

**SHRI MUKUL WASNIK PRESENTS VAYOSHRESTHA SAMMAN TO
DISTINGUISHED PERSONS ON THE OCCASION OF INTERNATIONAL DAY OF
OLDER PERSONS**

Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare presided the function

(1st October, 2011)

The Union Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment Shri Mukul Wasnik presented Vayoshreshtha Samman to distinguished persons on the occasion of International Day of older persons. He said the Samman is just a humble recognition of their relentless strivings and inspiring achievements. He also announced that this year the Ministry has identified "Health care for Senior Citizens" as the theme for International Day of Older person. Speaking at the function for the presentation of Vayoshreshtha Samman, 2011 here today he called upon the people to help those elderly who are less fortunate and do not have family or adequate resources. He said that International Day of Older Persons provides us an opportunity to acknowledge the contribution of senior citizens to society and to sensitize the public at large about their problems and needs and to make our society more elderly friendly. The Minister said Vayoshreshtha Samman is an occasion to draw attention to the fact that the elderly have a major role to play in nation building.

The Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Shri Gulam Nabi Azad who was the chief guest on the occasion spoke about the health care issues for senior citizens and reaffirmed Government's commitment to take care of older people so that they can live a healthy dignified and protective life. Referring to the ambitious programme of m/o Health & Family Welfare namely national programme for elderly which is the pilot programme is being run in 21 selected states focusing on backward districts. He called upon three ministries namely m/o Panchayati Raj, m/o Health & Family Welfare and m/o Social Justice & Empowerment to work in a coordinated manner at national level to implement ambitious pilot programme. Earlier he inaugurated OPD block in AIIMS, New Delhi especially for elderly people.

On this occasion, Shri Azad conferred –

1. Vayoshreshtha Samman, 2011 for Institution of Service to kinnera Welfare Society, Mehdipatnam, Hyderabad;
2. Vayoshreshtha Samman, 2011 for best panchayat to Prashant Nagar Gram Panchayat, Medak, Andhra Pradesh;
3. Vayoshreshtha Samman, 2011 for Lifetime Achievement to Dr. Vinod Kumar, New Delhi;
4. Vayoshreshtha Samman, 2011 for Creative Art to Sh. C.S.N. Patnaik, Vishakhapatnam;
5. Vayoshreshtha Samman, 2011 for Sports Person to Dr. (Wing Commander) Ashish Roy, New Delhi;
6. Vayoshreshtha Samman, 2011 for Economic Leadership to Sh. Om Prakash Gupta, New Delhi;

Those who were present during the occasion included Shri K.M. Acharya, Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Special Secretary Smt. Sangita Gairola, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Shri T.R Meena, Joint Secretary Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.



The Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad presenting the Vayoshrestha Samman, 2011 for Institution of Service to Kinnera Welfare Society, Mehdiapatnam, Hyderabad, on the occasion of the 'International Day of Older Persons', in New Delhi on October 01, 2011. The Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Shri Mukul Wasnik is also seen.



The Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad presenting the Vayoshrestha Samman, 2011 for Creative Art to Shri C.S.N. Patnaik, Vishakhapatnam, on the occasion of the 'International Day of Older Persons', in New Delhi on October 01, 2011. The Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Shri Mukul Wasnik is also seen.



The Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Shri Mukul Wasnik addressing at the presentation of the Vayoshrestha Samman, 2011, on the occasion of the 'International Day of Older Persons', in New Delhi on October 01, 2011



The Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Shri Mukul Wasnik at the 'International Day of Older Persons', in New Delhi on October 01, 2011



The Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Shri Mukul Wasnik flagging off the Walkathon, Organised by the Ministry of Social Justice on the occasion of 'International Day of Older Persons', in New Delhi on October 01, 2011.



On the occasion of 'International Day of Older Persons', a cultural programme was also organized during the function Hon'ble Shri Mukul Wasnik with artists, New Delhi on October 01, 2011.