

Sensitization Program for Police Personnel on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2019

To work towards creating an elderly friendly police force, Elders Helpline, Bengaluru Urban organized a Sensitisation workshop on **“Role of Police in combating Elder Abuse and Crimes against elderly”** at the training hall at Police Commissioner’s Office.



The Elders Helpline – joint project of Bengaluru City Police and Elders Helpline has seen a stark increase in complaints of elderly abuse over the years. From 171 complaints of harassment and abuse by family received in 2016-17, it has increased to 264 in 2018-19. Elders Helpline 1090 has been fighting for elders’ rights and bringing them justice since its inception in 2002. Till now, the Elders Helpline has received more than 202467 calls and visitors, registered more than 9692 complaints of serious nature, resolved over 5176 cases successfully and conducted more than 32,374 counselling sessions.



The workshop was inaugurated by Shri Anucheth - DCP, Admin - who underlined the importance of Police and Helpline working as a team so address problems faced by elderly in distress. More than 100 sub inspectors participated in the programme. A talk on elder abuse by Dr. Sreenivas M, Asst Professor, HOD - Dept of Psychology, Bangalore University was followed by a talk on the Maintenance

Act by Advocate Mr. Srinivas. Advocate Vijayamma spoke on how police should interact when elders approach police.



The feedback from the police was very positive. Many of them were not aware about the Maintenance of Parents and Senior Citizens Act. After the sessions on elder abuse and the Act, they felt more sensitised and equipped to address the issues of elderly.