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INDIA WEST

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THIS WEEK

US Rejects Bhopal Survivors' Appeal

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit rejected a petition by Hasina Bi and 14 other Bhopal survivors seeking the Union Carbide Corporation's new owners, Dow Chemical, to pay compensation to victims of the gas leak.



A26

Entrepreneur to Build Space Program

Dr. Chirinjeev Kathuria is back with a major space mission. This time, he plans to build a private manned program in Canada.

If the Chicago entrepreneur's venture goes through, his Canadian joint venture company, PlanetSpace, will be launching orbital flights similar to those at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla.

A30

Winner's Chutzpah Lights Up Pageant

Male contestant Bhavik Vasa absolutely refused to be cowed by any hurdle or glitch and won the hearts of the audience and the judges by his indomitable spirit and determination at the 15th annual Mr./Miss/Teen/Mrs. India America (with Mr./Miss/Teen/Mrs. India California) beauty pageant.



B1

Jay Chandrasekhar's New Comedy 'Beerfest'

Beerfest is the latest in the career of filmmaker Jay Chandrasekhar that has made a specialty of summer comedies.

C1

India-Born Fastest Growing In U.S. Foreign Population

By **RICHARD SPRINGER**
India-West Staff Reporter

The India-born population living in households in the United States increased a whopping 39.8 percent from 2000 to 2005, jumping from 1,017,320 to

Indian-born population goes up a whopping 40% from 2000 to 2005

1,422,492 people, according to a new U.S. Census Bureau report. The percentage increase for the India-born was the highest

rate among the top-20 foreign-born populations in the U.S., just ahead of Peru (36.2 percent) and Honduras (35.2 percent).

The Mexico-born led the nation with the most foreign-born, rising from 9,092,288 in 2000 to 10,969,941 in 2005.

This rate of increase for the foreign-born population overall was 16 percent, as the foreign-

[Cont. on page A34]



Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has come under sustained pressure on the nuclear deal with the U.S. (AFP file photo)

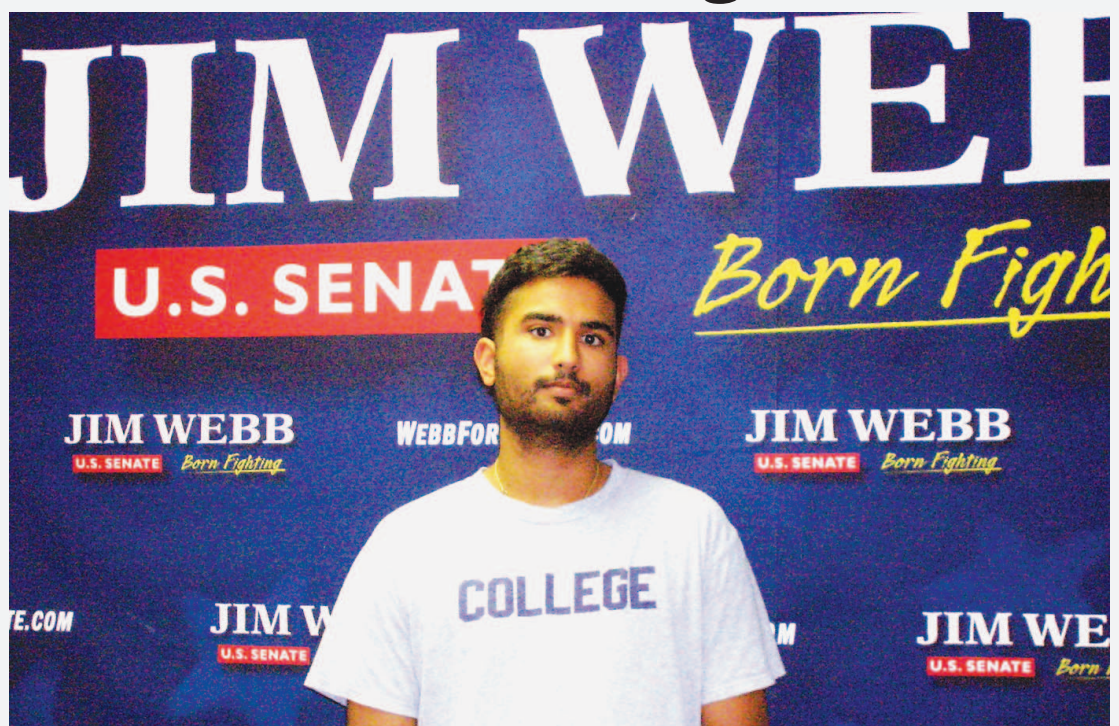
India's Nuke Interests Safe: PM

By **NIRMALA GEORGE**
Associated Press

NEW DELHI — India won't agree to any changes to a nuclear cooperation deal reached with the United States last year, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has told Parliament amid concerns that amendments sought by U.S. lawmakers could

[Cont. on page A14]

'Slur' Continues to Haunt U.S. Sen. George Allen



University of Virginia student S.R. Sidarth, a volunteer for the campaign of Jim Webb, the Democratic candidate who is running against incumbent U.S. Sen. George Allen. Allen called Sidarth a "macaca," which has spiraled into a national controversy. Allen has since apologized.

By **ASHFAQUE SWAPAN**
Special to India-West

An obscure comment by a heavyweight U.S. senator, with aspirations to run for the White House, against an Indian American youth volunteer has snowballed into a major political controversy as Indian community leaders have expressed disappointment with polls showing the

race tightening.

Sen. George Allen, R-Va., referred to University of Virginia student R.S. Sidarth as a "macaca," a derivation of the French word macaque, or monkey, at a campaign meeting Aug. 12. Sidarth was at the rally to videotape his speech for the campaign of Allen's Democratic opponent Jim Webb.

[Cont. on page A33]

Kerry Honors Gandhi's Memory at Fest

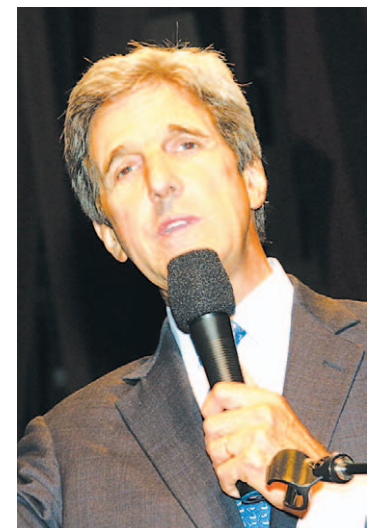


Event organizer Kevin Kaul (right) and sponsor Hamilton Brewart (left) receive a Certificate of Congratulations from Los Angeles city councilwoman Jan Perry. (Michel Potts photos)

By **MICHEL W. POTTS**
Special to India-West

LOS ANGELES — Massachusetts Senator and 2002 presidential candidate John Kerry was called upon to present more than a dozen awards during the Centenary of Satyagraha and 59th Anniversary of India's Independence & Awards Nite, held Aug. 19 at the Walt Disney Concert Hall here and organized by Friends of the South Asian American Communities.

Speaking prior to the concert that evening, Kerry declared that "these are dangerous times that are being made far more dangerous by people who seem to ignore



Sen. John Kerry addressing the gathering.

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Kerry Honors Gandhi's Memory at Satyagraha, I-Day Fete

[Cont. from page A1]
 history, avoid the realities of culture, of differences between peoples who are legitimate and thousands of years old." As a student years ago, he could not understand why America had such animosity toward India because of its relationship with the former Soviet Union. These days, the relationship between India and the United States has changed, "and it is important that it has changed," he noted, "and I am proud that I was one of those who was the earliest to see the potential of that relationship."

Kevin Kaul, the event's organizer, and Hamilton Brewart, the event's sponsor, received a Certificate of Congratulations from the city of Los Angeles presented to him by city councilwoman Jan Perry.

Conceived by Mahatma Gandhi, "Satyagraha has been used by leaders throughout the world to resist oppression and fight injustice," she said in making the presentation." The anniversary observance "is important because we must recognize that there are always viable alternatives to violence," she concluded. "Within our community, we need to continue to send the message of nonviolence now more than ever before."

The awards presented included the Mahatma Gandhi Award for Outstanding Contribution to Society, sponsored by S. Chandramohan, which went to the late Cesar Estrada Chavez; and the Rabindranath Tagore Award for Outstanding Teenager of the Year, given to Arnav Tripathy.

The Conjee Rustumjee Cohoujee Bey Award for Out-



Sen. John Kerry (right) presents the Raj Kapoor Award for Outstanding Achievement in Films to Sultan Allaudin. (Michel Potts photos)

standing Youth of the Year went to Malli Mastan Babu and Natasha Gill, while the Dhirubhai Ambani Award for Outstanding Entrepreneur of the year, sponsored by Shivbir Grewal, was presented to Santokh Singh.

The Mother Teresa Award for Humanitarian of the Year, sponsored by Hamilton Brewart, went to Gladwin Gill and Arthur M. Kassel, while the Kalpana Chawla Award for Outstanding Woman of the Year, sponsored by Gurbax Bhasin, was presented to Miss Sri Lanka Universe Jacqueline Fernandez.

The Sir C.V. Raman Award for Outstanding Contribution to Science went to Dr. Mani Bhaumik, while the Dilip Singh Saund Award for Outstanding Political Contribution to Indo-American Society, sponsored by Ravi Grewal, was presented to Los Angeles County supervisor Don Knabe.

The Raj Kapoor Award for Outstanding Achievement in Film, sponsored by Natasha Gill, went to Sultan Allaudin, while the Dr. Zakir Hussain Award for Outstanding Contribution to

Art, sponsored by Dr. Arjun Daluvoy, was presented to Sheeraz Hasan.

The Rajiv Gandhi Award, sponsored by Dr. Prem Sagar Reddy, went to Dr. Renuka Boyapalli of the Drishti Foundation, while the Sardar Vallabhai Patel Award for Outstanding Leadership, sponsored by Prakash Sheth, was presented to B.U. Patel.

The Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose for Outstanding Patriotism went to Vijay Amritraj while plaques for Special Recognition were presented to Ric Wake and Q'orianka Kilcher.

Speaking prior to the concert, Indian Consul General B.S. Prakash told the audience that the evening's celebrations of India's Independence not only celebrated the ideals of Satyagraha "but more appropriately for the exciting times of the America-India connection."

We are living in a time "when there is a great deal of energy, excitement and content in our relationship," he pointed out. "That someone like Senator John Kerry should be with us to celebrate this occasion is a manifestation and an example of that."

Kerry said he had traveled to India soon after that nation's economic reforms were instituted and had taken one of the first business delegations to India. Earlier this year, during his meeting with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, he was impressed by the "energy and enthusiasm of people for this growing relationship with the United States that transcends the Bush



John Kerry (left) presents the Mahatma Gandhi Award for Outstanding Contribution to Society to Arturo Rodriguez (center) and Richard Altered, who accept on behalf of the late Cesar Chavez.



Sen. John Kerry (center) presents the Dr. Zakir Hussain Award for Outstanding Contribution to Art to Sheeraz Hasan (right) as sponsor Dr. Arjun Daluvoy looks on.

administration and transcends the politics of Republican and Democrat."

India, consequently, "has a huge neutral interest for all of us that we need to latch onto and pursue, and there's every reason in the world that we should be building this partnership," the senator maintained.

Kerry then publicly castigated Virginia Senator George Allen who was recently caught on tape singling out and ridiculing a young Indian American volunteer during a political campaign rally. (See separate story.)

"So let me say to Sen. Allen, 'Welcome to the 21st century and an America where we don't have that kind of intolerance in this

country and welcome to a politics that recognizes that immigration is a critical component of who we are as a nation'."

After stating that he is confident the Senate will pass the pending nuclear pact between India and the United States, Kerry tackled the issue of global terrorism, arguing that the United States needs to engage with the rest of the world in a way that strengthens and unifies all nations.

"If Mahatma Gandhi were here today, he would be leading a peaceful march all across the world to isolate the extremists and get the job done," Kerry proclaimed.

(More photos on page A39)

C Y M K



Sen. Kerry (right) presents the Rabindranath Tagore Award for Outstanding Teenager of the Year to Arnav Tripathy.



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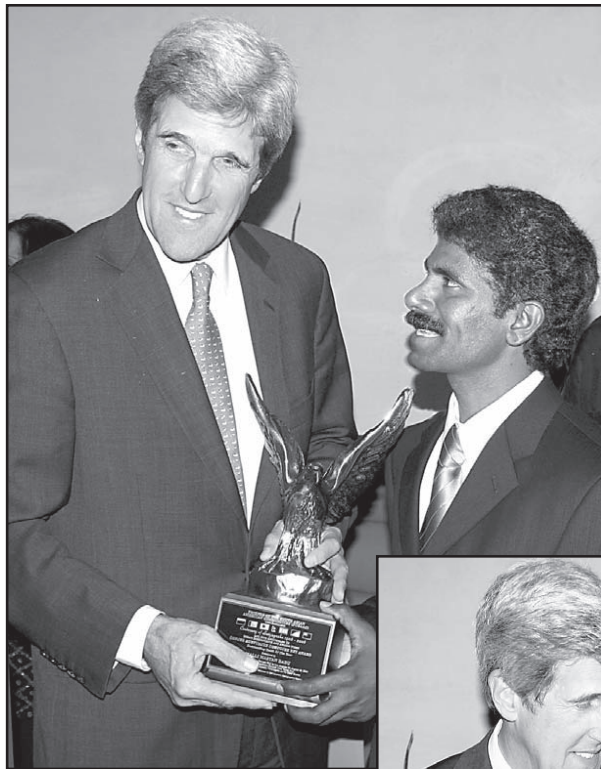


IMAGES

Above: Senator John Kerry and all those who received an award during the India Independence Day celebrations.

from the Centenary of Satyagraha and 59th Anniversary of India's Independence & Awards Nite, held Aug. 19 at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles, organized by Friends of the South Asian American Communities.

All photos by Michel W. Potts



Sen. John Kerry (left) presents the Conjee Rustumjee Cohoujee Bey Award for Outstanding Youth of the Year to Malli Mastan Babu.



John Kerry (right) presents the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Award for Outstanding Patriotism to Vijay Amritraj.



Above: Senator John Kerry (left) presents the Dhirubhai Ambani Award for Outstanding Entrepreneur of the Year to Santokh Singh.



Left: Senator John Kerry (right) presents the Sir C.V. Raman Award for Outstanding Contribution to Science to Dr. Mani Bhaumik.



Sen. Kerry (right) presents the Kalpana Chawla Award for Outstanding Woman of the Year to Jacqueline Fernandez.



Sen. John Kerry (right) presents the Mother Teresa Award for Humanitarian of the Year to Gladwin Gill.



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