



EMPOWER INDIA—NEWS DIGEST

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Inform, Inspire, Impact

Dear IDCA Member or Friend,

Our hearty greetings to all of you for the India's Independence day!

For this 69th Independence day let us remember and salute all the freedom fighters, and recommit ourselves to help realize their dream for a free India for the less fortunate. It is also 101st year of Gandhiji's return to India from South Africa to lead the movement for a free India. We also salute all those who have committed to serve the masses, post-Independence. Let us all do our bit to serve the nation with our available resources. We are pleased to share our activities over the past month and some useful information for your use. PM Speech:

http://zeenews.india.com/news/india/highlights-of-pm-narendra-modis-independence-day-speech_1647310.html

Upcoming IDCA Events:

August 22, 2015, India Water Forum,

Venue: Indian Prairie Public Library, Darien, IL 60561,

Time: 1:30 PM-4:30 PM

September 13, 2015: Honoring IDCA Heroes (Invitation only)

12 PM-3 PM, Viceroy of India, Lombard, IL

October 17-18, 2015, The 13th International conference

Theme: *Exploring Innovative Strategies for Poverty Eradication and Climate Change Mitigation*

Venue: Illinois Institute of Technology, 201 East Loop Road, Wheaton, IL 60187

Registration: Regular Registration Ends on: September 15. Please Register Today.

You can learn about the upcoming IDCA events at: <http://idc-america.org/events/upcoming-events> . You can support our efforts to serve you all by joining as a member. To learn how you can join us, please click: <http://idc-america.org/membership>

IDCA Team

News from Members:

Sehgal Foundation, USA:

I cordially invite you to the following book launch on September 16 in Minneapolis:

https://www.facebook.com/jay.sehgal2/posts/1150010711680676?notif_t=like

Jay Sehgal

Operation Asha-New Delhi India

Awards and Honors:

Achievement in ICT (Information Communications Technology) - Financial Times/International Finance Corporation Transformational Business Awards 2015

^[12][Social Innovation in Health Initiative](#) 2015 - Selected as one of the Top 25 Innovations worldwide

Worldwide Achievers Healthcare Excellence Award Jan 2015 - Dr. Shelly and Operation ASHA recognized and rewarded for outstanding "Innovation and Social Awareness in the Healthcare Sector" for the year of 2014 ^[13]

[Video produced by University of North Carolina Chapel Hill & IPIHD](#) Jan 2014 - Selected as one of the winners of CUGH's Global Health Video Competition in the Innovations in Global Health category

Dr. Shelly Batra - Social Entrepreneur of the Year 2014 awarded by the Schwab Foundation

[Tech Awards](#) - Operation ASHA as Tech Laureate 2014

[TEDxWBG talk on Ending Poverty, Oct 2014](#) - Dr. Shelly Batra, President of Operation ASHA along with World Bank President, Jim Kim

OpASHA was featured in the third season of a popular TV show- Satyamev Jayate. This show discusses and provides possible solutions to address different social issues in India. OpASHA was one of the experts in the episode titled, "TB - The Ticking Time Bomb."

<http://www.satyamevjayate.in/tb-the-ticking-time-bomb/ngo-operation-asha.aspx>

Media coverage: UDAAN 2015: TB awareness for slum children- A collaborative effort by Operation ASHA & AIESEC. Hindi/Urdu Coverage: Aug 5, Aug 8

<http://www.universityexpress.co.in/delhiuniversity/2015/08/udaan-2015/>
<http://campusmag.net/blog/2015/08/04/udaan-2015-aiesec-delhi-university/>
July 27, 2015 http://www.stoptb.org/news/frompartners/2015/fp15_061.asp:

Voice of America Blog : Dr. Shelly Batra's email interview on Using Biometrics to Track India's Tuberculosis Cases, July 3rd, 2015

<http://blogs.voanews.com/techtonics/2015/07/03/using-biometrics-to-track-indias-tuberculosis-cases/>
Proud to be the first NGO from India to join the WIPO Search consortium from July 2015

Annual Report: <http://www.idrf.org/2014-annual-report/>
(PDF format: <http://www.idrf.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/IDRF-2014-Annual-Report1.pdf>)

1. Water: page 10 (Water Harvesting : Constructed earthen check dams and wells for 1,000 rural families in District Kutch, Gujarat)
2. Education :pages: 6-7. (Page 6: A village in U.P. without a school now having a school drawing children from 30 villages) (Page 7: Providing holistic education to tribal girls from the Northeastern States in India in a residential CBSE accredited school in U.P.)
3. Healthcare: Page 8 (Medical Van providing healthcare to thousands of people living in remote villages of Arunachal Pradesh)
4. Livelihood: Page 9 (Promoting rural women entrepreneurship through micro-credit programs in West Bengal)

Bharathi Theertha obtained approval to adopt a village, Devada, in Kotthavalasa Mandalam, Vizianagaram District. We are in the process of developing a 24/7 Water Supply system to deliver safe drinking water for about 4,000 residents of this village. Also, we will try our level best to eliminate open defecation in this village by providing hygienic sanitation facilities. Also, a proposal for the establishment of sub-health center in this village is submitted to the District Collector of Vizianagaram.

Water and Sanitation

How One Woman's Crusade Against Open Defecation Led To The Construction Of 25 Toilets In A Village
<http://www.thebetterindia.com/19573/one-woman-crusade-against-open-defecation-construction-toilets-village-uttar-pradesh/>

Education

http://www.thebetterindia.com/30101/babar-ali-youngest-headmaster-in-the-world-inspiring/?utm_source=The+Better+India+Newsletter&utm_campaign=20dcbcf7b6-RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_cd579275a4-20dcbcf7b6-73737701

On July 24, we sent a document with suggestions to improve education in India to the HRD Ministry. A copy will be soon available on our website.

More info available at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/IDCA.Education/>

Governance

Governance Magazine from India

<http://emagazine.governancenow.com/english/volume6issue12/#p=60>

<http://www.governancenow.com/gov-next/egov>

<http://gfilesindia.com/frmArticleDetails.aspx?id=1251&Name=From%20the%20Editor>

Resurgence of Civil Services?

<http://gfilesindia.com/frmArticleDetails.aspx?id=1254&Name=GOVERNANCE>

Climate Change

Study Suggests Renewable Energy can Beat Poverty and Pollution in India

<http://thelogicalindian.com/news/study-suggests-renewable-energy-can-beat-both-poverty-pollution-in-india/>

The Point of no Return Climate Change nightmares are Already here.

<http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/news/the-point-of-no-return-climate-change-nightmares-are-already-here-20150805>

Global Commission Identifies Economic Opportunities that Mitigate Emissions:

The report, titled '**Seizing the Global Opportunity: Partnerships for Better Growth and a Better Climate,**' focuses on international and multi-stakeholder partnerships. **It calls for strengthened cooperation among governments, businesses, investors, cities and communities to drive economic growth, while achieving a low-carbon economy. See below for full report.**

<http://climate-l.iisd.org/news/global-commission-identifies-economic-opportunities-that-mitigate-emissions/> (source; Dr. Ramesh Jalan, UNDP, New Delhi)

The OECD, in co-operation with the International Energy Agency, the International Transport Forum and the Nuclear Energy Agency, just released the report "**Aligning Policies for a Low-carbon Economy**", which opens a new phase in policy efforts to fight climate change.

The full report and synthesis can be consulted at: <http://oe.cd/lowcarbon>

Self-driving vehicles are being touted as a big part of the landscape of future cities. Amongst other positive features they are predicted to bring are enabling people to pursue other tasks while being driven, let cars drive more efficiently and drastically reducing the number of road casualties.

The article is available at: http://www.sustainablecitiescollective.com/david-thorpe/1088414/will-autonomous-vehicles-and-integrated-transport-planning-bring-extra-costs-or?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Sustainable+Cities+Collective+%28all+posts%29

"**India will walk the energy efficiency path aggressively: Prakash Javadekar**". The article is available at : <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/india-will-walk-the-energy-efficiency-path-aggressively-prakash-javadekar/articleshow/48162460.cms> .

This article highlights India's emphasis on energy efficiency in tackling climate change. Energy Efficiency is the low hanging fruit that needs to be undertaken as vigorously as possible and India is committed to it. We need to develop more projects related to energy efficiency as it is a priority of the Government of India. We in India have no choice but to walk the energy efficiency path aggressively.

Three Office Buildings Using Passive Heating and Cooling Design.

This article highlights how simple and innovative measures can drastically reduce heating and cooling loads thereby increasing energy efficiency in commercial buildings. This article would be useful for the project on Energy Efficiency in Commercial Buildings and for others to understand the concept of passive heating and cooling. These designs would be useful, particularly for new commercial buildings in the country and a large number are to be built throughout the country in the next decade or two. It is estimated that more than 70% of the commercial spaces in India are yet to be built. The article is available at: http://www.sustainablecitiescollective.com/david-thorpe/1088807/three-office-buildings-using-passive-heating-and-cooling-design?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Sustainable+Cities+Collective+%28all+posts%29

Investing with Impact- Why Finance as a Force for Good—Jeremy K. Balkin

Learn more at: www.balkin.me

**The 6 E Paradigm Impact Investing Approach includes:
Economics, Employment, Empowerment, Education, Ethics, and Environment**

The Smart Guide to Green Living—Second Ed. Julie Kerr

World Resources Institute: www.wri.org

Conservation International: www.conservation.org

The Nature Conservancy: www.nature.org

World Watch Institute: www.worldwatch.org

Union of Concerned Scientist: www.ucsusa.org

Food and Water Watch; www.foodandwaterwatch.org

Friends of the Earth: www.foe.org

Natural resources Defense Council: www.nrdc.org

Kitchen Gardeners International: www.kitchengardeners.org

Earth Watch Institute: www.earthwatch.org

Environmental Defense Fund: www.edf.org

Clean Air Conservancy: www.cleanairconservancy.org

Green Living resources:

Care 2 Make a difference: www.care2.com/greenliving

Filter for good: www.filterforgood.org

Go Green-Green Living: www.greenliving.about.com

Going Green: www.goinggreen.com

Green Guide: www.thegreenguide.com

Green Living: www.green-living.com

Green living Ideas: www.greenlivingideas.com

See more stories on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/IDCA.Climate-Change/>

Livelihoods:

The Government Has Set up a Rs. 250 Cr Fund for Entrepreneurs from the Scheduled Caste Category - See more at:

http://www.thebetterindia.com/31327/venture-capital-fund-for-entrepreneurs-from-sc-category/?utm_source=The+Better+India+Newsletter&utm_campaign=20dcbcf7b6-RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_cd579275a4-20dcbcf7b6-73737701#sthash.O9Z12lbX.dpuf

Healthcare:

New World Bank Report Climate Change and Health Impacts: How Vulnerable is Bangladesh?

See report: <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2014/01/23055384/climate-change-health-impacts-vulnerable-bangladesh-needs-done>

The above mentioned report highlights the impact of climate change on human health in Bangladesh. We in India are equally vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and could submit a DSS proposal to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change along with the Ministry of Health to do a similar exercise for India. The proposal could be prepared under DSS modality in Collaboration with the World Health Organization, thereby facilitating joint programming at the UN.

Check the following

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/IDCA.Healthcare/>

Poverty Eradication

The many Government Schemes that can help Landless and Homeless Women lead a more Secure Life

<http://www.thebetterindia.com/23721/woman-landless-and-homeless-benefit-from-government-schemes/>

8 Mobile Phone Ideas That Are Changing Lives In Rural India

<http://www.thebetterindia.com/16218/8-mobile-phone-ideas-changing-lives-rural-india-mobile4good14/>

CSR & RS brings to you--Social Convival 2015--SEPTEMBER 4-6 click below FMI.

<http://www.socon.co.in/>

Social Entrepreneurship

<http://www.unltdindia.org/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/96-years-ago-310-billion-man-revealed-secrets-his-success-banayan>

Social Start-Ups Get Revved Up In Silicon Valley

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/sap/2015/08/11/social-start-ups-get-revved-up-in-silicon-valley/>

Do you have a business that helps the poor? Villgro [#funds](#) and supports early-stage for-profit [#enterprises](#) that have an impact on the lives of India's poor. [http:// villgro.org](http://villgro.org)

<http://www.impactbusinessleaders.com/iblisb-info-sessions/>

<http://www.impactbusinessleaders.com/about/what-is-social-enterprise/>

Fundraising:

Power of One! An Interesting blog and video.

<http://www.aydasanver.com/the-power-of-one/>

23 Sources for Powerful Fundraising Tips:

<https://michaelrosensays.wordpress.com/2015/08/12/23-sources-for-powerful-fundraising-tips-that-will-get-results/>

Article on the Philanthropic Focus of the Tech Sector

<http://www.vox.com/2015/8/10/9124145/effective-altruism-global-ai>

Why Giving is Good for you: <http://recharity.ca/giving-infographics/>

Our Outreach Activities:

On July 25, we attended a lunch meeting hosted by FIA to organize Independence Day event.

On August 2, we attended the concluding function of a one week training camp organized by Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh, Midwest.

On August 9, we attended a fundraising event for CORD India by Chinmaya Mission of Chicago, held at Ashton Place in Willowbrook. We had pleasure of renewing our contacts with the National Director of CORD (Chinmaya Organization for Rural Development) Dr. Kshma Metre. She has spoken at our conferences in India on 2 occasions. Other Cord volunteers have spoken in Chicago, Washington, San Jose, and Houston. CORD is working in more than 700 villages in Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Orissa. They have also started CORD Sri Lanka to help war ravaged people there.



