

India Development and Relief Fund NEWSLETTER: DECEMBER 2023



Dear Friend,

Season's Greetings! As the year draws to an end, I am extremely grateful to you that we were able to support various development and disaster relief programs in India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka because of your kindness and commitment to helping the less-fortunate. We were able to use your donation most efficiently and effectively and, once again, during 2023, we received the highest Accreditations and recognition from Guidestar, Charity Navigator and GreatNonProfits for accountability and transparency.

I am happy to share with you the updates of some of our programs that have benefited thousands of underprivileged people, irrespective of race, religion, caste, or creed. Thank you very much for your continued support for IDRF.

Warm wishes for the new year,

Dr. Vinod Prakash Founder and President

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- Skill Development and Training for Underprivileged School Dropout Women, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.
- Relief for Victims of Tamil Nadu Floods.
- Tax-Smart Ways to Donate Before 2023 Ends.
- Service Before Self: A moving chronicle of resilience, patriotism, and social impact, An article by Manvi Pant.

Skill Development and Training for Underprivileged School Dropout Women Swami Vivekananda Rural Community College

IDRF supports Swami Vivekananda Rural Community College (SVRCC) situated at Tamil Nadu and Puducherry border, that has been offering skill development and training courses for underprivileged school dropout rural youth since 2008. Earlier in 2023, IDRF has helped purchase new and modern sewing machines and equipment for the Fashion Design and Garment Making department. As a result, 20 underprivileged women from nearby rural areas can attend the Tailoring course and basic English Language skills for free/nominal fee. On completion of the course, these women will be able to either start their own business or take up a job and be financially independent and support their families.

Ramya, a 17-year old girl from Kumaragurupattan had to drop out of school when her father died and her mother had to work as a housekeeper. She came to know about the free/reduced fee skill development courses offered for the poor at SVRCC. She enrolled for the Tailoring course and eager



Relief for Victims of Tamil Nadu Floods Swami Vivekananda Rural Development Society (SVRDS)

Cyclone Michuand caused torrential rains in Chennai and the surrounding districts of Tiruvallur, Kancheepuram, and Chengalpattu. Many daily wage earners and poor people lost their earnings as well as their belongings. IDRF has provided immediate financial help to SVRDS, our partnersince1996, for the distribution of 15 days' worth of groceries and other essential items to 3,316 families (including 380 families of physically challenged persons).



For Retirees over age 70 1/2, a Qualified Charitable Distribution is worth considering!

How to Donate Your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) Using Qualified Charitable Distributions

The IRS allows Individual Retirement Arrangement (IRA) owners age 70 1/2 or over to transfer up to \$100,000 to charity tax-free each year as a QCD. For people 73 and older, QCDs count towards the IRA owner's RMD for the year.

You can also make charitable distribution directly from an IRA before RMDs begin. QCD reduces your taxable income and is a very tax-effective way to support a cause before the end of the year. Read for more details.

Donor Preferred Funds

IDRF offers a **Donor Preferred Program** to make your dream of giving back to the needy a reality and get a taxdeduction! Make a charitable contribution to IDRF and receive an immediate tax deduction. Over time, recommend grants from your funds to your favorite cause/state/charity or in memory of loved ones

Service Before Self: A moving chronicle of resilience, patriotism, and social impact. "Dr. Vinod Prakash, the 91-year-old, is the founder and visionary behind IDRF, an India-centric public charity based in Washington DC."

Read an article by Manvi Pant in New India Abroad about the inspiring leadership and contributions of Dr. Prakash for helping hundreds of thousands of underprivileged people through IDRF. <u>https://www.newindiaabroad.com/news/a-moving-chronicle-of-resilience-patriotism-and-social-impact</u>

Check us out at www.idrf.org

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