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INdian Schools Alumni & Friends (INSAF)

- Dr. Ramesh C. Paliwal President Ocean, NJ 07712 rcpaliwal@gmail.com
- Dr. Vimal Goyle Vice President Wichita, KS 67206 vgoyle56@yahoo.com
- Dr. Santosh Chokhani General Secretary and Newsletter Co-Editor Arlington, VA 22207 santosh.chokhani@ gmail.com
- Ms. Padmashri Lad Financial Secretary San Mateo, CA 94403 padmashri_lad@ hotmail.com

- Shri K. Kumar Kapur Auditor (Internal)
 West Orange, NJ 07052
 kkumarkapur@gmail.com
- Dr. Bhavender Paul Sharma Newsletter & Website Editor San Mateo, CA 94403 sharma7336@gmail.com

www.insafweb.org

I N S A F

INDIAN SCHOOLS ALUMNI AND FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

CONSTITUTION REVISION RATIFIED BY INSAF MEMBERSHIP

During 2014, INSAF has focused on updating the constitution. The primary reason for revisiting the constitution was to expand and modernize the INSAF organization structure. We took this opportunity to clear up some ambiguities in whether the required voting percentages are of the voting members or the entire membership.

INSAF organization structure and constitution had not changed since the organization's (i.e., Friends of Punjab University Alumni Association or FOPUAA) formation in 1972 and then a name change to Indian Schools Alumni & Friends, USA in 1994. In recent months, two-third of the membership has unanimously voted to ratify the changes. Thanks to those who all voted to ratify the new INSAF Constitution and the associated INSAF Organization Structure. Some days the ratification process felt like the 2000 Presidential election as the progress was slow.

The following are the highlights of the changes:

- The Executive Committee of 4 is replaced by the Board of Directors (BOD) consisting of 7 individuals.
- Four members of the BOD are responsible for introducing INSAF to others.
- Three of the Board of Directors form the Executive Management Team (EMT).
- EMT consists of The President, Vice President (Communications), and Vice President (Finance).
- The President chairs both the BOD and the EMT.
- All directors are elected every two years for two year terms.
- A Transition Coordinator is appointed by the President to help with the election of BOD members.

The newly ratified constitution can be found at: http://www.insafweb.org/files/INSAF_Constitution.pdf

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR BOD VOLUNTEERS

They say when it rains, it pours. Now that we have a new constitution, we need 7 Directors for the 2015-17 Board as the current Executive Committee term is ending Jan 31. The nominations are required for the seven BOD positions as follows:

- President
- VP Finance
- VP Communications
- Board Members at Large (four positions)

The President and the Executive Committee have appointed Dr. Bhav Sharma as the Transition Coordinator. Please send the nominations and any questions to Bhav at sharma7336@gmail.com by Jan 10. Self nominations are highly encouraged since we all know that for INSAF to succeed, we need self-starters on the Board. One of the objectives of the new organizational structure is to expand the leadership to help introduce INSAF to more people. As the founders age, the organization needs younger people with energy and new ideas in order to survive and grow.

A SISTER IS BORN

We have a new INSAF sister organization. It is named INSAF India. The primary motivation for creation of the organization is to facilitate INSAF type work in India, both on behalf of INSAF USA and independently. INSAF India has been registered as a trust based in Patiala, Punjab but able to support projects anywhere in India. In the coming months, INSAF India plans to seek authorization so that donors can make contributions in Rupees and receive income tax exemption in India. The new organization was born largely due to the efforts of Bhav Sharma who has been spending a significant time teaching in India over the past two years with an eye towards doing more hand-on volunteer work.

2014 FINANCIAL PROJECTS SUMMARY

Our overall project effort this year was excellent — thanks to a continued commitment by both members and non-members. As of the time of this Newsletter, an INSAF record of \$117,200 has been sent to support the various projects. In comparison, in 2013 we funded \$103,000 for projects.

The effort this year has been propelled by supporters of Pratham Mysore, focused on literacy improvement among poor children in and around Mysore. The supporters this year to date have an impressive total of \$27,842, about 1.5 times the next highest funded project for the year. This has been accomplished thanks to Project Leaders Arun & Padma Cariappa and about 20 other non-member contributors.

Supporters of Kaliyuva Mane, a residential school for disadvantaged children near Mysore, have come up with over \$18,300, thanks to the efforts of Project Leader and Former Exec Harshavardhana, Former President Soma, and about 7 member and non-member contributors (See Page 4 for details).

The Kanchan Foundation in Mumbai, which works to enable other NGOs working in education, health care, and community living support, drew a support at \$16,600.

In memory of departed Shrimati Lalitha Vasudevan, the K. Vasudevan family and friends have continued to sponsor the DECC Trust in Kerala, which operates the Saraswathy Vidyalayam in Eagandiyur, Kerala with the vision of turning it into a Kerala Nalanda University, evoking the ancient 427 AD university in Bihar. This year \$15,000 has been sent as a result of these efforts.

The graduating Class of 1969 from the Department of Chemical Engineering, Punjab University, have upgraded the previously established scholarships at the Department. Over \$5,000 were sent to the Panjab University for this project. The scholarship will now be upgraded to INR 1,500 per month for 10 months for 4 students, one from each class: freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior. The scholarship is based on merit-cum-means. It also requires that the applicant should complete some positive community service volunteer work. See Page 5 for additional details.

All in all, a total of about 16 projects have seen their support this year at \$1,000 or more (read pages 3-6 for details on some of them.

WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

On the membership front, Ramesh and Jyoti Patel, Bipin and Kalpana Shah, Anop and Ranuka Vora, became Life Members in 2014. A very warm welcome to each of them. We look forward to their continued participation in projects of their choice, and receiving their comments and project news for this Newsletter from time to time.

We would also like to take this opportunity to encourage all to introduce INSAF to their friends. Please see the INSAF website home page under "Why Join INSAF" for reference to help with such introductions.

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2014 FINANCIAL MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS SUMMARY

Arun & Padma Cariappa lead the 2014 contributions at the time of this Newsletter with \$16,000 which includes \$8,000 in corporate matching funds arranged by the Cariappas for the Pratham Mysore work. Shri K. Vasudevan Family and friends contributed with \$14,300 for the Sarsawathy Vidyalaya. Shri Anop and Radhika Vora, new Life-Members, have contributed an amount of \$10,150, and the Sita Foundation \$10,000. Shri Joginder and Meera Kundra have continued consistently their high commitment with \$10,000, which includes \$5,000 in matching funds arranged by Shri Kundra. Pankaj and Rupa Nanavati, contributed over \$5,000. Ms. Arundhati Malladi, also contributed \$5,000. All in all, this was a very good year. We all should take collective pat on our backs for contributing over \$126,900. In comparison, we raised over \$111,000 in 2013.

There are only a few days left in the year. Please check to see if you have already acted this year for a project of your interest. You can give something back to help someone and get a tax deduction for yourself for the Year 2014. Pages 7 and 8 of the Newsletter have project ideas for you to consider. Please let the Newsletter Editor know if you would like any assistance.

KALIYUVA MANE STUDENTS PROJECT

ALL 5 KALIYUVA MANE STUDENTS CLEAR 10th GRADE

Kaliyuva Mane, a residential school managed by the Divya Deepa Trust, supports **over** 100 children, out of which about 36 live on-site. A notable feature is that the children typically have economic, behavioral, and educational issues when they arrive at Kaliyuva Mane.

The latest news is that all 5 students from such backgrounds have cleared their 10th grade exam — one with 1st division and two with 2nd division. Ordinarily, these students would have likely dropped out all together. Thanks to Kaliyuva Mane, these students plan to study further and now will likely be successful members of the society.

From the INSAF side, Project Leader Harsha with Shaku and his outside friends, Soma & Parvathi, Raj & Padmashri, Bhav & Kaye have been supporting Kaliyuva Mane. Harsha and friends sent \$18,300 in 2014 to support the work at Kaliyuva Mane.

ARYA GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL, BATHINDA, PUNJAB

In 2013, INSAF Exec Dr. Vimal Goyle successfully completed a good example of a "giving back" project. Vimal ji and family provided a cool water supply system for the children at the Arya Girls High School, Bathinda, of which she is an alumna. Readers may know that Bathinda can be quite hot in the summer and one can be sure that this will be a very welcome gift for the students. The following are pictures taken by Vimalji on her recent 2014 trip to Bathinda:





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KALIYUVA MANE GETS GOOD REPORT

The Year 2014 has seen an impressive show of support through INSAF for Kaliyuva Mane, a special school operated by the Divya Deepa Trust and dedicated to the education of the underprivileged in the rural area near Mysore in Karnataka.

In 2014, the Indian Council for Child Welfare, Tamil Nadu visited Kaliyuva Mane and gave a good report. Also, the local television TV 9 telecast a 30 minute program on Kaliyuva Mane. You can watch the program on the following link:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b 4dtJU HS8

In early Nov 2014, former INSAF Exec and INSAF Project Leader Harsha visited Kaliyuva Mane, and reported full satisfaction with the work being done there. A few photos from the visit follow below.



Former INSAF Exec Dr. Harshavardhana offering some sweets to children at Kaliyuva Mane — Nov 2014 Photo



A Group of children at Kaliyuva Mane — Nov 2014 Photo



Children at Kaliyuva Mane watching a movie — Nov 2014 Photo

PRATHAM MYSORE CHILDREN SCORE WELL

In October 2014, the 7th batch of student teachers went though a certification test after coaching by Pratham Mysore. The certificate course in preschool education is conducted in coordination with Karnataka State Open University.

Of the 21 student teachers in the 7th batch who appeared in the certification test, four passed with distinction while 12 others passed in First Class.

One of Pratham Mysore programs is Read India. Currently, over 5,000 students participate in the program which has been developed to make every child read, write and do basic math by utilizing Reading and Math packages of Pratham Mysore. This effort is carried out by Pratham volunteers without any monetary compensation. There are several other related in-school programs run by Pratham.

For pre-schools education, Pratham runs a number of Balawadis for children 3-5.5 yrs old, and also partners with the Karnataka state government to strengthen the state run Anganwadi pre-schools.

For more information on Pratham Mysore is available at:

http://www.prathammysore.org/

During 2014, Project Leader Arun Cariappa and Padma Cariappa, along with a number of INSAF members and non-members, including Ms. Arundhati Malladi, have raised over \$27,000 to support the work at Pratham Mysore.

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CLASS OF 1969 SCHOLARSHIP PROJECT

In 2014, the Panjab University Alumni Class of 1969 from the Department of Chemical Engineering updated their 4 merit-cum-means scholarships of INR 5,000/Yr each for one freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior. The university agreed to triple the scholarship amount to INR 15,000/Yr each for a one-time contribution of \$5,000. The scholarships requires that the applicant complete some positive community service. The letter below provides additional details on the project which was coordinated by Bhav Sharma with full and enthusiastic support from 10 classmates from the Class of '69.

The Registrar, Panjab University. Chandigarh-160014

The Chairman, Deptt. of Chem. Engg. & Tech., Panjab University, Chandigarh

5078 /S-IV/FC

Subject:- Award of "Class of 1969" Alumni Scholarships for undergraduate students of B.E (Chem. Engg. & Tech.,) @ Rs. 1500/- p.m. each for 10 months for the year 2014-2015.

Applications of eligible students are invited for the award of Four Scholarship cited above to the undergraduate students of B.E(Chem. Engg. & Tech.,) Panjab University, Chandigarh. The amended rules for the award are given below:-

- The scholarship be known as "Class of 1969 Alumni scholarships".
- Four scholarships be paid one each for under graduate classes of Ist, IInd, IIIrd & IVth year of University of Chem. Engg. & Tech.(UICET), on merit-cum-means basis @ Rs. 1500/-p.m. each for 10 months.
- The applicant must have cleared all of his/her immediate past semesters Examinations with at least 60% marks. There should be no backlog from the immediate past semesters. The student's family income should be no more than Rs. 3 Lakh per year.
- The student should be willing to perform at least 10 hours of Volunteer work of his/her choice. A few examples are as follows but the student is free to perform any positive service
 - a Volunteer work at the UICET library
 - b.Volunteer tutoring of Klin worker's children near the University
 - c. Volunteer work at the University Library
 - d. Volunteer work for activites such as a community clean up or off campus e. Volunteer work at the sector 25 Government School

 - f. Tutoring of one or more children from very poor families such as the unorganized sector g. Any service to help the poor of the society
- The student has to complete the volunteer work by Feb 28. A one page summary of the volunteer work needs to be e-mailed to Indian Schools Alumni & Friends, USA(INSAF) at sharma7336@gmail.com with a copy to the UICET Chairperson at DCET@PU.ac.in by
- Upon timely submission of the volunteer work summary, the scholarship recipient will be awarded the Class of 1969 Alumni Scholarship Certificate by March 31.
- The recipient of this scholarship will be free to accept to any other scholarships
- Prof. S.K Sharma is nominated to be a representative on the scholarship administration
- The scholarships will be awarded on the recommendations of a committee to be constituted by the Vice-Chancellor.

You are requested to forward the applications of the eligible candidates in view of the term and conditions mentioned above positively by 20.10.2014.

Yours faithfully.

Office Supdt. Accounts (8-IV), for Registrar

MANAV KALYAN TRUST

Dr. Mahendra and Ms. Jyoti Nanavati have been regular supporters of Manav Kalyan Trust based in Navsari, Gujarat, which helps take care of the disadvantaged. Students of three schools for Visually Impaired & Physically Challenged Students put on an impressive performance in "Khel Maha Kumbh - 2014" organized by the Gujarat Government at Ahmedabad in November 2014 by winning many medals.



Medal winners from the Special Sports Meet the next to the statute of the Founder of the Manay Kalyan Trust

LITERACY MISSION HAMIRPUR, HP

Dr. Amrit and Ms. Shashi Chadha are long time Life Members of INSAF. Amritji is originally from Hamirpur, HP, and desired to implement a project there. One of Bhav's assignments was to start such a project.

With the help of contacts at IIT Mandi, Bhav identified the Literacy Mission, a student volunteer group at NIT Hamirpur. The Literacy Mission volunteers (about 60) work with the children at nearby slum areas, and try to ensure they go to school, and tutor them on a regular basis. Under this project, one bright student named Madu (2nd from left outside her humble home), will be supported for her educations costs towards a B.Sc.



SNACKS FOR CHILDREN AT SOS RAJPURA, PUNJAB

About 8 years ago, a 10-15 yr commitment was made by Kumar & Sudesh Kapur, Joginder & Meera Kundra, Raj & Padmashri Lad, Ash & Darshan Mehan, Sucheta Sachdev, and Bhav & Kaye Sharma to support 6 children at a cost of \$160 per child per year at SOS Children's Village, Rajpura, Punjab. All the children are progressing nicely—the eldest now being a very good students in the 11th grade.

During 2014, Kumar & Sudesh Kapur decided to sponsor a one-time treat (snacks) for all the children and staff at the Children's Village at Rajpura. A contribution of \$70 allowed such a treat for almost 200 children and staff on Children's Day which is on November 14 (photos below). The project was facilitated by INSAF India.





Children at the SOS Children's Village, Rajpura, Punjab enjoying a snack service on November 14, 2014.

MAHADEV SHISHU MANDIR, ALLAHABAD, UP

The Mahadev Shishu Mandir is a middle school in Allahabad, U.P. with 340 students, about 150 of whom are girl students. The school serves children from disadvantaged families.

This year, INSAF President Dr. Ramesh and his wife Ms. Pratibha Paliwal have decided to initiate support for the school with the intent of continuing longer-term. A contribution of \$250 has been sent to the school to help with the purchase of a computer for the school.

CYCLONE DEVASTATES AREA IN ANDHRA

In October 2014, the cycle Hudhud hit coastal Andhra Pradesh. The large village of Chipurupalli, where Sodhana is situated, is located about 92 Km from the city of Vishakhapattanam. Sodhana founder and managing wrote the following updates:

Oct. 19: "All trees in visakhapatnam are uprooted. It is a city without any trees. feel very sad to see it. Don't know what happen to all the birds that live on these trees. .. Most up the crops in our villages are wiped out. It will take at least 6 months to get things going again. We want to send part of our team to visakhapatnam to help in the cleaning operations. Other members of our team will study the crop damage in our villages. We only pray god to give the effected people more strength to face this unforeseen calamity."

Nov 3: "The cyclone has caused a lot of damage to all the standing crops. Banana, Papaya, Cane sugar and Corn plantations are completely destroyed. The only aid the villagers received so far from the Govt. is 25 Kgs Rice, 3 Kgs Potatoes, 1 Kg Sugar and 1 Litre cooking oil. Number of teams from the Govt. side are coming and assessing endlessly the loss incurred by farmers. But they have not received any relief towards their crop and plantation loss. Most of our team members and our community have also suffered crop losses because of the cyclone. This is causing a dip in their annual income. Though Sodhana can take care of them to certain extent in the form of remunerations and medical and educational aid, they all also need a little bit of support from the Govt."

In view of these events, the INSAF support team for Sodhana is to consider whether some one-time extra support can be provided. In the meanwhile, contributions of \$4,900 and of INR 20,500 have been sent.

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2014-2015 CONTRIBUTIONS

Here is a menu of project-types for you to consider for your 2014 or 2015 contribution. Please mark your choice(s) and enter the tax-deductible dollar figure you would like to contribute. Don't see a cause you would rather support? Feel free to start something new for your idea with a contribution, and one of your fellow INSAF colleagues will be in touch with you to help.

	Your Choice	Your Contribution	Type of Project	Example of Current or Recent INSAF Projects
1		\$	Community Development Build a School-Room or some durable facility	Pondicherry Children's Home School Room at Ramalingapuram, AP Shri Samarth Society School, Mumbai Saraswathy Vidyalam, Eagandiyur, Kerala Govt High School, Banbhouri, Punjab Dwarka Devi-INSAF School, Hoshiarpur, Punjab Arya Girls High School, Bathinda
2		\$	Teacher Staff Support Stipend for volunteer staff at a school for the poor	Ramalingapuram area schools, AP Bhulpur Shiksha Samiti, UP
3		\$	Basic Health Services Provide simple medical services for the poor	O.P. Soni Charitable Trust, Jagraon, Punjab Sodhana, Chipurupalli, AP
4		\$	Women's Empowerment Fund awareness seminars for rural women	Sodhana, Chipurupalli, AP Vatsal Chhaya
5		\$	Literacy Improvement Fund efforts to increase literacy	Pratham, Mysore, Karnataka Ekal Vidyalaya
6		\$	Hunger Alleviation Fund food services for the poor	Maheshwary Charitable Trust, Akshay Patra
7	A □	\$	Child Sponsorship (School Education) Sponsor a specific child Primary thru 12th grade education (6-10 yr commitment)	SOS Children's Village Rajpura, Punjab Seva Sadan, Pune, Maharashtra CASP Pune, Maharashtra Balabhavan, Paduapuram, Kerala
	В□	\$	Child Support for Higher Education Help a student for higher Ed (2-4 yr commitment)	Bal Niketan, Panchkula, Haryana Balabhavan, Paduapuram, Kerala Divyadeepa, Kenchalagudu (Mysore), Karnataka
	С□	\$	Non-specific Education Support Grant funds to a school for operations or tuition/books for students on a merit-cum-means basis or to award a teacher	OAS DAV School, Kaithal, Haryana Shmt. Dwarki Devi INSAF Vidya Mandir, Punjab Daya Ghar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu Govt. Sr. Secondary School, Bhaee Rupa, Pb.
8		\$	Animal Welfare Grant funds for care of stray animals in major urban centers	Animal Trust, New Delhi Friendicoes, New Delhi
9		\$		Start a new project based on your idea. Please describe your idea in an e-mail to: sharma7336@gmail.com
□ \$1 Read	50/Couple I ders are er	•	0/Single Life-Membership \$15/Couple Annual-Membersh rrors and omissions as well as additional ideas so we e last 1-2 years)	e can continue to improve this for the future.
PHC	NE		E-MAIL	
		DEDUCTIBLE CON	NTRIBUTION (payable to INSAF):	\$
			Please mail your check and this she inancial Secretary, 137 Seagate Drive,	

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INSAF PROJECTS

The following is a partial snapshot of INSAF current activities over the past 3-4 years. One time projects are not listed. Kindly do let the Editor know of any errors and omissions including any corrections to the names listed under Project Leaders.

Project Leader (s)	Project
Sudershan Bhateja	 Govt. Primary, High, and Sr. Secondary Schools, Banbhouri, Banbhaura, and Dhuri, Punjab
Ram Chaudhari	Bhulpur Shiksha Samiti, Bhulpur, U.P
Arun & Padma Cariappa, Arundhati Malladi, Ashok Malladi Reddy, Anees Prabhu, (and Friends)	Pratham Mysore, Karnataka
Manju Chexal	OSDAV Public School, Kaithal, Haryana
Santosh Chokhani	Balabhavan Child Support for Higher Education (w Lads, Mehans, and Sharmas)
Santosh Chokhani, Gopal & Shibani Chotani, Joginder & Meera Kundra, Raj & Padmashri Lad, Ashok & Darshan Mehan, Ramesh & Pratibha Paliwal, AJ & Thankamma Poulose, Manoj & Maneesha Shrivastav, Jay & Shashi Shetty, Bhav & Kaye Sharma	 Stipends for volunteer social workers (through SODHANA), Chipurupalli, AP Emergency medical aid for the poor (through Sodhana) Ramalingapuram Village Adoption Project, AP (through Sodhana)
Om and Veena Garg	A.S.D. High School, Narnaul, Haryana
Shakunthala & P. Harshavardhana	 Kaliyuva Mane, Divya Deepa Trust, Mysore, Karnataka (w Soma & Parvathi Murthy, Raj Padmashri Lad, Bhav & Kaye Sharma)
Keshyap & Abhilasha Joshi	Blood Donor Council, Nawanshahar, Punjab
Kumar & Sudesh Kapur	SOS Children's Village Child Sponsorship, Rajpura, Punjab (w Sharmas)
Rakesh & Geeta Kapur	DISHA , Bareilly, UP
Joginder and Meera Kundra	 Adivasi Child Education, Lathakhaman, Jharkhand Disadvantaged Children's Home (Jeevan Prabhat), Pondicherry Ekal Vidyalay (with Kumar & Sudesh Kapur)
Tarun & Kamal Kothari	Kothari Charitable Trust, Raipur, Chhatisgarh
Raj & Padmashri Lad	 Shree Samarth Education Society School, Mumbai (w Mehans, Sharmas) Child Sponsorships, CASP, Pune, Maharashtra (w Aruna Marathé, Sharmas)
PK & Suresh Malhotra	Seva Bharti (with Rishi & Margarita Malhotra)
Aruna Marathè	Animal India Trust, Friendicos (both based in New Delhi area)
Ashok and Darshan Mehan	 Integral Education Mission, Dehradun, Uttaranchal (w Kundras) Child Sponsorship, SOS Village Rajpura, Punjab (w Kapurs, Kundras, Sharmas)
Surinder & Nirmal Maheshwary (w Rishi & Meredith, Suneer & Laura Maheshwary, Tanvar & Mona Zaidi)	Maheshwary Charitable Trust, Hoshiarpur, Punjab Shrimati Dwarki Devi INSAF Vidya Mandir, Hoshiarpur, Punjab
Mahendra & Jyoti Nanavati, Pankaj & Rupa Nanavati	 Adivasi Unnati Mandal (Maharashtra) Manav Kalyan Trust, Navsari, Gujarat Jain Swetamber Murtipujak Vishashrimali Mitra Mandal, Gujarat Vishwa Gujarati Samaj, Ahmedabad, Gujarat Friendship Foundation, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
Suresh & Savita Paliwal (and Friends)	Akhand Geetapeeth Shashwat Seva Trust, Kurukshetra, Haryana
Ashok & Usha Sachdev	O. P. Soni Trust, Jagraon, Punjab
Bhav & Kaye Sharma and friends	 Balabhavan Orphanage, Paduapuram, Kerala (w Bhullars, Chokhani, Kundras, Lads, Mehans, Paliwals, Pouloses) Govt. High School, Bhaee Rupa, Punjab Panjab University Class of 1969
Kailash & Savitri Sharma	JRH University for the Handicapped, Chitrakoot, UP
Vasu Vasudevan (and Friends)	Saraswathy Vidyalayam, Eagandiyur, Kerala (DECC)