

PROFILE

HIMANSHU RATH

(Founder Chairman, Agewell Foundation, India)

Established **Agewell Foundation, India** a not-for-profit organization that has been working for the welfare and empowerment of older persons **since 1999**. Agewell has set up a two-tier network of over **7500 primary** and **80000 secondary volunteers** spread across **768 districts** of **India** and interacts with over **25000 older persons** on daily basis through its volunteers' network.

Recognizing the work being done by Agewell Foundation, ECOSOC granted **Special Consultative Status to Agewell Foundation at United Nations** in 2011. It is associated with the Department of Public Information, United Nations (UN-DPI-NGO). Agewell Foundation is currently associated with the **Working Group on Awareness and Capacity Building for Senior Citizens, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment; Sub-Group on Elderly Care**, under NITI Aayog's CSOs Standing Committee and Committee of Experts on "impact of COVID-19 pandemic on human rights and future response", NHRC, Member, **Core Group on Older Persons, National Human Rights Commission**.

Worked with leading advertising agencies from 1977 till 1987, after completing Post Graduate Degree in Marketing Management. Went independent in 1987 and have been working independently as a Concept Developer and Implementer of Strategic Communication packages for several national and multinational brands, products, services and individuals.

Awards & Recognition Over the Years

- Not-for-Profit of the Year, Entity Award – 2023 from SABERA -Social and Business Enterprise Responsible Awards, 2023
- Mahatma Award for Social Good & Impact, 2022
- Founder's Excellence Award by Association of Senior Living India, 2021
- Nation's Building Seniors Award by NBI International, Malaysia, 2021
- Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Award in the category of Social Work, 2019
- Navrattan Shri Shyam Sunder Goyal Smriti Puruskar, 2015
- Shri Chunnilal Jindal Memorial Trust Award for Social Service in 2012
- Vijaya Gujaral Award in 2001 for outstanding contribution to extending a helping hand to senior citizens and their families

Participation as a Panelist / Speaker at the International / UN level

- **As a Panelist** in the Fourteenth Session of **the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing** at **UN Headquarters, New York** in May, **2024**
- Participated as a **Speaker** at the **Subregional Conference: Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in South Asia: Reflections and Way Forward for ADB**, 4-7 October 2022 – **Paro, Bhutan**
- **As a Panelist** in the Tenth Session of **the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing** at **UN Headquarters, New York** in April, **2019**

- As an **Expert** in **Preparatory Regional Expert Meeting: Third Regional Review of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, June 2017, Bangkok**
- As an **Expert** in **Regional Expert Forum on Integrated Care for the Elderly, Nanjing, China, March 2017**
- Participated in **58th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women at United Nations Headquarters in New York, USA, March 2014**
- As an **Expert** in the **“Asia-Pacific Regional Expert Meeting on Long-Term care for Older Persons” at Shanghai, China in December 2013**
- **As an Expert in the Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Second Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 10-12 September 2012, Bangkok**
- **As a Panelist** in the Second Session of the **Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing at UN Headquarters, New York in August 2011**
- Participated in all thirteen **Working Sessions of the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing at United Nations Headquarters in New York, USA, since 2011**
- Participated in **Regular Session of ECOSOC, United Nations** on invitation from ECOSOC, United Nations, held at UN Headquarters, **New York during 2010-11**
- As a **Speaker** at an international conference **“Community 50+ Asia”** on invitation from AARP, held in **Hawaii from 23-25 January 2008**
- As a **Speaker** on invitation from **AARP** to address Senators at Capital Hills, **Washington, DC on 28th September 2007** about the **status of Older Persons**
- As a **Speaker** at an international conference **“Reinventing Retirement Asia”** on invitation from AARP, in **March 2007** held in **Tokyo**
- Participated in United Nations **Second World Assembly on Ageing 2002** and the **NGO Forum** held in **Madrid, Spain** as a member of the Indian Delegation
- Participated in an international **Workshop on Ageing** in 2000 held in **Tokyo** as a member of the Indian Delegation

Advisory Board Member

Government of India

- **Chairman, Working Group on Awareness and Capacity Building for Senior Citizens, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India**
- **Member, Sub-Group on Elderly Care, under NITI Aayog's CSOs Standing Committee, Government of India**
- **Member, Committee of Experts on "impact of COVID-19 pandemic on human rights and future response", National Human Rights Commission**
- **Member – Working Group and Steering Committee on Social Sector, XIIth Five-year-plan, Planning Commission, Govt. of India**
- **Member – Working group on Reforming the Social Deviants and Caring the Other Disadvantaged, for XIth Five-year-plan, Planning Commission, Govt. of India**
- **Member – Working group on Reforming the Social Deviants and Caring the Other Disadvantaged, for Xth Five-year-plan, Planning Commission, Govt. of India**
- **Member - Consultative Group on Social Justice & Empowerment, Planning Commission, Govt. of India**
- **Member – Council of National Literacy Mission Authority, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India**
- **Member of National Advisory Board for Ministry of Power from 1998 to 2000 along with Mr. Balbir Punj, Siddharth Kulkarni & Mr. P Murari**

Government of NCT of Delhi

- Member – State Level Committee for Senior Citizens, Department of Social Welfare, Govt. of NCT of Delhi
- Member – Draft Committee for State Policy on Older Persons, Department of Social Welfare, Govt. of NCT of Delhi

Publications & Statements

- Several write-ups in national/international publications on social issues and aging, including The South Asian Times, New York.
- Appeared in many TV talk shows, including *Satyamev Jayate* along with Amir Khan
- Published over 54 national research reports under the aegis of the Agewell Foundation
- Many of them are also available on the United Nations website (*for more details, visit www.agewellfoundation.org*)
- Made several oral and written statements at United Nations

Professional Experience

1978 to 1985 as a client-servicing executive

With various leading advertising agencies, successfully handled advertising portfolios on behalf of prestigious companies.

1985 onwards as a conceptualizer copywriter and communication strategist

With very large and varied Government/Non-Government, Public Sector/Private Sector, and National/Multinational client bases.

Some of them are – Several **Ministries of the Government of India, Departments of Central Government, and** Multinational organizations viz. **UNICEF, World Bank, Ford Foundation, UNAPCTT, GTZ, American Express Bank**, and others along with various Indian corporate's

Director – Agewell Foundation USA, Inc. since 2018

Personal Details

Age (DOB): 67 years (16-02-1958)

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