

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS (IDOP)

International Day of Older Persons is a special day for the senior citizens all over the world. On December 14, 1990, the UN General Assembly made October 1 as the International Day of Older Persons. The International Day of Older Persons was observed for the first time on October 1, 1991. The day is celebrated annually to recognize the contributions of older persons and to examine issues that affect their lives. This day provides an opportunity to acknowledge the contribution, wisdom, dignity and needs of our senior citizens and to rededicate our efforts to ensure their well-being.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, as the nodal ministry for the cause of senior citizens, has been celebrating the occasion since 2005 by conferring Vayoshreshtha Sammans to eminent Senior Citizens and Institutions in recognition for their service towards the elderly persons, especially indigent senior citizens. In 2013, the Vayoshreshtha Sammans have been upgraded as a “National Award” vide Gazette Notification No. 15-39(30)/2009-10/AG-II dated 18-01-2013 to showcase the Government’s concern for senior citizens and its commitment towards senior citizens with the aim of strengthening their legitimate place in the society. This will also provide an opportunity to the younger generations to understand the contribution of the elderly in building of the society and the nation.

The National Award ‘Vayoshreshtha Samman’ is given in thirteen categories, to distinguished senior citizens and institutions, who have rendered unparalleled contribution in the overall well-being of the elderly on the occasion of International Day of Older Persons. The recipients are drawn from diverse fields and nominations are invited from State Governments, Union Territory Administrations, concerned Central Ministries, reputed Non-Government Organisations working for the senior citizens etc.

The categories are:

Institution Category:

1. Best Institution for Research in the field of Ageing,
2. Best Institution for providing services to Senior Citizens and Awareness Generation,

3. Best District Panchayat in providing services and facilities to Senior Citizens,
4. Best Urban Local Body in providing services and facilities to Senior Citizens,
5. Best State in implementing the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 and providing services and facilities to Senior Citizens
6. Best Private Sector Organisation in promoting the well-being and welfare of senior citizens,
7. Best Public Sector Organisation in promoting the well-being and welfare of senior citizens,

Individual Category:

8. Centenarian,
9. Iconic Mother
10. Lifetime Achievement
11. Creative Art
12. Sports and Adventure (one each for male and female)
13. Courage and Bravery (one each for male and female)

In addition to this, an inter-generational walkathon is organised at India Gate lawns, New Delhi in the morning of 1st October, which is flag off by the Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment. Hundreds of senior citizens and children from schools and colleges participate in the occasion. State Governments/UT Administrations are requested to observe this occasion in a befitting manner right up to the Block levels. This Ministry organizes similar Walkathons in 20 other State Capitals ie., Bhubaneshwar, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Shimla, Jaipur, Guwahati, Ahmedabad, Dehradun, Chennai, Kochi, Patna, Chandigarh, Ranchi, Agartala, Bhopal, Raipur, Shillong, Bengaluru and Puducherry in collaboration with Help Age India.

**NATIONAL AWARDS (VAYOSHRESTHA SAMMANS) FOR OUTSTANDING
SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF SENIOR CITIZENS**

YEAR-2013

S.No.	CATEGORY	AWARDEES
INSTITUTION CATEGORY:		
1.	Best Institution for providing services to Senior Citizens and Awareness Generation	Vrudha Sevashram Maharashtra
2.	Best State in implementing the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act 2007 and providing services and facilities to senior citizens	Department of Social Justice Government of Madhya Pradesh
INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY:		
3.	Centenarian Award	Smt. Narasamma Tumkur District, Karnataka
4.	Iconic Mother Award	Smt. Sindhutai Shrihari Sapkal Pune, Maharashtra
5.	Lifetime Achievement Award	Shri Vinobhai Vrajlal Valia Mumbai, Maharashtra
6.	Creative Art Award	Ms. Nalini Vinay Mehta Mumbai, Maharashtra
7.	Sports & Adventure Award (Male & Female)	<u>Male:</u> Dr. G.S. Randhawa New Delhi
		<u>Female:</u> Mrs. Damayanti V. Tambay New Delhi

NATIONAL AWARDS (VAYOSHRESTHA SAMMANS) FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF SENIOR CITIZENS

YEAR-2014

S.No.	CATEGORY	AWARDEES
INSTITUTION CATEGORY:		
1.	Best Institution for providing services to Senior Citizens and Awareness Generation	HelpAge India New Delhi
2.	Best Institution for Research in the field of Ageing	Department of Geriatric Medicine AIIMS, New Delhi
3.	Best District Panchayat	Dakshina Kannada Zilla Panchayat, Karnataka
INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY:		
4.	Centenarian Award	Brig.(Dr.) M.L. Kataria Chandigarh
5.	Lifetime Achievement Award	Prof. Dr. Ponnakudam Krishnan Bhaskaran Nayar Thiruvananthapuram
6.	Creative Art Award	Ms. Sushma Seth New Delhi
7.	Sports & Adventure Award (Male & Female)	<u>Female:</u> Kum. Chandra Prabha Aitwal Uttarkashi, Uttarakand.

NATIONAL AWARDS (VAYOSHRESTHA SAMMANS) FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF SENIOR CITIZENS

YEAR-2015

S.No	Category of Award	Components of Award	Awardees of 2015
1.	Best Institution for Research in the field of ageing;	(a)Citation; (b)Memento; (c)Cash award of Five Lakh Rupees.	None
2.	Best institution for providing services to senior citizens and awareness generation;	(a)Citation; (b)Memento; (c)Cash award of Five Lakh Rupees.	1) Pravara Rural Hospital, AhmednagarMaharashtra 2) Gram Vikas Parishad, Nagaon, Assam.
3.	Best District Panchayat in providing services and facilities to senior citizens;	(a)Citation; (b)Memento; (c)Cash award of Ten Lakh Rupees.	1) Zilla Panchayat, Dindori, Madhya Pradesh. 2) Udupi Zilla Panchayat, Manipal, Karnataka.
4.	Best Urban Local Body in providing services and facilities to senior citizens;	(a)Citation; (b)Memento; (c)Cash award of Ten Lakh Rupees.	None
5.	Best State in implementing the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act 2007 and providing services and facilities to senior citizens;	(a)Citation; (b)Memento.	None
6.	Best Private Sector Organisation in promoting the wellbeing and	(a)Citation; (b)Memento.	None

	welfare of senior citizens;		
7.	Best Public Sector Organisation in promoting the wellbeing and welfare of senior citizens;	(a)Citation; (b)Memento.	None
8.	Centenarian	(a)Citation; (b)Memento; (c)Cash award of Two Lakh and Fifty Thousand Rupees.	Shri. Uday Singh Mann, Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar, Haryana
9.	Iconic Mother	(a)Citation; (b)Memento; (c)Cash award of Two Lakh and Fifty Thousand Rupees.	Smt. Laduben alias Leelaben Chhabildas Gurjar, Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
10.	Lifetime Achievement	(a)Citation; (b)Memento; (c)Cash award of Two Lakh and Fifty Thousand Rupees.	1) Shri. Y.N. Kadam, Kohlapur, Maharashtra. 2) Shri. Manohar V. Bhale, Dewas, Madhya Pradesh.
11.	Creative Art	(a)Citation; (b)Memento; (c)Cash award of Two Lakh and Fifty Thousand Rupees.	1) Dr. Rabindranath Dass Shastri, Agartala, Tripura. 2) Dr. Jitendra Udampuri, Jammu.
12.	Sports and Adventure (one each for male and female)	(a)Citation; (b)Memento; (c)Cash award of Two Lakh and Fifty Thousand Rupees.	Shri. Bahadur Singh, Patiala, Punjab
13.	Courage and Bravery (one each for male and female)	(a)Citation; (b)Memento; (c)Cash award of Two Lakh and Fifty Thousand Rupees.	None

