

INDIAN FEDERATION
OF
UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS



INFORMATION BROCHURE

INDIAN FEDERATION OF UN ASSOCIATIONS

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Ram Niwas Mirdha

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Chander P. Mahajan, Ashok Srivastava, Sundeep Bhutoria,
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Indian Federation of United Nations Associations

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About The Society

Indian Federation of United Nations Associations was formed as a Non-Governmental, voluntary, non-profit organization. To promote International Peace and Understanding as envisaged in United Nations charter and to further activities of UN and its Specialized Agencies. This society was launched in 1960 and inaugurated by Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru Prime Minister of India.

The objectives of the Society inter - alia are;

- a) To coordinate activities of United Nations Associations and other similar bodies working for the purpose of furthering the objectives of the United Nations in India.
- b) To educate public opinion towards promoting a people's movement for the United Nations.
- c) To interpret and to represent the views, feelings and sentiments of the Indian People in respect of International solidarity and co-operation among men, women and children.
- d) To Promote research information and education about the goals of the charter of the United Nations and the work of the, United Nations System.



Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru inaugurating IFUNA and Shri S. D. Pandey Secretary General

- e) To promote economic development, enhancement of social progress and better standard of life.
- f) To organise welfare programmes for the wellbeing and benefit of children, youth, handicapped and aged.



Mr. R. N. Mirdha President IFUNA with Dr. Boutrous Ghali, Secretary-General UN and Mrs. Boutrous Ghali

Pursuing above goals IFUNA has already created a niche for itself in the academic and social circles of the country through its varied and numerous activities like Lectures, Seminars, Symposiums, and Observance of UN Days, Debates, Competitions and Exhibitions.

Galaxy of Luminaries of Indian Polity had guided and adorned office of President of IFUNA such as Acharya Narendra Dev, Smt. Vijaya Laxmi Pandit who was elected as President of UN General Assembly, Mrs. Savitri Nigam, Mrs. Rajan Nehru, Mr. R. K. Hegde they were members of the parliament.

Affiliated UNAs

IFUNA has affiliated UNAs in various states of the country such as Maharashtra, Gujrat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, U.P., Chandigarh, Bihar, West Bengal, Manipur and Orissa.

The other important all India Organisations affiliated to IFUNA are;

- (i) National Federation of UNESCO Associations in India.
- (ii) UN Council of Indian Youth.

Activities

To observe important UN Days such as World Food Day, Human Rights Day, International Literacy Day, World Health Day, International Womens Day, UN Day etc;

- To organize Debates, Seminars, Symposiums, Workshops on UN related topics.
- To felicitate and accord reception to visiting UN dignitaries.
- To liaison and participate in the programmes of regional office of Asia Pacific and WFUNA.
- To publish quarterly "IFUNA NEWS", Souvenirs and Pamphlets.
- To Involve youth from Schools, Colleges in environment related programmes.
- To exchange cultural delegations with various UNAs, sponsoring delegates to DPI/NGO Conference, New York annually.
- To keep close liaison with various UN agencies and participate in their developments programmes specially with UNDP and UNESCO.
- Promote research information and education about the goals of the charter of the United Nations and the work of the United Nations System To cooperate with other organizations whose objective include the support of the United Nations and its development.



IFUNA Members with Lok Sabha Speaker Mr. Som Nath Chatterjee Parliament House Annexe

- To keep close liaison with various UN Agencies and participate in their development programmes specially with UNDP and UNESCO.

IFUNA undertakes several activities which promotes the objective and interest of the Society.

Membership of the Society

The membership of the Society is open to all persons interested in the promotion of the UN ideals. The membership is of two kinds. Individuals and affiliated bodies.

The individual membership has five categories (a) Life Members, (b) Honary Members, (c) Annual Members, (d) Donors, (e) Patrons.

The membership entitles:

- Participation in conferences, seminars and other activities of IFUNA
- Four quarterly issue of IFUNA News.
- Any application for the membership of the society is subject to approval by the Executive Committee.



Members of IFUNA at a Conference



*Secretary General Mr. Suresh Srivastava welcoming Secretary General, UNO
Mr. Kofi Annan during his visit to India*

Bilateral Exchange Programme

IFUNA has bilateral exchange of goodwill delegation with UNA's of many countries such as China, Russia, United Kingdom, Czechoslovakia, USA, Canada, Mauritius, Bangladesh etc. Goodwill delegations from these UNA's visit India under the bilateral exchange programme. The discussion exchange of views between delegates and IFUNA's members provides opportunity to both to understand each other on Cultural and Social level. These exchanges create better understanding between UNAs which further goes down to grassroots as UNAs in each country are people's movement.

Affiliated to WFUNA

World Federation of United Nations Associations Geneva (WFUNA) was launched as "a peoples" movement for the U.N on 2 August 1946 at Luxembourg.

Its preamble:

We, the re-presentatives of the United Nations Associations in our respective countries.

Believing that since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed and

Believing that the peace must be funded, if it is not to fail, upon the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind,

Have resolved to combine our efforts to form an association of the peoples and, having agreed to the present Constitution, do hereby establish an international organization to be known as the WORLD FEDERATION OF UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS.

Its main objective;

to be a people's movement for the United Nations.

IFUNA is affiliated to WFUNA The world federation has more than 100 member countries including India. WFUNA has its Office at UN Building New York and Regional Office in Accra, Ghana and India.

IFUNA's contribution to WFUNA's activities are significant in its working organization. Mr. H.A. Halim, President of West Bengal UNA was elected as President and Mr. Suresh Srivastava is vice-president of WFUNA.

IFUNA had given three Honrary Presidents to WFUNA. Late Mr. S. D. Panday Secretary-General Mr. Ram Niwas Mirdha, President of IFUNA and Mr. H. A. Halim, Speaker West Bengal Assembly.



Group Photo of WFUNA Members



IFUNA's goodwill delegation in China

Status with ECOSOC

IFUNA has been granted Special Consultative Status by Economic and Social Council of United Nations. This is in recognition of the work done by IFUNA for promoting UN aims & ideals in India. By virtue of this Status, IFUNA can designate official representative to the United Nations - to the UN Head Quarter in New York and UN offices in Geneva & Vienna.

Institute of UN Studies

An important Department of IFUNA is Institute of UN Studies. The Institute of United Nations Studies was established in the year 1969 as part of IFUNA, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Narendra Singh, ICS; Judge International Court of Justice, The Hague.

The objectives of the Institute of UN Studies is to impart basic knowledge about United Nations and its Specialized Agencies. To develop awareness of the aims and ideals of the world body and to stimulate a sense of people's participation in its programmes, activities and achievements.

It is a Six Months Correspondence Course on United Nations and International Understanding. Various papers has been formulated to impart knowledge about UN and its various Specialized Agencies. Its structure, organization, aims and ideals as envisaged in its Character.

The course received very high appreciation at the national and international forums and labeled as unique of its kind. Secretary General World Federation of United Nations Associations, Geneva has highly commended this course. The course received very high appreciation at the national and international forums and labeled as unique of its kind. Secretary General World Federation of United Nations Associations, Geneva has highly commended this course.



IFUNA's Meeting

Social Research Centre

Social Research Centre is Department of IFUNA. It was established to carry out projects to high light and create awareness on Drug Abuse, Poverty alleviation, Literacy drive, AIDS etc. SRC conducts survey in specific areas urban/rural to prepare project report for the work to be done in a specific field. Such reports are submitted to concerned Ministry of Government of India for their approval and follow up action.

Such project by SRC are conducted for the benefit of Civil Society.



Mr. I. K. Gujral, Ms. Pera Wells, Mr. R. N. Mirdha, Mr. Anand Sharma, Mr. Kim Hak-Su, Mr. Gregory Kovrizhenko, Ms. Shalini Dewan, Mr. P.S. Paul and Mr. Sita Ram Sharma

2006 Model UN Conference

The World Federation of United Nations Associations 2nd Asia Pacific Model UN Conference was hosted by Indian Federation of United Nations Associations at New Delhi from 10 - 12 February 2006. 14 Asia Pacific Countries participated. Each country sent delegation comprising of four youth led by representative of UNA of that country. The countries participated - Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Japan, Korea, Kyrgyz Republic, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Canada and South Africa.

The Conference was inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. I. K. Gujral, Former Prime Minister of India, Guest of Honour, Hon'ble Mr. Anand Sharma, Minister of State for External Affairs, Govt. of India, Hon'ble Mr. Ram Niwas Mirdha, Hon'ry President, WFUNA and President IFUNA, Hon'ble Mr. Subodh Kant Sahai, Minister of State for Food Processing Industries, Mr. Kim Hak-Su, Executive



*Mr. R. N. Mirdha, Mr. I. K. Gujral, Ms. Pera Wells,
Mr. Suresh Srivastava, Mr. Sitaram Sharma*

Secretary of the United Nations ESCAP and Mr. Gregory Kovrizhenko, Chairman WFUNA, Ms. Pera Wells, Secretary-General, WFUNA, and Ms. Shalini Dewan, Director, United Nations Information Centre, New Delhi participated in the delebration of conference



Delegates to Model UN Conference 2006, WFUNA held in New Delhi



Mr. Suresh Srivastava, Mr. Parvesh Khanna, Ms. Shalini Dewan, Mr. J. K. Dadoo, Mr. R. N. Mirdha, Mr. M. A. Haque, Mr. S. P. Kalra, Mr. C. L. Goel

2007 World Environment Day June 5

IFUNA organized, celebration of World Environment Day with multifarious programmes. Speeches on Environmental related topics by representatives of Delhi Govt. From Ministry of Forest and Environment and Director UNIC, New Delhi. Local Schools Rayan International and Geeta Bal Bharti Senior Secondary School participated, their students presented Skits. A Rally was taken out from Tolstoy Marg proceeding to Jantar Mantar. A delegation of IFUNA members and school children met H.E. Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, President of India and presented a memorandum 'TO SAVE ENVIRONMENT'



The Rally on World Environment Day



H.E. Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, President of India with students on World Environment Day

The theme for this year was “Melting Ice: A Hot Topic?”. It focussed on the forthcoming dangers of the increasing rate at which the glaciers are melting, sea levels are rising and the impending floods being faced by the inhabitants of the low lying areas.

Initiated by the United Nations, ‘World Environment Day’ is celebrated around the world on June 5. It stimulates public attention and spurt political action. The theme was chosen in support with International Polar Year.



*IFUNA members with H.E. Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam, President of India,
On right of President is Mr. Suresh Srivastava, Sec. General
and on the left Mr. R.N. Mirdha, President IFUNA*

Members of Executive Committee

N.G.Bangur	Inder Mohan Sehgal	Vinayak Srivastava
Neelam Babbar	V. K. Bhutani	Ankit Kheterpal
Dr. Swaran Chawla	Major Nikhil Kapur	Arjun Sagar
Puran Singh	Sanjay Kalra	Mayur Srivastava
Prem Ahluwalia	Ashok Sharma	Vertika Sharma
Dr. Narender Khetarpal	R. L. Kakkar	Ritu Sahni
Javinder Paul	Maj. Murli Dhar	C. L. Arora
Meena Srivastava	M. L. Dange	Hemant Babbar
Vinod Kumar Saxena	Meetu Kapur	Manjri Saxena

UN ASSOCIATIONS

A PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT FOR THE UN

The UN is an intergovernmental body - its members are nation states. WFUNA is a non-governmental body. Its members are United Nations Associations (UNAs) in member states. The members of UNAs are from civil society, notably individuals and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Former international civil servants and government representatives to the UN are always encouraged to join UNAs.

The United Nations Organization comprises a unique and essential global network of connections through its various agencies and programs. The challenge for WFUNA is to develop the capacity of peoples throughout the world to support the work of the UN at all levels, local, national, regional and global.



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