

**The  
NEW ZEALAND INDIAN  
CENTRAL ASSOCIATION  
(INC.)**



**29th ANNUAL REPORT**

**AND**

**BALANCE SHEET**



**CONFERENCE**

**Held 9th APRIL, 1955**

**At TAUMARUNUI**

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### ADDRESSES OF OFFICIALS

**President:** Mr. J. K. NATALI—25 Bayview Rd., Browns Bay  
(Auckland).

**Vice-President:** Mr. KARAM SINGH (Country).

**General Secretary:** Mr. J. G. NAGER—G.P.O. Box 1941 (Wellington).

**Assistant Secretary:** Mr. NARSHI B. PATEL (Auckland).

**Auditor:** Mr. S. MASTER—Dannevirke.

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

The 29th Annual Conference of the New Zealand Indian Central Association Inc. was held at Taumarunui on the 9th April, 1955. The meeting commenced at 9 a.m.

The Country Section Representative, Mr. Inder Singh Radhawa, welcomed the delegates to the Conference, who had come from all parts of New Zealand, and Mr. Singh was responsible for the excellent accommodation and meals, which was appreciated by all. In his welcoming speech Mr. Radhawa expressed the importance of loyalty and unity which must be available for an association such as ours to work for the benefit of the Indian community. The welcoming speech was brought to a close with good wishes for a successful Conference.

The National President, Mr. J. K. Natali declared the Conference open.

Three messages of good wishes were sent to the Conference, from Mr. Baldev Singh, India, Mr. Kesavan, First Secretary, Indian High Commissioner, and Mr. G. Morar, Secretary Wellington Geeta Class.

Two minutes silence was observed in respect to all deceased members of the commonwealth. A copy of the President's report was distributed to all the delegates.

The following delegates had been elected to represent their branches at the New Zealand Indian Central Association Conference held at Taumarunui on Saturday, 9th April, 1955.

## AUCKLAND

Mr. J. K. Natali  
Mr. Devjibhai Patel  
Mr. Parbhubhai Patel  
Mr. Lalbhai N. Patel  
Mr. Morari S. Patel  
Mr. Khusalbai Madhaubhai  
Mr. Santa Singh  
Mr. Maganlal Bhikhabhai  
Mr. Nanubhai Bhanabhai  
Mr. Maganlal Fakirbhai  
Mr. Gandabhai Hirabhai  
Mr. Chhimabhai Vallabh  
Mr. Fakirbhai Unkabhai  
Mr. Maganlal Dhirajlal  
Mr. Chhotubhai Chhimabhai  
Mr. Dayalbai Kesry

## CHRISTCHURCH

Mr. Morarbhai Budhiabhai

## COUNTRY SECTION

Mr. Banta Singh  
Mr. Inder Singh Radhawa  
Mr. Karam Singh  
Mr. Bachint Singh  
Mr. Harban Singh Radhawa  
Mr. Phuman Singh  
Mr. C. S. Basi

## MANAWATU-HAWKES BAY

Mr. Chhiba Panchia  
Mr. Naran Metha  
Mr. S. B. Master

## PUKEKOHE

Mr. Ravjibhai Chhana  
Mr. Paragbhai Kanji  
Mr. Motiram Wallabh  
Mr. Javalla Singh

## ROTORUA

Mr. Unka Kanji  
Mr. Bhana Unka  
Mr. Vallabh Bhana

## WAIKATO

Mr. N. Puna  
Mr. G. Parsotam

## WELLINGTON

Mr. J. G. Nager  
Mr. N. Vallabh  
Mr. R. Hira  
Mr. J. Dahya  
Mr. H. Dahya  
Mr. R. Rama  
Mr. D. Parag

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# 29th ANNUAL REPORT 1954-1955

Presented by the President ( Mr. J. K. Natali )

It is my pleasure and privilege to present to you, on behalf of the Executive Committee, this, the twenty-ninth Annual Report of the New Zealand Indian Central Association Inc.

The last time we met for the Conference, in Palmerston North, we enjoyed the hospitality of the smallest branch to undertake the responsibility of finding accommodation and supplying excellent meals. This year the Country Section branch of our Association has extended an invitation to all branches to hold the Central Conference at Taumarunui. I welcome all the delegates to this Conference and trust that we will have successful deliberations.

The members of the Executive Committee have, throughout the past year, endeavoured to carry out the aims of the Association, which are primarily to further the interest of our community and, in particular, to try to remove any injustice inflicted upon us.

You will be pleased to know that our secretary, after many interviews with the Department concerned, has at last succeeded in finalising this matter to our satisfaction on the question of the eighteen-month problem; he has already circularised results of his negotiations to all the affiliated branches.

I feel sympathetic towards the boys who have entered New Zealand contrary to the law and have obtained New Zealand citizenship and have been refused the rights to bring their wives and children out to this country. This problem of keeping husband and wife apart is, in my opinion, contrary to the laws and religion adapted in this country of our adoption. I suggest a resolution be passed at this Conference to take this matter up with the proper authorities to abolish such an unjust attitude.

The matter of compulsory military training of our 18-year-old youths in our community, whose parents are not encouraging their youths to do their duty to the country of their adoption, is disturbing to me. I have said time and time again that we cannot ask for privileges when we neglect our duties to fulfil our obligations to this country, which allows us to enjoy a high standard of living. I trust the Indian community will see that every 18-year-old youth who has not enlisted will do so without further delay.

In August of last year we read of disastrous floods that had caused deaths and homeless people in our Motherland India. A cable was sent to Mr. Nehru of sympathy to be passed on to the victims and relatives of this tragedy.

In November of last year the Government Elections were held throughout the country. The National Party was returned with Hon. Mr. Holland as leader. A telegram of congratulations was sent to the Prime Minister.

On November 14th, 1954, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru (Indian Prime Minister) celebrated his sixty-fifth birthday. A cable was sent from the New Zealand Indian community as follows:—

“The New Zealand Indian community send you birthday greetings on your 65th year. We trust God will keep you in health and strength to celebrate many more.”

On the 26th January, 1955, India celebrated its fifth Republic Anniversary. A cable of good wishes and Godspeed was sent to the Prime Minister, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru.

Recently the whole of New Zealand was shocked with the news of a former Member of Parliament's passing, Mr. Semple, the former Minister of Works to the Labour Government. There is no need to emphasise the good work he did for our small country. All his works are a living monument to him. A sympathy telegram was sent to his wife and family.

In February of this year we heard of the disastrous floods, that invaded New South Wales, Australia. Many lives were lost and thousands were left homeless. The worst ever in the history of Australia. A telegram of sympathy was sent to the Australian High Commissioner's Office, Wellington.

The usual Mahatama Gandhi prize money of £5 was sent to the Massey College, Palmerston North. The prize was won by Mr. K. R. Burnett.

An Annual Report was sent to all branches after the last Conference with the resolutions passed by the delegates. These have all been dealt with and will be presented in the Conference.

General Carriappa paid an official visit to our country in December last, for a period of three weeks. It gives us encouragement to see our High Commissioner has our interests at heart.

J. K. NATALI.

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The following letter was received by the President from the Governor of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand:—

14th July, 1954.

Dear Mr. Natali,

My attention has been drawn to your message re National Development Loan published in the Annual Report of your Association, a copy of which has been handed to the Bank by Mr. Nager.

As one who has been particularly interested in the need for the loan to be a success, I would like to tell you how much I appreciate your action in placing the matter before the Indian Community in this way and to thank you for the interest you have shown. It is a matter of great satisfaction that the loan was oversubscribed and I do not doubt that your message played its part in achieving this result.

Yours sincerely,

E. C. FUSSELL, Governor.

The report of the activities achieved during the year (1954-1955) is as follows:—

### **LAST YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

**New Rules:** After a lengthy discussion on this subject a vote was taken and the majority of the delegates decided that it was better to leave the rules of the above Association as they are.

**South Africa Fund:** A letter was written to the All India Congress Committee explaining the Reserve Bank's decision.

**Baroda State:** Information from the High Commissioner's Office is as follows:—

Subject: Citizenship status of Indians hailing from Baroda and permanently settled in New Zealand.

Dear Sir,

With reference to the correspondence resting with this office letter No. C/NZI/54 dated 15th March, 1954, on the above subject, the position of the subjects of the former State of Baroda is given below for your information and guidance.

2. The position is not different from the subjects of the other erstwhile States vis-a-vis the British Nationality and Status of Aliens Act. The merger of these states after partition in what was formerly known as British India has not resulted in conferment on the subjects of these States of the status of "British subject." For example, a person born in Baroda, say about 1890 who has lived in New Zealand for several years cannot become an Indian citizen under article 5 of the Constitution, having already settled permanently in New Zealand. Had he been only a temporary sojourner in New Zealand he could have acquired Indian citizenship under article 5 of the Constitution. He was also not a British citizen under the British Nationality Act of 1948 and in 1947 he ceased to be a British protected person.

3. It is therefore open to him to apply for Indian citizenship even now by registration under article 8 of Indian Constitution. If he does so, then, of course it is comparatively easy for him to get New Zealand citizenship under article 8 of the New Zealand law, India being one of the countries mentioned in subsection (3) of section 3. On the other hand, if he does not want double citizenship or fails in his application under article 8 of the Constitution but wants to become a New Zealand citizen by virtue of permanent residence, there is no alternative for him but to apply under section 12 of that Act. In that case, it will be entirely for the New Zealand authorities to register him or not under that section.

4. It would be appreciated if you could kindly advise all your branch associations, and through them the persons affected, accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) N. KESAVAN)

First Secretary, Commercial.



8/3/55	Telegram Flood Disaster Australia	4 11
8/3/55	McGrath & Blennerhassett, Advice on Rule	5 5 0
26/3/55	Phone Call to Mr. H. S. Radhawa, Conference	9 9
27/3/55	Yearly Bank N.Z. Fee	1 0 0
28/3/55	G.P.O. Box Rental (Yearly) Printers, 50 Copies President's Report	2 10 0
		<u>£53 6 8</u>
	Balance in Bank of N.Z.	23 4 6
	Balance in P.O. Savings Bank	363 6 4
		<u>£439 17 6</u>

		<u>£436 12 2</u>
To Pay General Secretary		3 5 4
		<u>£439 17 6</u>

**Mr. Daji Manga:** The General Secretary gave a lengthy explanation in the Conference, concerning this case. It was decided by all the delegates and confirmed by the Christchurch delegates, to cancel the case.

**N.Z. Passport and Immigration:** The following copies were sent to all branches, 15/2/55:—

### PASSPORT

1. New Zealand passports are issued to New Zealand citizens or to other British subjects who are unable to obtain passports showing their citizenship. The main classes of New Zealand citizens are:—
  - (a) Those born in New Zealand.
  - (b) Those whose fathers were born in New Zealand.
  - (c) Those British subjects born elsewhere who were ordinarily resident in New Zealand throughout the whole of the year 1948. (Note: A person residing in New Zealand on a temporary permit is not considered to be ordinarily resident here.)
2. All applicants for New Zealand passports are asked to produce a birth certificate or other acceptable evidence of the date and place of birth. Passports valid initially for 12 months may be issued to applicants born in other British countries, who are unable to produce birth certificates before leaving New Zealand. Such passports are extended free of charge to the normal validity of five years, if evidence of the date and place of birth is produced later.
3. People born in the former native State of Baroda may obtain certificates of identity for travel.

### IMMIGRATION

Irrespective of whether the person concerned is legally subject to entry permit requirements or not, the present policy is that an intending traveller who holds a New Zealand passport showing him to be a British subject and New Zealand citizen will not be required to obtain a certificate of registration (re-entry permit) provided that he returns to New Zealand within the period of validity of such passport. In lieu of a certificate of registration this office is prepared to issue a certificate which will merely state that the person in favour of whom the certificate is issued will be permitted to re-enter New Zealand within the period of validity of the passport. Details of the passport will be incorporated in the certificate.

The delegates of the Conference moved a vote of appreciation to the secretary and officers for their work in the past year.

The following new officers were elected for the year 1955-56.

**President:** Mr. J. K. Natali (Auckland).

**Vice-President:** Mr. Karam Singh (Country Section).

**General Secretary:** Mr. J. G. Nager (Wellington).

**Assistant Secretary:** Mr. Narshi B. Patel (Auckland).

**Auditor:** Mr. S. Masters (Manawatu).

**Committee:** Messrs. Devji Kanji (Auckland), Harban Singh (Country Section), Morar Budhia (Christchurch), Chhiba Panchia (Manawatu), Ravji Hira (Wellington), Ravji Hari (Pukekohe), N. Poona (Waikato), Unka Kanji (Rotorua).

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### NEW RESOLUTIONS

It was resolved that the following cases of the Community, whose wives and children have been denied permits to enter New Zealand, should be taken up with the Department concerned, and if necessary, a deputation wait on the Minister of Immigration.

1. Chhajumia Shekhumia.
2. Gopal Ranchhob
3. Narottam Ganda
4. Keshav Pancha.

5. The persons who entered this country, contrary to the law, and have obtained New Zealand citizenship, but have been refused New Zealand citizenship rights.

Members of the above deputation are as follows: Messrs. J. K. Natali, President, J. G. Nager, General Secretary, Devji Kanji, Shival Masters, Unka Kanji, Karam Singh, Lalu Patel (adviser).

Pukekohe Indian Association extended an invitation to the meeting for 1956 Conference to be held at Pukekohe. The invitation was gratefully accepted.

At the close of the Conference Mr. J. K. Natali, President, thanked the officers and workers of the Country Section for their hospitality to the delegates.