

Mission

It is our goal to unite and consolidate the collective energies of all Indian communities of Tampa Bay, in an effort to achieve and attain our common objectives: celebrating and observing our national holidays; promoting India's rich culture and heritage and championing the cause of India and Indians worldwide."

FIA Achievements - 2003

URL:<http://www.fia-tampabay.org>

January 26, 2003: Indian Republic Day at the Indian Cultural Center, Tampa. **Participants:** About 1,000 people and 27 Indian associations. **Chief Guest:** Professor Ved Nanda, University of Colorado.

February 1-7, 2003: Swami Adhyant Nanda's spiritual program, including Hindu philosophy, spiritual discourses, and yoga classes, at the Hindu Temple of Florida, Tampa.

Participants: A large number of Indian-Americans and military personnel from MacDill Air Force Base.

May 4, 2003: A visa camp by the Office of the Consulate General of Houston, Texas. Vice Consul Mehta issued 200 visas and 50 passports.

Please Join

**FIA Petition for a
Direct Air India Flight from
Orlando-Tampa to India**

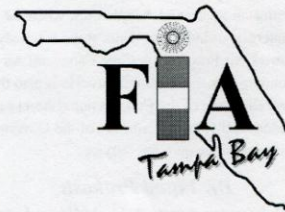
Sign the Petition

Contact

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Email: info@fia-tampabay.org



India Independence Day Celebration 2003



Program

August 23, 2003
India Cultural Center
5501 Lynn Road,
Tampa, Florida



Uniting Indian-Americans of Tampa Bay

Guests of Honor

Hon. Dr. Dave Weldon, MD Congressman

Elected to his first political office in November 1994 to serve the people of Florida's 5th Congressional District, and reelected to a fourth term in 2000, Rep. Weldon has worked to balance the federal budget and promote pro-family policies. He is recognized as a leader in space issues and has fought to bring more local government control back to states and communities. As a practicing physician and Army veteran, his background and expertise have been called upon on numerous occasions in key debates, policy discussions, and leadership positions. He is also a nationally recognized leader in promoting efforts to give parents more control over their children's education. Rep. Weldon currently serves on the House Science Committee and the House Banking and Financial Services Committee. He serves as Vice Chairman of the Science Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, where he represents the interests of his constituents at the Kennedy Space Center, Patrick Air Force Base, Cape Canaveral Air Station, and surrounding aerospace community. He is also the co-founder and chairman of the Congressional Aerospace Caucus. Additionally, he is Chairman of the Government Reform Subcommittee on Civil Service.

Dr. Vinod Prakash

Dr. Prakash immigrated to the US in 1960s and after completing his education at the MIT (USA), he taught at the University of Rhode Island and later joined the World Bank. He became active in humanitarian service in India whilst in the World Bank. He retired from the World Bank in 1987 and established a charitable organization, India Development and Relief Fund Inc (IDRF), of which he is currently the President. Under his leadership, IDRF has established numerous residential and senior higher secondary schools in 20 states, financed 30 mobile medical clinics in 14 states, hundreds of one-teacher schools, womens vocational training schools, orphanages, dorms, rehabilitation of children/adults. IDRF raised about \$300,000 for the Maharashtra earthquake in 1993, \$3 0,000 for Kargil crisis in 1999, \$590,000 for Orissa cyclone, \$2.9 million for the devastating earthquake of Gujarat in 2001. In all, IDRF has raised about \$13 million from thousands of generous donors in the US for the underprivileged in India. IDRF's motto: service to humanity is service to God.

Dr. Basant Tariyal

Dr. Tariyal, had his PhD from University of Toronto, and is a telecommunications consultant in the field of fiber optics technology and intellectual property. He retired from Lucent Technologies as operations vice president and chief technology officer in-charge of the optical products business unit in 1999. Dr. Tariyal has had a diverse career, which included research management and senior executive positions, both in US and India. He is a member of Who's Who Worldwide and was also awarded the Outstanding Indian American Award in the field of applied sciences by the FIAA in 1995. He is a very active community leader and has organized the Childrens' Hindu Camps, Viswa Hindu Parishad chapter in Atlanta. He is presently the National coordinator of Ekalvidyalaya project in the USA and the Director of EVF Overseas Office. He is also a founding member of the Bharat Awareness Forum. He holds frequent discussions on Gita and Mahabharat.

Sponsors

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AAPSA

Hindu Temple of Florida

American Family and Geriatric Care
(Dr. A. K. Desai)

Morton Plant Mease Hospital

Kindred Hospital

Cancer Care Centers

(Dr. Rao Emandi)

Mr. Bharat Patel

Mr. Prativ Patel

Manav Dharam Center

Shan Shikarpuri

(CPAs/ Bus.Consultants)

Punjabi Association of America

Bengali Association of Tampa Bay

United Sikh Association

Gujrati Samaj of Tampa Bay

India Cultural Center - Tampa

Indo-US Chamber of Commerce of Tampa Bay

Cultural Program

- **Vande Mataram (Kabhi Khushi Kabhi Gaam)**
Choreograph: Gopa Rautray
Costume: Meena. Ballal
Participants: Akansha Chavan, Shivani Kotwal, Leoni Barkakati, Preedha Kamat, Sanjana Bhat, Natasha Bhuyan, Ambika Rautray, Achala Chavan, Justin & Sohini Lahiri, Neha Patil, Priyanka Mehrotra, Nikita Kamat, Sareena Kotwal, Rohan Bhuyan, Param Desai, Akash Pendiyala, Rocktim Barkakati & Sruti Ryan (As Mother India)

Bombay Tune...

- **Desh Ki Dharti Sona Ugghe, Ugghe Heerey Moti**
Choreograph: Geeta Raj
Participants: Radha Nath, Tara Nath, Sita Nath, Sree Sundaresh
- **Albela Sajjan Aayo Re & Man Mohini (Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam):**
Choreograph: Juhi & Shivani Desai
Participants: Juhi, Shivani & Anuj Desai

Bombay Tune...

- **Mohe Chedo Na (Lamhe):**
Choreograph: Gopa Rautray
Participants: Karuna Pathak, Rajani Ryan, Akansha Chavan, Radhika Mehrotra, Sangita Dora, Prachi Kulahali, Shivani Kotwal
- **Kaahe Chhed Chhed Mohe (Devdaas):**
Choreograph: Juhi Desai
Participants: Juhi, Shivani & Anuj Desi

Bombay Tune...

- **Piya Tose Naina Lage Re**
Choreograph: Geeta Raj
Participants: Lekha Chari, Maria George
- **0 Mitwa (Lagan):**
Choreograph: Gopa Rautray
Costume: Meena Ballal,
Participants: Shalini Lenka, Harshila Ballal, Prachi Kulahali, Radhika Mehrotra, Karuna Pathak, Kobita Desai, Mallika Dubey, Aditi Sharma, Meena Ballal, Rajini Ryan, Sangeeta Dora, Sumita Behera, Varsha Maharana.

Bombay Tune...