



EMPOWER INDIA—NEWS DIGEST

Volume 3, Number 4, October 2, 2013,

info@idc-america.org, www.idc-america.org

Inform, Inspire, Impact Poverty and Climate Change in India

Dear IDCA Member or Friend,

We are pleased to share the following News summary from some of our members for your information. Please join them and support their efforts to serve less fortunate people in India. Today is Gandhiji's 145th birthday anniversary. We salute all the freedom fighters who gave their lives. Gandhiji led India's Independence movement for more than 30 years and sacrificed his life in the service of the people. Have we fulfilled his dream for a glorious India? It is time for the reflection and course correction for the country.

In these last 66 years much has been done but much more remains to be done. A vast majority of India's citizens still are not yet able to meet their basic needs. We all must resolve to change this pathetic condition soon by eradicating poverty. There is still a debate going on what should be realistic poverty line. Let us hope policy makers define it correctly this time. Jai Hind!
Let us all resolve to sacrifice a little and serve all those who make our lives possible.

Upcoming IDCA Events:

The 11th International conference on October 12-13 in Chicago—Register NOW!
The 10th International Conference in India on January 11-12, 2014.

We invite NPO/NGO leaders to make presentations at these conferences. Please write us ASAP for your interest. Areas of work should include one of the following: Water, Education, Healthcare, Livelihoods, and Climate Change.

You can learn about the upcoming IDCA events and register at: <http://idc-america.org/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> . We welcome your feedback.

Invitation for the 11th International Conference

Dear IDCA Member or Friend,

We are pleased to invite you to participate in the 11th International conference, being organized in Chicago area on October 12-13, 2013. We hope you will be able to find time in your busy schedule and join us.

IDCA aims to help eradicate poverty, by improving and promoting education, healthcare, livelihoods, social harmony, environmental protection, and renewable energy to mitigate climate change in India.

Here are some details of the conference:

Name: The 11th International Conference in Chicago

Date: October 12-13, 2013,

Conference theme:

Finding Innovative Solutions for Poverty Eradication and Climate Change Mitigation

**Time: 8:30 AM to 8:00 PM (October 12)
8:30 AM to 4:00 PM (October 13)**

**Venue: Illinois Institute of Technology,
Rice Campus,
Wheaton (Chicago), Illinois**

We are planning for 5 sessions of 90 minutes each covering Education, Healthcare, Water, Climate Change, and Livelihoods followed by a 90 minute concluding session.

We have invited several distinguished speakers from India, US , and Canada to inform, inspire and empower you to make a difference in the lives of less fortunate people in India.

Registration:

**Regular to October 5: \$75.00 (member: \$60.), Student: \$35.;
Late after October 6: \$95.00 (member \$75), Student: \$50. Spouse or Friend: \$50.00 only.**

You can register online or by mail at: <http://idc-america.org/events>.
REGISTER EARLY and SAVE!!! More information will be posted on our website. Please visit as often as possible. Tentative program is presented in the following pages.

Tentative Program

Day 1: October 12

8:30 AM Registration and Breakfast

9:30 AM Inaugural Session:

Welcome and Introduction to Conference: Mr. Jay Sehgal, president, IDCA

A Video Message from Dr. Suri Sehgal, Chairman, The Sehgal Family Foundation, and IDCA

Founder Trustee-

Introduction to IDCA: Dr. Mohan Jain, Founder president, IDCA

Address by Chief Dr. Bharat Barai, Community Leader, Munster, Indiana

11:00 AM Coffee/Tea and Networking

11:30 AM Poverty Eradication 1--Water Panel

Mr. Ram Krishnan, president, Akash Ganga Trust, St. Paul Minnesota

Dr. Avinash B. Pol, Director, Satara District Rural Development Projects, Satara, Maharashtra, India

Mr. Jay Sehgal, Managing Trustee, IRRAD, Gurgaon, Haryana (Des Moines, Iowa)

1:00 PM Lunch and Networking

2:00 PM Poverty Eradication 2---Education Panel

Mrs. Shukla Bose, Founder, Parikrma Humanity Foundation, Bengaluru, India

Dr. Ratnam Chitturi, Founder/Chair, North South Foundation, Burr Ridge, IL (being confirmed)

Professor, Raj Rajagopal, Director, Winterim program, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa

(being confirmed)

3:30 PM Coffee/Tea Networking

4:00 PM Poverty Eradication 3--Healthcare Panel

Dr. Nitin Chouthai, President, Pioneer Health Research Foundation,
MI,

Dr. Subhash Jain, president, International Human Benefits Services, NJ

Dr. Khusroo Patel, Director, Gram Sewa Foundation, Northbrook, IL

6:00 PM Dinner and Networking

7:30 PM Close

Day 2--October 13

8:30 AM Registration and Breakfast

9:30 AM Climate Change Mitigation Panel

Mr. John Paul Kusz, president, J. P. Kusz Ltd., Park Ridge, IL

Professor Ricca Slone, Northwestern University

Dr. Hari Lamba, President, Renewing Technologies Inc., Downers grove, IL

Prof. Fouad Teymour, IIT, Chicago

11:00 AM Coffee/Tea Networking

11:30 AM **Poverty Eradication 4---Livelihood and Governance Panel**

Mrs. Chandrakala Bhargaw, Founder, Adarsh Mahila Grah Udyog Samiti, Latur, India

Professor Deep Shikha, St. Catherine University, St. Paul, Minnesota

Professor . Sharon Doherty, St. Catherine University, St. Paul, Minnesota

Mr. Jay Sehgal, Executive VP, The Sehgal Family Foundation, Des Moines, IA

1:00 PM Lunch and Networking

2:00 PM **Concluding Session--Way Forward**

3:30 PM Close

Photos and videos from Swami Vivekananda 150th Birth Anniversary Celebrations in the Chicago area during September 2013

<https://plus.google.com/photos/111872894319902004883/albums/5929614474210138593>

Let us learn a new from Gandhi and bring about the needed transformation in the World.

Gandhi Quotes:

Happiness depends on what we give, and not on what we get.

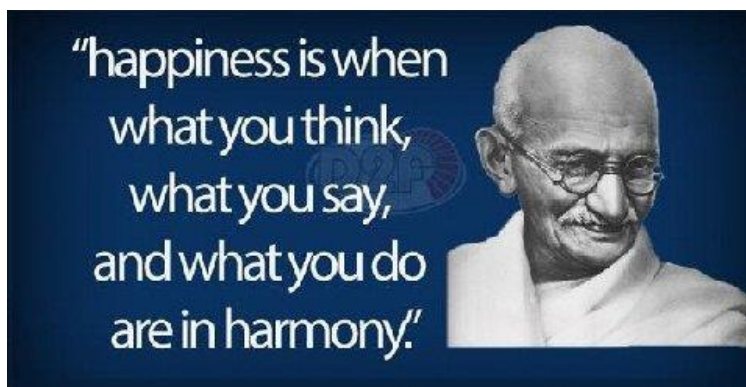
Learn more at: www.swaraj.org What is Swaraj?

Read" Back to village" and other Gandhi articles at:

<http://idc-america.org/resources/learning-center/>

Gandhiji's Autobiography-Updated version.

https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10153335284930501&set=np.92203956.1323082742&type=1&theater¬if_t=close_friend_activity



Indian Committee of Youth Organizations (ICYO)

The Gandhi factor for young India

Gandhi lived an exemplary life, say Delhi's college students. When asked to cite a quality for which she admires him, Radhika Jhalani of Hindu College says "his tenacity." Walking on a path of truth and self-sufficiency is one of the most arduous tasks for a human being and to keep on doing it is practically impossible. Jhalani says she's amazed at "What a truly great soul he was. Despite hurdles, that man kept on going."

Devika Sharma of JNU is inspired by Gandhiji's 'acts' of 'Sarvodaya' (The welfare of all), his positive, viable and genuine approach, his reflections on cherishing life and his never-say-die spirit.

Ummang Sharma Bajpai of Hindu finds Gandhi's will power and determination extremely inspiring. "Irrespective of whether I would agree to all of his methods and ideas or not, it's fascinating how determined he was, even in the face of adversity – he would never budge from his commitment to the cause or lose his moral ground."

Jasmine Bhalla, also of Hindu College is an admirer of his resilience and dignity. He was a man who rose above all the negativity and faced adversaries with a calm dignity. A true patriot who readily gave up everything to save his country is incredibly inspiring," she says.

Richa Goel, 18, of Kalindi College says she learnt a lot from Gandhi's childhood. "I have read that as a child he spoke many lies but later on realised his mistake. I have learnt to speak the truth no matter how difficult the situation is," she reveals. Undeniably, says Narula, his non-violent resistance is what evokes patriotism and fans the flames of passion for a cause, she says.

The young students have all sorts of requests for Gandhi. Jhalani says she would teach him to "awaken us to the voice of our conscience, to help us to listen to our inner selves and to follow it. I believe any person can be the epitome of righteousness if he/she listens to his/her inner self. If we all begin to respect ourselves, if we all begin to learn how to be self-reliant then all the evils of the world would automatically clear away."

Sharma would request him to teach the youth the lessons of honesty, how to practice compassion, live in harmony and the act of forgiving everyone, since the youth today is "so violent, aggressive and intolerable." Gandhi will be asked to lead the satyagraha again and let the people know that the change they wish for must come from within. He also has to teach people that fighting against the odds is difficult but not impossible," she adds.

Where safety issues go, Narula and Goel feel Gandhi would have been able to tackle all problems. "Being a woman I would request Gandhi to please change the mentality of boys. You made our country independent but still women are being criticized and do not feel safe," Goel adds. Narula seconds that. "I would have asked him to lead the country to the right path, as he did decades ago. For India, I would request him to filter the nation's polity of its inherent flaws by deploying his weapons of truth and non-violence," she adds. Bhalla would ask him to stir up the sense of patriotism in today's youth "which seems to be lost somewhere. I would ask him to remind us all that we have the power to change the nation if we try and not let the sacrifices of our brave freedom-fighters go to waste," she adds.

Bajpai says, "If Gandhi were alive, I would ask him to explain to us the importance of conscious public participation."

(Ayesha Banerjee/Hindustan Times/Published:1/10/2013)

Youth Information is published by

Indian Committee of Youth Organizations (ICYO)

194-A, Arjun Nagar, Safdarjang Enclave

New Delhi 110029, India

Email: icyoindia@gmail.com Web: www.icyo.in

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SPECIAL ON GANDHI JAYNTI –S. N. SUBBA RAO - PERSON LIVING WITH GANDHIAN VALUES

FINDING MY RELIGION

Subba Rao has spent his life promoting and living the peace-loving principles of Mahatma Gandhi

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world," said Mahatma Gandhi. As a young man, Dr. Subba Rao took those words to heart, and he has dedicated his life to bringing people of all religious traditions together. Rao, 83, grew up in British-controlled India and began to follow Gandhi as a teenager. He studied law at Brown University, worked as a translator for the prime minister of India and founded the National Youth Project of India. Over the decades, he has transformed the lives of hardened criminals, world leaders and children through humanitarian work that focuses on fostering religious tolerance, service to humanity and self-reliance.

Here is some conversation during the interview Dr S. N. Subba Rao by Mr David Ian Miller in USA, few year back.

Q. What were the most important things that you learned from Gandhi?

Dr Rao: There are many things. I like the saying that you often see on T-shirts: "One man can make a change." And: "When you are on the right course, you are not in the minority." That's what he believed, and he kept persisting through adversity.

Gandhi came from nothing. He was not a bright student. And as a lawyer he failed in India. Such a man, to become what we call mahatma, it's a really significant change in a human being.

Q. Your teacher is Vinoba Bhave, who has been called Gandhi's spiritual successor. Can you tell me about Vinoba's work and teachings -- the ones that have had the most influence on your life?

Dr Rao: His achievement was that he walked 50,000 miles across India. What he did on his walk was collect land from the landed people and redistribute it among the landless. It's interesting because he was a very inward, [with]drawn person. He would rarely go anywhere, but when he was traveling through one part of south India he came across a lot of fighting and ill will. He realized that the fighting was over land. At that time, the Communist Party of India was supporting this fighting. They wanted free distribution of land.

So while talking to some people, he said, "I hope that God will show me a new way of solving this problem." Right in that meeting a person just stood up and said, "Sir, I can

donate you 100 acres of land. We can distribute it among the poor people." So he said, "God is sending me a message." That is how he started walking, and he did that for 12 years. It became a movement, the Land Gift Movement. It's still going on today.

Q. Did he ever take another pilgrimage?

Dr Rao: One of my friends once asked him, "You walked 50,000 miles, and you distributed land. If you walk again, what will be your mission?" And he said: "H2O in science is water. And in spiritual life there is another formula: M2A." So the friend asked, "What is M2A?" And he responded: "'M' is for meditation, and 'A' is for action. My 50,000 miles were for action, and now I must do double the meditation. So that's what I'm doing."

Q. Do you still believe in the same fundamental things that you did as a child and young man, or have your beliefs changed?

Dr Rao: My home was such that they would not allow a non-Hindu into our house. This is the worst part of Hinduism, treating some people as untouchables, so that they were not supposed to come in. As I grew up, I thought: "I must expand. I must grow."

There is a beautiful saying from maybe 5,000 years ago: "People with small hearts have small homes with four walls. But people with large hearts have the whole world for their family." I think all human beings must cultivate large hearts and consider the whole world as their family.

Q. Have you yourself ever felt like you had to battle with your own prejudice and intolerance of other beliefs?

Dr Rao: Yes. Growing takes time. Luckily, I got into this line of thinking at a very early age. I was only nine or 10 years old when I came in contact with the very kind of thinking taught by Swami Vivekananda. And that thinking was that all religions come from the same source. Just as waters fall from the skies and take different names in the rivers, ultimately they all go into the same ocean. Ultimately, there is only one ocean, or one God. So there should be no fighting at all in the name of religion.

But do you ever look at the world in its struggles over religion and feel frustrated or hopeless -- that people will never learn?

We have to grow. We grow physically. We grow intellectually. We grow mentally. We must grow socially and spiritually, also. According to my definition, spiritual growth is peace within myself, peace with other people and peace with nature.

Q. And how do we grow in these ways? How do we make peace with ourselves and with others?

Dr Rao: By clearing one's own mind so that all restrictions, all limitations have been broken. That's what I mean by expansion. Having a heart that can accept the whole world as our home.

Dr S. N. Subba Rao (also known as Bhairji) is recipient of National Harmony Award. He is Associate with Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi. He is also Director of National Youth Project, Chairman of Mahatma Gandhi Seva Ashram, Jaura, MP and Chairman of Indian Committee of Youth Organizations (ICYO). He also associates with various Gandhian organizations. (Youth Information from ICYO)

Water

NIH Roorkee's Workshop on Eflows: Where is the credibility?

Mon Sep 30, 2013 7:13 pm (PDT) . Posted by:

"Himanshu Thakkar"

NIH Roorkee's Workshop on Eflows: Where is the credibility?

National Institute of Hydrology (NIH), Roorkee, an organisation under Union Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) is organising a workshop on Assessment of Environmental flows (E-flows) in Rivers in Roorkee on the 2-3 October 2013.

Any serious engagement with e-flows, from any quarter is a welcome sign. However, NIH's engagement with eflows is a bit ironic, looking at its past work and support for hydroelectric and large infrastructure projects, without any consideration for environmental flows or rivers.

<http://sandrp.wordpress.com/2013/09/30/nih-roorkees-workshop-on-eflows-where-is-the-credibility/>

Himanshu Thakkar

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<http://sandrp.wordpress.com/>

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

www.indiawaterportal.org

Education

Arti Manchanda Grover

2:26am Sep 30

BETTER INFRASTRUCTURE CAN PROMOTE QUALITY EDUCATION

With support from Mosaic India Pvt. Ltd., the Institute of Rural Research and Development (IRRAD) partnered with the local community and school management committees (SMCs) to facilitate infrastructural improvements in three government schools in Mewat district, Haryana (India) to promote quality education. Mosaic India Pvt. Ltd. is a crop nutrient company helping farmers to undertake progressive farming practices. To celebrate the project completion, a community event was organised in the presence of all stakeholders in Jatka Shisvana village in Nagina block, Mewat where the project was commissioned to the school authorities and school management committees as part of the event. The two other schools belong to villages Raniyali and Dungran Shahzadpur.
Read More...<http://www.smsfoundation.org/pdf/Mosaic%20school%20renovation-Sep%2017%202013.pdf>



A TEACHER FOR ALL TIMES.....

Sometimes I wonder what and who qualifies to be a teacher today when there is a information boom all around us? Is the www, websites, internet our teacher? Do we call our grandpa our teacher? Or can we learn any lifelong lessons from the birds and bees?

Being in a classroom in front of a fifty something person who lectures on management, biodiversity conservation, literature and philosophy----does that give students a high? Does the lecture keep their minds ticking? Do they want to change the world and their surroundings in some remarkable ways after being in classrooms for hours? SOME great lessons in life I have learnt at the deathbed of loved ones!!!!

Are events teachers? Can we learn from a LIFE threatening event like a tsunami, earthquakes, floods? If a ticket collector throws me out of a running train will I become another Gandhi? Do we remember who was Gandhi's teacher? Yet we all agree that his book -Experiments with Truth is a great read and a learning experience for all.....

If we look around us we find that we are constantly learning every moment of our lives. We hone our survival skills everyday, we learn from our friends and enemies, uncles and aunts and even our children. With an open mind we learn to strife lest we be left behind in the race for life. Some of us manage to become Buddhas and try to find our own paths to wisdom....

On Teachers Day, I still have to figure out why I want to teach when I have so much more to learn..... SO ALL TEACHERS OUT THERE--REAL AND VIRTUAL PLEASE BRIGHTEN OUR LIVES AND KEEP THE FLAME OF WISDOM ALIVE..... From professor Raka Kamal, Jaipur, rajasthan

Learn more at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/IDCA.Education/>

Vivekananda Sevakendra, WB: <http://www.vssu.in/> **Mr. Kapilananda founder, spoke on September 7 at the Hindu Temple of Greater Chicago. IDCA cosponsored.**

Healthcare:

Urban Global Health Celebration

Hosted by the Department of Medicine

**CELEBRATE URBAN AND GLOBAL HEALTH
Saturday, October 19, 2013
UIC FORUM**

Join the celebration during the Morning Forum:

10:00A.M. – 4:15P.M. ORAL PRESENTATIONS | Q & A | EXHIBIT | and
LUNCH

Evening Gala Celebration
6:30P.M.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS | AWARDS CEREMONY | DINNER | DANCE

Master of Ceremony

Jerome McDonnell, Host of WBEZ's global affairs program, Worldview.

We hope to inspire and provide invaluable insight from our distinguished keynote speakers and through oral presentations. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Morning Forum:

General Admission \$20
UIC Staff/Faculty \$15
UIC Students/Fellows/Residents Free

Evening Gala:

General Admission \$125
UIC Students/Fellows/Residents \$75

**Please note: Gala ticket includes FREE admission to morning forum.

FOR TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION PLEASE [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

This event has been endorsed by the American Thoracic Society and TS2 Health Inc.

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

Climate Change:

From: Dr. Ramesh Jalan: UNDP, New Delhi,

September Update: We are delighted to post our latest community monthly update . To view the update in PDF format please click the following link

<ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/clmt/upd/clmt-update-46-011013.pdf> .

August Update:

<ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/clmt/upd/clmt-update-45-020913.pdf> .

Urban Transit: How to Handle Mumbai's Busy Streets". The complete article is available at: http://sustainablecitiescollective.com/embarg/172111/how-handle-mumbai-s-busy-streets?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Sustainable+Cities+Collective+%28all+posts%29

"400 not out" . The complete article is available at: <http://www.icrn.in/node/16>

"What I Love" From Climate realty Project: <http://www.whatilove.org/#!/intro>
Remember what's most important and find out how those things are being affected by climate change ... and how you can protect them.

Green Investing and Mortgage: Natural Investments launched at: [Fossil-Fuel-Free portfolio mortgages from community development financial institutions](#) (CDFIs)

Energy for All Newsletter: <http://www.energyforall.info/subscribe-for-newsletter/>

Learn more at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/IDCA.ClimateChange/>

The Story of Solutions: <http://act.storyofstuff.org/page/s/growing-solutions>
We look forward to your comments and suggestions

Introducing a New Book: "To India, with Tough Love" By Jaya Kamlani

Visit jayakamlani.com for videos, photos, and important social issues news feeds

Watch "book trailer" now on [YouTube](#)

Buy at: To India, with Tough Love @ amazon.com

After reading the book, the readers can post their reviews on the Amazon website: <http://amzn.to/13a6M5W>

Please continue to visit IDCA Facebook Pages for additional stories. We are constantly updating with new information. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/idca2020/>

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

The Art of GIVING---(From Mr. Lachman Aidasani, NJ)

"Rivers do not drink their own water,

> nor do trees eat their own fruit,

> nor do rain clouds eat the grains reared by them.

> Is the wealth of the nature used solely for the benefit of others?

> Even after accepting that giving is good and that one must learn to give,

> several questions need to be answered.

>

> The first question is 'when should one give'?

> Yudhisthir asks a beggar seeking alms to come the next day.

> On this, Bhim rejoices, that Yudhisthir his brother, has conquered death!

> For he is sure that he will be around tomorrow to give.

> Yudhisthir gets the message.

> One does not know really whether one will be there tomorrow to give!

> The time to give therefore is NOW.

>

> The next question is 'how much to give'?

>

> One recalls the famous incident from history.

> Rana Pratap was reeling after defeat from the Moghals.

> He had lost his army, he had lost his wealth, and most important he

> had lost hope, his will to fight.

> At that time in his darkest hour, his erstwhile minister Bhamasha came

> seeking him and placed his entire fortune at the disposal of Rana

> Pratap.

> With this, Rana Pratap raised an army and lived to fight another day.

> The answer to this question how much to give is " Give as much as you can!

>

> The next question is 'what to give'?

>

> It is not only money that can be given.

> It could be a flower or even a smile.

> It is not how much one gives but how one gives that really matters.

> When you give a smile to a stranger that may be the only good thing

> received by him in days and weeks!

> "You can give anything but you must give with your heart !

>

> One also needs answer to this question 'whom to give'?

>

> Many times we avoid giving by finding fault with the person who is seeking.

> However, being judgmental and rejecting a person on the presumption

> that he may not be the most deserving is not justified.

> "Give without being judgmental!"

>

> Next we have to answer 'How to give'?

- > Coming to the manner of giving, one has to ensure that the receiver does not
- > feel humiliated, nor the giver feels proud by giving.
- > 'Let not your left hand know what your right hand gives', said Jesus Christ
- > Charity without publicity and fanfare, is the highest form of charity.
- > 'Give quietly'!
- > While giving let not the recipient feel small or humiliated.
- > After all what we give never really belonged to us.
- > We come to this world with nothing and will go with nothing.
- > The thing gifted was only with us for a temporary period.
- > Why then take pride in giving away something which really did not
- > belong to us? Give with grace and with a feeling of gratitude.

- > What should one feel after giving ?

- > We all know the story of Eklavya.
- > When Dronacharya asked him for his right thumb as 'Guru-dakshina'.
- > He unhesitatingly cut off the thumb and gave it to Dronacharya.
- > There is a little known sequel to this story..
- > Eklavya was asked whether he ever regretted the act of giving away his
- > thumb when he was dying.
- > His reply was "Yes ! I regretted this only once in my life.
- > It was when Pandavas were coming in to kill Dronacharya who was
- > broken-hearted on the false news of death of his son Ashwathama, and had
- > stopped fighting.
- > It was then that I regretted the loss of my thumb.

- > If the thumb was there, no one could have dared hurt my Guru"
- > The message to us is clear. Give and never regret giving !

- > And the last question is' How much should we provide for our heirs' ?

- > Ask yourself , 'Are we taking away from them the 'gift of work - a
- > source of happiness'?
- > The answer is given by Warren Buffett:
- > "Leave your kids enough to do anything,
- > but not enough to do nothing!"

- > Let us learn the Art of Giving.
- > Quoting Sant Kabir:
- > "When the wealth in the house increases,
- > When water fills a boat,
- > Throw them out with both hands !
- > This is the wise thing to do" "Helping people secure tomorrow TODAY"

India Development and Relief Fund

A 501(c)(3) organization

(5821 Mossrock Dr , North Bethesda, MD 20852 USA , 301-704-0032 www.idrf.org)

Let's Rebuild Uttarakhand Together

Two months after a Himalayan tsunami hit Uttarakhand, thousands of villagers remain in misery. With your help, India Development and Relief Fund will put them on the path to rehabilitation. After careful deliberation, we have identified 3 promising programs. We need your donations today to carry them out!

Transitional Housing

This disaster destroyed thousands of homes in Pithoragarh District, in NE Uttarkhand on the borders of Nepal and China. But building a new home on this mountainous terrain can easily take a year. Villagers urgently need transitional houses - for safety, privacy, and protection from the monsoon. We will work directly with Manav Seva Sansthan, a well-established local NGO, to build them.

The houses will be made of galvanized iron sheets and bamboo poles, with sloped roofs and raised floors.

Each family will also receive a solar lantern and water purifier. **You can provide a durable shelter for a family of five for just \$1,050. 100 families are in urgent need; our goal is \$105,000. We cannot succeed without your generous contribution!**

Home Furnishings

Villagers also lost their most basic belongings. IDRF aims to fund at 300 beds & 600 bedding packets for families in Pithoragarh. Each packet includes a bed, mattress, quilt, sheets, pillows and a mosquito net. Our partner SCALE is a highly credible organization with more than ten years of local experience. **A gift of \$550 will provide ten complete units (including beds). A safe warm place to sleep will mean so much to these people, as they rebuild their lives. Our goal is \$26,000.**

Village Rehabilitation

IDRF intends to collaborate with our long-time partner, Uttaranchal Daivi Apda Peedit Sahayata Samiti, to rebuild communities in Uttarkashi District, in the northwest of the state on the borders on China. The flood destroyed a hostel that we co-financed years ago, and we are looking into building a newer and better facility. Other plans under consideration include women's income-generation, such as computer skills, tailoring, and food-processing.

With 25 years of experience and a development expert on the ground as our consultant, IDRF will use your hard-earned money effectively and responsibly.

Please donate now. *All donations are tax-deductible in the US.*

☐ **Check:** Mail a check payable to "IDRF," with memo "Uttarakhand" to IDRF, 5821 Mossrock Drive, North Bethesda, MD 20852
Please include your email address.

☐ **Online:** <http://goo.gl/D8f75> Please add a note that says "Uttarakhand."

☐ **Corporate match:** Ask your company's HR office if they will match your donation to India Development and Relief Fund, Inc. (EIN 52-1555563). We are already approved by dozens of leading companies! (see pictures on last page)



Uttarakhand Flood Damage, donate at: www.idrf.org

