## INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ARBITRATION & MEDIATION



## PARTNERING & SUPPORTING IIAM COMMUNITY MEDIATION SERVICE

Denial of justice through delay is the biggest mockery of law, but in India it is not limited to mere mockery; the delay in fact kills the entire justice dispensation system of the country. This has led to people settling scores on their own, resulting in a growing number of criminal syndicates and mob justice in various parts of the country and reflecting the loss of people's confidence in the rule of law.

People with problems, like people with pain, want relief, and they want it as quickly and inexpensively as possible. It is in this context that IIAM thought of the possibility of establishing Community Mediation Clinics as an inexpensive option. The motto is; "*Resolving conflicts; promoting harmony*". The IIAM Community Mediation Service (IIAM CMS) was inaugurated nationally by the Chief Justice of India on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at New Delhi and is endorsed by the International Mediation Institute (IMI) at the Hague, Netherlands.

IIAM CMS is a process that can help create a more peaceful society. Community Mediations helps to maintain peace and solidarity among the members by facilitating settlements among conflicting parties. Community mediation means neighbours helping neighbours to solve problems and resolve disputes. It is also intended to empower people, especially the oppressed sections of society and women to participate in the prevention and early intervention of conflicts as an alternative to institutional mechanisms.

Community mediation also helps in restorative justice through its variety approaches and restoring the offender in community by giving correctional practice thereby giving everyone a second chance. Sometimes victims of crime need answers and apologies more than they need to know perpetrators are being punished; and sometimes offenders need to find out just who they've hurt to realize what they've done is wrong. There is no conflict without emotion. There can be no resolution of a conflict without addressing the underlying emotions that gave rise to it and sustained it. Restorative justice, particularly community mediation programs, help victims heal.

Both Community Mediation and Restorative Justice Services share the same philosophical perspective — effectively repairing harm between people — and both are considered part of the larger umbrella of highly effective conflict resolution processes. IIAM CMS takes this concept to an institutional level by taking the entire dispute resolution process and maintaining control and responsibility for it in the community at large. The mission is to provide neutral and safe dispute resolution opportunities through which individuals are empowered to work collaboratively to develop creative and mutually agreeable solutions to conflicts.

Partnering with the People's Mediation Society, IIAM is starting "People's Mediation Centres" under the IIAM Community Mediation Service. To make our world a safe, sustainable, peaceful and prosperous place to live, you can make an important contribution by adopting or supporting the People's Mediation Centres, which could pave way for a process of positive social transition. Setting up of Mediation Centres in all villages of each state with a view to mediate all disputes will bring about a profound change in the Indian Legal system. We welcome you to take part in this exiting attempt of social transition.

We are also of the view that Community Mediation Centres can be used for the overseas Indian community to resolve any dispute amongst them or their family in a private, confidential and non-adversarial way in a manner which would assure the underlying cultural interests. The Mediation Centres would provide the umbrella of their lost family/elder assistance enjoyed by Indian families for resolving family/social issues in India. This will also enable a large number of highly eminent and respectable non-resident Indians, who could contribute some of their time to work as Mediators. It would serve as a tool to bring in greater harmony and orderliness and enhancing the reputation and credibility of Indians in such communities.

Partner with us to create a loving and caring world – Let us jointly make this happen. Contact us for further details – dpm@arbitrationindia.com