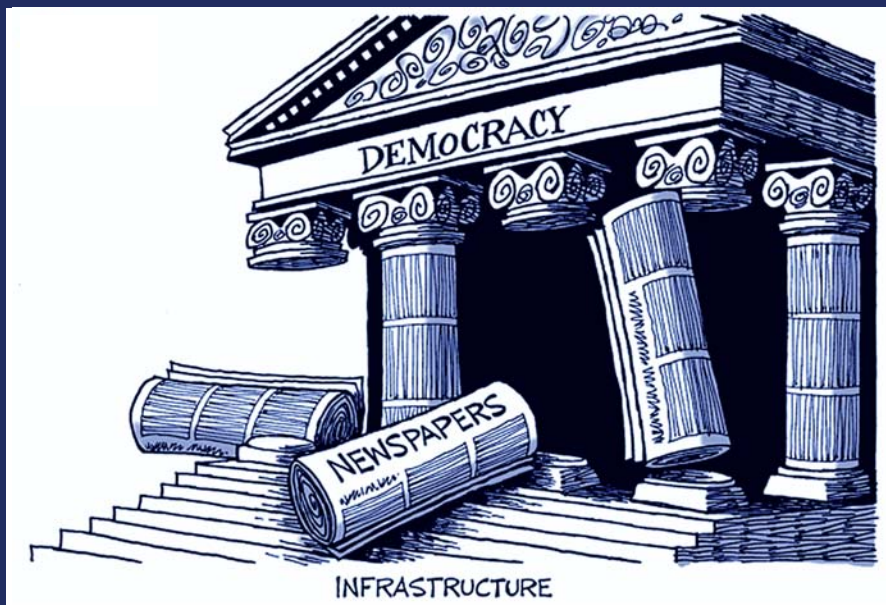




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AND THE BEDROCK OF JOURNALISM
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Indo-American Press Club
Executive Committee 2018 Inauguration

Consulate General of India in New York, April 10, 2018

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MESSAGE FROM CONSUL GENERAL OF INDIA

भारत का प्रधान कौंसल
न्यू यार्क



CONSUL GENERAL OF INDIA
NEW YORK



MESSAGE

I am glad to know that the Indo - American Press Club (IAPC) is issuing a souvenir to commemorate the Inauguration Ceremony of the Executive Committee 2018 which is being organized at the Consulate General of India in New York. I also take this opportunity to congratulate Ms. Renee Mehraa, the newly inducted President of the Indo - American Press Club and also to all other members of the newly elected Executive Committee 2018.

I appreciate IAPC's goal of bringing together the Indian American media persons and groups across the United States under one umbrella to work together supporting each other, and be the voice of the community of journalists. It is heart-warming to note that the Indo-American Press Club (IAPC) strives to be a common platform to nurture closer bond among an extensive national network of journalist to fulfil their vision of shaping our world to be a fair, just and equitable place where everyone enjoys freedom and liberty. As the Indian Community in the US grows the role and relevance of the ethnic media will assume great importance and therefore there is the need to maintain high standards of professionalism and ethics.

Once again I convey my best wishes to IAPC and I am hopeful that under the leadership of Ms. Renee Mehraa, while enhancing their own journalistic skills, will reach new heights in building public opinion to further strengthen India - U.S. relations and also help the future generations to reflect and respond to the happenings in a fast-paced world accurately and adequately.

संदीप चक्रवर्ती

संदीप चक्रवर्ती

Sandeep Chakravorty

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Indo-American Press Club

Executive Committee 2018 Inauguration

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Congratulations, IAPC team 2018



Babu Stephen
Chairman

The Induction Ceremony is the symbolic beginning to a member's service as a great achievement. It is also a key element in the lifelong retention of a member. A thoughtful induction, followed by a thorough orientation and meaningful involvement in the club's activities, will keep a new member interested and engaged in the club.

We, the members of the Indo-American Press Club, believe that Indian-American journalists nationwide should promote the values and culture of our home land. Also, the people the IAPC honors on this occasion will be the ambassadors of our community. So I extend my sincerest wishes to them too.

IAPC Preamble

We the members of IAPC believe that the Indian origin journalists in America should unite to increase employment in the media, to increase the number of Indian Americans in management positions, to encourage and educate young Indian Americans interested in pursuing a journalism career, to monitor and sensitize all media to social justice. IAPC is a syndicate of print and electronic media journalists of Indian origin working in the US.



- IAPC has been formed with the objective of enhancing the standard and working conditions of journalists.
- We strive to work towards greater co-operation among journalists working across the nation.
- IAPC is committed to offering educational opportunities for its members with a view to enhance their skills and proficiency in this modern world.
- IAPC is committed to promoting unbiased and accurate news coverage of all events with fairness and objectivity.
- We will adhere to the code of conduct for journalists and the organizations they represent in accordance with high professional standards.
- We will work towards preserving the freedom of the Press by adjudicating the just concerns against and by the press for violation of ethics and freedom of the press.
- By maintaining high standards, we will be able to offer accreditation to media outlets and journalists of Indian origin.
- Will promote effective journalism and honor those adhering to highest standards of journalism by honoring media persons and organizations with annual awards.
- Will recognize and honor eminent Indians in media in North America.



MESSAGE OF IAPC PRESIDENT 2018



Renee Mehraa
IAPC President

I am deeply honored and humbled to assume the role of the President of the Indo American Press Club and thank the IAPC Board for placing their faith and trust in me. I would like to congratulate the members of the 2018 executive committee and look forward to working with all of you. I would like to thank the Consul General, Ambassador Sandeep Chakravorty for holding the inauguration event at the Indian Consulate in New York.

Media has a responsibility to lead society and culture in a positive way and we are fortunate to do work that makes a tangible difference in the lives of our vibrant community. As the eyes and the ears of Indian Americans our collective voices in the print, visual, electronic and online media play a powerful role in effecting significant change and creating new conversations on diversity, inclusion, equality and social justice. With chapters all across the US as well as in Toronto, Vancouver and Alberta in Canada, IAPC members are deeply committed in enhancing not only their own journalistic skills but also in helping fellow journalists and

mentoring young adults to work towards IAPC's common goal of illuminating critical issues and becoming agents of social change.

In the age of proliferation of the web, when conversations often become newsfeed, and when everyone is competing for eyeballs, it is all the more essential for the traditional media to deliver honest and authentic content that is credible, reliable and unbiased. The bedrock of journalism consists of reporting, critiquing, airing and publishing for our viewers, listeners and readers authentic journalism that is anchored in facts, facts and only facts. Anything short of that is fake news.

As President of the Indo American Press Club, I would like to see our media members recommit their best efforts and skills towards fostering alliances across traditional boundaries and building bridges with the community, policy makers and local and state authorities to provide a realistic perspective and a better compass for understanding complex issues that impact ethnic communities in the country. I urge our community members to stay involved and work proactively with media partners to better address our concerns.

As someone who started in this profession as a teenager and defied the odds, it is my vision to see the presence of more women of color in the American media for a more inclusive democracy. Women still have to combat the old boys' network, and gender bias and it is extremely important that voices of women are equally heard on media platforms to reflect racial and ethnic diversity and inclusiveness in the newsrooms.

Once again my best wishes to the 2018 executive committee. Thank you for the privilege to serve as the President of IAPC. Thank you all.

Renee Mehraa is a well-known TV anchor, social and political activist based in New York.



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INDO AMERICAN PRESS CLUB INC.

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The Indo-American Press Club is pleased to announce that our next International Media Conference 2018 will be held in Atlanta, GA, in October.





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INDO AMERICAN PRESS CLUB

Tremendous growth in just 4 years

Indo-American Press Club was launched in 2013 with these objectives:

- Promote fellowship and understanding among Indian men and women engaged in media in English and Malayalam.
- Forging a united group of print and electronic media professionals of Indian origin working in the United States and Canada.
- Standard bearers of media ethics and accuracy to promote effective journalism
- Research and suggest ways to make Indian American media initiatives financially sustainable
- Recognize and honor eminent and accomplished Indian American media professionals in North America Headquartered in New York, IAPC has chapters in Dallas, Houston, Atlanta, Chicago as well as in Vancouver, Toronto and Alberta in Canada.

IAPC holds International Media Conferences every year as well as regional summits organized by its chapters. It has partnerships with the Kottayam Press Club and Trivandrum Press Club, both in Kerala, India. At IAPC launch in New Jersey with Ajay Ghosh as first President, Ginsmon Zacharia, founder chairman, said, "While striving to have greater coordination and networking among journalists, our motto is to be the voice of the community of Indian American journalists." Media owner Sunil Hali gave the keynote.

At the 2nd International Media Conference in Long Island in October 2015, eminent journalists and media experts convened from the US, Canada, India, Australia and the UAE. It accorded a valuable professional development opportunity, featuring educational seminars and workshops. Kerala's Public Works Minister VK Ibrahim Kunju was the chief guest. IAPC's Sathkarma award was given to social worker Daya Bai and the Sadbhavana Award to Bobby Chemmannur.

Continued on page 11

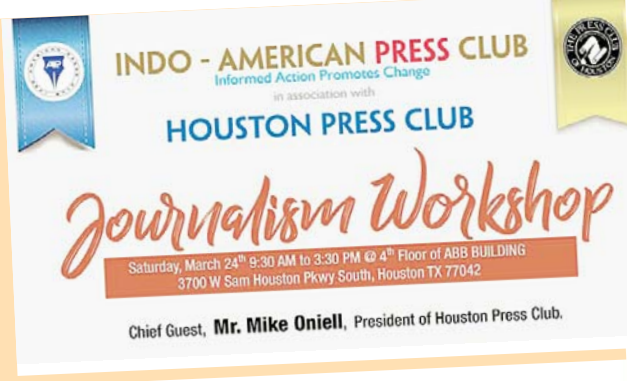
2017



At Valedictory Meeting for Philly Conference 2017, (from left) IAPC Chairman Dr. Babu Stephen, P. Sreeramakrishnan, Speaker of the Kerala Legislative Assembly, CPM Politburo member MA Baby and Founder Ginsmon P Zacharia.



IAPC officials, dignitaries and guests at the lamp lighting ceremony of the 4th media conference held in Philadelphia in October 2017.



IAPC's Houston Chapter organized a Journalism Workshop in March last year.



For year 2016, IAPC members selected Parveen Chopra, Editor of The South Asian Times, as its President. Under his presidency, the 3rd International Media Conference in Connecticut too was graced by dignitaries. The highlight was 'Presidential Debate', held weeks before the actual hard fought US election between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. Prof AD Amar defended Trump, and Peter Jacob, upcoming New Jersey politician, spoke in support of Hillary. The heated debate was moderated by Prof Indrajit Saluja, Editor-Publisher of The Indian Panorama. The Connecticut meet was inaugurated by Manoj K. Mohapatra, India's Deputy Consul General in New York, who said that Indian journalists in America can do a lot to project the community's long strides. Parveen Chopra in his presidential address, argued that despite the prevalence of social media, the role of print media has not diminished. Guests from India and US included J. Alexander IAS, former minister of Karnataka, Thomas Abraham (GOPIO Chairman), Mukesh Modi (businessman), and Dominic Chackonal (Atlanta Chapter President).

Special guests from Kerala included G Sakthidharan (Ex. Chairman Press Academy), Sekharan Nair (Bureau Chief, Mathrubhoomy), M.V. Nikeskumar (MD Reporter TV), J.S. Indukumar (Executive Editor, Jai-Hind TV), P.T. Chacko (ex P.A. to Chief Minister), and Meera Nair (Poet). They participated in engaging seminars. Mathewkutty Easow, Conference Co-Chairman, organized a Business Meet with leading businessmen.

Closing Ceremony and Gala Dinner was headlined by Dr Prasad Srinivasan, Connecticut State Representative who has announced his bid for Governor of the State.

In year 2016 IAPC Dallas Chapter was inaugurated by Executive Vice President Dr. Mathew Joys, and the Houston Chapter started with Easo Jacob as President.

Houston Chapter also hosted an ambitious US Presidential Election Debate on September 11 as envisioned by IAPC Vice President Cyriac Scaria in San Antonio. The Toronto Chapter was reorganized under Ashley Joseph. The 4th International Media Conference was held in October 2017 in Philadelphia with Babu Stephen, a businessman

Continued on page 12

2016



A highlight of the 3rd International Media Conference in Connecticut in October 2016 was the 'Presidential Debate'. Representing the GOP was Dr AD Amar, and Peter Jacob spoke for the Democrats. The debate was moderated by Prof Indrajit Singh Saluja and envisioned by then President Parveen Chopra.



The Connecticut conference in 2016 was opened by Manoj Mohapatra, Deputy Consul General in the Indian Consulate in New York.



In 2016, IAPC Chairman Ginsmon Zacharia (right) shaking hands with Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan (left).

INDO AMERICAN PRESS CLUB

Annual international media conferences

Continued from page 11

with interests in media in Washington DC, taking over as Chairman from Ginsmon Zacharia.

"Media is the strongest weapon of the present age," said Mr. P. Sreeramakrishnan, Speaker of the Kerala Legislative Assembly, in his inaugural address at the conference in Radisson Hotel and Convention Center in Philadelphia on 7th October. He added that USA holds the largest number of NRIs associating with exemplary journalism and other professions in the media industry.

Dr. Babu Stephen, in his presidential address stressed that America is a country that provides everything to those who can work hard, and as dedicated media professionals, IAPC members must try to uphold the right values.

During the seminars, topics such as current trends in media, the safety of journalists in India, Pravasi issues and concerns were discussed. Panelists included prominent media personalities like C.L.Thomas (Media One), Mangad Ratnakaran (Asianet News), Pramod Raman (Manorama TV News), J.S. Indukumar (Jai Hind TV),

Dr. Francis Cleetus (Rashtradeepika), Sunil Kuzhampala (Deepika), P.T. Chacko (KPCC Media Coordinator) Pradeep Pillai (The New Indian Express) and Saji Dominic (Media Advisor).

At the closing ceremony, Speaker P. Sreeramakrishnan, CPM Politburo member MA Baby, Pennsylvania State Representative Scott Petri along with several community leaders were present.

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2015



At the 2015 media conference in Long Island, the Sadhbhavana Award was presented to philanthropist and jewelry chain owner Bobby Chemmannoor.



IAPC-New York Chapter participated in the India Day Parade in Hicksville in August 2015.

2014



IAPC was launched and held its first annual media conference in New Jersey in 2014 with Ajay Ghosh (left) as President.



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Congratulations, Renee Mehraa



The Indo American Press Club, and its members, serve as an indispensable voice for the Indian-American community in New York and in cities across the United States. As the Assemblyman who represents one of the largest Indian American populations in New York, I would like to congratulate newly installed IAPC President Renee Mehraa, and the IAPC Executive Committee on their induction.

Assemblyman David Weprin

New York State



Renee Mehraa is an extraordinary talent and personality that you rarely come by in society. She is warm, caring, energetic, and deeply civic minded. Her commitment to community and culture is complemented by her earnest determination and enthusiastic presence which, I can only say, is inspiring and contagious! She has been a part of the Viswanath, Vision of Asia, and also the ITV Family for the better part of over 2 decades and I can honestly and without question say that she is a remarkable journalist. Her ability to be neutral and get the real questions answered is unparalleled in the South Asian American community. A True Journalist and Dear Friend. On behalf of our Chair-

woman, Sathya Viswanath and the entire Viswanath and Vision of Asia & ITV Media Family, we wish her sincere congratulations. She will do the IAPC proud as its leader!

Dev Banad Viswanath, Esq

Immigration and nationality lawyer



Congratulations to Renee Mehraa, the new President of the Indian American Press Club. Thanks for opening the doors to a rich and majestic culture.

Lewis Dodley

Anchor, NY1 News





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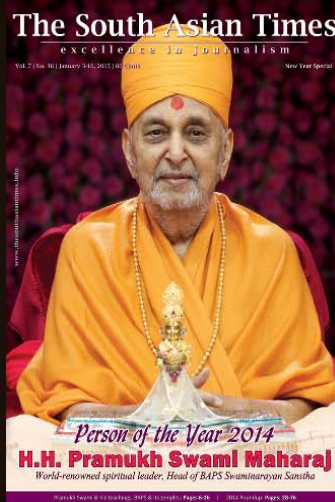
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