

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 452
ANSWERED ON – 22/07/2026

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS

452. DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

- (a) the objectives and outcomes of the International Day of Older Persons 2025 celebrations and the ways in which these observances complement existing programmes for elderly welfare;
- (b) the collaborative programmes and innovations launched or highlighted on this occasion to enhance the quality of life, healthcare access and social inclusion for senior citizens;
- (c) how inter-ministerial cooperation and partnerships with civil society are being strengthened to address the challenges of an ageing population; and
- (d) the future policy strategies planned to build an inclusive and supportive ecosystem for the elderly across the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B.L.VERMA)

(a) to (d) The International Day of Older Persons (IDOP) is observed on 1st October of every year. IDOP-2025 was celebrated through a series of programmes and outreach activities aimed at promoting the dignity, welfare, active and healthy ageing, and social inclusion of senior citizens. This complemented the ongoing initiatives under the Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY) by creating greater awareness about the rights, care and well-being of older persons, encouraging community participation, and fostering an age-friendly ecosystem under the theme "Ageing with Dignity".

As part of the celebrations, Memorandum of Understandings (MoU) was signed with the Birla Open Minds Foundation to strengthen collaborative initiatives for the welfare of senior citizens. Five Senior Citizen Homes located in Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Assam, Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand were virtually inaugurated. The programme also witnessed the launch of "Naitik Patham", an interactive game designed to promote inter-generational bonding and a QR Code-based initiative to facilitate Grandparents-Teachers Meetings.

Under the IDOP celebration, Inter-generational bonding programmes were also organised at Jabalpur, Badaun, Chhatarpur, Navgaon, Biaora and Mount Abu. Further in collaboration with S-VYASA, Bengaluru, yoga sessions and medical camps were organised to promote healthy and active ageing. The Department has also organised, a special awareness session on the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, in collaboration with the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) which focuses on the legal rights and entitlements of senior citizens, welfare provisions under the Act and the role of families and communities in ensuring their well-being. A cultural programme titled "Aradhana" was organised to promote active ageing, cultural participation and inter-generational harmony.

These initiatives promoted healthy and active ageing, healthcare awareness, legal literacy, social participation, cultural engagement and stronger inter-generational relationships, while reinforcing the objectives of the Government's ongoing programmes for senior citizens.

The Government continues to promote convergence among Central Ministries, State Governments, autonomous organisations and civil society organisations through awareness programmes, outreach activities, capacity-building initiatives and implementation of components under the umbrella scheme of AVYAY.
