



EMPOWER INDIA



NEWS BULLETIN

Volume 2, Number 5, October 10, 2011,

Email: info@idc-america.org, Web: www.idc-america.org, Tel.: 630-303-9592

Inform, Inspire, Empower, Impact

Dear IDCA Member or Friend,
We are pleased to share this Fifth issue.
We have tried to find and compile news from
US and India which you will find useful.
Please join us and support our efforts to serve
less fortunate people in India.

Upcoming IDCA Events:

Ninth International conference on
October 15-16 in Chicago

Register NOW and Save\$\$\$

Just Pay \$25. to register your spouse
or friend.

Second West Regional Conference on
November 19, 2011 in Milpitas, CA

Eighth International Conference in
Jaipur on January 11-12, 2012

First South India Regional Conference

Feb. 4-5, 2012 at Hyderabad, AP.

You can learn about the upcoming IDCA
events at: www.idc-america.org/upcoming.htm

You can support our efforts to serve you all by joining as
a member. Please learn more at: www.idc-america.org/membership.htm

Gandhi Quotes

*Who are the True Lovers of humanity?
Those who, forgetting themselves, bring
sunshine to the lives of others.*

*Happiness depends on what we give,
not on what we can get.*

IDCA Invites You to Ninth International Conference

India Development Coalition of America is organizing its Ninth International Conference in Chicago on October 15-16, 2011. We are pleased to invite you to join us to meet and learn from many NPOs / NGOs leaders about their accomplishments and challenges to eradicate poverty and mitigate climate change. We will focus on rural development, healthcare, Education, Water, Livelihoods, and renewable energy areas. IDCA believes by learning from each other and working together we can achieve our goals more holistically and quickly. The purpose of the conference is to promote networking, collaboration, learning, giving, sharing, and volunteering to achieve our goals individually and collectively in shortest possible time.

Conference Theme: ***Working Together to Eradicate Poverty and Mitigate Climate Change in India.***

Conference Venue: **Illinois Institute of Technology,
Rice Campus, 201 East Loop Drive, Wheaton, IL 60187.**

Time: **9 AM to 9 PM ---October 15, 9 AM to 3 PM---October 16.**

Registration: \$75.00 (\$60. Member) to September 30. \$95. (\$75 Member) from October 1.

You can register by completing the registration form (download at:

www.idc-america.org/upcoming.htm) or with your check or you can pay by credit card at:
<http://www.idc-america.org/DonationForm.htm> . **Bring your Spouse or Friend Pay only \$25.**

Speakers Include:

Dr. Jane Schukoske, CEO, IRRAD, Gurgaon, India; **Dr. Anant Pandhare**, Director, Hedgewar Hospital, Aurangabad, Maharashtra; **Ms. Nileema Misra**—Founder, Bhagini Nivedita Gramin Vigyan Niketan, Bahadarpur, MH, Winner of 2010 Magsaysay Award; **Prof. Chandrakala Bhardwaj**, president, Adarsh Mahila Grah Udyog Samiti, Latur, Maharashtra. **Mrs. Biraj Solanke**, Founder and president, Majalgaon Vikas Pratishthan, Maharashtra; Ms. Madhu Sridhar, president, Akshay Patra Foundation, Boston, MA; Mr. Jeff Klein, President and CEO, The Global FoodBanking Network, Chicago ; Prof. R. Rajagopal, Univ. of Iowa, Director, India Wintrim Program; Dr. Anil Sarkar, Philanthropist/activist, Terre Haute, Indiana; Professor Prodip Dutta, India Studies Program, Indiana State University, Terre haute, IN; Prof. Ronald Fernandez, DePaul University, Chicago, Director, India Studies Program;

IDCA is a 501©(3) not for profit organization registered in the state of Illinois since 2004. It was conceived and formed after a conference of 15 Not for profit organization and their supporters in October 2003 in the Chicago area. Since 2004 it has organized eight conferences in the Chicago area, one in Terre Haute, Indiana, 3 in DC area, one each in Milpitas and Houston, and Detroit. It has also organized 8 conferences in India. 4 in New Delhi, 2 in Gurgaon, and one each in Jaipur and Hyderabad. It has organized several forums in Chicago and organized seminars for visiting NGO leaders from India. We have been promoting networking, collaboration, learning, giving, and volunteering in US and India.. More info at: www.idc-america.org/membership.htm .

For more information call: Porus Dadabhoy: 630-960-2425 or Dileep Thatte (DC): 240-316-9044. Mohan . Jain, 630-303-9592 (O) email at: info@idc-america.org or visit our website: www.idc-america.org .

EDITORIAL: 20 years to...where?

by Sunita Narain

Next year, in June, world leaders will get together in the joyful city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to mark 20 years of UNCED—the Earth Summit (see Down to Earth, May 15, 1992).

Unbelievably, it will be 40 years since the Stockholm conference, when the question of the environment first caught global attention. At Stockholm, developing countries—then prime minister Indira Gandhi was the only leader from this part of the world to attend the meet—were uncertain. They were just feeling their way to articulate what the environment meant for them, how their own development would need resources and how their growth could lead to pollution. Mrs Gandhi's famous phrase, "poverty is the biggest polluter", has been interpreted in many ways. At Rio in 1992, this set of countries, sobered, decided to put their foot down: they asserted their right to sustainable development.

This Rio+20 comes at a crucial time in global affairs. A possible double digit recession in the US, financial crisis in the Eurozone, peak oil prices, everything is provoking a rethink on the current growth model. What are the interconnections between this model, built on consumption for wealth creation, and the challenge it poses to sustainability? We know, today, an underlying cause of the financial strain is dependence on cheap loans or cheap production to induce consumption, to fuel growth. The world has not been able to design a growth model that meets the aspirations and purchasing abilities of people, indeed the needs of all. There are limits to such growth, a fast-growing world is learning. It is not possible to emulate the lifestyle of the already-industrialised without compromising the survival of the Earth. Such limits will require the world to share the Earth, so that growth can be afforded and sustainable, for all.

The world is in danger of losing its development dividend. The poor, already living on the margins of survival, are even more vulnerable with each natural disaster. The gains of development investment are now lost. So, on the one hand, the world has to reinvent the growth paradigm because it is costing growth itself. On the other hand, the world has to reinvent growth for it is costing the Earth.

What should the planetary blueprint look like? First, we need new economic indicators to measure prosperity in an inclusive and carbon-labile world. It is increasingly accepted the current method to measure economic progress in terms of gross national product does not provide the right signals for valuing growth, just and sustainable. Bhutan has adopted Gross National Happiness to indicate a way to wellbeing, outside of wealth. In 2008, responding to concerns about the inadequacy of current measures of economic performance, French President Nicolas Sarkozy set up the Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress. The choice of the economic measure is important, for it makes the world assess economic performance and social progress in a new light. But what are the "right" indicators, which will value the next-generation, low-carbon development paradigm? This is a key issue, still needing resolution.

Second, the world must buy into the demand for a global framework for equal rights and

entitlement to global atmospheric space for all, which will, in turn, build in conditions for limits on consumption and production. The world's atmospheric budget must be shared. Such sharing will create the right conditions for critical economic choices related to changes in consumption and production patterns. Such acceptance of limit has to be a key economic-political driver the world over. If we can't put it in place, there will be no real incentive to move away from the current, unsustainable, economic growth model.

Third, can we transition to green energy? For it, do we have the guts to build a global feed-in tariff mechanism? It is well understood the transition to low-carbon growth will require massive investment in new renewable technologies, as also in distribution systems which reduce transmission costs and losses. The challenge is compounded: the global majority of households remain energy-deprived and energy-insecure. The world has to find energy options, affordable to all and sustainable.

It is also clear the South has the opportunity to leapfrog into new energy solutions, for it has still not invested, completely, in the fossil-based energy systems that threaten the Earth. The transition to low-carbon energy futures can be paid through a global feed-in tariff mechanism, which would pay for the differential cost of generating more expensive energy-using renewable technologies. Many countries have adopted domestic feed-in tariff regulations. Germany, where consumers are relatively wealthy, requires power utilities to pay the differential. In India, where energy insecurity and energy costs are high and consumers poor, the approach is to bundle cheaper energy with expensive energy to cut prices. These approaches will make us learn the options for the future.

But it is not enough. Global leaders have to stand up for some "inconvenient messages", which challenge the current business-as-usual model. In Rio, all leaders should take a bus, to say they want a car-free world. Say it clearly, openly and without hesitation. Change the game. We want that. We are not waiting.

Post your comments on this editorial online at <http://www.downtoearth.org.in/content/20-years-where>

Holistic Approach to Sanitation and Sustainable Agriculture

R. Santhanam, Consultant, New Delhi

rsanthanam_delhi@yahoo.com

I have written two articles on how many bio solid wastes, effluents from human and animal habitations and even effluents from industries that can be treated, or better still stabilized and used as grey water or as nutrient rich humus (manure) and fertigation (nutrient rich irrigation water). This will help sanitize human habitations in metros, cities and villages and make agricultural lands fertile and also enabling the retention of more moisture especially since more than 60% of cultivated lands in India are rain fed and there is no facility to irrigate regularly from a water source.

(AA) Stabilization of bio solid wastes and effluents using Biosanitizer biocatalyst of Dr Uday

Bhawalkar: <http://www.wastetohealth.com/>

Use of Municipal Solid Wastes for a better use than land fills emitting GHG:

http://www.wesnetindia.org/fileadmin/newsletter_pdf/Aug06/Waste_Management.pdf

Colonization of waste lands with green cover and improving micro climate of the region:

<http://www.voy.com/61461/2/833.html>

(BB) Sustainable agriculture through Keshav Krishi

Keshav Krishi methodologies based on ancient Vedic Sciences are enabling disease free and pest attack free crops to be raised which also become organic certifiable in the case of food crops. The techniques can be used for any crop raised for food, fuel (say bio fuels) or fibre like cotton which consumes maximum amount of pesticides. GMO incorporated cotton varieties are susceptible to pests attacks other than boll worm and there is a large array of them! We also hear of insects developing resistance to BT toxin like the corn in Mid West USA in the long run. The corn crop is toppling over due to infestation in the root zone by a worm which has developed immunity to the toxin in GM Corn.

Keshav Krishi allows better harvests even from traditional varieties of seeds horizontally bred for local agro climatic conditions.

<http://agropedia.iitk.ac.in/?q=content/keshav-krishi-alternative-sustainable-agriculture>

(CC) Rice and what grains should not be polished off their bran.

Brown rice can be packed in multilayer pouch packing with vacuum or inert gas fill to retain freshness and prevent oxidation and insect growth, vastly improving shelf life. The nutritional value of this brown rice is vastly superior to polished rice.

Similarly what bran if it has to be removed while removing the husk, should be added back to the wheat flour.

We have seen pouch packing revolutionizing availability of shampoo in rural markets. Pouch packing is also used in potato chips and corn flakes. Why not for unpolished rice? It can come in convenient size packing say 100 / 200 ml. There should also be a system to collect and recycle such packaging as otherwise it will end up as litter in rural India, like PET bottles.

Indian Government totally online

All Indian government office related links are available...

Kindly save it.....

Obtain:

- * Birth Certificate <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/howdoi.php?service=1>>
- * Caste Certificate <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/howdoi.php?service=4>>
- * Tribe Certificate <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/otherservice_details.php?service=8>
- * Domicile Certificate <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/howdoi.php?service=5>>
- * Driving Licence <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/howdoi.php?service=6>>
- * Marriage Certificate <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/howdoi.php?service=3>>
- * Death Certificate <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/howdoi.php?service=2>>
- * Search More - How do I <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/advancedsearch.php>>

Apply for:

- * PAN Card <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php?service=15>
- * TAN Card <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php?service=3>
- * Ration Card <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ howdoi.php? service=7>>
- * Passport <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php?service=2>
- * Inclusion of name in the Electoral Rolls <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ howdoi.php? service=10>>
- * Search More - How do I <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ advancedsearch.php>>

Register:

- * Land/Property <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ howdoi.php? service=9>>
- * Vehicle <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ howdoi.php? service=13>>
- * With State Employment Exchange <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ howdoi.php?service=12>>
- * As Employer <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php?service=17>
- * Company <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php?service=19>
- * .IN Domain <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php?service=18>
- * **GOV.IN** Domain <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php?service=25>
- * Search More - How do I <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ advancedsearch.php>>

Check/Track:

- * Waiting list status for Central Government Housing <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php? service=9>
- * Status of Stolen Vehicles <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php? service=1>
- * Land Records <<http://www.india.gov.in/landrecords/index.php>>
- * Causelist of Indian Courts <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php? service=7>
- * Court Judgements (JUDIS) <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php? service=24>
- * Daily Court Orders/Case Status <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php? service=21>
- * Acts of Indian Parliament <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php? service=13>
- * Exam Results <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php?service=16>
- * Speed Post Status <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php?service=10>
- * Agricultural Market Prices Online <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php? service=6>
- * Search More - How do I <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ advancedsearch.php>>

Book/File/Lodge:

- * Train Tickets Online <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php? service=5>
- * Air Tickets Online <http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice_details.php?service=4>

* Income Tax Returns <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice details.php? service=12>>

* Complaint with Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice details.php? service=14>>

* Search More - How do I <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ advancedsearch.php>>

Contribute to:

* Prime Minister's Relief Fund <<http://www..india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice details.php? service=11>>

* Search More - How do I <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ advancedsearch.php>>

Others:

* Send Letters Electronically <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ otherservice details.php? service=20>>

* Search More - How do I <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ advancedsearch.php>>

Recently Added Online Services

* Tamil Nadu: Online application of marriage certificate for persons having registered their marriages <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ onlineservice detail.php? service=2691>>

* Tamil Nadu: Online District wise soil Details of Tamil Nadu <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ onlineservice detail.php? service=2693>>

* Tamil Nadu: View Water shed Atlas of Tamil Nadu <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ onlineservice detail.php? service=2694>>

* Tamil Nadu: E-Pension District Treasury Tirunelveli <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ onlineservice detail.php? service=2695>>

* Meghalaya: Search Electoral Roll Online by Name (2008) <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ onlineservice detail.php? service=2697>>

* Meghalaya: Search Electoral Roll Online by EPIC number (2008) <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ onlineservice detail.php? service=2698>>

* Meghalaya: Search Electoral Roll Online by House number (2008) <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ onlineservice detail.php? service=2699>>

* Himachal Pradesh: Revised Pay and Arrears Calculator-Fifth Pay <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ onlineservice detail.php? service=2702>>

* Meghalaya: Search Electoral Roll Online by Part number (2008) <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ onlineservice detail.php? service=2700>>

* Andhra Pradesh: Online Motor Driving School Information <<http://www.india.gov.in/howdo/ onlineservice detail.php? service=2705>>

Global Navigation

* Citizens <<http://www.india.gov.in/citizen.php>>

* Business (External website that opens in a new window) <<http://business.gov.in/>>

* Overseas <<http://www.india.gov.in/overseas.php>>

* Government <<http://www.india.gov.in/govt.php>>

* Know India <<http://www.india.gov.in/knowindia.php>>

* Sectors <<http://www.india.gov.in/sector.php>>

* Directories <<http://www.india.gov.in/directories.php>>

* Documents <<http://www.india.gov.in/documents.php>>

* Forms <<http://www.india.gov.in/forms/forms.php>>

* Acts <<http://www.india.gov.in/govt/acts.php>>

* Rules <<http://www.india.gov.in/govt/rules.php>>

* Schemes <<http://www.india.gov.in/govt/schemes.php>>

* Tenders <<http://www.india.gov.in/tenders.php>>

* Home <<http://www.india.gov.in/default.php>>

- * About the Portal <<http://www.india.gov.in/abouttheportal.php>>
- * Site Map <<http://www.india.gov.in/sitemap.php>>
- * Link to Us <<http://www.india.gov.in/linktous.php>>
- * Suggest to a Friend <<http://www.india.gov.in/suggest/suggest.php>>
- * Help <<http://www.india.gov.in/help.php>>
- * Terms of Use <<http://www.india.gov.in/termsandconditions.php>>
- * Feedback <<http://www.india.gov.in/feedback.php>>
- * Contact Us <<http://www.india.gov.in/contactus.php>>
- * Accessibility Statement <<http://www.india.gov.in/accessibilitystatement.php>>

Intro to Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Rural Industrialization

Posted by: "karmayog - tanya" info@karmayog.org
Mon Oct 10, 2011 2:55 am (PDT)

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

Intro to Rural Haat - products & produce from rural India

In the Gandhian vision of "Gram Swaraj", self-reliant villages constitute the basic building blocks of sustainable economy and a humane civilization. In such a model, "Gramodyog" or village industries are expected to be the main engine of economic development. However, inspite of past 60 years of planned development and phenomenal growth in S&T institutions, and National Laboratories in the country, there is as yet, no tangible mechanism to support Rural Industrialization through adequate and appropriate inputs of Science, Technology, Management etc. The need for such a mechanism is being felt even more acutely in view of the growing globalization and liberalization of economies. The thrust on promoting Rural Industrialization has also become imperative for providing large scale employment in the rural sector.

<http://www.ruralhaat.com/Aboutus.aspx>

Harit Shrushti - NGO Awards

Greetings from 'The Sustainability Platform'. We are glad to inform you that we are running a nation wide competition '**Harit Shrushti 2011**'. The awards aim to advance the country's non-government organizations by promoting environmental and organizational sustainability and appreciate NGOs which have used technology to resolve one or more critical issues in Water, Energy or Waste management. Further details are provided in the attachments below. We would be pleased to have you as a participant in 'Harit Shrushti 2011'.

Ritwik Ballal, Event Coordinator - TSP 2011, Mob:+91-9833923266

Greetings!

Pink city Jaipur with its rich culture, heritage, architecture and flora & fauna, being the host city of **Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2012** for the first time is eagerly waiting to welcome you to this mega event. The preparations for this event are on its peak and is looking forward to have all Pravasi's here in Rajasthan from all over the world.

Please recall the mail from Rajasthan Foundation regarding Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2012 invitation, this is to bring in your knowledge that the venue for PBD 2012 has been changed from Hotel Marriot, Jaipur to B.M. Birla Auditorium, Statue Circle, Jaipur due to some official reasons.

Regards,

Vinod Ajmera
Executive Director

Rajasthan Foundation
& Additional Commissioner

Bureau of Investment Promotion

Please register online at www.pbdindia.org . Further details on PBD 2012 are also available on PBD website.

Future Trends and Technologies for Reducing Food wastage

KV Peter, World Noni Research Foundations, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

I would like to cite few examples for minimizing food wastage -

- Discovery of ice is a turning point in the storage of fish. [Zero energy cool chamber](#) invented by SK Roy at Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) is another notable invention to keep fruits and vegetables fresh for a reasonable period.
- The wooden 'pathazham' lined internally with leaves of selected aromatic plants was used in Kerala to store harvested paddy.
- Cucurbits like ash gourd and pumpkins were hung in the backyard of houses for months together. Fruits and vegetables grown organically withstand rotting and spoilage.
- Stage of harvest is also an important factor determining storage life.
- There are genes like nor/rin which inhibits ripening in tomato fruits.
- The serving system of food reduces wastage of food as only the required quantity is only served. The buffet system exposes consumers to a large number of food choices and if the consumer is not conscious, there is higher wastage. Awareness on social responsibilities of caterers has led to appropriate utilization of left over foods for social purposes. What is shocking is inadequate storage space in godowns especially during monsoon resulting in wetting and drenching of grains. The media exposures have brought the attention of the concerned to this flaw.
- Location of mini godowns near areas of production and near Public Distribution System is an academic answer and whose practicability to be worked out.
- The [Anand model of milk](#) collection, storage, processing, value addition, products diversification, transport, retailing and feedback studies is being as [Safal in fruits and vegetables](#).

Statistics on wastage are inadequate. The ensuing 12th plan should cover the above areas. In China waste is wealth. Let India minimizes food wastage and left overs recycled to value added eatables for fauna.

TK Nathan, Karl Kuebel Institute for Development Education, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

I would also suggest that we look at the integration of both the forward and backward linkages in the food 'supply chain'. This will certainly throw up interesting insights. While we need to have an eye on costs due technological adaptations, it is also imperative that specialisation along the chain, can make it more efficient. You may find the following interesting:

- Modernizing India: Farms, Food, and Supply Chain Development - <http://csis.org/event/modernizing-india-farms-food-and-supply-chain-development>
- India's Pathetic Food Supply Chain leads to 30% Wastage and Soaring Onion Prices which now equal Average Wages - <http://www.greenworldinvestor.com/2010/12/21/indias-pathetic-food-supply-chain-leads-to-30-wastage>

Usha Goel, Independent Consultant, Dehradun, Uttaranchal

I deeply appreciate the subject of during and post production crop losses. In India, this seems to be the largest cause for food shortage and high costs of both perishable and non perishable food products. To my knowledge, there has not been much attention paid in this sector. Government agencies have also done very little in this direction. UN agencies may consider major interventions in the field including research, guidelines and support to infrastructure creation.

Welcome to 21st Century!! Interesting Facts.

Our communication	-	Wireless
Our phones	-	Cordless
Our cooking	-	Fireless
Our food	-	Fatless
Our Sweets	-	Sugarless
Our labor	-	Effortless
Our relations	-	Fruitless
Our attitude	-	Careless
Our feelings	-	Heartless

Our politics	-	Shameless
Our education	-	Worthless
Our Mistakes	-	Countless
Our arguments	-	Baseless
Our youth	-	Jobless
Our Ladies	-	Topless
Our Boss	-	Brainless
Our Jobs	-	Thankless
Our Needs	-	Endless
Our situation	-	Hopeless
Our Salaries	-	Less & less

Prof Reena Mathur
 Head, Dept of Zoology
 University of Rajasthan
 Jaipur , Mb No 9414460554

**Expectations from Durban Climate Change Summit - Examples; Advice—
Consolidated file of online exchange of ideas. Click below to read more.**

<ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/clmt/cr/cr-se-clmt-25081101.pdf>

Micro, small and medium enterprises ministry to focus on defence, pharma in 12th five-year plan

The Economic Times

NEW DELHI: The MSME Ministry proposes to provide incentives to emerging entrepreneurs in defence, robotics and biotech sectors during the 12th Five-Year plan, a senior government official said.

"We have identified five to six new areas - nanotechnology, biotechnology, defence and homeland security, food processing, IT-related activities and pharma," Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Secretary Uday Kumar Varma said.

The ministry has decided to facilitate the start-up MSMEs in these 'crucial' areas with a special fund package during the five-year (2012-2017) period. However, he didn't elaborate the details of the package.

"...these sectors are of crucial importance.

We will give a whole package... We are proposing in-principle, once Planning Commission agrees then details of the package can be worked out," the secretary said. Varma said the idea is to make Indian MSMEs attractive, competitive and encourage new entrepreneurs in these fields.

**For US INDIA Economic Opportunities, Pl. contact
National US INDIA Chamber of Commerce**

700 17th Street, Suite 2000, 20th Floor

Denver, Colorado 80202

WWW.NUICC.INFO

Purnima Voria : 720-323-3728 ,

Purnima@nuicc.org

[Community service](#)



[Regional and international agriculture experts at symposium hosted by](#)

By [Suresh Bodiwala](#) | Yesterday at 12:52 a.m.

Regional and international agriculture experts at symposium hosted by The Consulate General of India, Chicago Asian Media USA © Chicago IL: The Consulate General of ... [Read more >](#)



Rural Art from India

Dear Friends of IDCA,

We are adding an art exhibition cum sale at the Annual Conference this year to highlight original works of folk and tribal artist from India. This is the first exhibition of its kind in Chicago for the Indian community and will showcase renowned as well as upcoming artists from different parts of India. The exhibit will be held on on October 15th and 16th. The artworks depict stories, symbolism, religious iconography with vibrant colors and a strong sense of design. Their paintings embody their desires, fears and aspirations through the medium of painting. Showcased are the contemporary styles in Gond, Madhubani, Warli and Bengali Scroll Painting. This artistic talent and skill has helped transform lives of many young men and women and ward off poverty in many backward villages in many states.

Manvee Vaid who is an artist herself and is curating the exhibit will be available to talk about the works personally from 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM on both days.

Team Anna's Prashant Bhushan in Chicago

Reshaping India's Future: An Anti-Corruption Jan Lokpal Bill

Prashant Bhushan, an eminent supreme court lawyer and social activist in India, has been defending democratic and people's rights in India all his adult life. He has fought over 500 Public Interest Litigation cases without charging any money, including the recent 2G scam of historic proportions, which has shaken the nation and put many high profile corrupt people behind bars, appointment of P.J.Thomas as Chief Vigilance Officer for India, Doon Valley case, Bhopal gas tragedy litigation, Narmada dam case, and many more. He represents the conscience of the Indian judiciary system. He is a member of the drafting committee for JAN LOKPAL BILL

Prashant Bhushan will give two talks

Saturday, October 22, 2011

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Venue:

**Stritch School of Medicine, Loyola University
2160 S. First Ave Maywood (888-LUHS-888)**

and

Saturday, October 22, 2011

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Venue:

**Ganz Hall, Roosevelt University
430 S. Michigan Ave., 7th Floor
Chicago (312-341-3780)**

Free Admission but Limited Seating

Please RSVP @ www.facebook.com/PBinChicago or

Contact for details:

Shalini Gupta: (630)-346-2332

Nilesh Kothari: (630)-430-7613

Pratham USA Chicago Gala

Friday, October 14, 2011, 7 pm

The Meadows Club

2950 West Golf Road, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

Cocktails * Dinner * Entertainment

Keynote Speaker: Dr Raghuram Rajan

Professor, Booth School of Business, University of Chicago

Pratham Update: Dr Rukmini Banerji Director,
ASER Centre, Pratham

Standup Comedy:

Dan Nainan

Music: Well known Bollywood singer

Poonam Bhatia

chicago@prathamusa.org

News from Avaaz.org-10-10-7:46 PM

Just a few hours ago, our community reached **10 million people!**

10 million of us. From every nation, every walk of life. Hopeful, and serious about creating the world we all dream of. Campaign after campaign, we're winning. Not just the little fights, the big ones, the ones they said couldn't be won. And we're just getting started.

There's never been a community like this before – and we're accelerating – growing by 4 million in the last 9 months! If we stick together, anything's possible. The world may be awash with fear and fatalism, but people power is on the march everywhere, and together we're renewing and sustaining the most powerful force for change ever known...

Hope.

With enormous gratitude for every person in this extraordinary community,
Ricken, Alice, Luis, Ben, Ari, Saravanan, Wissam, Diego, Mia and the entire Avaaz team.
PS – we'll celebrate this milestone soon in a big

way – this quick note is just to share the moment right now. And here's some recent features in the media about our amazing journey and what we've accomplished together, in [the Guardian](#), [the Economist](#) and [the Times](#). www.avaaz.org

Learn more from our members and support them at:

IRRAD, Gurgaon, India www.irrad.org,

IDS USA -Chicago

www.idsusa.org,

IDRF -Maryland www.idrf.org

PRATHAM USA

www.prathamusa.org,

Home of Hope , California

www.hohinc.org

Trees for life, Kansas

www.treesforlife.org

Ashoka Trust for Research in
Ecology and Environment, Boston

www.atree.org

India Development of America

www.idc-america.org,

630-303-9592

Inform, Inspire, Empower, Impact !!