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HelpAge India | Fighting isolation,
poverty, neglect

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HelpAge India | Fighting isolation,
poverty, neglect

ANNUAL REPORT 2007-2008



.....a ray of hope for the elderly

HelpAge India has been actively voicing the needs of India's 90 million* elderly. It has been advocating for their rights and working towards empowering them to demand what's rightfully theirs. The Age Demands Action campaign was one such initiative. HelpAge has also been focusing on issues such as pensions, social inclusion and health care, to enable them to lead fulfilling lives with dignity.

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Mr. Mark Gorman

Chief Executive
Mathew Cherian

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



I am pleased to present the Annual Report of HelpAge India for the financial year which ended March 31, 2008. This has been a special year for the society as it intensified services for the deprived elderly and expanded care services for older persons in general. Significantly, a substantial number of old and new donors contributed generously to help us fulfill our mission.

India is on the threshold of a demographic change. While we remain a predominantly young nation with only 8% of the population over 60 years of age. The scenario is set to change sooner than expected. The decade between 2011 and 2021 will see a growth of over 38% in the absolute numbers of the elderly which is expected to go from the present 90 million to 133 million. With increasing life expectancy many older persons are now spending longer years out of paid work, dependent on family, on public health care and battling illness and a steep rise in the cost of living. As the functional capacity of the aged decreases, four types of dependency affect the elderly (a) economic dependency due to lack of income, (b) physical dependency caused by failing health and agility, (c) psychological dependency and (d) social dependency caused by weakening of intra and inter generational relationships. While this represents a huge challenge for the policy planners, it also thrusts upon HelpAge India a responsibility to reorient its programmes and services to meet the emerging needs. The scope of our programmes therefore has been expanded significantly.

Everyone in HelpAge India, especially its staff and volunteer doctors, has worked very hard and I should like to express my appreciation to all of them. The advice and support of the members of the Governing Body have sustained the management and staff and myself in our efforts. I extend my personal thanks to our individual donors and supporters and in particular to HelpAge International, Help-the-Aged and CORDAID in the Netherlands.

I look forward to your continuing encouragement, guidance and support for our efforts.

Amal Ganguli

AMAL GANGULI

*current estimate

AGE DEMANDS ACTION Elders press for social security

In an initiative to self-empower the elderly of the nation, in October 2007, HelpAge India co-ordinated a nation wide campaign titled "Age Demands Action". Across India, thousands of elders put their might behind this drive, by putting their thumbprint and signatures on forms for the Petition, which was submitted to the government to call for better ageing policies, specifically to demand social security. Memorandums were submitted to senior policy makers in Coimbatore, Orissa, Mangalore, Guwahati, Chandigarh, Jagadhri & Amritsar in Punjab, Raipur, Bhopal and elsewhere.



74-year-old Bharpai, of Rohtak which is 100 kilometers north-west of Delhi, puts her thumbprint on the form as part of the "Age Demands Action" initiative.

CHALLENGES AHEAD...



This is a landmark year for all of us in HelpAge India, we complete 30 years of service to the disadvantaged elderly. As we move ahead we are cognizant of the challenges ahead of us. Our programmatic focus now includes broad based advocacy interventions in rights, social protection and against elder abuse.

Our ongoing school education programme is being re-oriented as Value Education Programme with the aim to inculcate in the young, values of love and respect for the elderly. The network of helplines for the elderly, particularly those living alone in large cities, has been established in Delhi, Chennai and Hyderabad. Work towards a national helpline is under active planning. Our ongoing programmes viz., Sponsor-A-Grandparent, Mobile Medicare services, cataract and health camps have been expanded. We have successfully completed large projects in disaster affected areas notable amongst which has been the 100 bedded old age home supported by NDTV viewers, in Cuddalore. Our dedicated team ventured into flood affected areas in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to provide assistance to 5000 families, particularly older persons.

I on behalf of my colleagues would like to acknowledge the support of all our donors for their trust and generosity. Whenever HelpAge India has embarked on a new project or launched a new service, it has been with the knowledge that our donors will come forward to support it.

Mathew Cherian

MATHEW CHERIAN
Chief Executive

MOVING AHEAD

New beginnings, new milestones in policies for elderly.....

Over the past 30 years, HelpAge has been lobbying with the government & policy makers to address the varied needs of senior citizens. The effort is now bearing fruit with policy makers recognizing the importance of this section of society and their needs. Year 2007-08 has brought with it good news for senior citizens from various segments of society. The foremost being **"The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Bill, 2007, becoming an ACT**. A much desired move that HelpAge had been supporting.

Under the Act, the States shall form Tribunals for deciding upon the order for Maintenance. They have the powers to make the rules for carrying out the objectives of the Act, which would be put before the concerned State Legislature for adoption. The Act not just provides for Maintenance of the elderly, but also for better medical facilities, protection of life and property and old age homes in every district.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- The Maintenance Application can be filed by parents and senior citizens (above 60 years) unable to maintain himself/herself, against children (not minor) or relatives (who would inherit and are in possession of the property of the elderly).
- The Maintenance Application can be filed by the senior citizen or parent or by any other person or organization authorized by him/her, if incapable of doing so himself/herself.
- The Maintenance Application can be filed either in the district where the elderly resides, or where the children or relatives reside. Notices would be sent and the proceedings should conclude within 90 days from the date of service of the



Maintenance Application on the children or relatives.

- The case would be referred for conciliation, if appropriate, before hearing. The findings of the conciliation officer (who can be the Maintenance Officer, NGO representative or anyone on behalf of the elderly) should be submitted to the Tribunal within a month. If an amicable settlement has been reached, the Tribunal shall pass an order according to such settlement.

- If, children or relatives are ordered by the Tribunal to pay Maintenance to the elderly, fail to comply, they are liable to a fine or imprisonment.

- Abandonment of the elderly is now a cognizable offence. Anyone responsible for looking after or protecting the senior citizen, leaves him/her in any place with the intention of wholly abandoning, shall be punished and fined.

- Role of NGOs has also been legislated under the Act e.g. for filing Maintenance Applications on behalf of the elderly if he/she is unable to do so himself/herself, for reconciliation and representation of his/her case if unable to do so and authorizes someone else to represent and facilitate.

Budget 2008 also brought some good news vis a vis senior citizens, showing the growing recognition of their special needs. Here are some highlights:

- For senior citizens the income tax limit goes up from Rs. 1.95 lakh to Rs. 2.25 lakh.
- Three schemes to be introduced for providing social security to workers from the unorganized sector.
- A national programme for the elderly to be started at a cost of Rs. 400 crore.
- Rashtra Swasthya Beema Yojana to start in Delhi and Haryana. Rs. 30,000 for each family belonging to the unorganized sector.

HelpAge explores the issue of "Property abuse of Elderly"

With urbanization and industrialization spreading its wings to all segments of society, real estate value has shot up. Property speculation has led to increase in house values. New issues and problems have stemmed up as a result. One such is that of abuse of older people for property. To understand this growing problem and to have a deeper insight, HelpAge conducted a sample survey in the city of Delhi. Some shocking revelations came into fore.

49% of elderly with property in their name were being harassed by their own children & children in law. Others were victimized by landlords, neighbours, civic bodies etc.

Maximum cases of abuse were from the affluent colonies of the city.

Elders come under intense pressure to either sell off their property or transfer ownership to their sons or daughters and are subjected to various forms of abuse if they refuse, by their kin. The dependency factor emerges very strongly in cases of property disputes. Most of those being harassed are dependent on their children. Those who are able to support themselves are empowered enough to turn around and quash such demands.

44% of those facing harassment have reported the matter to the police. The bulk of those who have not lodged complaints, are afraid of revenge by the abuser, are emotionally dependent on them and many wanting to preserve family honor don't come forward. There is also a distinct lack of faith in the police and legal system and physical frailty becomes a constraint.

The Maintenance Act for Seniors can now be used as a tool by them to protect themselves against harassment and abuse.



POLICY MAKERS SHOW THEIR CONCERN

Mark International Day of Older persons

HelpAge is extremely grateful to those policy makers who have over the years been long standing supporters to the cause. With each passing year more and more people from the government come forward to show their concern towards elderly issues. On International Day of Older Persons they once again showed their solidarity towards the cause.



Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment, Ms. Meira Kumar, along with Mr. M.M. Sabharwal (right), President Emeritus, HelpAge India, flags off the inter-generational walk at India Gate, New Delhi, symbolizing the importance of the bond between the young and the old.



Union Finance Minister P. Chidambaram (centre), honors Mr. Inder Prakash Anand (90+), who held important offices in many Indian business organizations with the HelpAge India Golden Award. Looking on is Mrs. Grace Pinto (right), Managing Director, St. Xavier's & Ryan International Group of Schools, who was honored with the HelpAge India Excellence Award.



Union Finance Minister, Mr. P. Chidambaram (right) hands over the Silver Plate Award to Mr. S.L. Raina, now Executive Director (Training), GAIL (India) Limited, for Excellence in Corporate Social Responsibility and continuous support to HelpAge India. Looking on Mr. R.V. Subramanian from GAIL (India) Ltd.



Lt. Gov. of Delhi, Mr. Tejendra Khanna, interacts with an older person. Khanna launched HelpAge's "Age-Friendly Cities" research report on urban India's preparedness and response towards the needs of the elderly on October 1.



FIRST EVER HABITAT FOR ELDERLY NEEDS

HelpAge India - NDTV Viewers elders' village inaugurated



Residents at the Habitat

It's been 4 years since the Tsunami hit the coast of southern India. The tidal wave destroyed habitats, lives and livelihoods, and rendered thousands of aged helpless. HelpAge has been working towards providing long and sustainable solutions for the elderly like habitat and livelihood. December 2007 saw the inauguration of the first ever Habitat built by HelpAge for elderly Tsunami victims namely "Tamaraikulam". This was made possible by contributions from viewers of New Delhi Television Ltd. (NDTV), and support from the Disasters Emergency Committee (UK).



Dr. Prannoy Roy, NDTV Chairman, inaugurates "Tamaraikulam" village for elders, as Mr. Mathew Cherian, HelpAge India, Chief Executive, looks on with the beneficiaries.

"Tamaraikulam" lies on the Cuddalore-Pondicherry road. This attractive red-tiled residential complex is built on traditional lines and can house 100 elders. The complex includes residential area, an infirmary, a dining hall, and a multi-purpose resource centre. Various farming activities and vocational trainings are already underway involving the elderly. Who will live in the complex is decided by village bodies themselves. HelpAge has encouraged the formation of the Elders for Elders Foundation which feels responsible for the wellbeing of the elderly. This unique complex is especially built to cater to elderly needs and therefore designed accordingly.

PACS DRAWS TO A CLOSE: Elderly feel empowered

The Poorest Areas Civil Society (PACS) programme which began in October 2005 and was carried out in 900 villages of Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh & Uttar Pradesh, in 9 of the poorest districts, drew to a close on December 2007. It has left behind a much more aware and empowered elderly population. Early studies in the 3 states revealed that very few elders were even aware of their basic rights, let alone being able to access them. This was the basis for the programme supported by DFID, which focussed on raising their



awareness about their own rights. **Rs.1.3 crore was disbursed for this unique project.**

Today a large segment of these elderly people have found within themselves the 'Power to Demand'.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- 979 village level groups of older people formed with over 20,000 members; 180 block level groups of older persons (*Vridh Sangh*) formed with 6011 members.
- Government Directives issued to include aged in Gram Sabha agendas. Pension cases to be

A first of its kind, it had many resounding successes

brought to the notice of block office within 3 days.

- Sensitization of community through traditional media such as slogans on walls, street plays, puppet shows.
- Entitlements through various social welfare schemes facilitated for 22,680 older persons.
- 90 Civil Society Organizations sensitized.

- State Level rallies of older people (*Vridh Sangh*) organised at Ranchi, Bhopal & Lucknow presenting Charter of Demands to senior govt. officials.
- HelpAge invited to be a member of the Advisory Committee constituted by the Government of Jharkhand to draft a State Policy for Older People.
- National Human Rights Commission, commissioned HelpAge India to organize workshops on Human Rights & Elder Abuse in 6 PACS districts of Ranchi & Hazaribagh (Jharkhand), Banda & Unnao (UP) & Betul & Mandla (MP).



SPONSOR -A- GRANDPARENT Sustaining support, maintaining Dignity

One of HelpAge's oldest and sustaining programmes the *Sponsor-A-Grandparent* programme offers a dignified life to those elderly who have nothing and no one to depend on. Under this the basic needs of an older person such as food, medical supplies, clothing etc. gets covered.

- 226 projects supported • Nearly 14,000 beneficiaries
- Rs.10 crore (approx.) disbursed

75 year old Shanti Devi mistreated by her daughter and physically abused by her son-in-law, was adopted under the *Sponsor-A-Grandparent* project through which she now gets ration, clothing plus some money to spend on herself. Today Shanti, lives alone, but leads a safer and happier life. →



HELPLINES FOR THE ELDERLY Help is but a call away

HelpAge is spreading its wings slowly but surely to address elderly problems and reach out to as many elderly in need of help by extending its Helpline initiative to other cities, such as Hyderabad and Delhi besides the one in Chennai. The Helplines not only attend distress calls from the elderly themselves, but also receive calls to address cases of elderly found lying on the roadside, or being abused, requiring medical attention, police intervention or require information in general. Counseling and legal services are also provided by some. The Hyderabad helpline has already received over 5000 calls since its launch in August 2007, it functions from the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation's office and has 3 functional lines in Telugu, Urdu and English. With the increasing need felt across the nation, HelpAge aims to widen this program further.

- Chennai Helpline: 1253 • Delhi Helpline: 1800-180-1253 • Hyderabad Helpline: 1253

MOBILE MEDICARE UNITS Elderly healthcare gains momentum



33% (approx.) of India's elderly population lives below the poverty line, basic health care is a major necessity, yet unavailable to most. It is to service these elders primarily that HelpAge India's Mobile Medicare Units (MMUs) bring basic medical care to the doorsteps of needy older people. Manned with a qualified doctor, a pharmacist and a social worker, they dispense free medicines and health checks to the elderly. The MMUs also organize health camps to raise awareness among the elderly and their carers about various health related issues. These MMUs also act as vehicles of immediate relief during disasters, providing treatment to elderly victims who are often left to fend for themselves and are especially vulnerable during such a time.

- 52 MMUs across the nation • Covering 19 states • 465 health camps conducted
- Total treatments meted out - 11,54,310 • Rs. 4.9 crore disbursed

PALLIATIVE CARE for elders

HelpAge is now getting into the much required Palliative care for the elderly. Palliative Care is the care of patients and their families, by a team of trained professionals at a time when the patient's disease is no longer responsive to curative treatment and life expectancy is relatively short. A 3 year plus pilot project has been developed in partnership with Indian Association of Palliative Care & Institute of Palliative Medicine, Calicut, and funded by HelpAge India, Help the Aged and Help the Hospices, (UK). The project started in Kerala and has a demonstrative module in Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu. Nearly 600 health care professionals have been trained in Palliative Care, along with HelpAge MMU staff.

DISASTER RESPONSE Helping Elders keep afloat during crisis



Villagers walk through a flood affected area

In 2007, floods created havoc in UP, eastern and north-eastern parts of India, resulting in heavy casualties of life and livestock and extensive damage to infrastructure, crops, property and other assets. Living conditions for the poor became inhospitable due to scarcity of dry ground and their houses were damaged or virtually submerged in flood waters. No availability of food and drinkable water during the initial weeks brought with it, the fear of epidemics.

The HelpAge team immediately got into action and provided health care facilities in the flood affected states of UP, Assam & Bihar. This was possible with support from ECHO (European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office), Cordaid and HelpAge International.

- 52 villages were covered, spreading across the 3 states

Rs.8.1 crore was disbursed towards Disaster Response work related to the Tsunami, flood relief and Kashmir earthquake.

OPHTHALMIC & GENERAL PROJECTS Meeting varied needs of the aged

For the want of a small cataract surgery, many older people are left dependent on others to sustain themselves. Failing sight deprives the elderly not only from earning their livelihood but also from the simple pleasure of seeing the smiling faces of their grandchildren. A mere 1000 rupees, the cost of a simple cataract surgery can change the life of an older person. HelpAge provides a variety of services to the elderly from support to old age homes, hospitals, day care centres, livelihood projects, cancer awareness & detection, geriatric care, to provision of disability aids, drinking water, awareness building, and Alzheimer intervention among others. The aim is to deal with the wide gamut of problems the elderly face, whether it is health related, social, economic or emotional, and address them accordingly.



An elderly woman getting screened at a HelpAge eye check up camp in a village in West Bengal.

- 34,235 cataract surgeries conducted • Total expenditure incurred for general & ophthalmic projects - Rs. 6.30 crore

Sowdamani becomes self reliant

63 year old Sowdamani of Natham Block, Dindigul District, TN, after her husband's death in 1994, had to struggle to take care of her two children with no steady source of income. HelpAge recognized her skills in tailoring and provided her with a loan of Rs.5000 to purchase a sewing machine. Today, she has honed her tailoring skills and is financially independent and secure. The project started by HelpAge to support 55 older people, today has benefitted 191 elderly.



We acknowledge:

CORPORATES, EMBASSIES, TRUSTS & INSTITUTIONS

NALCO, Bhubaneswar, Orissa
 EMAARS Mining and Construction Pvt. Ltd. Kolkata, WB
 Hindalco Industries Ltd. Kolkata, WB
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 Asian Paints, Greater Noida, UP
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 Hindustan Zinc Limited, Udaipur, Rajasthan
 DSCL, Kota, Rajasthan
 S.M.Palriwala India Foundation
 WNS Global Services (Mumbai, Nashik, Pune, Gurgaon)
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 Sri Sankara Vidyashramam Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Thiruvannamiyur, Chennai, TN
 Sir Sivaswamy Kalalaya Hr. Sec. School, Mandaveli, Chennai, TN
 Maharishi Vidya Mandir Public School, Thiruvannamalai, TN

CELEBRATING the spirit of 60

The year saw India celebrating its 60th year of independence, a number synonymous with the aged. HelpAge took this opportunity to honor prominent seniors who turned 60 during the year and launched a web resource for the aged. It also ventured into new territory by organizing a unique auction titled **"Art for the Aged"**, held at the national capital, urging people from all fraternities to come forward and contribute towards the cause.



Visitors admire the artwork put up at Delhi's Oberoi Hotel as part of "Art for the Aged", an auction of works by contemporary masters such as Gopi Gajwani, Jamini Roy, Satish Gujral, Jatin Das, Krishen Khanna, and other leading artists. Part of the money raised from the auction of each artwork, was donated towards the cause. The auction was organized by HelpAge in collaboration with Habitat Foundation and supported by Grey Goose (Bacardi Martini India Limited's premium brand).



(from left): Mr. Mathew Cherian, Chief Executive, along with Mrs. Frenny Billimoria, Governing Body member, HelpAge India, stand alongside Mr. Ajit Pal Singh, Former Indian Hockey Captain, Ms. Anjolie Ela Menon, eminent artist and Mr. S.Y. Quraishi, Election Commissioner, all senior citizens, who were felicitated on the eve of India's 60th year of Independence celebrations when HelpAge also launched its new web resource for 60 plus seniors.

RAISING VOICE Against Elder Abuse

Mrs. Sheila Dikshit, Delhi Chief Minister, joins the fight against Elder Abuse at a function in Delhi, marking World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Also seen are (from right) Mr. M.M. Sabharwal, President Emeritus, HelpAge India, Dr. M.K.Shankardass from International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and Mr. A. N. Sood, from the Delhi Federation of Associations of Senior Citizens.



As urban India is expanding rapidly, with it has risen the need to make an elder friendly environment for our senior citizens. It is to serve this purpose that 8 focus group discussions with older persons, care givers and service providers were held in Delhi and Udaipur to get their opinion. This culminated into a report which contains findings on age friendly features for older persons along with suggestions for improvement. This is a part of the Global Age Friendly Cities Project that is being conducted in 33 cities in 22 countries across the world. WHO gave technical guidance and Help the Aged and Division of Aging and Seniors, Public Health Agency of Canada provided financial support.

RESEARCH & STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT Working towards making cities Age friendly



Ms. Vasundhara Raje, Chief Minister Rajasthan, receives the "Age Friendly Cities" report from Mr. Mathew Cherian (left), Chief Executive, HelpAge India, at the closing ceremony of the 7th Annual Senior Citizens Conference organized in Jaipur in October 2007. Looking on is Dr. H.S. Bakshi (right), National Director (Advocacy), HelpAge India.

Smt. Chandabai Pagariya Jain Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Agharam, Chennai, TN
 St. Joseph's Mat. School, Avadi, Chennai, TN
 Sri Ahobila Matt Oriental Mat. Hr. Sec. School, West Mambalam, Chennai, TN
 Lady Sivaswamy Ayyar Girls Hr. Sec. School, Mylapore, Chennai, TN
 Devi Academy Mat. Senior Sec. School, Valasarawakkam, Chennai, TN
 Sri Sankara Vidyalaya Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Pammal, Chennai, TN
 P.N. Dhawan Adarsh Vidyalaya Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Royapettah, Chennai, TN
 OCPM Girls Hr. Sec. School, Madurai, TN
 Noyes Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Madurai, TN
 Sri Saradha Vidyavanam Girls Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Madurai, TN
 Kamaver Girls Hr. Sec. School, Kovilpatti, TN
 Sri Sivananda Balalaya Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Trichy, TN
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 Assumption Hr. Pry. & High School, Bangalore, Karnataka
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 St. Gerosa Pry. School, Mangalore, Karnataka
 St. Philomena's School High, Hassan, Karnataka
 S.B. Residential School, Gulbarga, Karnataka
 Vimala Hridaya High School, Kollam, Kerala
 Holy Angels' ISC School, Trivandrum, Kerala
 Lecole Chempaka, Trivandrum, Kerala
 St. Theresa's Convent High School, Neyyattinkara, Trivandrum, Kerala
 St. Philomina's High School, Poonthura, Trivandrum, Kerala
 Assisi Vidynikethan Public School, Ernakulam, Kerala
 Greet's Public School, Ernakulam, Kerala
 Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Kozhikode, Kerala
 Shri Sumer Girls Senior Secondary School, Jodhpur, Rajasthan
 Mahaveer Public School, Jaipur, Rajasthan
 Modi School, Laxmangarh, Sikar, Rajasthan
 Bal Vidya Bhawan's Vidyashram School, Jaipur, Rajasthan
 Army School, Nasirabad, Ajmer, Rajasthan
 Sir Padampat Singhania School, Kota, Rajasthan
 Guru Harkishan Public School, Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan
 Springdale Sr. Sec. School, Amritsar, Punjab
 Manav Mangal School, Sector 21, Chandigarh, Punjab
 MGN Education Trust, Jalandhar, Punjab
 Guru Nanak Foundation Public School, Patiala, Punjab
 Bhawan Vidyalaya, Sector 15, Panchkula, Haryana

Mumbai Salaam HelpAge efforts



Mr. Guru Swarup Srivastava (second from left), Chairman CTV, hands over the Certificate of Appreciation of **Salaam Awards Mumbai** to Mr. Valerian Pais, Prog. Manager (Maharashtra & Goa), HelpAge India, in testimony and tribute to the outstanding service by HelpAge to the city of Mumbai, during the felicitation ceremony by Swarup Group of Industries. Looking on are Mrs. Indu Sahani (left), Sheriff of Mumbai and Mr. Parikshet Sahani, veteran actor.

BEYOND EDUCATION Schools come forward in support



Mrs. Dulce Ilango (left), Head Mistress, O.C.P.M Girls Hr. Sec. School, Madurai, receives the Victory Cup from Mrs. Indrani Rajadurai, National Director (South & West), HelpAge India, on behalf of the school, for it being the highest contributor towards the cause of the aged, among schools. Looking on is Mr. V. Sivakumar, Deputy Director - Resource Mobilization (Madurai) HelpAge India. We thank the Bishop of Madurai Ramnad Diocese, Rt. Rev. Dr. A. Christopher Asir for his support.

ELDERS DEMAND THEIR RIGHTS In true Gandhigiri style



1400 senior citizens along with children and young volunteers, march in true 'Gandhigiri' style in Bikaner (Rajasthan) during the "Dandi Yatra" a march organized by HelpAge India. Seniors walked upto the District Collector's office and put forth their demands before the District Collector which ranged from social security to medical facilities for elders. **As a result, those pensions for older people which had been held back for the past two and a half years were released.**

In 1979 more than 2 lakh children walked for the cause and raised valuable funds for the organization. Since then the school education programme has gained momentum and today nearly 1800 schools are supporting the cause. To propel this movement further **Rs.2.8 crore was disbursed towards raising awareness along with increasing quality education.**



Ms. Sunita Williams (centre), famous astronaut and second woman of Indian heritage to have been selected by NASA for a space mission, honored at a function organized by the Rajasthan Sewa Samiti in Ahmedabad, here funds collected by the students of Rajasthan English School, Ahmedabad, are being handed over by Mr. Pandya, her father towards the cause. Looking on are HelpAge staff members along with the students.



Young students of Modern School, Barakhamba Rd. (Delhi) escort an elderly lady towards the venue during the symposium organized by HelpAge & the Interact Club of Modern School, titled "Trauma of the last Chapter: Plight of the Aged". Ms. Renuka Chowdhary, Minister for Women & Child Development, was the chief guest of the function and stressed on the strength of human touch and said "The one thing older people crave for, is to be hugged".

Yadvindra Public School, Patiala, Punjab
 DAV Public School, Sector 8, Chandigarh
 Doon International School, Sector 69, Mohali, Punjab
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 Police DAV Public School, Jalandhar, Punjab
 Gen Gurnam Singh Public School, Sangrur, Punjab
 Delhi Public School, Jalandhar Cantt, Punjab
 Delhi Public School, BHEL, Ranipur, Haridwar, Uttarakhand
 Christ Church College, Hazratganj, Lucknow, UP
 Delhi Public School, Ashok Nagar, Allahabad, UP
 Christ The King College (Primary School), Civil Lines, Jhansi, UP
 Dayawati Modi Public School, Gangaganj, Raibareilly, UP
 Ryan International School, Rahi Village, Raibareilly, UP
 St. Mary's Sr. Sec. School, Banda, UP
 Kumari Udyan Vidyalaya Primary School, Ashok Nagar, Kanpur, UP
 Kendriya Vidyalaya, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, UP
 Mary Lucas School & College, Allahabad, UP
 Dr. Virendra Swaroop Education Centre, Awadhपुरi, Kanpur, UP
 Maharshi Patanjali Vidya Mandir, Telianganj, Allahabad, UP
 Delhi Public School, Yamuna Puram, Bulandshahar, UP
 Cambrian Hall, Young Road, Dehradun, Uttarakhand
 St. Marks Sr. Sec. Schools, Janakpuri, Delhi
 Cambridge Foundation School, Rajori Garden, Delhi
 Evergreen Public School, Vasundhara, Ghaziabad, UP
 Greenway Modern Sr. Sec. School, Dilshad Garden, Delhi
 St. Michael Jr. School, Prasad Nagar, Delhi
 Satluj Public School, Sirsa, Haryana
 GRG Girls Sr. Sec. School, Sirsa, Haryana
 D.P.S. Vasundhara, Ghaziabad, UP
 Bal Vikas School, Panipat, Haryana
 Bal Vikas Progressive School, Panipat, Haryana
 D.P.S. Panipat, Haryana
 St. Columba's School, Delhi
 D.P.S. Gurgaon
 Rotary Public School, Gurgaon
 Modern Convent School, Dwarka, Delhi
 Kendriya Vidyalaya, Pushp Vihar, Delhi
 D.P.S. Rewari, Haryana
 Kendriya Vidyalaya-1, Faridabad, Haryana
 Ahlcon International, Mayur Vihar, Delhi
 Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (Prof. U. N. Singh, Joint Director)
 St. Lowernce Eng. Mid. Prim. & Sec. School, Aurangabad, Maharashtra
 St. Lowernce Marathi Med. High School, Aurangabad, Maharashtra
 Kishanlal Tapadia Memorial School (Walunj)
 Aurangabad, Maharashtra
 New Model English Mid. School, Kolhapur, Maharashtra
 Kolhapur Public School, Kolhapur, Maharashtra
 Hollywood Academy (Panhala) Kolhapur, Maharashtra

Mr. M.M. Sabharwal honored with the Padma Shri



Saluting his spirit: Mr. M.M. Sabharwal, HelpAge President Emeritus, is honoured with the prestigious Padma Shri Award for his contribution to Social Work by Ms. Pratibha Patil, President of India.

In Memoriam



In November, 2007, Mr. D.R. Kohli, ICS (Retd.), former president of HelpAge India and Lt. Governor of Delhi and Manipur, passed away at the age of 88. HelpAge India's first Indian head, he was associated with the organization for 25 years. The HelpAge family will always remember him with fondness and respect.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

- We would especially like to thank the Indian Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and its President, Mr. Melvin R. Nicholas for their support towards the Clean Drinking Water Project. The Society is supporting the project in Tumkur District, Karnataka, which aims at providing adequate & clean drinking water throughout the year to the people of 8 villages of the District. 6500 (approx.) people benefit from this project.
- We would also like to thank the Consulate General of Japan, Chennai, with whom we have had a long association. They donated a new MMU for Coimbatore, helped set up the Elders Helpline Counseling room, and have provided infrastructure equipments & other vehicles for age care services for the southern region.

THE PILLARS OF STRENGTH Health support gains impetus

The back bone of any charitable organization are its donors - individuals, corporates, institutions and others who have contributed to the cause. HelpAge has been fortunate that over the years those who have associated themselves with the cause have shown their dedication by their consistent support and desire to make a difference. HelpAge is grateful to those who have walked the path with it. A renewed vigour has been seen this year in support of HelpAge's healthcare programme, from corporates and embassies taking active interest, by supporting the MMU programme and aids for the elderly, or providing the essential drinking water in much needed districts.



Mr. Ram Shewalkar, noted Marathi author, performs 'puja' for the inauguration of the Nagpur MMU donated by Johnson & Johnson. Looking are HelpAge staff members and other officials. Johnson & Johnson also donated a MMU vehicle for Kanpur replacing the old one.



Mr. Kapil Kaul, Country Head (Resource Mobilization), HelpAge India, receives a grant from Mr. Arjun Hira (sixth from right) General Manager North, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL). Through a unique tie-up with BPCL, the reward points of BPCL's Petro Card holders were donated to HelpAge.



Mr. B.T. Banger (right), Managing Director, Hi-Tech Arai Ltd, Madurai, hands over an approval letter to Mr. V. Sivakumar, Deputy Director, Resource Mobilization (Madurai), HelpAge India, stating the company's support towards sponsoring the running cost for MMU Madurai for 3 years (2008-2011).



Representatives of OCL India Limited along with MMU beneficiaries & HelpAge India staff during their visit to the MMU site in Jagatsinghpur, Orissa. OCL has supported this healthcare unit and has been a consistent supporter to the cause.

Holy Cross Convent School, Kolhapur, Maharashtra	Bharat Mata Hr. Sec. School, Raipur, Chhattisgarh
Sou Nalinibai Shantarampant Walawalkar School, Kolhapur, Maharashtra	Nirmal Hr. Sec. School, Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh
Radhabai Shinde Eng. Mid. School, Kolhapur, Maharashtra	Lakshmi Pat Singhania Academy, Kolkata, WB
D.A.V. Public School, Pune, Maharashtra	Raj Kumar College, Raipur, Chhattisgarh
K.V.Ganesh Khind, Pune, Maharashtra	Palzor Namgyal Sr. Sec. School, Gangtok, Sikkim
K.V. No. 1 Dehuroad, Pune, Maharashtra	St. Francis School, Harmu, Ranchi, Jharkhand
S.S. English Med. School, Pune, Maharashtra	Kendriya Vidyalaya - 2, Kharagpur, WB
Mar Ikonios Convent High School, Pune, Maharashtra	Carmel School, Dhanbad, Jharkhand
K.V. Artillery, Nashik, Maharashtra	Guru Gobind Singh Public School, Bokaro Steel City, Jharkhand
Mahatma High School, KTHM, Nashik, Maharashtra	Kendriya Vidyalaya 1, Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh
K.V.South, Nashik, Maharashtra	Deepti Convent School, Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh
D.R.High School, Nandurbar, Maharashtra	Creane Memorial School, Gaya, Bihar
R.C.Patel Boy's School,(Shirpur) Dhule, Maharashtra	St. Xaviers Hr. Sec. School, Bettiah, Bihar
Axulium Convent School, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra	Surendranath Centenary School, Ranchi, Jharkhand
Shri Siddheshwar Prim. Eng. Mid School, Solapur, Maharashtra	St. Xaviers School, Burdwan, WB
Little Star Prathamik Shala, Osmanabad, Maharashtra	St. Anthony School, Ranchi, Jharkhand
Garden High School, Kolkata, WB	Namchi Public School, Namchi, Sikkim
Calcutta Girls High School, Kolkata, WB	M.G. M Higher Secondary School, Bokaro, Jharkhand
Don Bosco Academy, Patna, Bihar	Pentecostal Assembly School, Bokaro Steel, Bokaro, Jharkhand
Delhi Public School. New Town, Kolkata, WB	Kendriya Vidyalaya, Happy Valley, Shillong, Meghalaya
O.P. Jindal School, Raigarh, Chhattisgarh	St. Agnes School, Howrah, WB
Holy Rock School, Burdwan, WB	Kendriya Vidyalaya ONGC, Nazira, Assam
Loyola School, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand	St. Joseph School, Banka, Bihar
Key-De- Khang School, Gangtok, Sikkim.	St. Francis School, Ranchi, Jharkhand
St. Pauls School.Jalapahar, Darjeeling, WB	St. Anthony School, Kurseong, WB
	St. Helen School, Kurseong, WB

Thank you Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Maharishi Vidya Mandir National Camp Office for their consistent support to the student programme.

INDIVIDUALS

Rt. Rev. M. Dorai, CSI, Coimbatore Diocesan Council, Bishop in Coimbatore	Mr. Kishorilal Arora, Pune, Maharashtra
Chandra Mauli Raman, Chennai, TN	Ms. G. Vijayalaxmi, Pune, Maharashtra
Hon. Gurbax Malhi, Member of Parliament, Canada	Mr. Nitin D. Pendse, Pune, Maharashtra
Mr. Gian Paul, Director, Sales & Marketing, WWICS, Canada	Mr. Suresh Ojha, Pune, Maharashtra
Col. B. S Sandhu, World Wide Immigration Consultancy Service, Managing Director	Mr. Ashish Basu, Pune, Maharashtra
Justice N. K. Jain, Chairman, State Human Rights Commission, Rajasthan	Mr. B.K. Birla and Ms. Sarala Birla, Birla Academy of Art and Culture, Kolkata, WB
Mrs. Zurie Mody, Pune, Maharashtra	Mr. Sharad Chandra Sinha, Patna, Bihar
Mr. Ravi Ayer, Mumbai, Maharashtra	Mr. D. Mathur, Rehabari, Guwahati, Assam
Mr. Dhiraj .M. Shah, Thane, Maharashtra	Mr. Suresh Bansal, New Tea Company, Kolkata, WB
Mr. S. Krishnan, Mumbai, Maharashtra	Mr. Goutam Mukherjee, Kolkata, WB
Mr. Sunil Shah, Mumbai, Maharashtra	Mrs. Zarin .S.Tangri, Kolkata, WB
Dr. Ashok Vitthal Bhamre, Nashik, Maharashtra	Mr. Russi Mody, Kolkata, WB
Mr. Sukhadeo Bhikaji Thete, Nashik, Maharashtra	Mr. Manabendra Mazumder, Kolkata, WB
Sou. Sulbha Ganesh Ahire, Nashik, Maharashtra	Mr. J. P. Khaitan, Kolkata, WB
Mr. Mangesh Kulkarni, Pune, Maharashtra	Ms. Cabrini Bagwala, Picnic Garden, Kolkata, WB
	Ms. Jael Sulliman, New York, USA
	Chandru & Sumana Ray, Shropshire, U.K.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31, 2008

SCHEDULE NO.	(Rs.)	As At March 31, 2008 (Rs.)	(Rs.)	As At March 31, 2007 (Rs.)
SOURCES OF FUNDS				
Corpus and Reserve Balances	1	142,457,952		148,690,242
TOTAL		142,457,952		148,690,242
APPLICATION OF FUNDS				
FIXED ASSETS	2			
Total Assets		116,425,944	94,318,791	
Less: Funded from Capital Grants		48,771,030	25,925,773	
Gross Block		67,654,914	68,393,018	
Less : Accumulated Depreciation		46,759,948	40,385,954	
Net Block		20,894,966		28,007,064
INVESTMENTS	3	118,562,095		122,148,551
CURRENT ASSETS, LOANS AND ADVANCES				
Cash and Bank Balances	4	74,085,141	66,736,772	
Loans and Advances	5	20,405,899	10,280,899	
Other Current Assets	6	1,008,925	406,785	
		95,499,965	77,424,456	
Less : Current Liabilities and Provisions				
Current Liabilities	7	87,218,384	75,087,571	
Provisions	8	5,280,890	3,802,258	
		92,499,074	78,889,829	
Net Current Assets		3,000,891		(1,465,373)
TOTAL		142,457,952		148,690,242
Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Accounts	14			

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

Schedule No.	For the year ended March 31, 2008 (Rs.)	For the year ended March 31, 2007 (Rs.)
INCOME		
GRANTS/ DONATIONS RECEIVED		
Grants / Donations	431,062,804	366,276,922
(Refer Note 1(vii)(a) on Schedule 14)		
Other Income	12,893,016	11,780,072
Surplus / (Deficit) from alternate channels	3,081,063	2,179,852
GROSS INCOME	447,036,883	380,236,846
Less: Grants utilised for acquisition of Capital Assets	22,845,257	16,257,906
(Refer Note 15 on Schedule 14)		
NET INCOME	424,191,626	363,978,940
EXPENDITURE		
Fund Raising Cost	55,692,989	27,388,581
Net Funds Available for Projects	368,498,637	336,590,359
Application to projects for the welfare of the aged	348,632,180	283,356,634
Administrative Expenditure	22,932,213	21,865,994
Surplus/(Deficit) before depreciation	(3,065,756)	31,367,731
Depreciation (refer note 2 on Schedule 14)	4,837,503	2,319,072
Surplus/(Deficit) before Tax	(7,903,259)	29,048,659
Tax on Anonymous Donations Received	208,144	321,197
(Refer Note 14 on Schedule 14)		
Net Surplus/ (Deficit) After Tax Carried to General Purpose Reserve	(8,111,403)	28,727,462
Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Accounts	14	

Detailed accounts with Schedules and Audit report are available at head office , HelpAge India