

October 1, 2016

MESSAGE ON INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS

International Day for Older Persons is celebrated all across the world on 1st October. The day is marked as an opportunity to highlight and appreciate the important contributions by elderly to society and raise awareness of the issues and challenges of ageing in today's world. This year with the theme 'Take a Stand Against Ageism' for International Day of Older Persons 2016, let us all challenge our self to consider ageism – the negative attitudes and discrimination based on age and the detrimental impact it has on older people.

Both young and old plays an important role in the society as well as in family life. They are the asset of the society and should be taken care of properly. Elders have been working for years together so they have vast wealth of knowledge, skills and experiences, they have lived through situations others cannot even imagine, and yet we dismiss these lifetimes of experiences when they begin to need love, care and support.

Today let us rededicate our self to the pressing demands of the young and the elderly by creating public awareness through promotional material in schools, institutions, offices and public places. Let us make an environment which is user friendly for the elderly persons in public places, public transportations, hospitals, banks etc.

The older persons' rich experience and service should be a big capital for any society. They are assets and liability.

We need to have more libraries, health care centres, parks, etc. for the older people and also proper respect for older people.

During this International Day for Older Persons, me and my wife with a heart full of love wishes all the elderly persons throughout the state a very healthy and peaceful life.