



PERMANENT OBSERVER MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC)

Intergovernmental Institution for the Use of Micro-algae Spirulina against Malnutrition

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Mr. Tushar Gandhi of India becomes CISRI-ISP's Goodwill Ambassador to counter Malnutrition and achievement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDG's)



[UN Headquarters, New York 25th October, 2006] CISRI-ISP Permanent Observer Mission to the United Nations/ECOSOC of the *Intergovernmental Institution for the Use of Micro-algae Spirulina against Malnutrition* announced India's **Mr. Tushar Gandhi** as its Goodwill Ambassador to counter malnutrition and achievement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals on **25th September, 2006**.

Great-grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, Tushar has been actively involved in social, political, and humanitarian peace initiatives and endeavors, both in India and across the globe. He comes to CISRI-ISP to be a part of the Observer Mission's efforts to advance the fight against severe malnutrition at a global level as well as supporting the universal advancement and achievement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

As a Goodwill Ambassador of CISRI-ISP, Mr. Tushar Gandhi's efforts will be geared towards raising awareness, building partnerships with various stakeholders, and implementing **The Right to Food (UN Resolution 60/165)** both in India and across the globe with particular focus on highlighting severe malnutrition that manifests both as emaciation and obesity. It is perhaps the most pervasive form of Human Rights violation that affects as many as 852 Million people worldwide and causes around 40,000 deaths daily across the globe.

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H.E. Mr. Remigio Maradona, Head-Ambassador of CISRI-ISP Permanent Observer Mission while expressing his delight on Mr. Gandhi's inclusion in the CISRI-ISP said, *"It is a great pleasure to have Mr. Tushar Gandhi in an ever increasing CISRI-ISP family that aims to counter severe malnutrition through the use of Spirulina. We are confident that Tushar's association and inclusion in CISRI-ISP would help the organization achieve food security and quality nutrition for all, across the world. I have a firm belief in the Gandhian ideals of truth and justice myself, and I am sure that these principles would guide us in the universal achievement of the United Nations' MDGs. Through Mahatma Gandhi Foundation and the UNPPA Initiative, CISRI-ISP would strive to contribute towards the enrichment of the human capital and achieving sustainable development of the rural areas especially in the developing countries"*

Goodwill Ambassador Mr. Tushar Gandhi: an introduction:

Mr. Tushar Gandhi (b.17th January 1960) is the great-grandson of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, the Mahatma. Tushar is a socio-political activist of peace issues, who also heads the Mahatma Gandhi Foundation.

In 2000, he was instrumental to initiate the "Mahatma of the World Wide Web project" with the help of the Non Resident Indians of the TIE group of USA, an association of Silicon Valley Billionaries of Indian origins. Tushar was also appointed to a sub committee of the *Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti* by the Prime Minister of India.

In 2001, Tushar was invited by an NGO "Peace Initiatives", to join a group of journalists and social activists to visit the strife torn Kashmir, to interact with the leaders of the separatist "Hurriyat Conference", the police and the Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir with the aim to explore the possibility of achieving peace through development and economic programmes.

A noted Gandhian himself, he has been involved with the US based NGO "Seeds for Peace" which works with children from various strife torn regions of the world, at their camp in Maine.

In 2002, Tushar was invited to London by EMMA, a minorities cultural organization, to receive the Immortal Legends award on behalf of his great-grandfather, Mahatma Gandhi. In the autumn of 2002, Tushar was invited by the Lord Mayor of London to participate and speak at a seminar organized under the auspices of the Black History Month celebrated by the GLA. Tushar also spoke at the Inner Temple Society on "Human Rights post September 11: The Role of the Judiciary". Along with Ms. Yolanda King, daughter of Dr. Martin Luther King jr.; Ms. Zindzi Mandela, daughter of Nelson Mandela; Ms. Attallah Shahbazz, daughter of Malcom X; and Mr. Gamal Nkurmah, son of Kwame Nkurmah, Tushar was the main speaker at the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Lecture at the Nehru Centre in London.

A member of the Indian National Congress, Tushar has been active in protesting against religious fundamentalism and fanaticism of any kind. The Mahatma Gandhi Foundation has helped in establishing peace through mutually dependent relationships between religious communities by partnering with local groups.

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In 2005, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the famous Dandi March (Salt Satyagraha) undertaken by Mahatma Gandhi in 1930, in defiance of the Salt monopoly of the British rule, Tushar organized a walk for Peace, Justice and Freedom. The 241 miles (385.6 KM) long walk was completed along with over 600 marchers from India, Pakistan and all over the world.

In April 2005, the Mahatma Gandhi Foundation and Tushar were awarded the first Mahatma Mahaveer Award by the TIMES Foundation in recognition of his work in promoting the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi.

Tushar strives to create one of India's biggest electronic archive on the World Wide Web to help Bridge the digital divide that threatens to widen the economic and developmental gap between the "**Have Too Much**" and the "**Have Nothing**" segments of the Indian population; and to provide educational, healthcare and employment opportunities to the economically weaker and rural sections of India.

Besides doing a cameo as himself in the Bollywood flick 'He' Ram' based on the life of the Mahatma, Tushar has also written a chapter for a book on the importance of Country Level Domain Names on the internet. He has long been crusading popularize the India specific Country Code Top Level Domain .in on the World Wide Web.

Related links-

www.mahatma.org.in

www.mahatmagandhi.org.in

CISRI-ISP- a Synopsis

CISRI-ISP has been established through two Multi-Lateral International Agreements [comprising various Member States of the United Nations] that are recognized and registered with the UN Office of Legal Affairs/Treaty Section. UN Treaty Series [37542/43].

CISRI-ISP is accredited as an Observer with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), in keeping with resolution E/2003/212, dated 5th March 2003.

Its principal goal is to provide relief to emergency victims of calamities, through the use of food micro-algae Spirulina as an alternative low cost protein source to rehabilitate severely malnourished victims.

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