2. On the determinants of active and healthy ageing so that the elderly can lead economically productive and physically sound later life.
3. On family transition processes taking into consideration the changing family structures, intergenerational transfer system and emergent patterns of family and institutional dynamics.
4. On the level of awareness on ageing issues among the younger generations, and preparations on later life among middle-age persons sensitising them for successful ageing.
5. Into the relationships between population ageing and socio-economic development of Bangladesh.
6. Into quality of life and ageing in diverse cultural, gender, socio-economic, physical and geographical environment, education, occupation, social support system, political arenas,.
7. On diverse conditions, problems, challenges, inherent resources and coping mechanisms, felt needs of older women in Bangladesh, particularly those who are with disabilities, widowed, issue/sonless, dwelling in rural areas, slum areas, cyclone prone coastal areas, Char and Monga threatened areas, remote hilly areas, homeless/displaced and on their available formal and indigenous support and service opportunities.
8. On the basic biological changes, mechanisms and age associated diseases and probable care and medication options with the prospect of achieving active, healthy, positive and successful ageing to the very end through lifestyle modifications and interventions that work.
9. On effects, impacts, efficacies, strengths, weaknesses, challenges and opportunities of Public Retirement Pension System, Old Age Allowance programme and other elderly welfare services run by the government and NGOs in Bangladesh.

Recent research highlights the valuable roles older people play in emergencies and the economic and social contributions they make. Reducing the vulnerability of older people is not about creating special services for them, it is about ensuring that they have equal access to vital services.

IDOP 2010

World communities celebrated the United Nation's declared 20th International Day of the Older Persons (IDOP) this year on Friday, October 1. The central theme of this year's IDOP was chosen by the United Nations as Getting and Staying Active in Later Life.

Bangladesh observed this special day with due importance with all of its elderly stakeholders. The Ministry of Social Welfare with the Bangladesh Association for the Aged and Institute of Geriatric Medicine (BAAIGM) organised the day's programmes. BAAIGM is the oldest and largest NGO in the country exclusively representing the voice and providing service and support to older persons irrespective of cast and creed since 1960 and is celebrating its Golden Jubilee this year with its 50 branches and about 10 million older persons of Bangladesh.

Ensuring equal access for older people relies on making service providers more aware of the particular problems and obstacles they face. It means including older people in the planning and delivery of services and supporting their capacity to live independent lives once the emergency has passed. Successful interventions encompass both the welfare and rehabilitation of older people, and address these needs in the context of their families and communities.

Reducing the vulnerability of older people is not about creating special services for them; it is about ensuring that they have equal access to vital services.

The main factors contributing to the exacerbation of the ageing process in Bangladesh are the demographic factors: downward trend of fertility and mortality rates; and socio-economic factors: lack of employment and income opportunities, mandatory retirement, rapid urbanisation and migration, improvement in health care facilities, etc.

Older persons in Bangladesh are suffering from basic human problems such as negligence, helplessness, psychosocial and cultural complexities and so on. They are still passing their days amidst the tender care and support mostly provided by their extended families without any remarkable backing from the national level.

However, the situation is in transition as