

**THE
NEW ZEALAND
INDIAN CENTRAL
ASSOCIATION (Inc.)**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT
AND
ANNUAL REPORT
1987**

61st ANNUAL CONFERENCE
held at
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
NEW PLYMOUTH
on
Saturday 18 April 1987

THE
***NEW ZEALAND INDIAN
CENTRAL ASSOCIATION***
INC

President:

SHANTIBEN THAKOR (Auckland)

Vice President:

SANTOKH SINGH BHULLAR (Country Section)

General Secretary:

JAGDISH C. NATALI (Auckland)

Under Secretary:

CHHOTUBHAI MISTRY (Auckland)

Auditor:

AMRIT VASAN (Wellington)

Executive Committee:

DINESH TAYLOR (Auckland)

GOVIND LALLU (Christchurch)

SARDOOL SINGH (Country Section)

HARIBHAI NARAN (Manawatu)

MAGAN RANCHHOD (Pukekohe)

MAGAN DAYA (Rotorua)

GULAB MORAL (Taranaki)

BHANUBHAI PATEL (Waikato)

KANTI SOMA RAMJI (Wellington)

CONFERENCE DELEGATES ~~1985~~ 1987

Auckland

1. Ashok Darji
2. Dinesh Patel
3. Arun Patel
4. Chhotubhai Sima
5. Raman Ganda
6. Dinesh Tailor
7. Chhimabhai Vallabh
8. Rambhai Patel
9. Arvind Masters
10. Shantilal Prema

Pukekohe

1. Magan Richmond
2. Ganges B. Singh
3. Ishvar Rambhai
4. Bhuladas Bhakta
5. Mohan Parsot
6. Ranchhod Kana
7. Mrs Pritam Singh
8. Mrs Kamla Ranchhod
9. Narendra Masters
10. Ravji Unka

Taranaki

1. Chhotubhai C. Patel
2. Girishbhai Bhana
3. Gowardhan Lal Mehta
4. Gulab V. Morat
5. Ramanbhai Sukha
6. Chhaganbhai Lala

Manawatu

1. Nanubhai C. Patel
2. Bharat Naran

Attending Life Members

1. Rameshbhai Patel
2. Parbhubhai Kanji
3. Thakorbbhai Parbhu
4. Chhibabhai Lala
5. Narsinhbhai Vallabh

Wellington

1. Amrit Vasan
2. Rama K. Ramanathan
3. Kantilal Bhaga Patel
4. Kiran Nathu
5. Kanji Bhula
6. Eishver Ragha Nagar
7. Mrs Maniben Naik
8. Kanti Soma Ramji
9. Shantilal Parag
10. Mrs Kamuben Vasan

Bay of Plenty

1. Magan Intwala
2. Hasmukh Chhagan
3. Jeram Bhana

Country Section

1. Daulat Singh
2. Hardial Singh
3. Harkishan S. Kung
4. G.S. Belling
5. Sarwan Singh
6. Sardool Singh
7. Taran Pal Singh
8. Paul Singh Nijjar
9. Sarabjeet Kaur Singh

Waikato

1. Pravin Puna
2. Ashwin Gulab

Christchurch

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Namaste, Sat-Shri-Akal, and welcome delegates, life members and honoured guests.

This has been a very hectic and exciting year for all our members.

We have been honoured with the visit of the Prime Minister of India, Rajiv Gandhi and his wife Sonia. This visit not only enthralled the people of New Zealand but really cemented the relationship between India and new Zealand. My real disappointment during this tour was that many of our members were not able to meet this charming couple. My sincere apologies to our senior life members for this sad omission but circumstances were beyond my control.

The Pope's visit added a spiritual dimension to the Catholic community of New Zealand and many were blessed by his presence.

Recently I was invited with the Prime Minister, to the 'Blessing of the Earth' ceremony to lay the foundation for 'Bhakti Bhavan' by the Hare Krishna Society. I felt rather overwhelmed to see these people take such an avid interest in our religion and culture, while we do not have one Hindu Temple in the whole of New Zealand. This is a real lack in our own Hindu community.

One of the highlights during our visit to India this year was the Republic Day Parade in New Delhi. All the floats were beautifully decorated, and we were pleasantly surprised to see the 'Yacht – Trishna' gliding past. Some of you may recall that we entertained the crew from the 'Trishna' during their visit to Auckland.

We also met Sir Edmund Hillary, the New Zealand High Commissioner in India, who sends you all his kind regards. He really does love being in India and is held in very high respect by the local Indian people.

My special congratulations to the Auckland Indian Sports Club and the Pukekohe Indian Association on attaining their Golden Jubilee, we really enjoyed celebrating these events. The Rotorua, Bay of Plenty Indian Association recently acquired a Community Centre of their own. I really am grateful for the invitation to partake in the moving occasion of their opening. I wish them well in their future endeavours, and know this centre will be an agathering place for the future generation of Indians in Rotorua/Bay of Plenty area. A very proud moment for Indians throughout New Zealand was the selection of Deepak Patel for the New Zealand Cricket team, we all wish him a bright, exciting future.

Recently in Auckland we had the pleasure of 'Access Radio', although on a short term warrant, it gave many ethnic groups the chance to hear their own language and music on the air waves.

It was very pleasing for me to note that some Indians were holding key positions in the National Federation and Labour Coalition Party, who won the recent Fiji elections. I hope their support for our 'Nuclear Free' Policy may lead to World Peace.

It is with deep sorrow we mourn the passing of Rambhai Unka a valued life member. We have all enjoyed Rambhai's hospitality over the years. On behalf of

us all I offer Rambhai's family our deepest sympathy and condolences. He will be sadly missed by us all.

My sincere appreciation to the Wellington and Auckland branches for hosting our Committee meetings during the year.

Once again I stress the need to preserve our own identity as Indians. We have an ancient civilisation which has survived the ravages of time. Our religion is our way of life, and sharing and caring is an integral part of our culture.

My extra special thanks to my Vice President Santokh Bhullar, for his notes of interest to me, to my Secretary Jagdish Natali for his constant care and attention to administrative detail. To my executive members, life members, Branch Presidents and Officers whose advice and support has been at my call.

This year has been very stimulating and rewarding for me. I really do enjoy meeting you all and learn from your different experiences.

I hope we will further strengthen the bond between the Branches and the New Zealand Central Indian Association by taking part in these deliberations for many years to come.

Shanti Patel
President
NZ CENTRAL INDIAN ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The host president Chhotubhai Chhiba welcomed the honoured guests, delegates and life members and wished them every success in their deliberations.

Mr Gulab Moral then introduced the Mayor of New Plymouth Mr David Lean who addressed the conference. The Mayor welcomed the delegates and stated that he was indeed happy to see that the association chose New Plymouth as the venue to hold the 61st Annual Conference. He briefly outlined the progress of Taranaki in agriculture, farming and oil industry. He also stated that though the Indian population in Taranaki is small in number, their contribution towards the economic growth and social welfare is greatly appreciated.

In conclusion, he stated that Indians are law abiding citizens and have well assimilated in the society. He wished the conference every success in their deliberations and declared the meeting open.

In reply the vice president Mr Santokh Singh Bhullar thanked the Mayor Mr David Lean for attending the opening session of the conference and declaring the meeting open.

The president Shantiben Thakor presented the Mayor with a copy of the historical book "Indians in NZ" and adjourned the meeting at about 10.00 a.m. for morning tea.

The main conference commenced at 11 a.m.

Two minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect for those officers who had passed away during the year. In particular a special tribute was paid to one of our life members Ramabhai Unka (Hamilton) who passed away recently. Pravin Puna (Waikato) read the obituary (printed in this report) on Ramabhai. Various delegates paid tribute to him.

At this stage one of the observers Mr Parbhubhai Soma Patel (a visitor to NZ from Dandi India) was given permission to address the conference.

Parbhubhai Patel, one of the freedom fighters during the Quit Indian Movement, said that he had heard a lot about New Zealand and was in New Zealand visiting relatives and friends. He was happy to see the progress made by Indian settlers over the years in New Zealand and pleased to see that they had prospered and well settled in New Zealand.

YOUTH GROUP

During the opening session, the chairperson, Miss Harpreet Sardool Singh of the youth group was given an opportunity to address the meeting.

She expressed her grave concern by stating that, this year, apart from one or two minor branches representing the youth conference, the lack of participation was most disappointing, particularly from larger associations. Because of lack of interest, she suggested that the youth group should go into recession until interest is renewed.

Various members expressed their views on youth inactiveness and how to generate and motivate youth to participate in the activities.

The following apologies were recorded:

Life Members

Messrs J.K. Natali, Khushal Madhu, Shivalal Masters, Karam Singh Basi, Piyara Singh, R.C. Hari, Parag Kanji, Parbhu Bhikha, Diyal Kesry.

Delegates

Haribhai Naran (Manawatu) and H.S. Kung (Country Section).

MOVED that apologies be accepted:

– Ganges Singh (Pukekohe), Chhotubhai Sima (Auckland)

Minutes of the 60th Annual Conference held in Te Rapa (Hamilton) on 29 March, 1986 was confirmed.

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

The 1986 School Certificate prizes were awarded as follows:

1st Prize:	Paramjot Singh (City Section)	376 marks
2nd Prize:	Sunita C. Parbhu (Wellington)	366 marks
3rd Prize:	Jayesh Rama (Taranaki)	363 marks

15 or more Conference Attendance

Rameshbhai Patel (Auckland) pointed out that though the association record shows he has attended less than 15 conferences, in actual fact he has attended more than 20 conferences to date. He also pointed out that he was a joint secretary of New Zealand Indian Association for four years of which there is no record.

Rameshbhai was presented with a merit certificate for attending 15 or more conferences.

It was again suggested that in order to update the association's record anyone who has any information pertaining to the association, beyond 1952, should forward copies to the general secretary.

Inward and Outward Correspondence

The following inward and outward letters were tabled.

1. Letter to branch associations advising on matters pertaining to:
 - (i) Immigration
 - (ii) Portability of payment of National Superannuation and
 - (iii) Q.S.O. or Q.S.S.
2. Letter to Minister of Foreign Affairs, re visit by the Prime Minister of India, Rajiv Gandhi.
3. Letter from Minister of Foreign Affairs advising that the official visit by India's Prime Minister is being handled by Internal Affairs.
4. Letter to Indian High Commissioner in Wellington advising him of our concern for not inviting members and all the Life Members and for not giving the President (Shantiben Thakor) an opportunity to speak at the function held in the honour of Rajiv Gandhi.
5. Letter from Mayor of Auckland (Cath Tizard) seeking assistance towards the upgrading of elephant house at the Auckland Zoo.
6. Letter from N.Z. Sikh Society concerning an incident, where the Customs Department at Auckland airport had asked a group of musicians from India to leave their tabla (drums) behind for fumigation etc.
7. Letter to Customs Department enquiring of their policy in the matter.
8. Letter from the Customs Department stating the matter has been referred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.
9. Letter from M.A.F. advising that it is the requirement of Ministry to fumigate such articles to protect against animal disease.

10. Letter from Savita Rupa with copies of letters written to Auckland Branch seeking their support in order to get council approval to erect a building with elephant design.

Q.S.M. or Q.S.O.

This matter was discussed together with the remit from Auckland:

REMIT "That the existing criteria of $\frac{2}{3}$ majority requirement for a nominee for the Q.S.M. or Q.S.O. be abolished.

Various members expressed their opinion on the remit and after a lengthy discussion a voting was taken by ballot.

On a ballot voting the remit was carried by a majority vote (36/26).

Having abolished the $\frac{2}{3}$ majority requirement, the conference tabled three nominations for consideration, that of Shivalbhai Masters and Rameshbhai Patel (Auckland) and Narsinhbhai Vallabh (Wellington).

Resumé of all three nominations was read out first and then the method of voting was debated at great length. After a lengthy discussion on the method of voting the following motion was moved:

THAT all three names be considered by this Conference and the nominee receiving highest vote be recommended first and the second and third highest be recommended at six monthly intervals.

– R. Ganda (Auckland), C. Sima (Auckland)

Carried

A secret ballot voting was taken and the result was as follows:

Name	Voting
Narsinhbhai Vallabh	24
Shival Masters	20
Rameshbhai Patel	17

FINANCIAL REPORT

In presenting the Financial Report the General Secretary drew attention to the outstanding affiliation fees. Branches were requested to update their fees.

MOVED THAT the financial report be accepted as presented.

– G. Singh/A. Masters

The General Secretary informed the Conference that the cost of printing the Annual Report is getting quite costly.

Various members expressed their views on the issue and the following motion was moved:

THAT the cost of printing be shared by the Branch Associations on a pro-rata basis.

– Ganges Singh (Pukekohe), Bula Das Bhakta (Pukekohe)

The motion was lost on a show of hands.

Mr G.S. Belling (Country Section) suggested that the printing of the Annual Report be continued and supplied to branches at no charge. The conference agreed unanimously to this suggestion.

Affiliation Fees

After a brief discussion on the increase of affiliation fees, the following motion was moved and passed:

THAT the affiliation fees be increased from \$1 to \$2 per member from 1987/88 year.

– A. Vasan (Auckland), R. Ganda (Auckland)

Carried

Telephone directory

The General Secretary informed the conference that except for Christchurch and Pukekohe Association all the branches had sent the directory information.

After a brief discussion on the matter it was moved:

THAT without further delay the directory information be in the hands of the General Secretary by 31/5/87 and then to the printer by end of July.

– G. Singh (Pukekohe), A. Vasan (Wellington) Carried

The General Secretary informed the meeting that in order to cover the cost of printing of Telephone Directory, branches should endeavour to get as many advertisements as possible.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President's report was read and accepted by acclamation.

A vote of thanks was accorded to outgoing officers.

– G. Moral (Taranaki), A. Darji (Auckland)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following were nominated and elected:

President

Shantiben Thakor

– Magan Ranchhod/Dinesh Patel

Vice President

Santokh Singh Bhullar

Amrit Vasan/Gowardhan Ganda

General Secretary

Jagdish C. Natali

– Gowardhan Mehta/Raman Ganda

Asst General Secretary

Chhotubhai Mistry

– Ashok Darji/Rambhai Patel

Auditor

Amrit Vasan

– Ganges Singh/Arun Patel

Executive Committee

Ashok Darji

Magan Ranchhod

Haribhai Naran

Amrit Vasan

Gulab Moral

Magan Intwal

Sardool Singh

Pravin Puna

Govind Lallu

Auckland

Pukekohe

Manawatu

Wellington

Taranaki

Rotorua

Country Section

Waikato

Christchurch

Sub Committee on Immigration and Social Welfare

The following were renominated:

Amrit Vasari, Raman Ganda, Tahkor Parbhu, Santokh Singh Bhullar and Ganges Singh.

Report on Immigration and Social Welfare

Chairman of the sub-committee Mr Amrit Vasari in outlining a brief report stated that the Act on Immigration is under review. That the members should press upon their local MPs for liberalisation of policy on family reunification.

He also stated that the policy should be more flexible on degree of competency.

With regard to portability of National Superannuation he stated that the matter is under consideration by the Royal Commission on Social Welfare and Superannuation.

BRANCH ACTIVITIES

Each branch presented its report on the activities carried out throughout the year.

Most branches were involved in charity fund raising, Gita classes, festival celebrations, social and cultural activities. Mahila Samaj also played an active and important role in promoting and preserving our culture in their respective branch associations.

REMITTS

From Auckland:

1. "That the number of Life Members of N.Z. Indian Central Association be increased from 15 to 20." Carried
2. "The Auckland Indian Association is disappointed and dismayed in the way the High Commissioner of India handled the Indian Prime Minister's visit to New Zealand."

Various members spoke on this subject showing their concern at the lack of opportunity given to members of the Association to meet the Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. Those who spoke on the subject indicated that the High Commissioner had failed in his obligation towards the Association members and had done injustice to them for not being invited to the function.

3. "Any person travelling to and from India to New Zealand should be allowed to carry two suitcases regardless of weight – same as in America and other countries." Carried
4. "The existing voting criteria of $\frac{2}{3}$ majority requirement for a nominee for the Q.S.O. or Q.S.M. award be abolished." Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. "That in future an invitation be extended to the High Commissioner of India at every Annual Conference."
– Ganges Singh/G.S. Belling Carried

2. Re Estate of Deceased

With the meeting's approval, Deviben Ramesh Patel of Taranaki gave

a brief account on status of children affecting estate of deceased; e.g. custody and control of children, property, assets etc.

The conference did not discuss the matter, but suggested that the sub-committee on Social Welfare to consider the issue when they meet next.

3. **School Certificate Marks**

Mr Gowardhan Mehta informed the Conference that as from 1987 schools will not be supplying marks to the students for School Certificate results.

After a lengthy discussion on the subject, the following motions were moved and passed.

(a) "That we write to the Minister of Education enquiring of their policy on providing marks for School Certificate."

(b) "If the marks for School Certificate exams are not available then as from 1987 prizes be awarded for Bursary Exams."

– Magan Ranchhod/Maniben Naik

4. **Idea Exchange**

Ranchhodbhai Kana (Pukekohe) briefly outlined the value of publication "Idea Exchange". It was his opinion that every Branch should subscribe for this publication which cost £10 stg for two years.

5. Mr Chhotubhai Sima (Auckland) informed the conference that he was concerned to read an article in New Zealand Times of 25/1/87, which in his opinion gave a false name and account of people involved in fighting for India's Independence.

After a brief discussion on the matter, the President pointed out that, it appears the article was an extract from the Historical Book "Indians in N.Z." published by Dr Tiwari.

6. Mr Ganges Singh informed the meeting that the following people who were appointed Justices of the Peace, be recorded in the minutes.
- (i) Tilak Chandra (Country Section)
 - (ii) Gulab Moral (Taranaki)
 - (iii) Satendra Singh (Fiji Association)

7. **Representation by Christchurch Association**

Once again members expressed their concern at lack of representation of the Conference or Executive Committee Meeting, from the Christchurch Association.

It was suggested that the Association should write and enquire, the reason why the Christchurch Association has not sent any representation in recent years.

8. **Issue of Visa**

Mr Chhimabhai Vallabh (Auckland) informed the Conference of a recent incident where one of the members received an urgent telegram from India stating his mother was very ill and to come to India immediately. While his visas application was being processed at the High Commission's Office in Wellington, he received another telegram stating that his mother had passed away.

On the strength of incidents like this, it was suggested that we write to the Indian High Commission's Office in Wellington requesting him that a responsible person be appointed in Auckland, who would be authorised to issue visa in emergency only.

9. Renewal of Indian Passport

It was brought to the notice of the meeting that many members with Indian passports do not take any action to renew their passports until the date expires. Therefore members should, from time to time, check the expiry date of their passports and have it renewed before it expires.

10. Payment of Affiliation Fees

It was moved that the secretary should write to all branches by 30th September each year, stating that their membership fee is due and that it should be paid by a specific date.

- G.S. Belling (City Seat), K. Ramanathan (Wellington) Carried

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Executive Committee meeting will be hosted by the Country Section. Venue to be advised.

CONFERENCE 1988

A suggestion was made that future conferences be held at weekends other than Easter weekend. e.g. Anniversary or Labour weekend. As the meeting could not reach a consensus on this issue, it was suggested that the Executive Committee look into this matter.

In the meantime, the Pukekohe Association extended an invitation to host the 1988 Conference during the Easter weekend, at a venue to be advised later. The invitation was accepted with acclamation.

The President Mrs Shantiben Thakor in her closing address thanked the host association (Taranaki) for their hospitality and for organising the conference venue.

The conference concluded at approximately 7.30 p.m. with the national anthem "Jan, Gan, Man".

J.C. Natali J.P.
GENERAL SECRETARY

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD 2 AUGUST 1986

An Executive Committee meeting of the Association was held in Bharat Bhawan, 90 Tasman Street, Wellington, on Saturday 2 August 1986, at 3 p.m. The following were present:

Shantiben Thakor	President
Santokh Singh Bhullar	Vice President
Jagdish Natah	General Secretary
Chhotubhai Mistry	Asst General Secretary
Kanti Soma Ramji	Wellington
Dinesh Tailor	Auckland
Magan Ranchhod	Pukekohe
Haribhai Naran	Manawatu
Maganbhai Intwala	Rotorua
Sardool Singh	Country Section
Harpreet Sardool Singh	Chairperson N.Z. Indian Youth Association
Thakor Parbhu	Life Members
Narsinh Vallabh	
Amrit Vasan	Special Committee Members on Immigration and Social Welfare
Ganges Singh	
Thakor Parbhu	
Santokh Singh Bhullar	

Apologies

Bhanubhai Patel	Waikato
J.K. Natali	
Parbhu Kanji	
Khushal Madhu	
Rameshbhai Patel	
Shivlal B. Masters	Life Members
Diyal Kesry	
Karam Singh Basi	
Piara Singh	
R.C. Hari	
Parag Kanji	

Moved that the apologies be accepted.

– Amrit Vasan/Magan Ranchhod

Mr Amrit Vasan, President of Wellington Indian Association (the host association) welcomed the members and wished the meeting every success.

Two minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect for those members who had passed away.

The draft of the Annual Conference Report was passed with some minor alterations and additions.

Donation of \$101 from Nagin Patel

The General Secretary informed the meeting that the \$101.00 donated by Naginbhai towards a trophy for musical and cultural competition is now to be accepted as a general donation as per discussion and suggestion by Naginbhai.

After a brief discussion on what to do with the donation it was suggested by Kantibhai Soma and agreed by the meeting that the money be divided as an added prize for 1st, 2nd and 3rd, towards the School Certificate award for 1986.

CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) Letter to the High Commissioner of India concerning
 - (i) Visa requirement
 - (ii) Delays in issuing visas
 - (iii) Air cargo of unaccompanied bags from India
- (2) Letter to Nagin Patel acknowledging the donation.
- (3) Letter from New Zealand Inter Faith Committee re week of prayer for world peace.
- (4) Letter of appeal for funds for x-ray units for Christian Medical College and Hospital in Ludhiana (India).

1986 TELEPHONE AND ADDRESS DIRECTORY

The General Secretary advised that as at the date of meeting no information had come to hand regarding the new telephone and address directory.

There were a number of enquiries re inclusion of advertisement in the directory.

Mr Maganbhai Ranchhod briefly outlined the computerisation and format of the directory.

Mr Ganes Singh suggested that we should endeavour to include members and non members in the telephone directory.

The General Secretary pointed out that if people are interested in becoming members and be included in the telephone and address directory they should come forward and contact the respective branch association.

It was suggested by Jagdish Natob and agreed that the directory should include only those names and addresses which are supplied by the branch associations.

NOMINATIONS FOR Q.S.M. & Q.S.O.

Three nominations received by the Association (namely Messrs Rameshbhai Patel (Auckland), Shival Masters (Auckland) and Narsinhbhai Vallabh (Wellington)) were placed before the meeting for consideration.

After some considerable discussion, it was moved "That the three nominations be accepted and be placed before the next meeting for consideration and voting and the resumé be sent to all the branch associations.

– Dinesh Tailor/Kanti Soma.

IMMIGRATION

Amrit Vasan stated that there was nothing to report at this point of time. However after a brief discussion on the matter it was suggested that the sub-committee to meet Richard Northey (chairman of the Caucus committee on Immigration) and have a preliminary discussion on proposed Immigration Bill yet to be published.

It was also decided that the Association write to all the branches enquiring any difficulty encountered by members on any aspect of Immigration Policy.

SOCIAL WELFARE

After a brief discussion on portability of National Superannuation payment, it was decided that the branches be asked to supply a number of members who have retired in New Zealand and are now residing in India. This would be one of the factors used in preparing our submissions to the Minister.

GENERAL BUSINESS

School Certificate Exams

It was reported that in future, School Certificate candidates will be given gradings instead of marks.

Maganbhai Ranchhod was asked to investigate into the new marking system and report back at the next meeting.

The President Shantiben Thakor, thanked the Wellington Association for hosting the meeting and providing afternoon tea.

The evening dinner was provided by the High Commissioner for India at his residence.

The meeting concluded at approximately 6 p.m.

J.C. Natah

GENERAL SECRETARY

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING

HELD 2 NOVEMBER 1986 AT 10.30 A.M.
IN GANDHI HALL AUCKLAND

An Executive Committee Meeting of the Association was held in Gandhi Hall, 156 Victoria Street, Auckland, on Sunday, 2 November 1986 at 10.30 a.m.

The following were present:

Shantiben Thakor	President
Santokh Singh Bhullar	Vice President
Jagdish Natali	General Secretary
Chhotubhai Mistry	Asst General Secretary
Dinesh Tailor	Auckland
Magan Ranchhod	Pukekohe
Sardool Singh	Country Section
Pravin Puna	Waikato
Gulab Moral	Taranaki
Ganges Singh	Sub Committee Members on Immigration
Raman Ganda	and Social Welfare
Shivlal B. Masters	
Thakor Parbhu	
Rameshbhai Patel	Life Members
Khushalbai Madhu	
Parbhu Kanji	

Apologies

Haribhai Naran	Manawatu
Bhanubhai Patel	Waikato
J.K. Natali	
Chhibabhai Lala	
Karam Singh Basi	
Piara Singh	Life Members
Rambhai Unka	
R.C. Hari	
Parbhu Bhikha	
Parag Kanji	
Narshih Vallabh	

Harpreet Singh – NZ Indian Youth Group.

Moved that the apologies be accepted.

– Dinesh Tailor/Gulab Moral.

Mr Jagdish Natali, President of Auckland Indian Association (the Host Association) welcomed the members and wished the meeting every success.

Two minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect for those members who had passed away.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held in Wellington, circulated to all the Committee and Life Members prior to the Executive Committee Meeting, were confirmed as true and correct record.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following letters tabled at the meeting were discussed and appropriate actions taken:

1. Letter from the High Commission of India re Insurance of Visa and Unaccompanied baggage.

The members felt the reply was inadequate and unsatisfactory. After a lengthy discussion on the subject it was agreed that we write to the High Commission's Office in Wellington pointing out that though the Visas are issued from Wellington there is a considerable delay in processing and issuing Visas. Request the High Commissioner that he instruct his staff to expedite the Visa applications.

It was also pointed out that recently when one of the members was visiting India he was asked by the Custom's Officer if he had a permit to carry a Video Camera with him. The High Commission is to be asked to clarify the permit requirements for Video Cameras.

2. A letter from Hemant Vimal Sharma of Fiji offering his services as a Hindu Priest.
3. Letter from Mayor of Auckland informing of the gift of two elephants (to the NZ High Government) by the Indian Government, and seeking donation for upgrading of elephant house at Auckland Zoo.
4. Letter from Madhur Malik seeking information concerning placing of advertisement in personal column in local news media.
5. Letter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, N.Z., concerning visit to N.Z. by the Indian Prime Minister and an acknowledgement from the Minister's office.

The President advised the members that the function held in the honour of Rajiv Gandhi in Auckland on 19 October 1986 was hosted and organised by the High Commissioner of India.

The members expressed their concern and disappointment at being discriminated and it was reported:-

- (a) That two Life Members, namely Karam Singh Basi and Piara Singh, whose names were supplied to the High Commissioner together with names of other Life Members, were not invited to the function held at Auckland on 19 October, 1986.
- (b) That the President was not given an opportunity to welcome the Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi, on behalf of the Indians in N.Z., at the function held in Auckland on 19.10.86.
- (c) At the lack of opportunity given to the Association to host a meeting a function in honour of the Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi.
- (d) A letter be written to the High Commissioner bringing the above matters to his notice.

REPORTS FROM SUB COMMITTEE ON:

1. IMMIGRATION

Mr Ramanbhai Ganda briefly outlined the proposed submissions on new Immigration Bill to be presented to the Select Committee.

He stated that the new Bill which is to be passed by the Parliament will become the law when passed and the Policy which is effective now can be modified as and when required.

It was suggested that Branches be asked to send any submission on Policy changes to the Chairman of Sub Committee by 31.12.87.

2. PORTABILITY OF SUPERANNUATION (PENSION)

The President advised that the whole concept on National Superannuation payment is being looked at by the Task Force and their findings will be made known to the public.

In the meantime it was suggested that the Branches supply names of those N.Z. Residents/Citizens who have reached the age of 60 and have retired in India.

QUEENS AWARD: (Q.S.M. or Q.S.O.)

The president advised that there are 3 nominations to hand:

1. Shival B. Masters
2. Rameshbhai Patel
3. Narshih Vallabh

After a lengthy discussion on the matter it was moved that all three nominations be recommended to the Conference 1987 for consideration.

– Gulab Moral/Santokh Singh Bhullar

The majority of the members were of the opinion that it is better to send forward one name a time instead of all three names together. Therefore to ensure that at least one name goes forward, Maganbhai Ranchhod suggested that on a secret ballot voting, the person with highest number of votes be recommended to the Government for Queen's Award.

In the meantime, the nominations with curriculum vitae be forwarded to the branches for their information and Branch Association be asked to supply supporting data for their nominations.

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

The General Secretary advised that Telephone Directory information has been received from the following branches:

Wellington, Waikato, Country Section, Bay of Plenty (Rotorua), Taranaki, Manawatu.

SCHOOL CERTIFICATE RESULTS

Maganbhai Ranchhod who had been requested to investigate into new marking system, advised the meeting that under the new system, pupils will be given gradings for subjects passed. However, pupils could obtain marks on requests from schools. therefore, in order to select the first three prize winning candidates the branches should be requested to supply gradings as well as marks.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr Santokh Singh raised the question of necessity to hold two Committee meetings in a year. After a brief discussion on the subject, it was moved "That there be one Committee meeting held each year."

– Santokh Singhbhullar/Gulab Moral.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

January-December 1986

Receipts				Payments	
Opening Balance		367.25		Waitemata Press 1985 Conference Report	\$1972.99
Interest					
February 1986		145.99		Mahatma Gandhi Prize 1985	50.00
August 1986		119.10	265.09	(Miss F. Douglas)	
Affiliation Fees					
Wellington 1984/85		757.00		Postage	45.00
Pukekohe 84/85		220.00		Toll Calls	50.44
Rotorua 83/84		49.00		Telegrams	6.50
Country Sect 85/86		77.00			
Taranaki 85/86		62.00	1165.00	Premier Printing (Merit Certificate)	193.00
Advertising				School Certificate Prizes	
Ranchhod Enterprises		100.00		1st Prize Natheil Parbhu (WN)	50.00
P.G. Ranford		250.00	350.00	2nd Prize Nemisha Ranchhod (TNK)	20.00
				3rd Prize Aneela Pancha (TNK)	10.00
Donation				Hansen and Berry	
Nagh Patel		100.00	100.00	Life Membership Badges	180.00
				Rental for N.Z. P.O. Box	50.00
				Waitemata Press 1986 Conference Report	2051.27
				Balance	829.14
		5508.34	5508.34		5508.34

