

Indian origin Prasun Chatterjee wins top US research honor

Washington (HT Media): Indian-American Prasun Chatterjee, whose research has contributed to a new way of detecting toxic lead and copper in water, has been chosen to receive one of the highest research honors bestowed on graduate students in the field of environmental chemistry.

Chatterjee will receive the 2010 C. Ellen Gontor Environmental Chemistry Award from the American Chemical Society's (ACS) Environmental Chemistry Division when ACS holds its fall national meeting in Boston this August, the University of Lehigh said in a statement.

Chartered by the US Congress, ACS has more than 160,000 members and is the world's largest scientific society and the premier international organization



Chatterjee will receive the 2010 C. Ellen Gontor Environmental Chemistry Award

for chemists, chemical engineers and related professions.

The Gontor award is given to a graduate student for an outstanding research paper.

A Ph.D. candidate in environmental engineering in the

department of civil and environmental engineering, Chatterjee will deliver the invited Gontor lecture, 'Rapid Detection of Toxic Metals in Water through pH Changes Using a Novel Hybrid Material.'

81 months sentence to Suresh Chand for health insurance scam

Washington (HT Media): An Indian American has been sentenced to 81 months in prison and asked to pay USD 9.7 million in restitution along with his accomplices for his role in the USD 18 million health insurance scam.

Suresh Chand, 46, had pleaded guilty on September 2, 2009, to one count of conspiracy to commit healthcare fraud and one count of conspiracy to launder money in Medicare Fraud Scheme. The Department of Justice and Health and Human Services said between January 2003 and March 2007, Chand and his co-conspirators submitted claims to the Medicare programme totaling more than USD 18 million for physical and occupational therapy services that were never provided. Medicare actually paid approximately USD 8.5 million on those claims, a statement said. According to court documents, Chand owned and controlled a company operating in Warren called Continental Rehab Services Inc (CRS), which purported to provide physical and occupational therapy services to Medicare beneficiaries.

He later started another corporation at the

same address in Warren called Pacific Management Services Inc (PM), which also purported to provide physical and occupational therapy services to Medicare beneficiaries.

Chand admitted that, beginning around January 2003, he and his associates at CRS, and later PM, began to create fictitious therapy files, appearing to document physical and occupational therapy services provided to Medicare beneficiaries, when in fact no such services were provided.

The fictitious services reflected in the files were billed to Medicare through sham Medicare providers controlled by Chand and two of his co-conspirators.

In his plea, Chand admitted that in order to create the fictitious therapy files, he and his co-conspirators recruited and paid cash kickbacks and other inducements to Medicare beneficiaries, in exchange for the beneficiaries' Medicare numbers and signatures on documents falsely indicating that they had visited CRS or PM for the purpose of receiving physical or occupational therapy.

Zee Cinema sponsors 8th IFFLA

New York, NY (SATimes): Indian media giant Zee Cinema, renowned for its extensive library of Bollywood films and its expansive reach to South Asian homes around the world will sponsor the 8th Annual Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles.

"We are thrilled to align ourselves with the Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles," says Subroto Bhattacharya, Zee TV's Country Head for the Americas.

"With our long-standing commitment to bring viewers the best entertainment that Bollywood has to offer, the film festival enables us to strengthen and expand our relationship with not only our existing South Asian customer base, but also the growing number of young South Asians around the country." Since emerging onto the American

scene in 1999, the premier South Asian film channel offers a wide array of Bollywood films 24 hours a day under the tagline 'Movies, Masti and Magic,' from action-packed blockbusters and suspense thrillers to romantic comedies and old Bollywood classics.

Committed to celebrating, captivating and connecting the South Asian community to Indian culture and values, IFFLA will showcase 33 films from 5 countries, including 4 world premieres and 7 US premieres, from April 20-25, 2010 at ArcLight Hollywood. Among the list of high-profile attendees, Dilip Mehta and Lisa Ray will be in attendance at the festival's opening night. Zee Cinema is available on the Dish Network across the United States.

Raj Goyle raises \$300,000 plus in 2010 first quarter

Wichita, KS

(SATimes): State Rep. Raj Goyle announced that his campaign for the 4th Congressional District of Kansas raised \$300,454.86 in the first quarter of 2010. This continues the strong momentum that the campaign built in the previous two fiscal quarters and brings Goyle's total raised this cycle to nearly \$1 million, with \$816,693 cash on hand. "Once again I am honored and humbled by the outpouring of support I have received from the people of the 4th District and from around Kansas," said Goyle. "More than ever I am convinced that the hard working people of this district are committed to common sense leadership that will create bipartisan solutions to



State Rep Raj Goyle from 4th Congressional District of Kansas

the problems we face. Washington must work for Kansas, not the other way around."

Over half of Goyle's donations in the first quarter were for \$100 or less and came from a broad support base of more than 800 Democrats, Republicans and Independents which goes on to prove that the bipartisan leadership style adopted by Goyle in Topeka has

struck a chord with the people of the 4th district. Among the laws he passed with bipartisan support are bills cracking down on the picketing of Fred Phelps at the funerals of veterans and expanding access to unemployment benefits and job retraining for laid-off workers in Wichita.

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