

GOACAN



One-day State level Seminar on  
***The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act 2007:  
It's Effective Implementation in Goa***

organised by  
**The International Centre Goa and GOACAN**  
in association with  
**Directorate of Social Welfare, Government of Goa**  
partly supported by Mr. Sanjeev P K Tarcar

on Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2016 from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm  
at The International Centre Goa, Dona Paula

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Recommendations with regards to Caring for the Elderly:

**Need to increase Community care programs which would cover**

1. basic support
2. fulfilling needs to encourage independent living
3. domiciliary health support
4. activities to improve socialisation and recreation
5. Need for Capacity building in Senior Citizen Homes e.g. Conduct of psychosocial activities
6. Need for Care Homes for severely disabled e.g. physically incapacitated, bed ridden, dementia
7. Need to increase the level of public awareness about mental health problems of old age
8. Introduce specialized geriatric care facilities in Govt. & private hospitals
9. Introduce training in geriatric mental health at the PHC level

10. Increase the number of day care centres / rehabilitation centres for the elderly with mental health needs
11. Hasten the implementation of the DMHP (District Mental Health Program) in North Goa
12. Overall need for awareness about the importance of geriatric care
13. As Caregivers have been described as “hidden patients” it is important to provide a platform for training on new skills as well as arrange for opportunities to share experiences on health problems & stress issues through Taluka level get-togethers.

#### **Recommendations with regards the Act**

1. There has to be awareness created on the salient sections of the Act among all stakeholders
2. Stricter implementation of the of the various sections of the Act
3. Speedy disposal of maintenance applications must be done.
4. There has to be awareness created about the various schemes of State Govt. for the elderly and particularly about the Identity Card & the Helpline
5. A special awareness campaign on the Responsibility of Children towards Parents and in general towards the elderly must be taken up in schools, HSS and Colleges
6. Sensitization sessions may be held for Head Constables , Junior Civil Service Officers and the Judicial officers

#### **General Recommendations:-**

1. Special attention must be given to the SC, ST, OBC, Women & the Disabled when conducting awareness programs so as ensure their participation.
2. At the Taluka level programs must have proper representation from the Village Panchayats & Municipal Councils in the jurisdiction.

3. Wide publicity must be given to the decisions of the District & State Councils.
4. Appropriate changes be made to the Sr. Citizens Identity Card to include the date of birth, contact phone no., next of kin in case of emergency and the Helpline No. 1090.
5. Every Police Station must have a 3member volunteer Committee for every Village Panchayat in its jurisdiction.
6. Encourage the formation of Support Groups among Sr. Citizens.
7. Encourage the formation of a Sr. Citizens Cell in Housing Societies.
8. Encourage Banks & Financial institutions to hold Financial literacy camps for Sr. Citizens.
9. Crime Prevention Education Cell be setup in Goa Police to conduct awareness sessions for Sr. Citizens.
10. Every year 15<sup>th</sup> June World Elder Abuse Awareness Day to be observed.
11. 1<sup>st</sup> October International Day of Older Persons also be observed in all Schools, HSS, Colleges & ITI's.
12. Bal Bhavan be requested to organize a interaction between Children & Sr. Citizen at Taluka level.
13. Department of Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs be requested to conduct special awareness programs for Sr. Citizens on the benefits of the Consumer Protection Act 1986.
14. Directorate of Panchayats be requested to give adequate time to Sr. Citizens to speak in the Gram Sabha on the issues faced by them.
15. Directorate of Municipal Councils be requested to issue instructions to Municipal Councils to hold a Open House for Senior Citizens every 6 months on the issues faced by them.