

LAWS CAN'T STOP ELDER ABUSE TOTALLY: POLICE CHIEF

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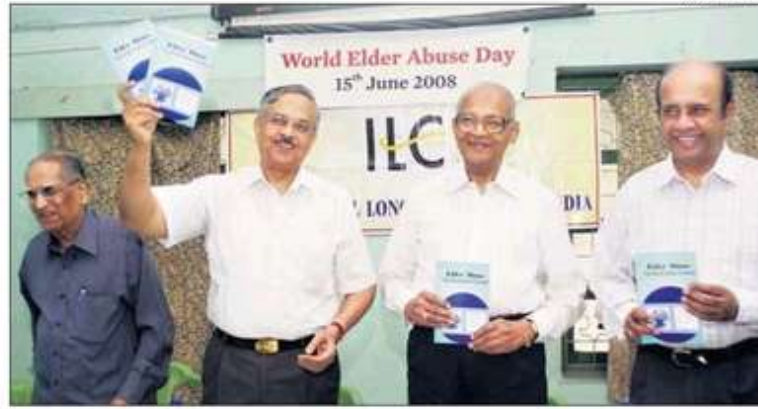
The International Longevity Centre-India (ILC-I) has taken an initiative to remind the state governments about implementation of Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007.

This was informed at a workshop organised by ILC-I on Sunday to mark the 'World Elder Abuse Day'.

Speaking on the occasion, Commissioner of Police Jayant Umranikar blamed the fast lifestyle and changing social scenario for the elder abuse.

He said the problem could not be tackled totally by enforcing laws. A strong social movement is required to mitigate the problem, he added.

Umranikar said that elder



SENIORS FIRST: Commissioner of Police Jayant Umranikar (second from left) releases a book on elder abuse as (from left) S D Gokhale, B G Deshmukh and Arun Nigavekar look on

abuse is a silent crime. Apart from taking help from the young generation, senior citizens should adjust their lifestyle

as well and should become financially independent. He also highlighted the need of viable alternatives including more

senior citizens welfare organisations like ILC-I.

Umranikar also released a book titled *Elder Abuse - The South Asian Context*, published by ILC-I on the occasion.

The book comprises reports on elder abuse that were presented at the International Round Table which was held two years back and gives a fair idea about the menace in the Asian context.

Commenting on the existing laws in this regard, ILS Law College vice-principal Jaya Sagade said, "Legal system has its own strength. Elderly people should be aware of constitutional provisions, family laws, Domestic Violence Act and the recent Maintenance and

Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act."

Sagade emphasised on formation of tribunals by state governments within six months from the implementation of the act. "The tribunals are expected to be established by June 30," she said.

The ILC-I would write to the Home Minister and Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in this regard and would follow up the issue. Founder president of ILC-I Dr S D Gokhale, Additional Commissioner of Police (Crime Branch) Rajendra Singh and Chairman ILC-I Dr Arun Nigvekar were also present.

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