

India Development and Relief Fund NEWSLETTER: JUNE 2024



Rekha is saving INR 1,200 per month after she started using biogas for cooking.

Dear Friend,

Upon reflection over the past few months of 2024, I am overwhelmed with appreciation for the generosity and kindness of our supporters. By mid-June, we have disbursed 40 grants to 36 NGO partners in India, making a tangible difference in sustaining development programs and improving the lives of those in need.

I am excited about what is ahead and full of optimism as I look forward to the second half of the year.

Once again, I want to thank you for your continuous philanthropy and dedication to IDRF.

Regards, Dr. Vinod Prakash Founder and President

Mobile Medical Clinics for Rural Areas, Tamil Nadu Swami Vivekananda Medical Mission

IDRF has provided a medical van for the hospital in Cherakulam village so that it can hold **free medical camps** in neighboring rural communities and **offer seniors free healthcare, right at their door.** 11 free medical camps were held in May and over 390 patients took advantage of the free medical consultations and medicines. Of them, 62% were women, the majority of whom were over 60.



Construction of an Education Center and Hostel for Deaf and Speech Impaired Children, Madhya Pradesh <u>Anand Service Society</u>

Anand Service Society is an organization that works for the welfare and upliftment of deaf children. IDRF is funding the construction of a **Bal Graha**- a center offering academic and vocational courses and residential facilities in Indore, that will house 200 students with hearing and speech problems. IDRF is also covering the operational costs of the four hostels in the state where 450 children are taken care of.

Recently, with assistance from IDRF, solar dryers were installed to process food items. When fruit and vegetable costs are low, they can be stored in dried form with the aid of the solar dryer and used later when prices are higher.



Using Biogas to Mitigate the Effects of Climate Change, Chhattisgarh Samerth Charitable Trust

IDRF has provided 10 biogas units as a sustainable alternative to lessen the impact on the environment and improve health outcomes of low-income tribal households in Kabirdham district. Samerth offers assistance with the installation of biogas units and offers training on system upkeep and effective operation.

Significant cost reductions have been made possible by the installation, with an average 70% reduction in wood usage and an average 45% reduction in LPG consumption. This has reduced cooking expenses in half.

Women have reported notable improvements in their health, which have been attributed to improved indoor air quality, fewer respiratory issues, and other conditions brought on by smoke inhalation.

Livelihood Assistance to Vulnerable Low-Income Families, Sri Lanka Sri Lanka Center for Development Facilitation

Over the past two years, IDRF has financially supported low-income families, women-headed households, and persons with disabilities affected by the economic crisis in the aftermath of the pandemic.

IDRF provides revolving loans to support new income generation activities or improving existing ones like plant nurseries, making dresses, flowerpots, brooms, soaps, etc. and has benefited more than 200 families in the Kandy district.

"I have to say, start with small without thinking big", says Shiromi, a young single mother and a survivor of domestic violence.

Shiromi was assessed for receiving a revolving loan for starting a small business for living. With SL Rs. 10,000 (US \$32), she started producing confectionery products and selling them at the local shops. Her business was successful and after a few months she asked for a further loan of Rs. 25,000 (US \$82) to expand her business. Shiromi started a soap manufacturing business with the funds and is now able to employ a woman who helps sell her products in the nearby markets.

"Day by day my income is increasing. Customer appreciation for my products has increased too. The monthly net profit is around Rs. 25,000. Earlier, my daughter and I were dependent on my parents. Thanks to IDRF, I can look after my daughter and even my parents. I get great satisfaction and happiness through it."



Donate To IDRF With Confidence!

IDRF has earned the **Platinum Seal of Transparency** from GuideStar- a charity monitoring group, for the **eighth year in a row**! Accountability and transparency are crucial values for IDRF, and we are committed to using your donations responsibly, ensuring that every dollar is accounted for and used to further our mission of serving the underprivileged. Platinum Transparency **2024**

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India Development and Relief Fund, Inc. 5821 Mossrock Drive | N. Bethesda, MD 20852, USA Web: www.idrf.org | Tel: 1-855-INDIA-HELP | Email: admin@idrf.org