



news

For Immediate Release

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TESOL to Honor Indian Education Leader

Alexandria, VA (March 2008) – Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc. (TESOL), announces it will be honoring Dr. K. Lakshminarayana, IAS, Commissioner of Collegiate Education for the Government of Andhra Pradesh, India, at the opening plenary of its 42nd Annual Convention and Exhibit in New York City, New York, USA. The presentation will be held before an audience of 1,500 English language educators from around the world on Wednesday, April 2, 2008, at 5:30 PM in the Grand Ballroom of the Hilton New York. Dr. Lakshminarayana will be presented the TESOL Global Advocacy Leadership Recognition for his role in advancing the quality of English language education in the state of Andhra Pradesh, India.

A public official with the government of Andhra Pradesh for over 25 years, Dr. Lakshminarayana served as the Joint Secretary/Additional Secretary to the Chief Minister from 1995-2004. Through his leadership to bring innovative changes in the academic and administrative areas, Dr. Lakshminarayana helped establish the Andhra Pradesh State English Lecturers Retraining Program. A collaborative project with the U.S. Regional English Language Office in New Delhi, the program's objective is to improve the communication proficiency in English of local undergraduate students through professional development of English language lecturers. The program has proved very successful, and has grown to include multiple postsecondary institutions throughout Andhra Pradesh as well as lessons broadcast over the state-run educational TV channel, MANA TV.

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Under the banner "Worlds of TESOL: Building Communities of Practice, Inquiry, and Creativity," the 2008 TESOL convention will feature more than 1200 lecture/discussion sessions presented by 2000 speakers representing more than 25 countries. Among the variety of topics are language testing and assessment, technology in language learning, bilingual education, education standards, and refugee/immigration concerns. In addition, the convention features one of the largest exhibitions of its kind in the world, with over 150 exhibitors offering some of the finest products and services for English language educators and their classrooms.

Press can register for the convention either in advance or on site. To register in advance, visit the online press room at <http://www.tesol.org/2008convention>, where other press releases and more information about presenters and sessions are also available. To register on site, please go to the Lincoln Suite at the Hilton New York.

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Incorporated in 1966, Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc. (TESOL), is a global association for English language teaching professionals headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia, USA. TESOL encompasses a network of approximately 60,000 educators worldwide, consisting of more than 14,000 individual members and an additional 45,000 educators within the 100 plus TESOL affiliate associations. Representing a multifaceted academic discipline and profession, TESOL offers members serial publications, books, and electronic resources on current issues, ideas, and opportunities in the field of English language teaching. TESOL also conducts a variety of workshops and symposia, including an annual convention, regarded as the foremost professional development opportunity for English language educators worldwide. TESOL's mission is to ensure excellence in English language teaching to speakers of other languages.