



BHARATI
August 2005



President's message

GREETINGS!

On behalf of the Board Of India Association of Phoenix, I would like to wish you all a Very Happy New Year and hope you have a wonderful year. I am honored and humbled to have been elected President of this prestigious organization and would do my very best to ensure that this organization serves the needs of the community, and at the same time serve as an ambassador to represent our community to the people of Phoenix.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing President Ms. Girija Krishnamurthy, and Vice President Ms. Sarbari Chowdhury for their hard work and dedication in serving the organization. I would like to commend them on doing such a wonderful job of leading the organization for the past two years. We wish them both all the very best in all their future endeavors.

India Association, established in 1974, is the oldest non-profit organization of Indian heritage here in the Valley. India Association has had great community leaders as it's Presidents and it is indeed a privilege and honor to follow in their footsteps. I am confident that with the hard working and able team of Directors that we have on our Board we would be able to serve the community well. India Association is an umbrella organization representing all the sister associations of Indian heritage in the valley with a mission to increase awareness of India's rich and diverse culture and serve as a liaison to integrate the community of Indian origin with the community at large. All our programs such as India Nite, Discover India Diwali Festival, and Visa Camps are aligned with this mission of serving the community. The success of these programs depends entirely on the support from our members and community and we urge you all to join us in our efforts. Together we can better serve the needs of everyone.

Once again, I would like to thank you all for electing me as President of India Association and look forward to your continued support in making this a successful year for all of us. We hope to see you at all our future events listed below.

Sincerely,

Ms. Kalpana Batni

President, India Association of Phoenix- 2005



TSUNAMI DISASTER RELIEF FUND FOR INDIA

APPEAL FOR DONATIONS

Various Indo-American community associations in Arizona are working together to raise funds for the victims of the Tsunami disaster in India. The associations plan to channel the funds directly to the needy via a few volunteer service organizations in India who are already engaged in this activity. Please note 100% of the funds collected will be forwarded to the service organizations in India. Also note that we will ensure all affected states in mainland India and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands will receive the funds raised by the associations. Our intent is to work with reputed organizations with proven past experience, wherein 100% of our contributions will be used in helping the victims of this disaster with no money spent on overhead, administration, etc.

Please donate generously for this worthy cause. You can make your tax-deductible donations in any of the following methods:

- Donation contributions in the form of checks will only be accepted. Receipts will be given.
- Check made payable to Indo-American Foundation of Arizona (IAF), with Memo indicating "Tsunami Disaster Relief Fund." Please mail check to Indo-American Foundation of Arizona, P.O. Box 82756, Phoenix, AZ 85071-2756. Note: Foundation is a registered organization with 501 (c) 3 tax exempt status. All contributions are tax deductible.
- Direct deposits can be made into the Foundation's Tsunami Disaster Relief Fund account at Bank One. The account number is 658826169. Voluntary contributions to the relief fund can be made to this account at any Bank One branch located in Arizona. For deposits in out of state branch, please indicate that the account is set-up with Bank One located in Arizona.
- Donations can be made in person at India Festival 2005 celebrations scheduled for Saturday, February 26th, 2005 from 11:00 AM to 9:00 PM at Indo-American Foundation of Arizona Community Center located at 2809 W. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85017.
- Check made payable to India Association of Phoenix (IA), with Memo indicating "Tsunami Disaster Relief Fund." Please mail check to India Association of Phoenix, P.O. Box 60121, Phoenix, AZ 85082-0121. Note: Foundation is a registered organization with 501 (c) 3 tax exempt status. All contributions are tax deductible.
- India Association of Phoenix has opened a Tsunami Disaster Relief Fund account at First Credit Union, Chandler, AZ, as part of the Association's tax-exempt accounts. The account number is

1339204-2. Voluntary contributions to the relief fund can be made to this account at any branch located in Arizona.

- Donations can be made in person at India Nite 2005 celebrations scheduled for Saturday, January 29th, 2005 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM at Saguaro High School Auditorium located at 6250 N. 82nd Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85250.
- Donations can also be made to any of the Indian Organizations located in Arizona. Please do indicate Tsunami Relief Disaster Fund in the memo section of the check.
- Donations can also be made online at www.azindia.com. Indicate donations are being made due to this appeal.
- Checks with Memo indicating "Tsunami Disaster Relief Fund," can also be handed over to any of the community leaders listed below.

For more information, please contact any of the following:

Satheesh Ambadi at (480) 632-1580
Vasu Atluri at (480) 563-0891
Kalpana Batni at (480) 998-9325
Rao Bonda at (480) 940-1686
Subhomoy Chattopadhyay at (602) 317-3357
Prasad Chavali at (480) 563-9288
Jayant Dholakia at (602) 380-9697
Suri Gunnala at (602) 957-7286
Mayur Jain at (480) 430-3731
Venkatesh Kalyanaraman at (480) 363-5514
Siddharth Kondoju at (520) 400-6220
Kiran Kumar at (480) 785-5217
Piyush Mehta at (480) 892-4172
Kudagal Murthy at (520) 299-8568
Babu Narasimhan at (480) 219-0313

Debashis Panda at (480) 963-5914
Roopa Pandarinath at (480) 753-5179
Bharat Patel at (602) 978-3681
Mandeep K. Rai at (602) 298-7901
Bhakta Raj at (480) 961-1504
Radhika Rao at (480) 785-9145
Shelly Selvaraj at (480) 598-9825
Jaswant Sachdev at (602) 996-3180
Jagdish Sagar at (480) 768-1533
Ravi Sethi at (623) 341-5298
Gautam Shah at (602) 993-3625
Surinder Sharma at (480) 889-4861
Jagwinder Sraow at (480) 821-3800
Subhash Thati at (480) 797-0625
Shalaka Wakankar at (480) 812-0705

Thank you, in advance, for your generous donations.

Regards

Vasu Atluri, President, Indo-American Foundation of Arizona ; Kalpana Batni, President, India Association of Phoenix; Co-Chairs Tsunami Disaster Relief Fund Committee

Annual Report by the President of India Association of Phoenix Presented to the General Body on Sunday, December 5, 2004 at the India Gate Restaurant

Acknowledgements

Dear Community Members:

One of the greatest pleasures, honors, and privileges of my life has been serving as the President of India Association of Phoenix from 2002-2004. This was possible because of the Phoenix Metropolitan Indo-American community's support, belief, and trust in my leadership skills. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the members of India Association and the entire Indian community for not only electing me to be the president but also for their continued support, help, encouragement, advice, and guidance to lead the association to its greatest success. Behind any success are dedicated people, who with their commitment, sincerity, integrity, hard work, and imagination, become the most integral part of the progress and achievements. The Board of Directors of 2004 is one such people. With many thanks and sincere gratitude and appreciation, I'd like to acknowledge my esteemed friends and directors of 2004 Board:

Sarbari Chowdhury: Vice-president, Sangita Gulati: Secretary, Shekhar Patwardhan: Treasurer, Kalpana Batni: Public Relations & AAAA Representative, Arthy Kumar-Chadha: Cultural Director, Chitra Muralidhar: Membership, Hitendra Munjampalli: Web Master, and last but not least, Pamela Kharbanda: Youth Director. Without their vision for the association, hard work, and dedication, my journey through presidency would not have been easy. It is also apparent that an organization cannot survive solely on the efforts of nine directors alone. Therefore, on behalf of India Association and its Board of Directors, I'd like to thank our many volunteers, patrons and members, and our generous sponsors for their continuous support through the course of the year. My acknowledgement would not be complete if I don't mention my three special mentors: Mr. Subhash Arora, Mr. Ashok Jain, and Mr. Vivek Gupta, who with their clear vision, advice, and guidance, have encouraged me to lead the Association to its success.

At this point, I'd like to summarize the highlights of our annual events and other community involvements and participation. Shekhar Patwardhan, our Treasurer, will present the Financial summary for the year 2004.

Summary of Events

Annual Events of India Association of Phoenix

On behalf of India Association and its Board of Directors, it's my great pleasure to inform you that we had a successful year. The dedication, hard work, and high spirits of our directors and members reflected in every event that we celebrated this year.

This year, both Republic Day celebrations, also popularly known as India Nite, and Independence Day celebrations were successfully conducted at Dobson High School Auditorium. Families from various parts of Arizona gathered to witness an evening of color, glamour, and talent that represented the rich tradition and culture of India. Both events were a smashing hit, attracting huge number of audiences and several enthusiastic and high-spirited participants. The Annual Holi Festival was celebrated in March at the South Mountain Park with great grandeur, color, and spirits. Thanks to our generous sponsors Mr. Kuldip Verma and Dr. Binu Verma who make it possible for the festival to be a free event for one and all!

India Association, in association with the Indian Consulate of San Francisco, CA, and the Indo-American Foundation of Arizona, organized a successful Visa Camp in the month of October at India Gate Restaurant. More than 200 people of both local and Indian communities benefited from this service, and they were highly appreciative of this service and convenience provided by the associations.

Our major annual event of 2004 was Discover India Diwali Festival 2004, scheduled on Sunday, November 21, at the Heritage Park. Based on the response from various participating sister organizations, business booths, food vendors, and innumerable participants in cultural program and other activities designed for the day, it is needless to say that the event was a huge success! India Association is very grateful and thankful to its big sponsors such as *City of Phoenix, Arizona Commission on the Arts, Phoenix Arts Commission, and Freescale Semiconductor*. We also received Proclamations from the Governor of Arizona, Janet Napolitano, Consular General of Indian Consulate in San Francisco, H.H.S. Viswanathan, and the Mayor of Phoenix, Phil Gordon. The Discover India team also thanks other community members who supported the brochure and the program flier for the event by placing their advertisement. Our many volunteers at Display Booth, Food Demos and Lectures added strength and depth to the meaning of Discover India. The event also captured special momentum with our chief guests Mayor Phil Gordon and the Councilman from District 6 Greg Stanton. India Association also recognized sponsors from Freescale Semiconductor for their continued sponsorship for Discover India project, Rano Singh, the first Indo-American from the valley area to run for the state office, for her outstanding leadership, and the Discover India Poster Contest winners Uma Raman and Shilpika Chowdhury. The Discover India team works hard to make it a self-supportive event, and it is my pleasure to say that we have done better than that; we do have a small amount positive balance. Added to that, India Association was fortunate this year to have received some grant money towards Cultural Program from which we were able to give small donation to all our participating organizations.

India Association's Involvement in Other Community Events and Activities

India Association actively participated in the India Festival 2004, organized by the Indo-American Foundation of Arizona. We had a food booth for the first time and also represented in the Cultural program. The Cultural booth at the AAAA Festival in April was a huge success and received many

compliments from the organizers and the public who visited it. Some of the Board of Directors also participated in the Fashion Show that portrayed the global diversity. India Association was also one of the co-sponsors for the Political Forum, organized by AAAA. Some of the children and community members participated in the Annual Spring Festival, sponsored by the city of Phoenix, held at the Yucca Library. With the help of community members, we are striving hard to portray the best of Indian heritage, culture, and tradition to the local public.

One of the highlights of this year's contribution from India Association was our role in Charity Walk, in May 2004, organized by Indo-American Foundation of Arizona. India Association had a major role in organizing, fund raising, publicizing, and contributing to the worthy cause, which was to help Mother Teresa Shelter in Phoenix, Arizona. India Association not only contributed \$ 500 but also raised over \$ 600 towards the cause. One of our new major goals for the year 2004 was to get involved in community service, and the Charity Walk gave the association an opportunity to accomplish that goal.

India association also donated \$ 201 to ASHA for Education when ASHA Kids Chapter held a Walk-A-Thon. Some members of the India Association also participated in the walk.

India Association also organized a talk by Mr. P.N. Vijay, an eminent economist from New Delhi, India. He was given a Special Recognition Award by India Association for his outstanding contribution to the reformation and growth of Indian economy and excellent services in the International Finance Division.

Based on India Association's nomination for 2004 Outstanding Citizen Award presented by Asian American Association of Arizona. Dr. Jaswant S. Sachdev, an eminent Neurologist from Phoenix, Arizona received the Award.

General Body Meeting

This event today is being held at India Gate Restaurant with the help of the Board of Directors of India Association and other members of India Association. We also thank Gill, the owner of India Gate Restaurant, for providing the facility to conduct the meeting.

Reflections

Words are inadequate to express my sincere thanks, appreciation, and gratitude for the entire community, who constantly encouraged me through either kind words of appreciation or a pat on the back for my successful leadership. To reiterate what I said before, I was extremely fortunate to have had a supportive team, whose vision for the Association, dedication, commitment, hard work, and talent were responsible in making this year a Super Year! My congratulations to all of you on a job well done! India Association has come a long way, always striving towards the best! However, the time has come now to pass on the torch of presidency to the next president, who undoubtedly will



Discover India 2004



Discover India 2004



Bengali Wedding Discover India 2004



India Nite 2004

Board of Directors 2005

Kalpana Batni
Sangita Gulati
Arthy Kumer-Chadha
Shwetank Srivastava
Pamela Kharbanda

President
Secretary
Cultural Director
PR Director
Youth

Chitra Muralidhar
Shekhar Patwardhan
Ankur Agrawal
Sujatha Krishnaswamy

Vice President
Treasurer
Membership
Webmaster