

December 24, 2021

India Development and Relief Fund

NEWSLETTER- December 2021



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DONATE to IDRF TODAY!!!



Dear Friend,

As we approach the end of 2021, we are all eager to welcome a new year with eyes focused on better times. I would like to express my deep gratitude to you for your support of IDRF and in serving the needs of thousands of underprivileged people in India, Nepal and Sri Lanka. As we adapt to new circumstances, we continue to serve the marginalized and our partners have modified their projects.

In this newsletter:

- **Livelihood support for families hit hard by the pandemic**
- **Easing the burden for women and reversal of gender roles**
- **An Operation Theater at Lions Eye Hospital**
- **IDRF mourns the loss of a Board Member**

IDRF's COVID-19 Relief/Rehabilitation Efforts

**\$1.2 million to 17 states in India, Nepal and Sri Lanka
(April 26th to December 18th, 2021)**

IDRF is rehabilitating those who have been affected by the pandemic. We are providing financial assistance and livelihood support, vaccination drives, help to the marginalized in obtaining government assistance and education for poor children in remote areas. Two of these efforts are mentioned below:

Livelihood Support in Odisha

IDRF is supporting Sri Sathya Sai Trust to provide livelihood support to struggling families. Under the *Sri Sathya Sai Swabalambi* (self-reliance) project, 48 families have been provided financial and material help to start small businesses, and skill development training for mushroom cultivation, horticulture, floriculture, and fish farming, etc.

Skill Development Centre for Unemployed Youth in Tamil Nadu

IDRF is supporting Swami Vivekananda Rural Development Society in setting up and running a vocational center to teach tailoring, computer skills, and house painting. 40 women and 20 men are enrolled for the first batch of classes at the centre, which was

ACCREDITATIONS



PUBLICATIONS

[Quarterly Newsletters](#)
[September 2021](#)
[June 2021](#)
[March 2021](#)

Read
Annual Report 2020

inaugurated on November 25th.



Easing the weight of water: Providing Water-Wheels in drought-prone areas, Gujarat

In the Kutch district, rainfall is low and erratic, and droughts are common. Women and girls walk 3-4 miles each day to fetch water for household use.

For only \$36 per water wheel, the drudgery of carrying water is reduced by the use of containers on wheels that fetch 45 liters of water at one go.

IDRF has provided **487 Water-Wheels** through Samerth Charitable Trust to the local self-help groups to be distributed to women who carry water back and forth every day. Each durable plastic container can be used by multiple women for 4-5 years. Another important change that has come about is a reversal of gender roles. Now boys and men also enjoy fetching water! It's a big change and relief for girls and women.



Modular Operation Theater at an Eye Hospital, Telangana

IDRF has helped the Lions Club of Hyderabad Meerpet Charitable Trust with the construction and setup of a modular operation theater at M.S. Reddy Lions Eye Hospital in Hyderabad. **The 'Kiran Operation Theater'** in the newly created Surgical Wing is being used for performing surgeries and has expanded the hospital's free-of-cost- vision care services to thousands of poor patients.

IDRF mourns the loss of a Board Member

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of one of our Board members, **Mrs. Reena Goyal** (California). Reena was battling a long illness and passed away earlier this year. She was a big supporter of girls' empowerment through education and skill development. She was associated with our partner Shiksha Bharati, in Hapur, Uttar Pradesh, and managed their support for tribal girls' education. She initiated an annual support fund wherein an annual donation of \$550 covers the education and boarding expenses for one girl. It was with her efforts that IDRF has been able to extend financial support for these students for college/higher education as well.

"Reena didi" as she was lovingly called by the girls and staff at the IDRF's tribal girls' hostel, was in constant touch with them and visited them each year. [Read more.](#)



There are thousands of people struggling during these challenging times. Please continue your support for these less fortunate people and give them hope for better times to come!

Thank you once again and wish you and your loved ones a Happy 2022!

Sincerely,
Dr. Vinod Prakash
Founder and President (*pro bono*), IDRF

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