

## Symposium on “Towards an Age Inclusive Society: Advancing Sustainable Goals”



Dr. Jitendra Das along with other panelists

FORE School of Management was the Academic Partner in the symposium, “Towards an Age Inclusive Society: Advancing Sustainable Goals (3&11)” organized by Anugraha, marking an observance of “World Elder Abuse Awareness Day” in collaboration with United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) and Global Compact Network India held on June 15, 2016 at the UN Conference hall, New Delhi. The symposium was organised to create awareness about the challenges in building an age inclusive society, including elder abuse.

The inaugural session was graced by the chief guest, Mr. Taj Hassan, IPS, Special Commissioner (Crime), Delhi Police, who highlighted the initiatives undertaken by the Delhi Police regarding the safety and security of senior citizens. Mr. Rajiv Chandran, National Information Officer for India & Bhutan, UNIC presented the welcome address, where he quoted Pearl S. Buck who had stated that ‘the development of the society is dependent on the empathy of the youth towards the elderly. Dr. Jitendra Das, Director, FORE School of Management, New Delhi delivered the key note address and enlightened the audience with anecdotes representing the variation in the society’s response to inclusion of the elderly across the globe, dependent on indigenous culture and economy. Mr. Uddesh Kohli, Senior Adviser, UN Global Compact discussed about his organization’s efforts towards the fulfilment of the broad UN MDGs (Millennial Development Goals) and their regular follow up with sustainability reporting practices. Dr. Aabha Chaudhary, Chairperson, Anugraha captured the audience’s attention with a moving presentation on contemporary elderly abuse and the pressing need to combat the same.

Two panels were constituted to discuss the relevance of the two sustainable goals, 3 and 11 pertaining to “Good health & Well-being” and “Sustainable Cities & Communities” respectively in developing a society capable of rising above the shackles associated with age and debilitation. These panels brought together key stakeholders such as corporate professionals, representatives from NGO’s, academicians and expert policy makers.

In second panel which was chaired by Ms. Nishtha Satyam, Head, Strategic Partnerships, Policy Impact and Public Relations, UN Women. Dr. Shallini Taneja, Faculty, FORE School presented case study of ‘ABHIWADAN’, one of the flagship social initiatives of Team ANTAR (student social wing) at FORE School of Management to honour senior citizens of old age homes. She familiarized the audience with the socially responsive role of an academic institute such as FORE in sensitizing the youth with the contemporary issues regarding the societal status of the elderly. She also mentioned the future partnership with the NGO’s such as Anugraha, which would allow *Abhivadan* to scale greater heights. She was accompanied by co-panelists, Dr. Ajit Kalyath, Environment Specialist, South Asia Urban knowledge, Hub National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA); Dr. A. Madhvi, Deputy Director, Dept. of Social Welfare, Govt. of NCT of Delhi and Lt. Gen. Rajender Singh, CEO, DLF Foundation who also shared their views on the theme. The article on ‘ABHIWADAN’ was also published in the booklet released on the occasion of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.



Dr. Shallini Taneja along with other panelists