

January 15, 2008

Mr. Asok Kumar, I.A.S.  
Project Director  
Andhra Pradesh State AIDS Control Society (APSACS)  
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh  
INDIA

Dear Mr. Kumar:

**I am writing to invite you to participate in a conference titled, “India 60: The HIV/AIDS Epidemic – Building Bridges to Health and Development” on February 6, 2008, from 9 A.M. till 4 P.M. Attached please find a copy of the draft agenda.**

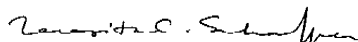
CSIS’s Task Force on HIV/AIDS has been working with health policy makers and geostrategic thinkers to help the U.S. government craft an effective and sustainable response to the epidemic. It is co-chaired by Senators Russell Feingold and John Sununu, and includes prominent medical, business and scientific participants. This conference is an outgrowth of our work over the past four years on U.S. policy toward HIV/AIDS in India. We believe it is important to give the Washington audience an up-to-date assessment of India’s efforts to fight the epidemic, and a sense of how India’s work fits into the larger context of building public health and encouraging economic development.

We have had several speakers from other high prevalence states such as Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra, but we have not yet had a speaker from the Andhra Pradesh SACS. **Having followed the impressive progress of your program and the innovative interventions that you have personally implemented, I believe that you have an important story to tell. As you will see from the attached agenda, we plan to devote an entire panel to Andhra Pradesh.** We will take care of your travel arrangements, including travel expenses and hotel arrangements for the duration of your stay in Washington DC.

I hope you will be able to participate in the conference. We are usually able to command an excellent audience, including people from the Congress, the U.S. government, and the major organizations concerned with HIV/AIDS.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 202 773-2171, or at [tschaffer@csis.org](mailto:tschaffer@csis.org).

Sincerely,



Ambassador Teresita C. Schaffer  
Director, [South Asia Program](#)  
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