

INDIA DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

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INDIA DEVELOPMENT SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT

The Board of Directors thank the well wishers of India Development Service for their continued support during 1988. This support is crucial to the effectiveness of IDS in supporting various rural development projects and in sharing information on development issues. This report summarizes the activities of IDS during 1988.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

IDS STUDY GROUP MEETINGS (CHICAGO)

The study group met six times during 1988 at members' residences.

- Mr. Dasgupta of the People's Institute for Development and Training, Delhi, gave a talk about his organization and its work.
- Professor Desarda from Aurangabad spoke on the status of development in India.
- Mr. Ravi Chopra, the author of "India's Environment", gave a talk on the recent drought and its aftermath.
- Dr. Ashwin Patel of the Medico Friend Circle, Baroda, spoke on community health organizations in India.
- Mr. Joseph Makewan, an author and a social activist from Anand, Gujarat, spoke on the problems of women in the tobacco industry.
- Mr. Ravi Kumar, formerly a member of Chhatra Yuva Sangharsh Vahini, spoke about "Alternatives in India's Development" (AID), a non-governmental organization based in Madras.

SEMINAR: "DEVELOPMENT SINCE 1947: WHO HAS BEEN LEFT OUT?"

This seminar was very well attended and generated lively participation.

- Sanjib Baruah, Professor and Chairman, Department of Political Studies, Bard College, N. Y., spoke on "The fate of tribal India: How do we measure progress?"
- Barbara Joshi, a consultant with the Minority Rights Group in London, talked on "Untouchables: Changing Face of Crisis."
- Ronald Herring, Professor, Department of Political Science, Northwestern University, gave a talk on "Dilemmas of Organized and Unorganized labor."
- Flavia Agnes, a journalist and an activist who cofounded the Women's Center, Bombay, spoke on "Women: Domestic Violence and Economic Dependence."
- Arun Gandhi, a grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, author, journalist and a rural development worker, spoke on "Gandhian Philosophy and Rural Development."
- Professor Ashok Bhargava, University of Wisconsin's department of Economics, moderated the seminar.

A booklet containing transcripts of the talks was sent to all IDS members.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

IDS provided support for various rural development projects. We continued to assist ongoing projects and two new projects.

ONGOING PROJECTS

- Foundation of Research in Community Health, Kasare Project.
- Padwa Gramdani Sangh.

- Samaj Paryavaran Kendra.
- Khadi Gramodyog Sangh - This project was supported until the later part of 1988, when IDS learned that the project coordinator had died. The funds collected for this project were used to support other projects.

NEW PROJECTS

- Sanjivani Mahila Milan - This project aims at educating pre-school children living in the slums of Bombay. It also helps local women to be self-supporting by employing them as teachers' aides
- Sahiyar - This project informs poor and lower middle class women in Baroda about their rights and contributes to their personal development.

Applications for a number of other projects were received and are being reviewed at present.

INDIA DEVELOPMENT DAY

The annual India Development Day was held at Mundelein College in Chicago on October 1, 1988. The program featured a shehnai recital by Bismillah Khan and was a great success.

IDS BOARD ACTIVITIES

Board members spent considerable time on systematically organizing the project review process. During 1988 the board developed the following:

- Project Selection Criteria. Guidelines for visitors to projects in India.
- A list of reviewers in India who can visit a project site and give us feedback.
- Ways to support projects in India that do not have clearance from the Government of India to receive foreign funds.
- A grant application form was developed.

IDS PUBLICATIONS

IDS has continued with the publication of the following:

- IDS Newsletter which now addresses specific development topic in each issue.
- The Catalyst, which publishes reports on other IDS activities, project status reports and members' opinions.

IDS ACTIVITIES IN OTHER CITIES

IDS members in Milwaukee have formed a very active local chapter. This group now has regular meetings of its own and is very active in supporting various projects.

OTHER IDS ACTIVITIES

IDS greeting cards were printed and sold during this year and were very well received. We sold over 4000 cards.