



# National Policy on Older Persons in India

## Why in News?

The **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** implements a [Central Sector Scheme](#) of **Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSrC)**.

## What are the Initiatives Related to Welfare of Senior Citizens in India?

- **National Policy on Older Persons (NPOP):**
  - The [National Policy on Older Persons \(NPOP\)](#) was announced in 1999 to reaffirm the commitment to ensure the well-being of older persons.
  - The **Policy envisages State support to ensure financial and food security**, health care, shelter and other needs of older persons, equitable share in development, **protection against abuse and exploitation**, and availability of services to improve the quality of their lives.
- **Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY):**
  - It is a Central Sector Scheme funded by the [Senior Citizens' Welfare Fund](#).
  - The scheme provides aids and assistive living devices to senior citizens belonging to BPL category or those who earn less than 15000/- per month and suffer from age-related disabilities such as low vision, hearing impairment, loss of teeth, and loco-motor disabilities.
- **Elderline:**
  - The **National Helpline for Senior Citizen (14567)-Elderline** has been set up by the Ministry to address the grievances of elders in 2021.
    - The helpline has been launched across the country and offers **services to senior citizens** through a toll-free number.
- **Seniorcare Ageing Growth Engine (SAGE):**
  - It is an initiative launched in **2021** to encourage **innovative start-ups to develop products, processes, and services for the welfare of the elderly**.
    - Under this initiative, innovative start-ups are identified and provided with equity support of up to Rs.1 crore per project while ensuring that the total **Government equity in the start-up does not exceed 49%**.
- **Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana:**
  - The Ministry has also included awareness generation/sensitization programs with school/college students for strengthening inter-generational bonding under the umbrella scheme of **Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana**.
    - It aims to provide **information and educational material to individuals, families, and groups** for better understanding of the aging process.

[Source: PIB](#)

