

Mr. Akhtarali Hasanali Tobaccowala

Chairman, Impact India Foundation

From: 1984 To: 2010

Impact India Foundation's mission to reduce disability through cure and prevention became a reality when Mr. A. H. Tobaccowala, together with Mr. Y H Malegam, Mrs. Zelma Lazarus and Mr. Venilal Parikh, founded Impact India Foundation (IIF) on October 2, 1983.

Mr. Tobaccowala, the Chairman of Voltas Ltd became the first Chairman of IIF. He was a visionary, knowledgeable and outspoken. After the conduct of many immunisation and other programmes he launched the two major verticals of IIF that endure till today:

- the Lifeline Express (LLE) Hospital Train in 1991 dedicated to the cure and prevention of avoidable disablement in rural India and
- the Community Health Initiative (CHI) in 2005, preventive health interventions to reduce disability in certain Tribal areas of Maharashtra.

Speaking at the inauguration of the new five-coach Lifeline Express donated by the Government of India on 12th July 2007 Mr. Tobaccowala stated, "I am most anxious that many people and all State Governments should know about the CHI so that it can be replicated elsewhere. As the LLE has shown, extraordinary results can be obtained by a small group with determination, effort, organization, management and time-bound objectives combined with compassion."

Mr. Tobaccowala's dynamism continues to inspire IIF to marshal the resources required to implement the dream of a disability-free India come alive.