

**National Seminar on Aging in India with Special Reference to North
East India
March 22 – 23, 2014**

Organized by

**Equal Opportunity Cell
In collaboration with
Chandraprabha Saikiani Center for Women Studies
Tezpur University
&
Society for Social Research**

Sponsor: ICSSR, Delhi

25 February, 2014

Dear Madam/Sir,

Your kind attention is invited towards the ***National Seminar on Aging in India with Special Reference to North East India*** being organized by **Equal Opportunity Cell** in collaboration with **Chandraprabha Saikiani Center for Women Studies & Society for Social Research** from **March 22 – 23, 2014**.

With regard to the same, papers are invited from interested scholars/students/faculty members of your institute/department on any topic related to the broad theme of ***Aging in India with Special Reference to North East India***. The paper presenters may represent either the ***social, cultural, psychological or bio-medical perspectives*** on aging in their paper. Candidates interested in presenting papers may send an abstract of 200 words to the undersigned at nandaranic@gmail.com by March 12, 2014. Selected candidates will be informed over mail.

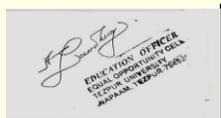
The university will not bear any expense related to travel of selected paper presenters to and from Tezpur University. However, accommodation on twin sharing basis will be provided to the candidates.

You are requested to kindly circulate the information provided among scholars/students/faculty members of your institute/department.

Looking forward to your kind support in this regard.

Thank you.

Warm regards,



OFFICER
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY CELL
TEZPUR UNIVERSITY
JALPAIGURI, TEZPUR, TEZPUR

Education Officer
Equal Opportunity Cell
Studies



M. Goswami

Head
Chandraprabha Saikiani Centre for Women's

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Concept Note

Ageism is a term coined by Robert Butler who defined the same as a combination of three connected elements namely, prejudicial attitudes towards older people, old age, and the aging process; discriminatory practices against older people; and institutional practices and policies that perpetuate stereotypes about older people. Based on a conceptual analysis of ageism, a new definition of ageism was introduced by Iversen, Larsen & Solem in 2009. According to them, Ageism is defined as negative or positive stereotypes, prejudice and/or discrimination against (or to the advantage of) elderly people on the basis of their chronological age or on the basis of a perception of them as being 'old' or 'elderly'. Ageism can be implicit or explicit and can be expressed on a micro, meso or macro-level. Aging is a natural process which Steiglit described as "a part of living". Becker defines the same as "those changes occurring in an individual as a result of passage of time". Aging is a natural phenomenon that occurs in every society. United Nations recognize sixty (60) years as the age of the old. Presently in India almost 117 million people are above the age of sixty (60) and this number is likely to go up to 150 million by 2050. The elderly population across the globe is increasing at a rapid rate owing to advances in the medical science, better nourishment and improved standards of public health. The ever growing population of elders has serious socio-economic implications. According to the Census of India 2001, 72.22 % of the elderly are in the rural sector while 27% are in the urban sector. Some studies have revealed that 90% of the elders in India belong to the unorganized sector and are unable to access health and social services. About 30 % of elderly deaths are on account of lack of government care. Only 10% of the elders avail pension while most others are not covered by facilities such as provident fund etc. In the face of the "grandfather's boom" that is imminent in the near future, measures should be taken to ensure that the deleterious effects of age dependent disorders are attenuated thereby transforming the elderly population into a socially viable component of society . World Health Organization speaks about active aging that can be brought about by factors such as: a. Social Factors (e.g. literacy, rights and social support); b. Physical Environment (e.g. shelter and social security net); c. Economic Factors (e.g. income, work etc); d. Personal factors (e.g. adaptability and heredity); e. Healthcare; f. Behavioral Factors (e.g. physical activity, nutrition etc). In cognizance of the need of the elderly, the National Policy on Older Persons seeks to assure that the elderly do not live unprotected, ignored and marginalized and that their legitimate place in the society is strengthened .The Policy further focuses on financial security, health care and nutrition, shelter, emphasis upon education, training and information needs, provision of appropriate concessions and strengthening their legal rights. After United Nations declared 1999 as the year dedicated to the aged/elderly, issues concerning ageism have gained importance among researchers and a lot of articles and books have been written on the same. This seminar proposes to explore the varied socio-economic; socio psychological and biomedical aspects of ageism particularly in the context of North East India.