

INSAF Newsletter

April 2006

Volume 31 Issue 1

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INSAF SETS NEW RECORD FOR PROJECT EFFORT

We often say in this Newsletter that our total project output is the most important metric to measure our collective effort to implement projects in the areas of education, awareness, community development, and support for the disadvantaged. These are the real reasons INSAF exists. In 2005, the total project effort surpassed the \$50K mark for the first time in the 33 year history of INSAF — a new record at \$54,916. The previous highest was \$36,075 for the Year 2000. Compared with the preceding year of 2004, the project effort improved by an impressive 80%. As is our tradition every first issue of the year, Page 3 of this Newsletter presents details for the most recent 3 years.

The major credit for this year's effort goes to **Dr. Ram Chaudhari, Dr. Tarun & Dr. Kamal Kothari, Vasu & Lalitha Vasudevan, Joginder & Meera Kundra, and Arun & Padma Cariappa**. The Chaudharis and their family/friends raised \$10,301 for the Bhulpur Shiksha Samiti (UP). The Kotharis provided \$10,000 to support a trust dedicated to improving the health and education of the needy in Raipur, Chhatisgarh. The Vasudevans and their friends, with \$9,750, are initiating a new project in Kerala (please see Page 5). The Kundras continued their major support with \$8,300 for education projects in Bihar and Jharkhand. The Cariappas and friends raised \$3,000 for a major effort to educate the children in the slums of Mysore, Karnataka.

Of course, it took 17 other projects along with the above to set the all time INSAF record. Page 4 has our famous "Project Honor Roll" which shows the depth and breadth of the projects improved in 2005. The projects covered 14 states/territories in India, and also the U.S. There are 22 projects on the honor roll — an excellent year from the perspective of breadth for INSAF. In addition, 17 projects were supported at or over \$250 (above Rs. 10,000) — which is good from a depth perspective. Congratulations are also due for these efforts to **Ashok & Darshan Mehan, Nirmala Bidani, Santosh & Perviz Chokhani, Raj & Padmashri Lad, Harsha & Susheela Harshavardhana, Manju Chexal, Ashok & Usha Sachdev, Soma & Parvathi Murthy, PK & Suresh Malhotra, Gopal & Shibani Chotani, Jay & Shashi Shetty, AJ & Thankamma Poulose, Manoj & Maneesha Shrivastav, Kumarji & Sudesh Kapur, Om & Veena Garg, Ramesh & Pratibha Paliwal, and Bhav & Kaye Sharma**.

Please send an e-mail to the editor if you have a questions about any of the projects mentioned in this Newsletter.

INSAF PROJECTS

The following list is an important snapshot of INSAF activities for both INSAF outsiders and insiders. Therefore, kindly let the Editor know of any errors and omissions. Also, please send a copy of your project correspondence.

Contacts/Sponsors	Project
Ram Chaudhari	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural Center for Science Culture, Bhulpur, U.P.
Manju Chexal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OSDAV Public School, Kaithal, Haryana Late Sh. Milkhi Ram & Shmt. Kesra Devi Gulla, and Late Sh. Bindi Chexal Awards
Arun & Padma Cariappa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slum Children's Education, Pratham, Mysore, Karnataka
Santosh Chokhani, Ashok & Darshan Mehan, Ramesh & Pratibha Paliwal, Bhav & Kaye Sharma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SODHANA Charitable Trust, Chipurupalli, AP
Om & Veena Garg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. S. D. High School, Narnaul, Haryana
Harsha and Shakunthala Harshavardhana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> India Heritage Project (with Bajajs, Chokhanis, Kapurs, Paliwal, Lads, Malhotras, Sharmas) Government Model Primary School, Saneguruvanahalli, Karnataka Tsunami Relief Project, Hut Bay, Andaman & Nicobar Islands (with Mehans, Chokhanis, Lads, Malhotras, Kapurs, Murthys, Sachdevs, Kundras, Sharmas)
Tarun & Kamal Kothari	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kothari Charitable Trust for Health & Education, Raipur, Chhatisgarh
Joginder & Meera Kundra & Arju Bhojwani	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samanwaya Ashram Child Education, Bodh Gaya, Bihar Adivasi Child Education, Lathakhamhan, Jharkhand Arya Samaj — Telco & Sonari Schools, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand
Aruna Marathé, Raj & Padmashri Lad, Bhav & Kaye Sharma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Aid & Sponsorship Program, Pune, Maharashtra
Kumar & Sudesh Kapur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Sponsorship — SOS Children's Village, Rajpura, PB (with Sharmas)
Raj & Padmashri Lad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shri Samarth Education Society, Mumbai (with Mehans, Sharmas) Village Adoption Project, Ramalingapuram, AP (with Chotanis, Pouloses, Shrivastavs, Shettys, Kundras, Sharmas)
Ashok & Darshan Mehan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integral Education Mission, Dehradun, Uttaranchal (with Kundras) SOS Children's Village, Rajpura, Punjab (with Sharmas)
Soma & Parvathi Murthy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gov. Pre-Univ. College, Batlahally, Karnataka (Scholarship)
Ramesh & Pratibha Paliwal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shiksha Bharati Project, Hapud, UP (Education)
Ashok & Usha Sachdev	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> S.O.S Children's Village Association, Panchkula, Haryana
Bhav & Kaye Sharma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trees for Life, Wichita, Kansas Balabhavan Orphanage, Paduapuram, Kerala; Bal Niketan, Panchkula S. R. Arya High School, Patiala, Punjab
Ashok & Sanjeevan Soni	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lions Club Eye Clinics, Jagraon and Raikot, Punjab (with Sachdevs)
Ashok & Hema, Sriraj & Pushpa Varma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little Angels School, Hyderabad, AP
Vasu & Lalitha Vasudevan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saraswathy Vidyalayam, Eangandiyur, Kerala

ANNUAL FINANCIALS: We are again grateful to INSAF Financial Secretary **K. Kumar Kapur** for his ever timely preparation of the financial report — this in spite of the health challenges he is facing. Thanks to Kumarji, we are able to continue our tradition of 30 years to report the state of our finances in the first issue of the Year's Newsletter. Results for '04 and '03 are included to help you consider the trends. Please note that popularity of Life Memberships has meant a decline in annual membership dues. Comments or questions to the Newsletter editor are welcome.

	2005	2004	2003
Opening Balance Jan 1	21,448.58	\$ 18,908.50	\$ 14,596.88
Project Trust Funds	12,762.19	4,160.00	5,102.06
Life Membership Funds	5,350.00	4,200.00	1,700.00
Operating Account	3,326.39	10,548.50	7,794.82
Receipts	62,320.12	33,255.63	22,812.50
Membership Dues	10.00	110.00	0.00
Life Membership Dues	800.00	1,150.00	2,500.00
Project Contributions/Other	61,473.76	31,976.01	20,294.05
Interest Income	36.36	19.62	18.45
Expenditures	55,220.50	30,715.55	18,500.88
Projects	54,916.00	30,495.12	18,395.00
Other Including Newsletter & Misc.	304.50	220.43	105.88
Closing Balance Dec 31	28,548.20	21,448.58	18,908.50
Project Trust Funds	11,385.00	12,762.19	4,160.00
Membership Funds	6,900.00	5,350.00	4,200.00
Operating Account	10,263.20	3,326.39	10,548.50

Warm Welcome and Thanks ...

On the Life Membership front, we are very pleased to welcome the following in 2005 and early 2006:

Shri Arun & Ms. Geeta Mehan, Dayton, OH
Sh. Jayram & Ms. Shashikala Shetty, Pleasanton, CA
Shri K. & Ms. Lalitha Vasudevan, Bartlesville, OK
Shri Arun & Ms. Padma Cariappa, Cincinnati, OH
Dr. Gopal & Ms. Shibani Chotani, Cupertino, CA
Dr. A.J. & Ms. Thankamma Poulouse, Belmont, CA
Dr. Tarun & Dr. Kamal Kothari, Pittsford, NY
Dr. Raja Wusirika, Painted Post, NY
Dr. Manoj & Ms. Maneesha Shrivastav, Fremont, CA
Dr. Sudershan K. Bhateja, California

Special thanks to the following for sending in their 2005 memberships towards the end of the year:

Ms. Nirmala Bidani, Oswego, NY
Dr. Yash & Jeffra Nandan, Princeton, NJ
Shri Vinod & Ms. Sunita Bansal, Edison, NJ
Shri Surinder & Ms. Nirmal Maheshwary, Richardson, TX

It is a special pleasure to recognize and welcome each of the above — as almost all are long-time and sincere well wishers of INSAF. While you are reading the newsletter, please take this opportunity to introduce INSAF to at least one or two of your friends. You can send an e-mail to the INSAF editor with their name and address to have a copy of this Newsletter mailed to them. Your friends can also get information about INSAF at <http://www.insafweb.org>. Please e-mail any of your comments on INSAF related matters to the Newsletter Editor while your thoughts are still fresh.



How about a letter to the Editor with your opinion on some matter of interest to INSAF Newsletter readers?

INSAFWEB.ORG

PROJECT SITE VISIT REPORT Ramalingapuram, AP

By Padmashri Lad

A group of INSAF members, calling ourselves the Palo Alto Group, recently started a new project called the Village Adoption Project. This long-term project is being implemented in the village of Ramalingapuram in Andhra Pradesh in collaboration with Sodhana — with whom



INSAF has had a long-term relationship. On Feb 28, I spent the day at Ramalingapuram along with Dr Rao of Sodhana. This was a very exciting and informative visit. The highlight was a visit to the village school. This School has 214 children from 1st thru' 7th grade.

We are concentrating on grade first and second grades to start with (photo shown above). These children will be taught general and health awareness thru' the medium of cultural programs. Volunteer youth group will write and perform messages thru' songs and plays.

In order to develop their minds, children have to stay in school. Girls should not give up education to help the family. Every one should follow basic hygiene rules.

To support these issues, women in the village have also formed a group. 30 women meet once a month to discuss the welfare of the village and get rest of the people involved in development of the village. I was most impressed by the dedication of these women, enthusiasm of the children and hard work of the young volunteers to write, practice and perform these cultural programs with a social message.

NEW CHILD SPONSORSHIPS

We are very pleased to report that thanks to **Joginder & Meera Kundra**, two more young people have joined the family of 9 others currently sponsored by INSAF members.

The first of these is 2-year old Akanksha Singh (right, top). Akanksha had arrived at the SOS Children's Village, Rajpura, Punjab on 30 Nov 2005, only about 2 months before this INSAF sponsorship was finalized. Akanksha is loved by all her bothers and sisters, and her house mother at the SOS Children's Village.



Akanksha

The second new sponsorship is that of Dyaneshwar Shinde in Pune, Maharashtra (right, bottom). Dyaneshwar is a very bright 17 year old, 12th grade student from a very poor family. Dyaneshwar is at a critical point in his studies and we hope the sponsorship will help him get closer to his potential.



Dyaneshwar

Please let INSAF know if you might like to sponsor a child. Such sponsorships are intended to continue till the child becomes independent.

PROJECT UPDATES

Post-Tsunami Reconstruction Project in Hut Bay, Andaman & Nicobar Islands

The November 2005 INSAF Newsletter carried the news that "Project Akshara" was being launched at a School in the somewhat hard-to-reach island of Hut Bay in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands of India. The project, in collaboration with the Hyderabad-based Shyamprasad Institute of Social Service, has started with a budget of \$5,000, with a first stage budget of \$3,400.

We are very pleased to report that the first phase of the project has been completed successfully. In January 2006, a total of 614 students received text books, and in the case of 12th grade students, syllabus guides and question banks. A career counseling workshop was organized to advise the students on their career choices. The workshop included counseling on teaching, public relations, journalism, law, hotel management, engineering, nursing, communications, music, and library Science as potential careers.

Please see Page 6 to enjoy the multi-ethnic list of students who received the books. The scope of work for the 2nd stage of the project is currently in development.

Sarawathy Vidyalayam, Eagandiyur, Kerala

Vasu & Lalitha Vasudevan, along with a group of friends, have embarked on an inspiring major initiative. Their idea is to raise \$75,000 for a school in Eagandiyur, Kerala. They got started in 2005 by raising \$9,750. The funds have been sent to the Deendayal Educational and Cultural Charitable Trust in Kundaliyur, Kerala, which is in charge of the local operations. Although they will try to raise the funds themselves, the group welcomes a contribution from other INSAF colleagues. We wish them complete success in building a "Kerala Nalanda" in Eagandiyur.

Improving Health & Education in Chhatisgarh

India PM Manmohan Singh recently has been reported worried about the Naxalite affected states such as Chhatisgarh. Tarun & Kamal Kothari's efforts with a \$10,000 contribution will help. It funds the Kothari Charitable Trust in Raipur, Chhatisgrah, dedicated to improving health & education for the needy. We hope to report more on this work in a future Newsletter.

PROJECT HONOR ROLL FOR THE YEAR 2005

We are proud to present our Project Honor Roll for the year 2005. Projects receiving \$50 or more of support are included. This year, we have 22 projects on the list, in comparison with 20 last year, and, 14 states/territories in India were covered by our projects — in comparison with 10 last year. Ten of the projects were new this year, which made up for the ones which could not be carried out this year.

Request to sponsors: Thank you for forwarding a copy of your correspondence with the project site to the Editor. Please continue to ask the site how specifically the funds were utilized. Your follow-up is greatly appreciated. Also, if your project is not on the list below, how about supporting it in 2006 and thus making sure it will be on the 2006 Honor Roll in the April 2007 Newsletter. Thanks.

Rank Y05	Rank Y04	PROJECT	\$ Level
1	2	Bhulpur Shiksha Samiti, UP	10,301
2	-	Kothari Charitable Trust, Chhattisgarh	10,000
3	-	Sarawathy Vidyalayam, Eagandiyur, Kerala	9,750
4	-	Village Hope Project, Jharkhand	5,000
5	-	Tsunami Reconstruction, Andaman Nicobar	3,400
6	3	Samanway Ashram, Bodh Gaya, Bihar	3,300
7	-	Akshara Literacy Foundation, Mysore, KA	3,000
8	6	SODHANA — Chipurupalli, AP	2,265
9	-	Arpana Community Welfare Cntr, New Delhi	1,500
10	11	Bindi Chexal Mem. Trust, OSDAV, Kaithal, H.	1,250
11	5	Shri Samarth Educ. Society, Mumbai, MA	1,250
12	-	Tsunami Relief, Sewa Bharati, Bangalore, Karnataka	1,180
13	-	Pratham Literacy Foundation, USA	1,000
14	11	Integral Education Mission, Dehradun, Uttaranchal	375
15	10	Child Sponsorships — SOS Rajpura, Punjab	280
16	-	ASD High School, Narnaul, Haryana	250
17	-	Sri Sarada School, Kolkatta, W. Bengal	250
18	14	Child Sponsorship — SOS Panchkula, Haryana	160
19	7	Govt Model Primary School, Bangalore	150
20	15	Balabhavan Nazareth Orphanage, Kerala	100
21	18	SR Arya Higher Sec School, Patiala Punjab	95
22	20	Trees for Life, Wichita, KS	60

PROJECT FEEDBACK:

TOP RIGHT: P.U. CHEM ENG CLASS OF '69 SCHOLARSHIPS

Here is a happy update on a project started about 10 years ago. About 14 members of the Panjab University Class of 1969 decided to celebrate the 30th year of their graduation by raising about \$6,800 during 1996-1999. In early 2005, we were informed by P.U. that after awarding about \$1,000 in scholarships, about \$2,731 was left in the Scholarship Trust Fund. India had taught us enough arithmetic to see that the numbers did not add up. After a few appeals, the letter dated 20 March, 2006 on the right has been received (sorry, the original is very light) — concurring with our request that after considering interest earnings, over \$8,000 is now in the Trust Fund. Almost restores one's faith in P.U. bureaucracy.

BELOW: Tsunami Reconstruction Project, Hut Bay

Copy of a page below (from a very light original) with names of some of the students who received text books under the Tsunami reconstruction project. Please note the variety of names and see Page 5 for more on the background and status of this project.

'AKSHARA' report I

Xth HINDI (GIRLS) 'B'

1. Amarsita
2. Poonam Toppo
3. Prafulla Kumar
4. Basanta Bai
5. Balmit Kumari
6. Jasmin Duge
7. P.Rama Laxmi
8. Chilleswari
9. Rajni Kisputta
10. Mangdalli B.
11. Kangadi
12. Poonam
13. Prem Jyothi
14. Shusan Tigga
15. Sushma Ekka

Xth (ENG+BENGLA)(GIRLS)

1. Sudanand Dutta
2. S.Raj Kumar
3. Kartick
4. John Stephen
5. Amit Chakraborty
6. Sanjay Gohar
7. Krishna Majhi
8. K.Ravi Shankar
9. B.Ajay
10. Sam W Gurn
11. Anup Rao
12. A.Vincent
13. M.Sharat
14. A.Mejaji
15. Ganesh Kumar
16. Vinod
17. K.Inbaraj

XI TH ENG (BOYS&GIRLS)

1. Pratap Sing
2. Sandeep Kumar
3. H.Sundar Rao
4. N.Gopi Nath
5. Roshan Tirkey
6. R.Siva
7. Donald
8. B.Papa Rao
9. Edwin Moses
10. S.Preethi

11. K.Ayesha Bag

12. Kiran Bag
13. Roseman Kerketta
14. Yasoda
15. Ramaya Krishna
16. Suraiya Grace
17. Soma Grace
18. Roopawati
19. Kanta

XIth E.M. (GIRLS)

1. S.Rajeswari
2. Malae
3. Maji Meklai
4. Mohini
5. Thulsamma
6. Sandhya
7. Suchitra
8. S.Devi
9. V.Thalej A jothi
10. Muthu Sebi
11. Sahaya Mary
12. M.Sangeeta
13. Krishna Jayanti
14. Moona Mistry
15. S.Deepa
16. Jasintha Bage
17. Many Muthu
18. K.Kalal Selvi
19. B.Krishnaveni

XI TH H.M. (GIRLS)

1. Mariyam
2. Santoshi
3. Sarita
4. Sudha Kumari
5. Darmani Kumari
6. Kiran Tigga
7. Karuna Sagar
8. Sarima Tigge
9. Anita Lakra
10. Vijaya Kumari
11. Vanja
12. Pushpa
13. Meera Kumari
14. Ebernasia Kujur
15. M.Hazra
16. Abida

17. Syran Soreng

18. Ashavin Bai
19. Heera Mani
20. Sumanti
21. Susma Tete
22. Naseema
23. Archana
24. Bacan Pritey
25. Jaya Mani
26. Lalita
27. Pushpa
28. Santa Bai
29. Depti Kumari
30. Jyothi Dung Dung
31. Adlina Kujur
32. Perulit Tirkey
33. Amina
34. Manju
35. Ful Kumari
36. Sukri
37. Jaya Prabha
38. Sarita Kujur
39. Malti k Tirkey
40. Jharia Tete
41. Bernadeth Toppo
42. Shanta Ekka
43. Sarin Latha
44. Ful Kumari Bai
45. Makima

XI TH (E.M) (BOYS&GIRLS)

1. Abbey Mathai
2. K.Srinivas
3. P.Eswar Rao
4. S.Balakrishna
5. A.Vadivelu
6. G.K.S.Dandiyan
7. K.P.Ismail
8. Ashutosh Kumar
9. Biprab Das
10. Udhya Kumar
11. Trilochana Singh
12. K.Ravi Kumar
13. Anupam Singh
14. Bharati Raja
15. Anup Kr Sarkar
16. John Inrea

SISS, Hyderabad.

Panjab University., Chandigarh.

From

The Registrar
Dewan Anand Kumar Hall
Administration Block
Panjab University
Chandigarh-160014

No:-----

Dated: 20.3.06

To

Dr. Bhavendra Paul Sharma
INSAF (India School Alumni & Friends)
3605, DEL Ray Street,
San Mateo, C.A 94403,
U.S.A

Sub:- Class of 1969 Scholarship.

Dear Sir,

Please refer to your letter dated 8.1.2006 on the subject cited above regarding clarification in the amount already indicated vide this office letter no. 625/S-IV/FC dated 13.12.2005.

In this regard, the office has re-evaluated the account information again and further apprise you that the donation accepted by the university for creation of endowments are being invested in the Bank in the shape of FDR's for the period depending upon the prevailing rate of interest. However, in this case, the university received the total amount i.e Rs. 2,53,490/- in parts from 1997-2000 from your goodself. Since its inception to 2004-2005, the interest accrued on the total endowment sum i.e Rs.2,53,490/- comes up to Rs. 1,67,900/-. Hence, out of the interest received a sum of Rs. 45,000/- had already been disbursed in form of scholarships to the students. Thus, the balance amount keeping aside the Principle amount i.e Rs. 2,53,490/- is Rs. 1,22,900/-.

Keeping in view the above stated facts, if the Principle amount and the balance amount is being consolidated, the total amount available with the university comes up to the tune of Rs. 3,76,390/- i.e (Rs. 253,490/- +Rs. 1,22,900/-) instead of Rs. 3,58, 769/- as shown by you in the letter.

Hope this information will suffice your purpose.

Yours faithfully



Asstt. Registrar A/cs-II
for Registrar

INSAF Updates Its Website

The INSAF website (www.insafweb.org) has been updated to include some additional information. The first of these updates was spurred on by former Exec member and founder **Dr. Sudershan K. Bhateja**. Sudershan came up with the idea that the website should have a list of reasons why one may want to join INSAF, and even prepared a first draft to illustrate. The current version can now be seen at the website by clicking on "Why join INSAF" on the main page.

In addition, the list of INSAF Life Members has been updated and information on the Tsunami project being implemented in Hut Bay, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, has been included.

Please visit the website to see the above, to access the INSAF Dues Sheet (for making a contribution or to join), to see information on several projects, and to see this and the past INSAF Newsletters. Please tell us how we can do better.