



# India Development Coalition of America

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## Press Release

### IDCA Organizing Second East Regional Conference at The Johns Hopkins University, Rockville, MD on August 14, 2010

**July 15, Washington, DC:** India Development Coalition of America (IDCA) is organizing the Second East Regional Conference on August 14, 2010 to celebrate India's Sixty-fourth Independence Day and IDCA's Seventh Anniversary. Conference theme is: *Working Together to Eradicate Poverty and Mitigate Climate Change in India*. It will be held at The Johns Hopkins University-Montgomery County campus, 9601 Medical Center Drive in Rockville, Maryland from 9 AM to 5 PM.

The Second East Regional conference will bring together an exciting group of non-profit leaders, innovators and Social Entrepreneurs tirelessly working for India's sustainable development. Dr. Mohan Jain, Trustee and Founder President of IDCA will welcome the speakers and delegates and set the theme of the day. There will be four Sessions of 90 minutes each during the day. Two on Poverty Eradication, one on climate Change, and a concluding Session to discuss way forward for IDCA in DC area, and the East Region. A delicious Indian lunch will be served along with two tea breaks in between the sessions.

Featured speakers and organizations include: Dr. Vinod Prakash, Founder and President of India Development and Relief Fund. IDRF's mission is clear: to support volunteer-based, honest and highly experienced non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in India in serving their populations' critical needs around education, healthcare, and welfare, without regard to religion, caste or creed.

Dr. Kewal Likhyan, President, Crush Poverty Now will talk about their bottom-up approach which focuses on developing economy for the poor from ground zero, and creating attractive self sustaining communities in rural areas to build local capacities for meeting basic needs. Mr. Jay Sehgal, Managing Trustee, Institute of Rural Research & Development (IRRAD) will talk about efforts to implement Integrated Sustainable Village Development (ISVD) in select village clusters in India, building capacity in rural development, undertake rural research, improving village governance, and serving as a premier knowledge institution for rural development and poverty reduction in India.

Mr. Virendra (Sam) Singh, retired head of DuPont South Asia will speak about his work with the Pardada Pardadi Educational Society which is committed to uplifting and empowering girls from the poorest section of society by providing free education and vocational training - creating a new generation of self-reliant and educated girls who will break the cycle of poverty. PPES is based in the village of Anupshahar, in the Bulandshahr district of Uttar Pradesh, India where Singh grew up.

Ms. Neha Misra, IDCA Renewable Energy Program and Advisor, Solar Sister will talk about IDCA's community solar project in partnership with India Development Service, Rotary Club, Lighting a Billion

Lives Campaign and Deendayal Research Institute to bring the benefit of solar light to over 40 villages near the sacred town of Chitrakoot in Madhya Pradesh.

Other distinguished speakers include Mr. Manish Bapna, Managing Director of World Resource Institute; Dr. Prakash Ambegaonkar, Chairman, Bridging Nations; Ms. Meena Radhakrishnan, Washington, D.C. Program Coordinator of Chinmaya Organization for Rural Development (CORD) and Mr. Mark Medema, President of Beautiful Tree Fund which is working for scaling an innovative low cost education model for India.

Register for the event at : <http://idca.eventbrite.com/> or at: [www.idc-america.org/upcoming.htm](http://www.idc-america.org/upcoming.htm)

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### **More Upcoming Events:**

We will be organizing a **Forum on Improving Water and Sanitation for the poor in India on July 24**. It will be held at the Hinsdale Public Library from 2 PM. This Library is located North of Hinsdale Metra Station on 20 E Maple Street just west of Garfield Street. Hope you will be able to join. Speakers include Dr. Prakasam Tata of Bharthi Theertha, will share information about a Water and Sanitation Project he initiated two years ago in partnership with IDCA, and Rotary Clubs of Naperville, and Vizianagram, and Rotary International Foundation in a untouchable village near his native place of Vizianagram in Andhra Pradesh, and Dr. Sundaresan Subramanian an International Consultant and a U.S. Green Business Council's LEED Green Associate, will talk about Innovative Water Management initiatives. For more information write us at: [info@idc-america.org](mailto:info@idc-america.org) or check our website: [www.idc-america.org/upcoming.htm](http://www.idc-america.org/upcoming.htm).

A Talk by Padma Bhushan Emeritus **Professor P V Indiresan of IIT, New Delhi** and former Director of IIT Madras on Promoting Rural Development by diverting more investments to rural India will be held from 6 PM on August 25, in Chicago. Please check our website for further details. He writes a column in Business Line Magazine on various social issues. He is a member of Planning Commission and author of a book titled: ***"Managing Development: Geographical Socialism, Decentralization and Urban Replication"***.

**Eighth International Conference will be held on October 23-24, 2010.** Check our website for more information.

*India Development Coalition of America (IDCA) was organized in Chicago in mid 2004 after a conference held in October 2003 to understand and promote Rural Development in India. It is a 501(c)(3) Illinois Not for Profit Corporation. All contributions are exempt from Federal Income taxes. It was formed to bring together Indian NPO's, members of Indian Diaspora and institutions working towards India's sustainable development under one umbrella. IDCA's vision is a developed India, free of poverty, ignorance, diseases, socioeconomic disparities, ecological disasters, and social disharmony. To achieve this vision, IDCA's present focus is on five core areas of Water, Health, Education, Livelihoods and Renewable Energy. It promotes learning, networking, sharing, giving, collaborating, and volunteering between members and community at large to help eradicate poverty and mitigate climate change in India. It organizes, forums, conferences in US and India. Members are engaged in education, healthcare, water, livelihoods and renewable energy programs in various parts of India. We support project developed by our members. Recently it supported a Water and Sanitation project in a village near Vizianagram, Andhra Pradesh, and a Solar lantern project in Chitrakoot, Madhya Pradesh. We are also building links with many good NGOs and groups in India to advance our Mission and Vision for India. We are a membership organization and invite all members of our community to support and join us.*