

**Memorandum submitted to Dr. V. Saroja Honorable Minister
for Social Welfare and Nutritious Noon Meal Program
Government of Tamilnadu on February 28, 2017**

**By
Dr.V.S. Natarajan Geriatric Foundation**

On behalf of Dr.V.S. Natarajan Geriatric Foundation and the elderly community, we hereby submit the following elder welfare charters for your kind consideration and suitable action:

1. Streamlining of old age homes:

- ✓ An expert committee comprising of a Geriatrician to be formed for the purpose of reviewing and permitting those who want to establish old age homes.
- ✓ The Committee should be empowered to make surprise inspections of the old age homes.
- ✓ To preventive dreadful chest disease like Pneumonia Vaccination of Old age home inmates to be made compulsory
- ✓ A dietician should visit the homes at least once in a month to check and advice regarding the quality of the meals of the inmates.

2. Awareness campaign against Elder abuse:

- ✓ World elder abuse awareness day should be observed officially on **June 15th every year**
- ✓ Coordinated pledge to be taken by School and college students at a particular time on June 15th. Employees of various organisations also to be included in the coordinated pledge program (Pledge is enclosed in English and Tamil).

3. Vaccination for the elderly:

- ✓ **Propaganda:** Comprehensive public awareness campaign should be initiated and carried out by the Government on vaccination for the elderly.
- ✓ All those who are above the age of 60 years should be eligible for free vaccination.
- ✓ All Corporation dispensaries should be equipped to carry out vaccination for the elders

4. Community engagement for the elderly:

- ✓ Proverbs, which signify the values of elders can be described in the buses, parks and other public spaces such as bus stands, railway stations etc. (sample list of proverbs enclosed)
- ✓ Exclusive magazine/journal/bulletin for the elderly on subsidised rates. Topics such as health, nutrition, exercises, hobbies, mental health, recreation, travel etc. to be covered in the magazine.
- ✓ Special awareness campaign on mental issues pertaining to the elderly
- ✓ Increase in the number of walkers parks for the elderly with mild exercise apparatus.

5. Healthcare & safety infrastructure the elderly:

- ✓ Minimum 10 bedded Geriatric unit in all District headquarters general hospitals
- ✓ Day care center for elders similar to anganwadis
- ✓ Exclusive community census of the elderly.
- ✓ Exclusive safety measures for elders at public spaces.

We earnestly hope you would take necessary steps to implement the above

Thank you