



Indian Diaspora Council

Indian Diaspora Council International

Shared heritage, aspirations and interests

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PRESS STATEMENT

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IDC Urges Help for Victims of Recent Natural Disasters

Recent natural disasters in South Asia, the Caribbean region and USA in the form of unprecedented intensities of sequential hurricanes, floods, earthquakes have caused untold widespread devastation, disruption, pain and anguish, and loss of life with long recovery period and life changing consequences. From floods in Assam and Bangladesh, to earthquakes to Mexico, to sequential record breaking hurricanes and floods affecting islands of the Caribbean, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Texas and Florida – there has been massive devastation and continuing efforts at recovery from these historic natural disasters. The sudden devastating impact on people's lives, property and way of life have been witnessed by the world as the news media provided up to date coverage of these natural disasters.

The Indian Diaspora Council International (IDC) and its global affiliates join with other organizations, agencies, groups, individuals and institutions worldwide in expressing sadness at the huge toll on humanity, loss of life, tremendous loss of property and impact on livelihoods of millions affected by these natural disasters. IDC's global membership shares the pain and anguish of those affected and extend our best wishes, with prayers and good wishes for quick recovery from these disasters.

Despite advance warnings due to technological advances in storm forecasting, the damage due to floods and sequential hurricanes were historic levels. Despite much preparedness, the severity of the storms caused devastation and damage beyond expectations. By most predictions and analyses, it will take years for most of the affected areas to fully recover and with enormous assistance to do so.

IDC commends first responders, medical and evacuation services everywhere, including the many volunteers, for their prompt, diligent and daring efforts to provide emergency services to affected individuals and their families. We fully support all measures taken to bring quick relief to those affected and to instill confidence to those in need. We are very confident that the resilience and courage of people affected, supported by those who can, will help them endure these natural disasters and rebuild their lives and livelihoods.

IDC urges compassion and support on an urgent basis by governments, relief agencies, organizations and individuals to relieve the widespread suffering, urgent need for water, food, electricity, communications, as well as impending health problems due to flooding devastation on such a historic scale. The needs are enormous and we urge urgent donations through reputable and recognized relief organizations.

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Indian Diaspora Council International (IDC), established in 1997, is an international non-profit organization with global affiliates and membership in 21 countries with the objective to embrace, engage, and enhance the shared heritage, aspirations, and interests of persons of Indian origin with optimum inclusivity.