

COMMUNITY

A Call to Action for the Indian Diaspora: It's Time to Give Back to India

By **MANU SHAH, Founder of MSI International**

India, the world's most populous country, stands at a crucial juncture. With a population of 1.4 billion, it boasts an impressive legacy of culture, diversity, and potential. However, it also faces monumental challenges that require urgent attention. The nation grapples with poverty, limited healthcare, inadequate education, poor infrastructure, and alarming rates of unemployment. Millions live in slums, and the stark income disparity only widens the gap between those who have and those who do not.

For many of us living abroad—particularly the 5 million Indians in the U.S. and the 25 million scattered around the globe—our journeys started in India. We received our education in Indian schools, often subsidized or free, and then pursued opportunities abroad that helped us achieve success and financial stability. Many in the Indian diaspora enjoy a per capita income that rivals or exceeds global standards, while back home, India's per capita income remains at just \$3,000 annually. In the U.S., that number is a staggering \$75,000.

As members of the Indian diaspora, we are in a unique position of privilege. We have been fortunate to experience the best of both worlds—India's cultural wealth and the economic prosperity of our adopted countries. But now, more than ever, it is time to give back to the country that gave us so much.

India's Challenges Are Vast—But We Can Help

India's education system, particularly in rural areas, struggles to provide quality schooling to millions of children. Vocational training is equally underfunded, leaving large segments of the population unemployable. The healthcare system, overburdened and under-resourced, cannot meet the needs of millions who still lack access to basic medical care. Climate change, corruption, and political instability only compound these issues.

We, the Indian diaspora, can play a pivotal role in addressing these challenges. The 25 million of us living outside India enjoy a collective wealth that mirrors the GDP of entire nations. By supporting charitable initiatives, we can make an indelible impact on education, healthcare, and social welfare in India.

A Call to Give—And Give Generously

Now is the time to step up. The Indian diaspora must harness its resources, not just for individual success, but for the greater good of our motherland. Whether it is funding educational scholarships, vocational training programs, or healthcare facilities, every contribution can bring about real, tangible change.

Here are some ways we can give back:

Donate to Indian NGOs: Many organizations on the ground are working tirelessly to improve education, healthcare, and basic infrastructure in India. Supporting them financially allows them to expand their reach and impact.

Support U.S.-Based Charities Focused on India: Numerous charitable organizations in the U.S. focus on India's development. Contributing to these organizations ensures that your donations go directly to causes that improve lives in India.

Set Up Scholarships and Vocational Programs: By sponsoring scholarships or vocational training programs, we can empower young Indians with the education and skills they need to thrive.

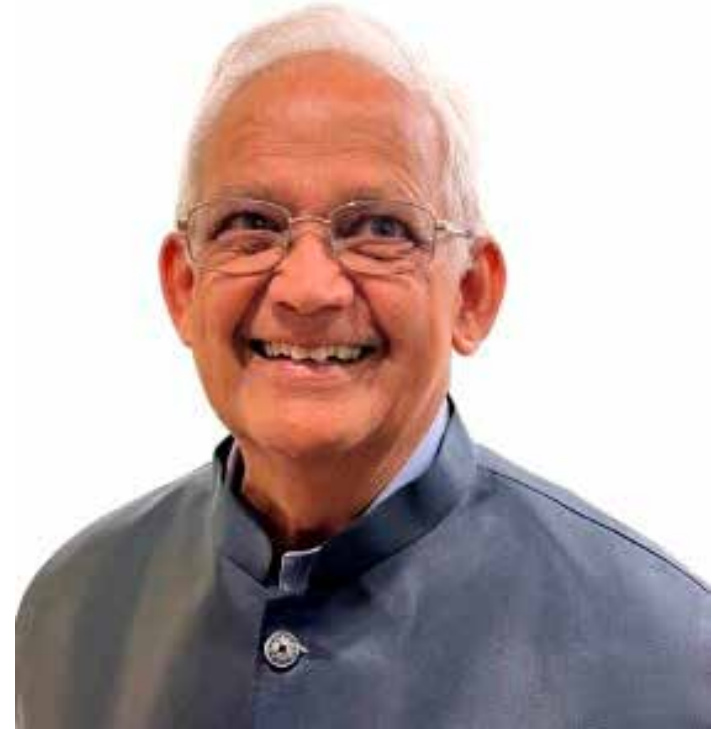
Give to Healthcare Initiatives: Supporting healthcare infrastructure is critical in a country where millions still lack access to basic medical care. Your donations can help build hospitals, train medical staff, and provide essential healthcare services.

Invest in Sustainable Infrastructure: India's future depends on its ability to build sustainable infrastructure—from clean water and sanitation facilities to renewable energy sources. Our financial support can help fund these long-term, life-changing projects.

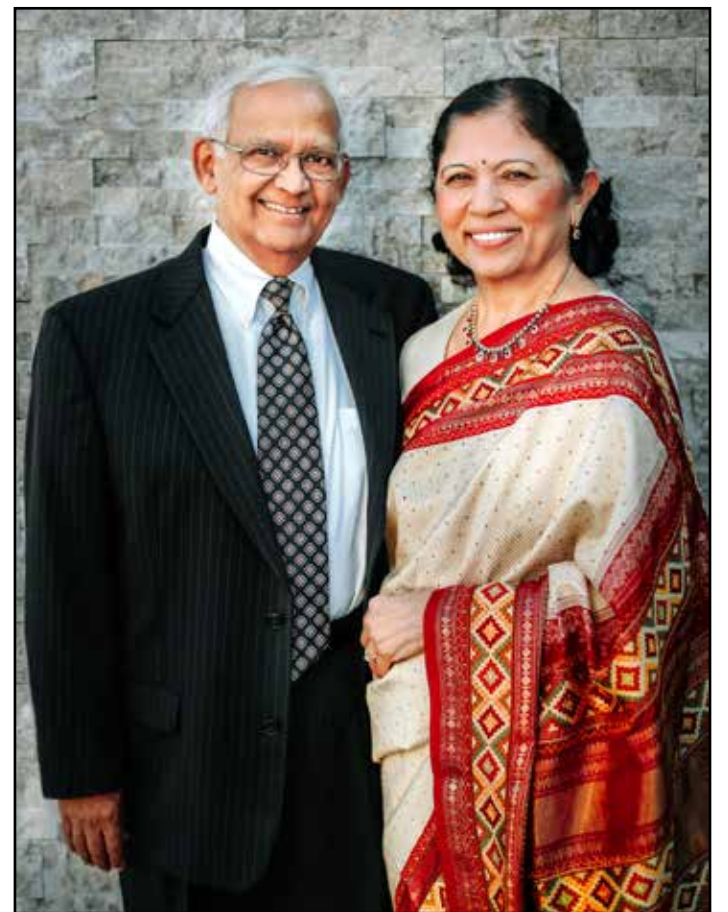
A Moral Obligation

We must recognize that we are where we are today because of the opportunities we were given in India. Now, it is time to give back. Let us not turn a blind eye to the struggles of those we left behind. Let us, instead, be agents of change, helping to lift millions out of poverty, providing them with the education and healthcare they so desperately need, and building a brighter, more equitable future for India.

The time to act is now. Let's give, and give generously. Because when we give back to India, we give back to ourselves.



Manu Shah.



Manu Shah and Rika Shah.



Manu Shah and Rika Shah receiving Champions Award.



Manu Shah and Rika Shah with family.



Manu Shah bagged "2022 Corporate Citizen of the Year Award" from the Orange County Chamber of Commerce.



Manu Shah and Rika Shah receiving Award from Shri Rakeshji Jhaveri of Dharampur.



Manu Shah and Rika Shah receiving Champions Award.



Manu Shah with his wife Rika Shah at the "2022 Corporate Citizen of the Year Award" from the Orange County Chamber of Commerce.



“ No one has ever become poor by giving.”

– Anne Frank

“ Every good act is charity. A man’s true wealth hereafter is the good that he does in this world to his fellows.”

– Moliere

“ Charity begins at home, but should not end there.”

– Scottish Proverb

“ No It’s not how much we give but how much love we put into giving.”

– Mother Teresa

“ Help others without any reason and give without the expectation of receiving anything in return.”

– Roy T. Bennett

“ When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed.”

– Maya Angelou.

“ We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

– Winston Churchill

“ Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth.”

– Muhammad Ali

“ We can’t help everyone, but everyone can help someone.”

– Dr. Loretta Scott

“ Charity brings to life again those who are spiritually dead.”

– St. Thomas Aquinas

“ The simplest acts of kindness are by far more powerful than a thousand heads bowing in prayer.”

– Mahatma Gandhi

“ Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us every day.”

– Sally Koch

“ The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”

– Mahatma Gandhi

“ You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you.”

– John Bunyan

“ The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves.”

– Norman Vincent Peale