

Elders in India three things from government: Financial, Health Security and Care, Dr. Gangadharan

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Hyderabad : UNMUKT Festival, India's First and the biggest lifestyle solutions show for Senior Citizens inaugurated today at Hitex. It is open to the public from 10.30am to 7 pm. The entry is free and all are welcome. It is a two-day event and will conclude Sunday evening.

Monimita Sarkar, the founder of Unmukt Festival said this unique festival is expected to draw participation of 8000 elders in two days.



It is featuring 60 stalls. Some of these include solution providers from the Health & Wellness, Senior Housing, Home Health Care, Finance & Legal, Technology and Lifestyle segments, both from the corporate and NGO sectors.

The festival features 35 workshops, panel discussions, and demos. All these were availed free of cost.

Google conducted series of Workshops on Online Safety for Seniors both in English and Telugu. These workshops will also be held on Sunday. These workshops will be held at different timings all through the day.

Monimita Sarkar, Unmukt Festival Founder graced the occasion and gave opening remarks.

Dr. K.R. Gangadharan, Chairman, Heritage Foundation & Former President, Intl Federation on Ageing gave an "Overview of Senior Care in India." Heritage Medical Centre is a home away from home is the first private Indian hospital for the elderly that has grown in size and expanded in scope since its inception in 1994. The Hospital's Heritage Eldercare Service is a pioneer in providing service for the aged in India caters to both, their physical and psychological needs, thereby offering services in diverse fields.

Speaking on the occasion he said you don't retire. It is just a state of mind. Your actual life starts after sixty.



Sixty years is not the old age. Indians get old when they become 60, but other countries talk about it only when they reach 80years said Dr. K. R. Gangadharan, Chairman, Heritage Foundation quoting finding of study conducted by London School of Economics.

Elders need three things from government—one health security, two income security and caring informed Dr. Gangadharan.

Ageing is not a burden. It is the best period of a person as he can do, pursue whatever he or she wants without any responsibility of the family, he said

Mathew Cherian, Chief Executive, HelpAge India gave "A Social Perspective on Ageing in India" HelpAge India voices the concerns of elders to help them live a more dignified life. Established in 1978, its mission is "to work for the cause and care

of disadvantaged older persons and to improve their quality of life". HelpAge advocates for their needs such as, for Universal Pension, quality healthcare, action against Elder Abuse and many more at the national, state and societal level, with the Central and State governments.

Lewis R. Shomer, Chairman Abilities Expo, the world's leading exhibition and trade show for people with disabilities; Savita Mahajan, Mentor and Advisor for Unmukt Festival; Vijaya Lakshmi Prabhakar, Craft and Culture Enthusiast & Advisor for Unmukt graced the inaugural function.

Seniority Co-founder, Mr. Ayush Agrawal says, "Basis recent studies, the Indian population continues to age exponentially and many misinterpret the country to be populated with youngsters. Senior citizens have evolved to have diverse needs and this change has enabled the elder care industry to thrive today. We at Seniority.in have pursued the need to provide comfort and convenience for the