 years old but she has not received her citizenship certificate. Due to lack of citizenship, she was not able to get her old age allowance. Her poverty does not allow her to go to the district headquarter to make her document.

Over 150 citizenship certificates distributed in a day

Nepal Samacharpatra

Parbat, March 28, 2013

Over 150 citizenship certificates were distributed from a mobile camp in the southern belt of this district. The mobile camp that began focusing Ranipani and Barrachaur VDCs distributed 161 certificates. The elderly and the disabled were benefited from the camp.



World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) 2013

Save the Date!

INPEA 8th International Conference
and
8th World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) International Commemoration
will be held on June 23, 2013
in
Seoul, Korea
(Immediately prior to the opening of the 20th IAGG World Congress)

IAGG 20th
The 20th IAGG World Congress of
Gerontology and Geriatrics
June 23-27, 2013 Coex, Seoul, Korea
Digital Ageing: A New Horizon for Health Care and Active Ageing

IAGG 20th World Congress, Seoul, Korea

The image shows two overlapping posters. The top poster is for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) 2013, featuring a purple header and white text on a white background. The bottom poster is for the 20th IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics, featuring a blue background with a photograph of a large, ornate building and white text.

ELDER ABUSE

No. of senior citizens robbed in the month of March 2013

Altogether four senior citizens were robbed in March 2013, details are available below:

S.N.	Name	Age	Sex	Robbed for	Crime scene	Date (March 2013)	Source
1.	Bare Maharjan	85	M	Money/possessions	Kathmandu	3	Police
2.	Tiharmani Gharti	73	F	Money/possession	Rolpa	26	Police
3.	Marga Gharti	74	M	Money/possessions	Rolpa	26	Police
4.	Bhikari Buda	74	M	Possessions	Kailali	31	Police

Cases of attempted murder of senior citizens in March 2013

A total of six senior citizens faced attempted murder in the month of March 2013 for different causes. Details of the cases are available in the table below:

S.N.	Name	Age	Sex	Address	Reason	Culprit	Form of abuse	Status	Date	Source
1.	Khal Bahadur Basnet	74	M	Terathum	Family dispute	Son	Physical	Dead	1	Police
2.	Rana Maya Thopra	64	F	Taplejung	Dispute	Neighbour	Physical	Dead	7	Gorkhapatra
3.	Dev Prasad Shrestha	60	M	Kailali	Unknown	Unknown	Physical	Not dead	3	Police
4.	Bal Bahadur Rai	62	M	Taplejung	Family dispute	Son	Physical	Dead	13	Police
5.	Lukbutti Sherpa	62	F	Sankhuwasabha	Financial dispute	Neighbour	Physical	Dead	17	Nepal Samacharpatra
6.	Tika Devi Dhakal	88	F	Nuwakot	Witchcraft	Villagers	Physical	Not dead	23	Annapurna Post

NEGLECT

Unattended death

A total of nine unattended dead bodies of senior citizens were found from different parts of the country, details are given in the table below:

S.N.	Name	Age	Sex	Address	Place of death	Date (March, 2013)	Source
1.	Kamijong Tamang	72	F	Rasuwa	Rasuwa	1	Kantipur
2.	Dor Bahadur Rai	70	M	Illam	Illam	1	Police
3.	Bhim Bahadur Rawal	80	M	Dailekh	Dailekh	2	Police
4.	Indu Kumari Thapa	65	F	Palpa	Palpa	6	Police
5.	Parbati Chaudhary	60	F	Kailali	Kailali	16	Police
6.	Prem Bahadur Roka	68	M	Pyuthan	Pyuthan	17	Police
7.	Unidentified	60	M	Unidentified	Bhaktapur	24	Annapurna Post
8.	Nara Bahadur Bikhari	60	M	Doti	Doti	25	Police
9.	Thakri Baba	65	M	Kathmandu	Pashupati, Kathmandu	27	Police

ELDERS IN CRIME

Following table presents number of senior citizens found involved in unlawful activities during March 2013.

S.N.	Name	Age	Sex	Address	Crime involved	Date	Source
1.	Suke Sarki	62	M	Surkhet	Rape	12	Nepal Samacharpatra
2.	Shyam Yadav	65	M	Kapilvastu	Forgery	19	Gorkhapatra
3.	Dilli Ram Poudel	70	M	Jhapa	Sexual abuse	24	Police
4.	Chote Lal Kalwar	65	M	Uttarpardesh, India	Drug trafficking	26	Police
5.	Satya Narayan	65	M	Lahan	Attempt to murderer	26	Gorkhapatra
6.	Nara Bahadur Subba	70	M	Sunsari	Illegal possession of animal skins	31	Police
7.	Hari Bahadur (name changed)	63	M	Kavre	Rape	31	Kantipur

FEATURES

Radhika seeks help for the helpless

Nepal Samacharpatra

Fidim, March 18, 2013

Social activist Radhika Thapa who established Siddhapokhari Sewa sadan, an old age home in her solo effort a year ago is now seeking help to feed the six elderly people living in the old home.

'Uncle of all' passes away

Kantipur

Palpa, March 25, 2013

Social activist Bhuyuman Lugal passed away at 92. Everyone in Tansen used to call him 'Kaka' (Uncle). Lugal had launched a solo campaign against the practice of animal sacrifice in temples. He used to ask everyone whether their god and goddess eat chicken, buffalo and goat that they offered.

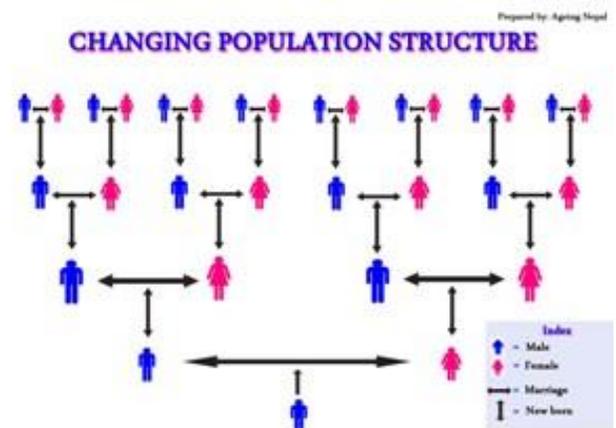
Too Many Aged, To Few Youth!

Rising Nepal

BISHNU GAUTAM

"The last blue figure is of a new born baby to its 20-year old parents. The parents' parents are in their early forties, grandparents in their early sixties and the great grandparents in the early 80s. As the practice of giving birth to only one or two children is increasing, a couple will be looking after their parents as well as their in-laws." "If the average age of producing the baby is 20 years then at his 20s this baby (and spouse) will have to earn to manage the livelihood of at least 24 individuals."

Read more: <http://www.ageingnepal.org.np/images/march29.pdf>



BANGLADESH

Half of older people suffer from blood pressure: survey

BSS

Dhaka, Aril 03, 2013

Half of country's older people are suffering from high blood pressure. They also suffer from different other complicated diseases like gastritis, dysentery, diabetes, headache and eye diseases, reveals a survey. Twenty per cent of the older people take treatment from different NGO health centers, according to the findings of the survey conducted by HelpAge International.

The survey findings were presented at a function organized by Dhaka Ahsania Mission at its Dhanmondi auditorium in the city today. HelpAge conducted the survey in six districts of Bangladesh. The survey reveals that the older people lose their interest to take treatment for economic hardship and the medical centers being far away.

National Federation of Older People President Shahabuddin Sarder presided over the function while Department of Health Additional Director General Dr Abul Kalam Azad, Delta Medical College Professor Dr Afsana Karim, Dhaka Ahsania Mission Cancer and General Hospital Director Dr Syed Fazle Rahman took part in the discussion, said a press release. Read more: <http://www1.bssnews.net/newsDetails.php?cat=0&id=322976&date=2013-04-03>

Dhaka Declaration on Population Dynamics

Euro NGO

The Global Leadership Meeting on Population Dynamics UN consultation (Dhaka, 12-13 March) ended with the adoption of a Declaration on the role of population dynamics in the post-2015 development agenda.

The 'Dhaka Declaration' can be accessed [here](#).



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CHINA

China moves to let elderly sue adult kids for neglect

Arizona Daily Star

Beijing, March 18, 2013

In 10 years as head of an elder-care center in Confucius' hometown of Qufu, Yang Youling has seen the Chinese philosopher's exhortation of filial piety turned on its head. Many children never visit their aged parents in the 50-bed home in eastern China's Shandong province to avoid being criticized for not taking care of them, said Yang, 47. "The children are ashamed of being seen," she said.

They will soon have a new deterrent. From July 1 onward, parents in China can sue their kids who don't visit often enough, under a broadened law mandating children take better care of the aged. With China's elderly population forecast to more than double to 487 million in the next 40 years, the government needs to try to limit the cost of caring for seniors. Read more: http://azstarnet.com/news/world/china-moves-to-let-elderly-sue-adult-kids-for-neglect/article_ef688ba3-fda6-5e2a-b36d-1936d3973f61.html

China to Allocate 1 Bil Annually to Rural Senior Citizen Care

March 11, 2013

Member of the 12th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and Vice Minister of Civil Affairs Jiang Li has revealed that the Ministry of Civil Affairs and Ministry of Finance will allocate 1 billion yuan (US\$ 160.8 million) annually from 2013 to 2015 to help establish rural cooperative care services for senior citizens. Currently, China can only provide 20.3 beds for every 1,000 senior citizens in nursing homes but the figure will reach 30 per thousand in 2015, according to Jiang. Read more: <http://www.womenofchina.cn/html/womenofchina/report/150421-1.htm>

China: Growing old before it can grow rich?

BBC

China's economic miracle has been accompanied by astonishingly rapid population ageing. Could growing old too fast end China's irresistible march out of poverty?

Where Shanghai leads, China follows. The city is ultra-modern - but also one of the fastest-ageing places on Earth. One in four of Shanghai's permanent residents is retired. You can see it in the city's vast branch of the furniture store, Ikea. A greying crowd show little interest in flat-pack furniture. Mr Ni is 72 years old, single and smartly turned out in a tweed cap. "This is a great place to talk to people," he says.

The in-store restaurant offers cheap food to tempt couples setting up home. But this part of the store is buzzing with the elderly, here to flirt and find love. Mr Ni is a widower whose children have all left home. "I find it easier to talk to women whose husbands have died," he says. "I know how hard it is." Read more: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-china-18091107>



WILL CHINA'S RAPIDLY AGEING POPULATION THREATEN ITS ECONOMIC PROSPERITY?

India agrees on universal pension

HelpAge Blog

RHIANNON LEON

March 13, 2013: Last week, thousands of older people from across India gathered in New Delhi to peacefully protest for their rights. Days later, on 7 March, they heard the Government of India make an unprecedented commitment to improve the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) and ensure every older person receives a pension. The scheme has faced mounting criticism for its small size and low coverage. Targeted at older people in households classified as living below the poverty line, it covers only around 20% of India's estimated 84 million older people. The amount people receive varies between states, with some people receiving as little as Rs.200, or US\$4, a month. Read more: <http://www.helpage.org/newsroom/latest-news/india-agrees-on-universal-pension/?keywords=india+>

Senior citizens gear up to save water

Hindustan Times

Mumbai, March 26, 2013

For the last three weeks, Neelkanth Joshi, 60, and his colleagues have been stepping out for their early morning walk with an agenda — to check on housing societies with overflowing water tanks. "Every day at 4.30am, about 12 of my friends and I set out for a walk and check if water tanks are overflowing in any housing society in the neighbourhood. If we come across such incidents, we inform the society members about it and ask them to take responsibility for it," said Joshi.

"If no action is taken despite the warning, we write the name of the society on a board that we have placed in the area," said Joshi, who took up the initiative after attending a session on water conservation organised by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) earlier this month. Read more: <http://www.hindustantimes.com/India-news/Maharashtra/Senior-citizens-gear-up-to-save-water/Article1-1032835.aspx>

City's seniors can now find a live-in partner

Hindustan Times

Mumbai, March 31, 2013

"A first-of-its-kind initiative to encourage single senior citizens to find live-in partners is being organised" in Mumbai on April 7. Aptly named the **Senior Citizens Jeevan Saathi Sammelan**, the free event is being organised by Ahmedabad-based NGO Vina Mulya Amulya Seva in association with Mumbai-based NGO Silver Inning Foundation and the Rotary Club of Nariman Point.

"In an age when children do not have the time to take care of their parents, it is a good idea to find a like-minded person to share the last years of life with, rather than being lonely, depressed and unhappy," says Natubhai Patel of Vina Mulya Amulya Seva, which has been organising such events in Gujarat for about a year, drawing as many as 300 people per meet. Read more: <http://www.hindustantimes.com/India-news/Mumbai/City-s-seniors-can-now-find-a-live-in-partner/Article1-1034982.aspx>

"A FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND INITIATIVE TO ENCOURAGE SINGLE SENIOR CITIZENS TO FIND LIVE-IN PARTNERS IS BEING ORGANISED"

PAKISTAN

Bill draft prepared to facilitate old people

The Nation

ISLAMABAD - The draft of 'Islamabad Capital Territory Senior Citizens Welfare Bill 2013' has been prepared to give them better opportunities of transportation, recreation, medical facilities, increase in pension and legal assistance. Presiding over the follow-up stakeholders' meeting to discuss various issues concerning welfare of senior citizens here.



Additional Secretary, Ministry of Capital Administration and Latif Leghari informed that on direction of Ministry of CAD, National Commission on Status of Women (NCSW) is actively involved in preparation of Draft Bill for welfare of the senior citizens at Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT).

The meeting was jointly organised by National Council of Social Welfare (Ministry of Capital Administration and Development), HelpAge International and Pakistan National Centre on Ageing (PNCA). Read more: http://www.nation.com.pk/pakistan-news-newspaper-daily-english-online/islamabad/08-Apr-2013/bill-draft-prepared-to-facilitate-old-people#disqus_thread



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http://www.ardsnepal.org/ARDS_Nepal/Welcome.html

National Forum on "Growing Old Gracefully"

HelpAge Sri Lanka

March Update

HelpAge Sri Lanka (HASL) in collaboration with Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (HRCSL) started a campaign to promote the rights of elders in Sri Lanka. The National Forum on "Growing Old Gracefully" was held successfully on 28th March 2013 at Lakshman Kadirgamar International Studies Center, Colombo 07 with the participation of more than 100 stakeholders. Other planned activities will be completed within the stipulated time frame. This is a major advocacy program being carried out to promote elders' rights this year by HASL. After the initial discussions both parties have agreed to go ahead with the following activities.

1. Select five experts to prepare 5 status reports on the following thematic areas.

- Demographic analysis of older population in Sri Lanka, based on the current data, specially from 2011 census. (Professor Indralal De Silva)
- ii) Sustainable livelihood for elders. (Prof. S. Hettige)
- iii) Physical and mental health of older persons and alternative medicine. (Dr. Anil Dissanayaka)
- iv) Security, protection and elder abuse. (Ms. Sumithra Rahubadda)
- v) Growing old gracefully. (Mrs. N.J.Pathirana)



2. A forum should be held on 28th March, 2013.

3. Elders' representatives from different parts of the country must be invited to the forum.

4. A presentation should be made by each expert at the forum and the participants will be given the opportunity to comment on those presentations.

5. Final papers (about 20 pages), after inserting the feedback from the stakeholders, should be handed over to the HRCSL/HASL.

6. A monogram will be prepared with all five papers and published in all three languages (Sinhala, Tamil and English).

7. There will be another forum for publishing the monogram and presenting it to the government and other stakeholders.

Mental health awareness and mental health camp for elderly



HelpAge Sri Lanka conducted a mental health awareness programme for the medical staff of Padaviya hospital and MOH on 25th March 2013 at the later's office. Elderly Home Care Volunteers also participated in the programme. Altogether 70 people participated in this awareness programme. Mental health clinic was also conducted on occasion where more than 200 elders were screened. This programme was funded by TEA programme (Netherland funded project). Medical faculty of Sri Jayewardenepura provided psychiatrists and doctors for the programme.

*For further detail on HelpAge Sri Lanka, write to:
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chminda@helpage.lk*

