

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day



On Friday, June 15, 2018, World Elder Abuse Awareness and Prevention Day, Elders Helpline, a joint project of Nightingales Medical Trust and the Bangalore City Police, organized a road show and street plays at Shivaji Nagar bus stand, to raise public awareness and support older people experiencing abuse from family or others.



A clear message was sent out to end the abuse, assault, neglect and intimidation of the older generation. Two plays were performed by elders on two old women who become an easy target for abuse by family members, and financial crime over property, respectively. In the end, the panic-stricken women call the helpline which solves their problems.



The chief guest, **D.H. Waghela**, Chairperson of the Karnataka State **Human Rights Commission** and former **Chief Justice** of the High Court of Karnataka, said **“human rights are not the rights of only a child, it is also the rights of the elderly”**. Elder abuse can’t be handled alone. **“It’s the duty of society to look after its older people. Like Nightingales, others too must come forward to help,”** he said. The Rights Commission would support such causes. Such activities should grow in every district in Karnataka. The Elders Helpline should become a model for others, he said.



A group of youngsters with drums added local colour to the event. The elders, from Sandhya Kirana, dressed up for the occasion, danced to the beat, and naturally, stole the show. Many curious commuters stopped to watch.