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MAHARASHTRA UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION

Report by :

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Secretary General, MUNA

World Health Day 7 April 2004

World Health day was organized by Maharashtra United Nations Assn. on 7 April 2004. A very stimulating, thought provoking panel discussion was organized on Wednesday 7 April 2004, at the World Trade Centre, Centrum Hall, Cuffe Parade, Bombay by the Maharashtra United Nations Association.

The topic for discussion was "Road Safety - Is no accident". The organizers very ably selected the eminent speakers on the panel. They were Mr. Navin Kumar - Addl. Chief Secretary, Ministry of Health, Govt. of Maharashtra, who was the Chief guest and presided over the function. H.E. Mr. Magued Fouad, Consul General of Egypt and Dean of the Consular Corps. Was guest of honour. Mr. Satish Mathur - Jt. Police Commissioner of Traffic police made a brilliant presentation and enlightened the audience on various traffic problems and solicited co-operation of NGO's and public in general to cooperate with the traffic police to implement their plans effectively Dr. Sujanthi Iyer, Sr. Manager Legal and medical services, Hinduja Hospital addressed the audience and informed about the laws at the time of accidents etc. other



*Seen in the Picture are: from Left to Right
Mr. A. A. Syed, Secretary General MUNA; Mr. N. K. Garg; Dr. Suganthi Iyer; Ms. Pheroza Godrej, President, MUNA; H.E. Mr. Majued Foud, Council General of Egypt; Ms. Mohini Mathur, Executive - Chairperson, MUNA; Mr. Satish Mathur, Jt. Commissioner Police, Traffic; Mr. K. M. Abraham, Vice President, MUNA*

speakers were Mr. N. K. Garg – Chief Safety Officer – Western Railway and Mr. Anil B. Thakkar, Chairman, Traffic Sub Committee of the WIAA. He very ably emphasized on the point that like patriotism – road safety should be ingrained in childhood. Children should be made aware of the road signs, road crossing etc. He said that road safety should be a subject in the school curriculum.

At the outset Ms. Pheroza Godrej, President MUNA welcomed the audience and elaborated on the importance of the theme of the year. Ms. Mohini Mathur, Executive Chairperson introduced the speakers and highlighted on the importance of the very topic selected for the World Health Day.

Mr. A. A. Syed, Secretary General, MUNA in the beginning call the meeting to order and requested to all the audience and members to observe one munute of silence to commemorate one of the most tragic episode of 20th century for the victims of the genocide in Rawanda in 1994. He proposed vote of thanks.

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Human Rights Day was celebrated the world over on 10 December, 2003. The Maharashtra United Nations Association (MUNA), under the presidency of Pheroza J. Godrej, organized a function to celebrated the occasion.

Pheroza J. Godrej, in her welcome speech, said "The entire scenario has changed, turbulence is the order of the day worldwide and it would help to have our "rights" work like clockwork. Unfortunately, this remains and remained an unrealized dream even for generations gone by. People have always had to fight for their rights, the evidence of which is all around us – whether it be the rights of children, women, the aged, the disabled, the press religion and so on. We have with us today a distinguished array of personalities, upholders of justice, educationist, members of the international community and so on. We are at a time when we are deeply shaken by what is happening globally and more so locally, wherein we have lost trust and are disillusioned with the very authority empowered to enforce the law of the land."

Mr. Jagtiani, Sr. Advocate of Bombay High Court and Supreme Court, spoke in detail about the charter of Human Rights.

Dr. B. L. Munekar, Vice Chancellor, University of Mumbai, focused on the social aspect of human rights in India and the

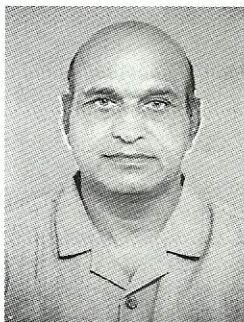


Human Rights Day was held on 27 Oct. 2003 at the Wrold Trade Centre. From Left to Right are: Mr A. A. Syed; Mr Satish Jagtiani, Sr. Advocate; Mrs Mohini Mathur; Mrs Pheroza J. Godrej; Dr B. L. Munekar, Vice Chancellor, University of Mumbai; Hon'ble Justice S. S. Parkar; Mr Kiran J. Shantaram, Sheriff of Mumabai; H.E. Mr Majid Fouad Council General of Egypt and Mr Mihir Desai

discrimination between castes and different religion in practicing and respecting human rights, though they are uniform.

Mihir Desai, Advocate, executive Chairperson – India Centre for Human Rights and Law, traced the history of the human rights movement and its evolution since the Magna Carta was signed between England and France.

The Chief Guest, Hon'ble Justice S.S. Prakar of the Member High Court pointed out that human rights begin at birth. He outlined the role of social human rights and constitutional Human rights and distinguished between fundamental rights and human rights. He added that as an advocate and Judge of the High Court, healways championed human rights.



Shri Subhash Purohit

Shri Subhash Purohit, Advocate and Former Member, State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, rajasthan has been declared elected as Member, Governing Council of the Bar Association of India for a period of two years. He will represent Rajasthan in the Association. He defeated Shri Jagdeep Dhankar, Former Union Minister by securing 24 votes out of total 29 votes in direct contest. Dr. Purohit is former President of Jodhpur Municipal Council.

Welcoming his election to the Association Shri F. S. Nariman, MP and Chairman, Bar Association of India and Shri Lalit Bhasin, Secretary General of the Association expressed hope that the Association will be benefitted by his vast experiences in legal and various other fields. Dr. Subhash Purohit is **President of Jodhpur UN Association & Chairman Centre for Human Rights Jaipur**