

Indian American Friendship Council (IAFC)

Texas State Chapter

(Non-profit, Nonpartisan, Non-religious, National Organization)

P.O. Box 610865, Dallas, TX 75261

www.iafc.us

Annual Awards Banquet

Banquet theme

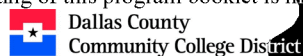
Strategy, Stability and Security

(Part of the proceeds benefit the **American Cancer Society**)

Date: Saturday, March 11, 2006

Venue: FunAsiA, Mehfil Banquet Hall, Richardson, TX

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Dr. Krishna Reddy, CA
Founder/Chairman

Indian American Friendship Council (IAFC)

History:

Dr. Krishna Reddy of California founded the Indian American Friendship Council (IAFC), a non-profit, non-partisan, non-religious, and national organization in 1990. It is committed to promote stronger relations between the United States and India, the two largest democracies in the world. IAFC has been thoroughly educating US policy makers and making diligent efforts to promote cordial Indo-US relations. Though IAFC is headquartered in Los Angeles, CA it has another office in Washington D.C. IAFC has several active and prominent chapters throughout the USA and operate as a vast network to promote its mission.

Mission:

IAFC's mission is to create political awareness among the Indian Americans, and maintain an ongoing dialogue with local, national and international policy makers as well as to educate, encourage, and involve Asian Indian Americans with voter registration, volunteerism, community service and youth leadership training, better the ties between USA and India, protect the interests of the Indian-American community, promote global democracy, and support the developing countries.

Achievements:

- IAFC has been recognized twice in the US Congress for its outstanding role in building better and stronger Indo-US relations
- IAFC has played a key role in making the '*Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans*' as the largest caucus in the US house of Representatives increasing from 6 members to over 190
- IAFC hosts an Annual Legislative Gala Banquet every year in July in Washington D.C. in which more than 150 US Congressmembers, Senators, and other dignitaries from both Democrat and Republican parties attend
- IAFC has established links between Indian Parliament and US Congress
- IAFC annually recognizes the contributions made by the Indian Americans, who are involved in all aspects of cultural and economic life





Bobby Jindal
Hon. US House of Rep. (R-LA)

We are very proud of Louisiana native Bobby Jindal to be the Freshman Congressman representing the First District of our neighboring state of Louisiana.

Elected to Congress on November 2, 2004, Bobby has set a strong agenda for his first term - Working to improve economic development in Louisiana, Securing our homeland and winning the War on Terrorism, Improving our health care system, Protecting the natural treasures while enhancing our role in supplying oil and gas to the world.

His role as Freshman Class President and appointments to the House Committee on Homeland Security, the House Committee on Resources, and the House Committee on Education and the Workforce uniquely position him to be able to address his priorities and best serve his district and the nation as a whole.

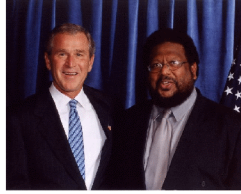
In 1996, two years after graduating from Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, he was appointed Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH). Focusing his attention on the problem, Jindal led the effort to revamp the system, turning the \$400 million deficit he inherited into a surplus of \$220 million in just three years.

In 1999, he accepted an appointment to become President of the University of Louisiana System. This system includes several well-known universities and is the 16th largest higher education system in the country. In any year, the system oversees the education of 80,000 individuals.

Bobby is a native of Louisiana, born in Baton Rouge. He is a graduate of the Louisiana Public School System, Brown University (with a 4.0 Grade Point Average) and Oxford University, which he attended as a Rhodes scholar, having turned down admissions to medical and law schools at both Harvard and Yale.

He is married and the father of two young children; his wife and children live in the district in Louisiana.





Aziz with President Bush

Aziz Haniffa is the Managing Editor and Chief Diplomatic and Political Correspondent of “*India Abroad*” the oldest and largest circulating South Asian newspaper in North America.

Aziz has been covering US-South Asia relations and the Indian American community for over 22 years, and over the years has scored many scoops and done several of exclusives, including interviews with Presidents, Prime Ministers, Cabinet ministers, and US and South Asian lawmakers.

In September and October 2004, he was the first only South Asian journalist to have done back-to-back exclusive interviews with both President George W. Bush and Democratic Presidential challenger Senator John F. Kerry, on the eve of the 2004 presidential election. Also, he was the only South Asian print journalist to accompany former president Bill Clinton to the subcontinent in March 2000.

Aziz is a regular South Asia analyst on CNN International and has appeared regularly on other CNN programs including Q & A, Insight, World Report, and also on MSNBC and C-Span.

This native of Sri Lanka is a winner of several awards and accolades. Aziz’s educational background is very impressive: a bachelor’s degree, double majoring in English and Economics and a Masters Degree in Political Science & International Affairs from George Washington University.

We are proud to welcome Aziz to DFW area.



The American Cancer Society is the nationwide, community based voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education, advocacy and service. The Society is the largest source of private, nonprofit cancer research funds in the U.S., second only to the federal government in total dollars spent.

The Society's research program has invested over \$2.5 billion in cancer research and has funded 38 Nobel Prize winners early in their careers.





Hon. Consul General S.M. Gavai

Consul General S.M. Gavai joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1975. He has served in various capacities in India's Diplomatic Missions in Yugoslavia, Hungary, Zimbabwe, Indonesia, Germany, and Scotland where he was Consul General of India and in Maldives where he was High Commissioner (Ambassador) of India.

During his tenure in the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi, he has headed the SAARC Division, Northern Division & Administration Division and has been India's Chief of Protocol.

Consul General Gavai graduated from Ferguson College, Pune with a B.A. (Hons.) degree in history. He is married to wife Rina and they have two sons.



Bhanumathi Ivatury Ph.D, LCSW

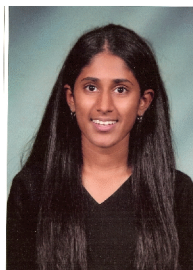
Dr. Bhanumathi Ivatury is a practicing Social Scientist providing her valuable services to DFW community for over 20 years as an independent provider. Dr. Ivatury got her PhD in Social Work from Andhra University after completing Masters Degree in Social Work from Delhi University. Her broad work experience includes Director of Respite Care Services (Association of Retarded Citizens-ARC); Director of HIV Program-COPC, Parkland Hospital; Functional Head of Social Work department, Parkland Hospital; Family Court Counselor, Dallas County etc. She has been providing Dialysis Social Work services in Denton full time to meet all the mandates of Medicare and State of Texas. She is known to many a troubled Indian couples as a selfless volunteer who goes out of way to help them resolve their problems through her excellent mediation and counseling services. She has provided pro bono services to several battered and disadvantaged women of Indian origin during her long years of social work in DFW area. She is Director of Social Services for two major Indian organizations - IANT and TANA.

It is fortunate that a person of this high caliber and dedication to Social Work is being recognized by IAFC in today's event.



IAFC – Texas State Chapter

- IAFC, Texas state chapter was inaugurated by Padmabhushan Hon. US Congressman Frank Pallone (D – NJ) on Jan 26, 2003
- It was successful in persuading four Dallas/Fort Worth area US Republican Congressmembers – Hon. Pete Sessions, Hon. Jeb Hensarling, Hon. Michael Burgess, and Hon. Kay Granger to join ‘*Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans*’
- It has established direct communication links with the US Congressmembers, US Senators and City Mayors
- It was successful in gaining the support of 15 US Congressmembers and 22 Mayors to serve on the Advisory Board of IAFC Texas State chapter
- It has proficiently worked with local and national policy makers, mainstream communities and organizations. It has recognized and rewarded the mainstream non-profit organizations like ‘American Red Cross’, ‘Boy Scouts of America’ and ‘KERA’ at 2004 Annual Awards Banquet and this year recognizing ‘Meals on Wheels’ and ‘Girl Scouts of America’
- It is recognizing the talents of the Indian American youth and rewarding them with merit scholarships. *Sameer Patel, Sai Gunturi, Nilay Vora* and *Neil Agarwal* are 2004 scholarship winners and *Meena Agarwal* and *Satyadeepak Ramesh* are for 2005
- It is providing internship opportunities to Indian American youth at US Congressmembers’ offices in Washington D.C as well as D/FW area
- It is involving youth to provide school supplies to the needy students and basic supplies, medicines and food products to financially disadvantage



Neela Thangada

Neela Thangada, age 15, was of San Antonio, Texas is the youngest, at age five, to memorize the Vishnu Sahasranama. Neela started learning Bharatnatyam and Carnatic Music since the age of five. Besides being a bright student, this youngster has been active in Girl Scouts, Karate, Soccer, and Basketball. While in 7th grade, she was awarded Grand Prize in San Antonio Regional Fair with \$30,000 scholarship to local universities. Neela also received 2nd Place in Botany in Exxon Mobil Science and Engineering State Fair.

In eighth grade, she was awarded the 1st place in the “Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge” and received the title of “America’s Top Young Scientists” along with a \$20,000 scholarship. She was accorded the rare honor of speaking at the 2nd annual State of the Union reception on Capitol Hill. Neela is a shining example for her generation and generations to come.



Program

11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Banquet Chair
Piyush Patel

Welcome Address – **Prasad Thotakura**, TX State Coordinator, IAFC

US & Indian National Anthems – **Ms. Vidhisha Babbili**, UT, Austin

Inaugural Lamp Lighting Ceremony – All Dignitaries

“**IAFC Overview**” – **Dr. Krishna Reddy**, Founder/Chairman, IAFC

“**Check Presentation**” to American Cancer Society

“**OCI Cards, Voting Rights to NRI’s**” - Hon. Consul General of India **S.M. Gavai**

“**Outstanding Community Service**” award presentation to **Dr. Bhanumathi Ivatury**

“**IAFC – Brightest Star**” Award presentation to **Ms. Neela Thangada**, San Antonio

“**India 2020**” - **Aziz Haniffa**

“**Indo-US Relations: Past, Present and Future**” – Hon. Congressman **Bobby Jindal**

“**Outstanding Journalist**” award presentation to **Aziz Haniffa**

Vote of Thanks – **Ketan Patel**, Board of Director, IAFC

Q & A Session – Moderated by – **Dr. Tarakumar Reddy**, Executive VP, IAFC

IAFC sincerely thanks

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DCCCD
Dr. Gorrepati
NavaneetaKrishna
Primus
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Indian American Friendship Council (IAFC)

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Hon. Congressman **Frank Pallone (D-NJ)**
Hon. Congressman **Ed Royce (R-CA)**
Hon. Congressman **Gary Ackerman (D-NY)**



Founder/Chairman

Dr. Krishna Reddy, CA

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Kevin Brady (R - TX - 08)
Michael Burgess (R - TX - 26)
Henry Cuellar (D - TX - 28)
Lloyd Doggett (D - TX - 25)
Charlie Gonzalez (D - TX - 20)
Kay Granger (R - TX - 12)
Gene Green (D - TX - 29)
Ralph Hall (R - TX - 04)
Jeb Hensarling (R - TX - 05)
Eddie B. Johnson (D - TX - 30)
Sheila Jackson Lee (D - TX - 18)
Kenny Marchant (R - TX - 24)
Randy Neugebauer (R - TX - 19)
Pete Sessions (R - TX - 32)

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Bedford - Rick Hurt
Coppell - Doug Stover
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Denton - Euline Brock
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Duncanville - David Green
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Hurst - Richard Ward
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Plano - Pat Evans
Richardson - Gary Slagel
Southlake - Andy Wambsganss

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