

**THE
NEW ZEALAND INDIAN
CENTRAL ASSOCIATION**

(INCORPORATED)



39th ANNUAL REPORT

AND

BALANCE SHEET



CONFERENCE

17th April, 1965, at New Plymouth

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Please Note:

1. The Table of Contents as generated here does not exist in the original document.
2. Table of Content headings used here do not necessarily exist in the original document and at times have been inserted to make this document more easy to refer to.

TABLE OF CONTENTS..... 2
GENERAL..... 2
DELEGATES PRESENT 3
INWARD AND OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE 5
PRESIDENT’S REPORT 5
OFFICERS ELECTED 6
RESOLUTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS..... 7
ADDRESSES OF GENERAL SECRETARY AND ALL THE BRANCHES 9
FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1965 10

**THE
 NEW ZEALAND INDIAN
 CENTRAL ASSOCIATION
 (Incorporated)**

GENERAL

The 39th Annual Conference of the New Zealand Indian Central Association (Inc.) was held. at New Plymouth on Saturday, 17th April 1965.

The President, Mr. D, Kesry (Auckland) taking the chair at 9.30 a.m. declared the conference opened. Preceding this was a cordial address of welcome to New Plymouth by Mr. Gulabbhai Soma, President of the host Taranaki Branch. Addressing the assembled delegates from various centres of New Zealand, he wished the Conference every success in its deliberations.

Following the Presidential welcome to the delegations representing the, various Branches, two minutes’ silence was observed by the assembly in respect of those patriots who had passed away during the past year.

Mr. Shamshir Singh, a lecturer in Political Science from India, and at present studying in New Zealand, was welcomed to the Conference by the President and invited to take part in the proceedings.

In reply, Mr. Singh thanked the President for giving him an opportunity to address the gathering. He stressed two important aspects of any Annual General Meeting of this nature, viz, in correcting the problems which may arise, and to further the contributions already made to the community in matters

relating to social problems such as integration, education etc.

DELEGATES PRESENT

The following delegations represented the local Branch Associations:

AUCKLAND:

1. Mr. Parbhubhai Kasanji Patel
2. Mr. Ganeshbhai Somabhai.
3. Mr. Chhimabhai Vallabhbhai
4. Mr. Maganbhai Bhikhabhai
5. Mr. Dayaibhai Kesry
6. Mr. Lalhhai Nathubhai Patel
7. Mr. Moraribhai Somabhai
8. Mr. Jasrnatbhal Iakirbhai
9. Mr. Nanubhai rdrinubhai
10. Mr. Chhotubhai Simabhai

WELLINGTON:

1. Mr. Narsinhhbai Valiabhbhai
2. Mr. Chhaganbhai Ramjibhai
3. Mr. Amratbhai Dullabhbhai
4. Mr. Ranchhodbhai Ramabhai
5. Mr. Ravjibhai Flirabhai
6. Mr. Govindbhai Kanjibhai
7. Mr. Govindbhai Bhagabhai

WAIKATO:

1. Mr. Rambhai Unka
2. Mr. Bhanubhai Patel
3. Mr. Baiwant Singh
4. Mr. Phuman Singh

PUKEKOHE:

1. Mr. R.C. Hari
2. Mr. M.G. Hira
3. Mr. M, Parsot

4. Mr. S.L. Singh

5. Mr. U. Chhiba

TARANAKI:

1. Mr. Manibhai Patel

2. Mr. Laxmanbhai Naranbhai

COUNTRY SECTION

1. Mr. Harbans Singh Radhawa

2. Mr. Piara Singh

3. Mr. Sarwan Singh

4. Mr. Sorn Prakash

5. Mr. Gurder Singh

6. Mr. Chhojan Paraj

ROTORUA:

1. Mr. Shivilalbai B. Master

2. Mr. Jerambhai Simabhai

3. Mr. Jerambhai Bhanabhai

4. Mr. Amhubhai Ramjibhai

5. Mr. Munsa Singh Bhasi

CHRISTCHURCH

1. Mr. Morarbhai Budhiabhai

2. Mr. Hirabhai Gopalbhai

MANAWATU and HAWKE'S BAY:

1. Mr. Chhibabhai Panchabhai

2. Mr. Haribhai Naranbhai

Minutes of last year's Conference were read by the General Secretary and adopted.

Actions taken on last year's resolutions and suggestions as adopted, were as follows : -

1. Letter from the N.Z. Council of the Christian Medical College received, in which the Council thanked the Indian Central Association for the contribution of £100 in response to its appeal.

2. Letter written to the office of the High Commissioner for India was read, regarding the Association's request for the waiving of guarantees as asked for the Reserve Bank of India,

prior to the issuing of an Indian Passport to sons-in-law, as similar guarantees are also required by the New Zealand Government. The General Secretary explained that the High Commissioner had earlier written to Mr. L.N. Patel on this matter advising him that the matter had been taken up with the Reserve Bank of India requesting them to waive their requirements -however no reply had been received to date.

3. Letter in reply to Mr. Babubhai Vishwanath Bhatt was read declining his request to the Association to sponsor him to New Zealand as a Brahmin to the community.

4. Letter to Mrs. Prabha Devi of Suva, Fiji, was read, declining her appeal for assistance to sponsor and arrange a tour for her party in New Zealand.

5. DEPUTATION TO MINISTER OF IMMIGRATION RE: JAGIRI SINGH: -

Following a meeting in February between Mr. L. N.Patel and Mr. Piara Singh in Auckland, all relevant information concerning this case was sent to the immigration Department. As in the past, the application was declined and upon the recommendation of Mr. Patel, it was decided to take the matter up with the Ombudsman rather than take a deputation to the Minister of Immigration. Mr. Patel further pointed out that the position of Ombudsman is one wherein cases making no headway through official channels - redress can be gained through him as he makes his own appraisal from the whole file sent to him, and not just a report from the Department as is usually the case with the Minister.

The memorandum of the case to the Ombudsman was already prepared but the President felt that his course of action should have prior approval of the Association before proceeding further. Mr. L.N. Patel then outlined the history of the case and the specific functions of the Ombudsman.

6. MATTER OF FURTHER AID TO INDIA:-

Details of monies received to date towards the second Defence Fund were given by the General Secretary with the totals as follows:-

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Wellington | | 830. 14. 0. |
| Auckland | 1st instalment | 395. 17. 6. |
| | 2nd instalment | <u>193.18. 6.</u> |
| | | 589. 16. 0. |
| Rotorua | | 156. 1.0. |
| Country Section | | 124. 13.0. |
| Christchurch | | 40. 0.0. |
| Taranaki | | 201.10.0. |
| Total | | £1942.14. 0. |

No funds were received from Pukekohe, Waikato or Manawatu, however each of these branches assured the assemble that they would make fresh efforts in campaigns in their various districts.

INWARD AND OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE

INWARD AND OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE:

The General Secretary presented all the correspondence carried out during the year including the financial statement. These were duly approved and adopted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gentlemen,

Time marches on and on, progressively in both directions; constructively in sense of reaching moon and destructively in sense of killing the peaceful atmosphere of the world and destroying human civilisation. In this small country of New Zealand we are merely a handful of people from another country trying to unite and solve our problems peacefully. Today we see of Taranaki District where there were only a few Indian residents and hardly any of them were members of any Indian Association. They have understood the need of unity and have formed an Association since about seven years, and have joined with our Central Association. This very day they are playing a part of a host to this Conference which indeed is a responsible duty to discharge. For their unity and progress they deserve our congratulations. I do hope you all agree with me in my congratulations to them.

We have a constant fear of our youngsters who are not so keenly interested in the activities of our Association. We also fear that if such attitude is not revised with some deeper thoughts or some deeper discussion and thereby deeper understanding, the future of this organisation is left to some doubts. Let us go deeper in this matter. Why some people do not give importance to these Associations? Yet when it comes to enjoying the fruit from the work of the Association we all gladly share it; yet some of us are deliberately keeping away from the activities of the Association. Keeping away from the association's activities is by no means a right step. He who is a member of the community has a moral obligation to the community. He who has a better and deeper understanding has a greater responsibility to his society. To those who have not been taking interest in the work of our associations, I sincerely appeal to them to cast away that pride and arrogance and superior complexity aside, and come and join hands or at least come and discuss and develop better understanding by understanding each other's view points. There are several important things we could organise if we are sincerely united and are able to understand the cause of deliberation. Many individuals make a society. Can it ever function in order if the members are not co-operating with each other? Let us purify our thoughts and minds for the betterment of ourselves and the betterment of our community.

We are supposed to be enjoying equal rights in this Country. It is true that there is no legal discrimination within the laws of this country. However, the law has its two sides of its picture and the method of applying the law is at times different to us than it is to others; several of our people have befallen victim of this system. In these matters, sometimes our Association is also left as a helpless on-looker.

We are supposed to be the guardians of the rights and interest and the prestige of our people in

this country. I often wonder to what extent we have been able to discharge this responsibility. We often read in newspapers under the headings of Indians, so annoying, so embarrassing and even humiliating at times. We don't do anything to correct these false statements or even a milder reply in correct form should create a better atmosphere. After all, the public is guided by what appears in newspapers, and their opinions are formed on what they read and think. It is our duty to put our house in order.

In last May 1964, a great personality of India, perhaps the greatest since the independence of India, one of the longest termed Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, passed away and India lost one of its greatest sons. Sudden news came as a shock to us all. We showed our devotion and loyalty by having a day of mourning and holding prayer meetings in various places. I am thankful to all the member Associations for observing the holiday and showing their loyalty to our great leader. On behalf of this Association, I pay my tribute to this great person who has so gallantly fought for the independence of India. After 1947 he played a very important part in building up new India. His principles of serving the humanity, not only in India but is very well known through out the world. His rightful approach to the world problems has always been admired by thoughtful peoples of the world. His policy of non alliance finally brought him closer to the both camps east and west. From the very early days of his youth until the last breath of his life, he devoted his 'time for the service of the people of India. A man of great inheritance had a natural gift of talent, intelligence and ability and he made the best use of it for the people of India. World was speculating. What after Nehru? Indian National Congress and the Central Government of India has maintained the democratic system in choosing its present Prime Minister.

During the last few months the scarcity of food has created a grave situation in India. However the recent crop yields have eased the pressure to a certain extent. Looking deeper into the situation of India, we from a distant, can not see the future clear enough. The threat of Chinese on northern border is still alive and ever great. Pakistan's hostility is also greater than ever, now border disputes at Cutch and fighting on the boarder of East Pakistan. Problem of Kashmir solved but not settled, fear of communist sabotage within India. These are few of the burning problems of India to-day. I do hope you are all wide awake to these facts.

I am Your Humble Servant,

D. KESRY. President.

The President, Mr. Dayal Kesry presented the above report to the Conference which was duly approved and adopted.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the outgoing officers who had rendered their honorary service in the interests of the community.

OFFICERS ELECTED

The following officers were elected for the year 1965-66:-

President: Mr. L. N. Patel, 26 Fife Street, Westmere, Auckland.

Vice-President: Mr. Piara Singh, R.D. Owhango.

General Secretary: Mr. G. B. Bhula, 6 Nikau Grove, Lower I-lutt.

Assistant Secretary: Mr. A. Dullabh, 45 Hall Street, Wellington.

Auditor: Mr. N. Vallabh, 5 Wilson Street, Wellington.

Executive Committee: Messrs. D. Kesry (Auckland), R. Rama (Wellington), R.C. Han (Pukekohe), Som. Prakash (Country Section), S. B. Master (Rotorua - Bay of Plenty) R. Unka (Waikato) Manual Patel (Taranaki), Chhibabhai Pancha (Manawatu Hawkes Bay), Hirabhai Gopalji (Christchurch).

RESOLUTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

1. Nehru Memorial Fund:

Following the Auckland Branch remit to institute a Nehru Memorial Fund to perpetuate the memory of our late Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, widespread and enthusiastic discussion followed. Delegates from the various branches put forward many and varied ideas as to the form and content of the proposed memorial and it was finally decided to adopt the original idea put forward by Mr. Shamnahir Singh, modified as follows: "That a library section on Indian Studies be instituted at each of the Universities of the four main centres and dedicated to the memory of Pandit Jawahanlal Nehru".

It was decided to raise the funds for this purpose by referring the matter back to the local Branch Associations and the funds thus collected to be expended as required and not in one lump sum. The following sub-committee with power to act was nominated:- The President, General Secretary, Mr. D. Kesry (Auckland), Mr. H. Gopaiji (Christchurch) Mr. Piara Singh (Country Sections).

2. Press Statement by Hon. Mr. T. Shand on Integration.

The controversial statement by the Minister of Immigration in the major newspapers throughout the country, on the "difficulty of Indians residing to integrate fully with the rest of the society" - compared with the Chinese who were apparently integrating well in New Zealand - caused widespread comment and criticism of the statement, it was moved and adopted that the official full statement be extracted from Hansard before the matter be dealt with further.

3. Re: Customs Regulations affecting passengers disembarking in India:

It was decided that an official approach to the Indian High Commission was not necessary, but that a copy of the regulations be obtained by the General Secretary and forwarded to each Branch in the form of a circular.

4. Re: Approach to Indian High Commission:

A remit was received from the Auckland Branch that the High Commissioner for India in New Zealand be approached and asked to investigate several cases of difficulties arising as a result of indifference shown by the staff of the High Commission in dealing with members of the Indian community residing in New Zealand. It was moved and adopted that this matter be taken up with the incoming High Commissioner.

5. Eligibility of Fijian Indians to Membership of the Association.

The letter from the Wellington Branch in effect asked for clarification of the clause dealing with membership of the Association.

It appears that Fijian Indians at present in New Zealand on temporary work permits were desirous of obtaining membership of the Association. It was pointed out that each Branch should

ensure that the applicant was a permanent resident of New Zealand before considering his application. In effect the necessary requisite was the production of a certificate or letter from the Immigration Department as evidence that the applicant was a bona fide permanent resident of New Zealand.

6. Re: Implementation of Second Defence Fund.

It was resolved and unanimously approved that full cream milk powder be sent to the Indian Armed Forces with the funds collected towards this cause. This resolution was adopted following the receipt of a letter dated 28th June 1963 from the Government of India, in which several suggestions were made by the Indian Defence Ministry as to the form of aid required by her troops.

7. Re: Indian Delegation to Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference.

It was moved and unanimously adopted that a special meeting be called for the Executive Committee to meet the members of the Indian Delegation attending the 10th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference to be held in New Zealand later in the year. At this meeting members would be afforded the opportunity to meet the Delegation and discuss various matters affecting New Zealand Indians upon their return to India.

8. Re: Approach to Air-India on Family Group Travel.

It was decided to make an approach to the Air-India office in Auckland to ascertain the possibilities of a reduction being made to air fares to India in the case of family group travel.

The Waikato Branch of the Association extended an invitation to the Conference to consider Waikato as the venue of the next Annual General Conference during the Easter Holidays. This invitation was heartily accepted.

The various delegations then expressed their thanks to the Taranaki Branch for their hospitality and the cordial welcome extended them during their stay in New Plymouth.

A very successful Conference concluded at 10.30 p.m. on Saturday, 17th April, 1965, with the singing of the Indian National Anthem "Jan Gan Man".

ADDRESSES OF GENERAL SECRETARY AND ALL THE BRANCHES

All correspondence to be addressed to

The General Secretary,
The N.Z. Indian Central Association (Inc.),
G.P.O. Box 1941, Wellington.

ADDRESSES OF ALL THE BRANCHES

The Secretary,
Auckland Indian Association,
580 Dominion Rd.,
Balmoral,
Auckland

The Secretary,
Pukekohe Indian Association,
P.O. Box 149,
Pukekohe.

The Secretary,
Waikato Indian Association,
Parawera Stores,
Parawera
via Te Awamutu.

The Secretary,
Wellington Indian Association,
Bharat Bhavan
90 Tasman Street,
Wellington.

The Secretary,

Bay of Plenty (Rotorua) Indian Association
P.O. Box 294,
Rotorua.

Mr. Karam Singh
Secretary,
Country Section Indian Association
R.D. No. 3,
Te Awamutu.

The Secretary,
Manawatu and Hawke's Bay
Indian Association,
79 The Square,
Palmerston North.

The Secretary,
Taranaki Indian Association,
63 Egmont Street,
Patea.

The Secretary,
Christchurch Indian Association
122 Ferry Road

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1965

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

| CREDIT | | | | DEBIT | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|----|----|--|-------|----|----|
| | £ | s. | d. | | £ | s. | d. |
| Last years Balance in Bank of N.Z. | 903 | 14 | 9 | Fiji Flood Relief Fund | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| Last years Balance in P.O.S. Bank | 487 | 15 | 9 | Opotiki Flood Relief Fund | 50 | | |
| Affiliation Fees: | | | | N.Z. Council-Christian Medical College and Hospital, Ludhiana | 100 | | |
| Country Section (1963-64, 64-65) | 11 | 0 | 0 | Printing of annual Reports | 31 | | |
| Wellington (1963-64) | 34 | 18 | 0 | Rental P.O. Box for 1964-65, 65-66 | 5 | | |
| Auckland (1963-64) | 48 | 0 | 0 | Postal Stamps | 1 | | |
| Defence Fund | | | | Letters Registration | | 4 | |
| Auckland (first) | 193 | 18 | 6 | Posting of Annual Reports | | 12 | |
| Auckland (second) | 395 | 17 | 6 | Exchange on Cheques & drafts | 1 | | |
| Christchurch (second) | 40 | 0 | 0 | Mahatma Gandhi Prize to Massey College | 5 | | |
| Country Section | 124 | 13 | 0 | Toll calls to President | 2 | | |
| Rotorua | 156 | 1 | 0 | Telegrams to branches | 3 | | |
| Wellington | 71 | 0 | 0 | Sympathy cable to Dr. Radhakrishnan (Re: Nehru's death) | 3 | | |
| Directory A/c | | | | Sympathy cable to Indira Gandhi (Re: Nehru's death) | 3 | | |
| Country Section | 12 | 10 | 0 | Congratulating cable to newly elected Prime Minister Mr. Shastri | 3 | | |
| Auckland | 50 | 0 | 0 | Greetings cable to Dr Radhakrishnan (Re: 26 th January) | 2 | | |
| Interest | | | | Financial statement filing fee | | 5 | 0 |
| Current Account 1964-65 | 31 | 1 | 6 | Poundage on postal note | | | 3 |
| P.O.S. 1963-64 | 14 | 12 | 2 | | 314 | 6 | 3 |
| P.O.S. 1964-65 | 15 | 1 | 2 | Balance in Bank of N.Z. | 1758 | 8 | 0 |
| | | | | Balance in P.O.S. Bank | 517 | 9 | 1 |
| Total | £2590 | 3 | 4 | Total | £2590 | 3 | 4 |