



India Development Coalition of America

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Inform, Inspire, Impact Poverty and Climate Change

Press release

IDCA Celebrates World Water Day with India Water Forum

Darien, IL: India Development Coalition of America (IDCA) held its World Water Day Forum at the Indian Prairie Public Library on Saturday March 26, 2016.


Mr. Porus Dadabhoj Program Chair, welcomed the Rotary Club of Naperville and Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago on behalf of IDCA and Bharthi Theertha, who facilitated their visit to speak at a conference on Operation and Maintenance of Municipal and Industrial Water Treatment plant in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana States of India. They visited Hyderabad and Vishakapatnam.

Ms. Manju Sharma a Diplomate of Environmental Engineering, certified by the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Director of of Maintenance and Operations of MWRD gave a outline of their seven waste treatment facilities, 109 miles of deep tunnels, 554 miles of intercepting sewers, 14 pumping stations, a hydro power plant and its 950 employees. She also introduced Commissioner Mr. Frank Avila.

Commissioner Mr. Frank Avila thanked Rotary for the opportunity and read from two articles on the present challenges that India faces especially in Operations and Maintenance using a PowerPoint presentation. Commissioner handed two Resolutions passed by MWRD to Ms. Rachel Ossyra of the Rotary Club of Naperville.

Syama Pappu Electrical Engineer, at MWRD gave a presentation of the work done in Training at two locations and a visit to a Village in India. He was followed by Mr. Hitesh Shah , Managing Engineer of John E Egan Water Reclamation Plant and Mr. Mohamed Usman Baki, retired Plant Manager of Kirie Water Reclamation Plant. All of them indicated the trip was very rewarding, satisfying and were willing to do it again next year.

Ms. Rachel Ossyra , introduced other members of the Rotary Club who were present Mr. Carl Schumann , Dr. Roger Iliff, Patricia Merryweather, Uda Potgieter and kindly received the Resolutions for the Rotary Club of Naperville from Commissioner Frank Avila.



Dr. Mohan Jain, the Founder President of IDCA, once again, welcomed Mr. Frank Avila, and Ms. Rachel Osyarra and all other present. He then, shared a World Water Day video message from the UN Water Chief and another video on water problems and solutions. . He also said that many positive efforts are being made by our members and friends in India to improve the water situation. He said that Sehgal Foundation in Gurgaon has built 72 Check dams in the Mewat Disyctict over the last 15 years to improve water table and quality. They are also doing rainwater harvesting in Schools , and have developed a bio sand filter, that was recognized by the UN last year.

He then spoke about his recent visit to India and the 4 Conferences I held in Gurgaon (January 11-12), Hyderabad (February 5-6), Kanpur (February 20-22) and Jaipur (March 18). He addressed the first 2 conferences from Chicago via google hangout. The 3 day Kanpur event consisted of a visit to the first adopted village-Banaralipur, visiting another village, where an eye camp was held, speaking with the press and 17 NGOs, who assembled in the afternoon at the Merchant Chamber of Kanpur. On the last day he addressed more than 50 college students, about the iDCA and Adopt A Village campaign and encouraged them to adopt several villages. In Jaipur conference, we had more than 100 students participated in the 2 week Social entrepreneurship certificate program and 8 best teams, selected by the faculty made presentation at the conference also.

In New Delhi, he visited Deendayal Research Institute, UNDP, and IIT Delhi. At IIT Delhi, met Prof. V. K. Vijay, who is in-charge for coordinating Unnat Bharat Abhiyan launched by the HRD ministry last year. This program requires each institute to adopt villages in a panchayat near their location, and monitor implementation of various government of India schemes for Poverty eradication. Prof. Vijay and his team agreed to cooperate with IDCA for its Adopt A Village campaign. On his last day he had a productive lunch meeting with Dr. Suri Sehgal, his wife, Ms. Jane Schukoski, CEO, and Mr. Jay Sehgal at the Sehgal Foundation in Gurgaon. He finally invited all to join the Adopt a Village Campaign, and shared bookmarks with this message.

Dr, Bobby Tata led all present, standing, repeating the Water Pledge to keep water clean and conserve it.

We ended the afternoon with ceremonial cake cutting followed by snacks and conversations with 30 plus attendants . We were also honored by several leaders from the Telugu Community. Secretary of IDCA Mr. Avi Dear provided IT support which was critical to the event and Mr. Arvind Gunapatel arranged for all the decor and treats for this occasion. He also took the photographs.

IDCA is a 501©(3) not for profit organization registered in the state of Illinois since 2004. We have been promoting networking, collaboration, learning, giving, and volunteering in the US and India. Our Mission is to inform, inspire and empower nonprofits and individuals to help eradicate poverty and promote prosperity for all citizens of India. We invite you to join us as a member and help us to realize our Vision and Mission to serve the less fortunate in India and elsewhere in the world. More information and membership form available at: <http://idc->

america.org/membership/application. We thank you all who have supported us so far and we urge you to renew your commitment, For more information call: 630-303-9592 or 630-960-2425 (Porus) write to: info@idc-america.org For more info visit: <http://idc-america.org>



Mr. Frank Avila and Ms. Rachel cut cakes while others are looking at it.



All present repeating the Water Pledge



Visit to the First Adopted Village Banaralipur, Kanpur, Dehat, UP on 2-20-2016



Healthcare Panel at the 5th North India regional Conference in Jaipur on March 18, 2016.