

INDIA DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

P.O.BOX 980, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

INDIA DEVELOPMENT SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1989

This annual report summarizes the activities of IDS during 1989. The Board of Directors of IDS sincerely thank all IDS supporters and well wishers without whom IDS could not survive. We hope you will continue to take an active interest in IDS and participate in its growth. We at IDS believe that the solution to many of India's problems lies at the grass root level and that such solutions will bring long lasting changes.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

A IDS study group meetings (Chicago)

The study group met seven times during the year at various members' residences and at times in public places.

- Mr. M. J. Akbar, well known journalist and editor of Telegraph gave a lecture on "Nehru's Legacy for Democratic India" on April 22, 1989, at Concordia college in Oak Park, Illinois.
- Mrs. Ramlingaswamy, Professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University at Delhi, talked on Mahila Vikas Samstha on May 11, 1989, at Romi Sethi's residence.
- Ms. Rani Jethmalani, well known attorney and activist, spoke on "Legal Rights of Women in India" on June 15, 1989, at St. Eugene's Church, Chicago, Illinois.
- Dr. Parmeshwar Rao, noted social activist and Secretary of Bhagvatulla Charity Trust, which has been very active in integrated rural development, gave a talk on "Literacy as a Movement for the People" in July, 1989, at Rani Chintam's residence.
- Ms. Razia Patel, a woman activist spoke on "Women's issues, especially pertaining to Moslem Women" in the last week of September, 1989.
- Mr. Dhirubhai Desai, retired judge of the Supreme Court of India, spoke on "Public Interest Litigation" on May, 1989.
- Mr. Girish Patel, Social activist and lawyer working for Lok Adhikar Sangh in Ahmedabad, gave a talk on "The Rights of Organized and unorganized Labor" on December 17, 1989.

B Seminar: "Perspectives in development" on May 16, 1989, at St.. Eugene's School in Chicago, Illinois

This seminar provided a forum for lively discussion on economic, environmental, health and civil rights issues. Professor Ashok Bhargava, from the university of Wisconsin, moderated the seminar.

- Ramesh Diwan, Professor of economics at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute at New York and former consultant to the United nations, spoke on "Women's Question in Development."
- Dr. Ramlingaswami, former Director, All MS, New Delhi, spoke on "Health for all by 2000 A.D., Mirage or Reality."
- Neera Desai, from Rutgers University, spoke on "Effect on Development on India's Environment."
- Ward Morehouse, Research Associate, School of International Affairs, Columbia University, and Author of Bhopal Tragedy-A Report of the Citizen Commission on Bhopal", spoke on "Small is Beautiful. Is it Possible for India?"
- Final highlight of the seminar was a documentary titled, "Whose Children," directed by Meera Dewan who has won the International award for documentary films.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

IDS has continued to expand its activities in supporting various rural development projects.

ONGOING PROJECTS

- kasare Village Project, FRCH, Maharashtra.
- Sahiyar, Gujarat.
- Samaj Paryavaran Kendra, Gujarat.
- Sanjivani Mahila Milan, Maharashtra.
- Padva Gramdani Sangh, Orissa.
- Welfare Association for the Rural Masses (WARM) Tamil Nadu-This organization is undertaking a brick making project to help landless laborers supplement their meager earnings from seasonal agricultural work.
- Antar Bharati, Maharashtra-This organization is helping needy and disadvantaged families improve their economic situation by lending "seed money" for animals and equipment. IDS support was sought for the five poorest families in the district.
- Mahila Vikas Samastha, Andhra Pradesh. In a remote tribal area in Andhra Pradesh this organization is carrying out an integrated program of development training,

health education and literacy instruction to help needy and disadvantaged women. IDS funds will be used to provide salaries for two female teachers to impart vocational skills and functional literacy to 50 women and one female teacher to impart health education.

- New Hope, Rural Leprosy Trust, Orissa-This group is working with with female leprosy patients and is conducting an "earn and learn" program for these women. IDS funds will be used for "Kalamkari" training.
- Society for Integral Development Action (SIDA), Kerala-The organization here is trying to generate health awareness in several villages in Kerala. IDS funds will be used to build latrines for 25 families.

Applications for more projects are being reviewed at the present.

INDIA DEVELOPMENT DAY

The annual India Development Day on October 14, 1989, was a great success. We were fortunate to have Shabana Azmi, well known actress and activist, and Shyam Benegal, world renowned film director, as guests of honor.

Shabana gave a talk on poverty and the importance of working at grass roots to tackle this enormous problem caused by social, economic, and political factors. Shyam spoke on using art as a medium to bring awareness of social problems. Everyone enjoyed their talks and there was a very lively audience participation.

IDS BOARD ACTIVITIES

- This year the Board Members have been very active in reviewing several projects according to the format established in 1988.
- Board Members have also spent considerable time in trying to define IDS goals even better and also to identify future directions.

IDS PUBLICATIONS

We have continued to publish the following publications, which are very well received:

- IDS Newsletter, with emphasis and in-depth analysis of a specific development issue and some review of existing literature.
- The Catalyst which has been very informative on IDS activities, project status reports, and members' opinions.

IDS ACTIVITIES IN OTHER CITIES

We now have a new interested group in Austin, Texas and a very active local chapter is

being formed there.

OTHER IDS ACTIVITIES

- Mary krisco, one of the IDS board members, had organized a bake sale and raised \$250.
- We have continued with the sales of our Greeting cards.