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Correspondent: **DR. ASHOK RAU**

Subject/Description: **THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE FREEDOM
FOUNDATION BRIEFING. PHOTOS ALSO ENCLOSED LB
1. DR. ASHOF RAU P030306SC-0281 P030306SC-0282
P030306SC-0224**

THE WHITE HOUSE

March 22, 2006

Dr. Ashok Rau
Executive Director
Freedom Foundation
India

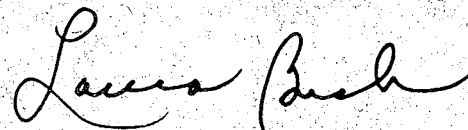
Dear Dr. Ashok,

Thank you for participating in the Freedom Foundation briefing. I appreciate your interesting overview of these programs to combat HIV/AIDS in India.

Thank you especially for your dedication and hard work with the Foundation and USAID. I am happy to have seen first hand the fruits of your labor. Hope was evident in the faces of the Foundation children during their activity, as well as in the personal accounts of the young women at the roundtable.

President Bush joins me in sending appreciation and best wishes.

Sincerely,



Encl: Photos Photo

APR 13 2006

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Dr. Ashok Rau
Executive Director
Freedom Foundation
c/o Beth Hogan
USAID
U.S. Embassy
9000 New Delhi Place
Washington, D.C. 20521-0001

B/22 Joan

**EVENT CLOSURE
HIV/AIDS EVENT
Agricultural University Briefing
Freedom Foundation Event
Friday, March 3, 2006
10:35 am – 11:35 am
Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University
Hyderabad, India
Lindsey Lineweaver**

FL CORR

MAR 23 2006



Professor M.R. Naidu, *Dean of Student Affairs, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University.* Professor Naidu greeted Mrs. Bush on arrival and was with her throughout the visit. On arrival, Mrs. Bush viewed NSS students perform a skit, sing, and play instruments. NSS (National Service Scheme) is the outreach for HIV for the University. The theme of the entire performance was about coping with life with HIV and not being afraid to have dreams and continue to have fulfilled lives. All of these students are infected with HIV, yet they were so enthusiastic and had a vivacious spirit. At the end of the performance, the students gave Mrs. Bush a tambourine (which was a key instrument in their songs). Please thank Professor Naidu for hosting the events at the University and for the wonderful performance by the NSS students.

“Dear Professor Naidu,”
c/o Beth Hogan, USAID
US Embassy
9000 New Delhi Place
Washington, DC 20521-9000

***Dr. Ashok Rau Executive Director, Freedom Foundation AND
Ms. Kathleen Kay, Executive Director, Family Health International, India Office***
After the NSS performance, Mrs. Bush participated in a short briefing with *Freedom Foundation* Executive Director, Dr. Ashok Rau and the Executive Director of the India Office of Family Health International (FIH), Kathleen Kay. Dr. Rau and Ms. Kay gave Mrs. Bush a brief overview of how Freedom Foundation and FIH (FIH and Freedom Foundation are partners and are both USAID funded) are working together to provide prevention, care, and support in India, which has the 2nd largest number of HIV infected people worldwide. Please thank both of them for their hard work and dedication with USAID and their foundations to shed light and to help combat this universal epidemic. It might be good to mention that Mrs. Bush saw firsthand the progress and the hope of FF and FIH when she watched the Freedom Foundation children participate in their activity (where 9-12 year olds drew pictures of their personal support networks) and the roundtable where women shared their personal stories and their hope that has been restored by FF and FIH.

“Dear Dr. Ashok,”
Executive Director, Freedom Foundation
c/o Beth Hogan, USAID
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9000 New Delhi Place
Washington, DC 20521-9000