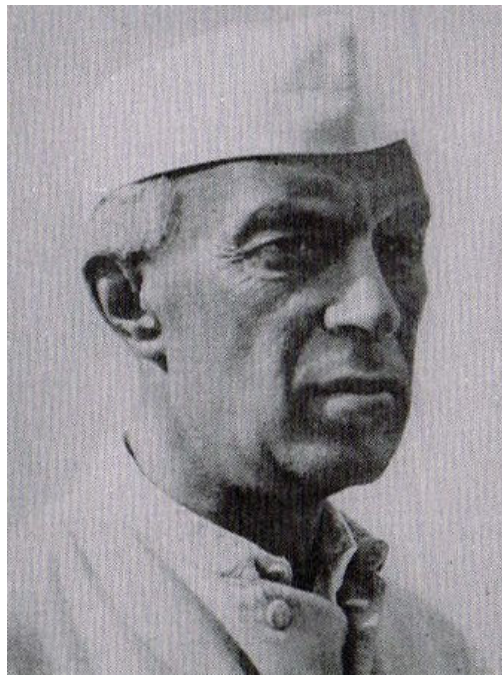


**THE
NEW ZEALAND INDIAN
CENTRAL ASSOCIATION
(Inc.)**

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT



**JAWAHARLAL
NEHRU**

**1989-1990
63rd ANNUAL CONFERENCE
held at
ALBERT MOTOR LODGE
PALMERSTON NORTH
Saturday 25TH MARCH 1989**

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
DELEGATES PRESENT 4
PRESIDENT’S REPORT 5
ANNUAL CONFERENCE 6
YOUTH GROUP REPORT 12
IMMIGRATION & SOCIAL WELFARE REPORT..... 13
BRIEF REPORT ON THE AUCKLAND ETHNIC COUNCIL 14
SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION GROUPS:..... 16
 1. ROLE OF CENTRAL ASSOCIATION..... 16
 2. IMMIGRATION 16
 3. NEEDS OF THE INDIAN YOUTH..... 17
 4. NEEDS OF THE ELDERLY 17
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING – 5 NOV 1988..... 18
FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS JANUARY-DECEMBER 1988..... 22
INDIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM..... 22
LIST OF SECRETARIES..... 23
SCANNING & DIGITALISATION CONTACTS 24

THE
**NEW ZEALAND INDIAN
CENTRAL ASSOCIATION**

INC

President:
SANTOKH SINGH BHULLAR (COUNTRY SECTION)

Vice President:
AMRIT L. VASAN (WELLINGTON)

General Secretary:
UKA CHHIBA (PUKEKOHE)

Assistant Secretary:
ISHVAR RAMBHAI (PUKEKOHE)

Executive Committee:

CHHOTUBHAI SIMA	(AUCKLAND)
MAGANBHAI RANCHHOD	(PUKEKOHE)
PRAVINBHAI PUNA	(WAIKATO)
RAVINDERBHAI POWAR	(COUNTRY SECTION)
GULABBHAI MORAL	(TARANAKI)
NANUBHAI C. PATEL	(MANAWATU)
JIVANBHAI BAVA	(ROTORUA)
RAMANBHAI VASAN	(WELLINGTON)
KANTIBHAI BUDHIA	(CHRISTCHURCH)

Life Members:

J.K. NATALI	(AUCKLAND)
CHHIBABHAI LALA PATEL	(TARANAKI)
KARAM SINGH BASI	(COUNTRY SECTION)
RAVJIBHAI C. HARI	(PUKEKOHE)
RAMESHBHAI PATEL	(AUCKLAND)
PARBHUBHAI BHIKHA	(PUKEKOHE)
NARSINHBHAI VALLABH	(WELLINGTON)
PARAGBHAI KANJI	(PUKEKOHE)
DAYALBHAI KESRY	(AUCKLAND)
THAKORBHAI PARBHU	(AUCKLAND)
SHIVLAL B. MASTERS	(ROTORUA)
HARBANS S RANDHAWA	(COUNTRY SECTION)
PIARA SINGH	(COUNTRY SECTION)
PARBHUBHAI KANJI	(AUCKLAND)
KHUSHALBHAI MADHAV	(AUCKLAND)
CHHIMABHAI VALLABH	(AUCKLAND)
SARWAN SINGH	(COUNTRY SECTION)
KANTIBHAI VASAN	(WELLINGTON)

DELEGATES PRESENT**CONFERENCE DELEGATES 1989****AUCKLAND**

1. Chhotubhai Sima
2. Ashokbhai B. Darji
3. Kunubhai C Patel
4. Ramanbhai Ganda
5. Ramanbhai R. Patel
6. Kantibhai C. Patel
7. Keshabhai Dhiru
8. Jagdishbhai Natali
9. Shantilal Pema
10. Harsadbhai Patel

WELLINGTON

1. Dr Ramanbhai Vasan
2. Ashokbhai Bhansi
3. Nanubhai Ranchhod
4. Himmatbhai Benjamin
5. Amratbhai Lala
6. Manubhai Parag
7. Bhukanlal Parbhu
8. Kanjibhai Bhula
9. Ramanbhai Khandu
10. Varshaben Bavishi

WAIKATO

1. Naratombhai Puna

2. Pravinbhai Puna
3. Ashvinbhai Gulab
4. Ram Chandra

MANAMATU - HAWKES BAY

1. Dr Janardham J Patel
2. Gangaben Aiyar
3. Nanubhai Patel
4. Haribhai Naran
5. Dr. Chatiejee Srikantha

PUKEKOHE

1. Narendra Morar
2. Magan Ranchhod
3. Suresh H. Parsot
4. Ranchhod Kana
5. Mohan Parsot
6. Ganges B. Singh
7. Bhula K. Bhakta
8. Shantiben A Maken
9. Gitaben N. Masters
10. Kamlaben K. Parsot

COUNTRY SECTION

1. Santokh Singh Dhani
2. Satam Singh Sahota

3. Ravinder Singh Powar
4. Ajit Singh Sagoo
5. Surjeet Singh
6. Tilak Chandra
7. Sardool Singh Bains
8. Mohan Singh Kung
9. Gurmeet Singh Kung
10. Hardev Singh Kung

TARANAKI

1. Chhotubhai C. Patel
2. Girishbhai Bhana Sukha
3. Gulabhai Moral
4. Parbhubhai Pema
5. Ramanbhai Sukha
6. Gowordhanlal Mehta

BAY OF PLENTY (ROTORUA)

1. Jivanbhai Bava
2. Jereambhai Bhana

CHRISTCHURCH

1. Govindbhai Lallu
2. Kantibhai Budhia

ATTENDING 15 OR MORE CONFERENCES

1. Chhibabhai Vallabh
2. Chhotubhai Mistry

LIFE MEMBERS

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Karam Singh Basi | 2. Piara Singh Bains |
| 3. Harbans Singh Randhawa | 4. Rameshbhai N Patel |
| 5. Khusalbhai Madhu | 6. Shivalalbhai Masters |
| 7. Thokorbhai Prabhu | 8. Chhibabhai Lala |

YOUTH DELEGATES**AUCKLAND**

1. Hansaben Daya
2. Dinesh Morar
3. Raj Ganda
4. Rakesh Govind

WELLINGTON

1. Anil Khandu
2. Neesha Vasan

PUKEKOHE

1. Suresh Wallabh
2. Sanjay Wallabh
3. Bhupen Masters

COUNTRY SECTION

1. Harpreet Kaur Singh
2. Paramjit Kaur Singh
3. Gurpatt Singh Basan

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fellow Delegates, Life members and Youth delegates.

It is with pleasure that I present to you my annual report for the year 1988/1 989.

Most important event of the year for the Association was that two of our life members were included in the honours list. Narsinbhai Vallabh was awarded Queens Service Medal and Rameshbhai Patel received the award of Member of the British Empire. I am pleased and rather proud that their services to our Indian community have been recognized in the most appropriate manner. Once again on behalf of the Association, I offer my congratulations to Narsinbhai and Rameshbhai.

I was honoured to receive an invitation from the Wellington Association to attend with great pleasure. During my stay in Wellington I was impressed to learn about the activities of the Wellington Association and the way the affairs of the Association are being run. Wellington Association has created history by purchasing a building and converting it into 'Indian Complex' for an estimated cost of \$4000000. The professional way they have raised a huge sum within their own branch or within 450 families is highly admirable. This is an achievement of which every Indian can be proud. I congratulate the Wellington Association and I sincerely hope that other associations will learn from the activities of the Wellington Association if we are to maintain our culture, language and traditions.

I am also pleased to have attended the Diwali function at Auckland where about two thousand Indians attended the Diwali celebration organized by the Auckland Association. I was impressed with the talent exhibited by the artists. I think the time has come when we can locally organize Indian Cultural programmes not only for our Indian community but for New Zealand community at large to promote our culture.

With the generous help of the various branches we were able to donate funds to the Indian Drought Fund, Cyclone Bola, Punjabi Food Relief and TB. Seal Campaign. My sincere thanks to the branches who contributed to the funds.

It is always a matter of satisfaction to hear good news from back home. In November last the coup attempt in the Maldives Islands in the Indian Ocean brought the spotlight on one of the least known parts of the sub-continent. It also gave India an opportunity to re-establish herself as the predominant regional power by rushing in military help to save the small vulnerable nation. I have used the word re-establish as India established her role as Regional Power when India and Sri Lanka signed an Agreement and Indian Army was invited to control the situation in Sri Lanka. In Maldives Islands' case the Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was woken up at 5.30 am by the President of the Island asking for help. By noon the cabinet okayed military help and by 9.30 pm the Island were under control by the Indian Army. It was interesting to note that the Western Press made a bad issue about Indian displaying its newly acquired military muscle.

Indian Government is encouraging Non-Resident Indians to invest in India. As noted in the correspondence the Gujrat Government has opened Gujrat Investment Centre to promote and facilitate

Non Indians investments in India. I understand that a lot of non-resident Indians from USA and UK are investing in the high tech area and electronics. I think Indians in New Zealand should consider forming a public or private company and take advantage of the investment opportunity in India which will also strengthen our ties with our country of origin.

The present Labour Government has made some changes in its immigration policy such as family reunification and removal of preferential treatment on the basis of the country of origin. This deserves to be commended. However the criteria for the family reunification is still very restrictive and we must endeavour to have unreasonable restrictions removed.

Executive meeting at Rotorua was well attended and it went very well. My thanks to Rotorua Branch for the excellent arrangements.

It is quite an achievement for a small branch to host the conference and I am pleased that Manawatu has been able to do it this year. I congratulate them for doing such an excellent job.

This year my aim has been to streamline and improve the meeting procedure so that we can have more time to consider important matters concerning our community. I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support.

I record my thanks to our General Secretary Ukabhai who has done an excellent job during the year and has certainly made my job a pleasant and enjoyable one. I am very pleased that four of us have worked as a team. I have always kept our Vice President Amritbhai informed throughout the year and he has been available to help and assist which is most appreciated.

Once again I thank you all for your trust in me for the past twelve months and giving me the opportunity to serve the Association in this capacity.

SANTOKH SINGH BHULLAR

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 63rd Annual Conference of THE NEW ZEALAND INDIAN CENTRAL ASSOCIATION INC. was held in the Albert Motor Lodge, Palmerston North under the auspices of the Manawatu-Hawkes Bay Indian Association on Saturday the 25th March 1989 commencing at 9.30 am.

The President of the host Association Janardhan J Patel welcomed the member of Parliament Mr. Trevor de Cleene, the Mayor of Palmerston North Mr. Paul Rieger, delegates, life members, youth delegates and other guests to the conference.

Both the guest speakers Mr do Cleene and the Mayor were welcomed in the traditional Indian custom by garlands.

Mr. Trevor de Cleene addressed the conference on his memorable association with the local Indian community from his school days; the situation in Fiji since the military coup, immigration policy and the racial tension that is emerging in New Zealand.

The Mayor Mr. Paul Rieger spoke highly of the local Indian community and he also expressed his concern on the way New Zealand was heading towards racial disharmony. He said that at present on all civil functions held in Palmerston North the Indian community is invited to send their representatives along with other ethnic groups.

The Mayor then declared the 63rd conference open and wished everyone a pleasant stay in Palmerston North.

The President Santokh Singh Bhullar thanked the host President and his association for hosting the conference in Palmerston North which he said was an achievement for a small Association. He thanked the two guest speakers with our book "Indians in New Zealand -Studies of a Sub-Culture". The conference then adjourned for morning tea at 10.00am,

The conference re-commenced at 10.35am. President Santokh Singh welcomed delegates, life members, members who had attended more than 15 conferences and youth delegates. A special welcome was given to Christchurch delegates who were attending the first conference in some years. The President outlined the agenda and sought co-operation of the delegates to conclude the meeting in time.

The youth delegates then proceeded with their own conference.

APOLOGIES: The following apologies were received:

J.K. Natali; Narsinhbhai Vallabh; Paragbhai Kanji; Ravjibhai Han; Parbhubhai Bhikha; Parbhubhai Kanji; Narandabhai Masters; Karam Singh; Piara Singh; Sarwan Singh.

Resolved that apologies be accepted. Gulabhai Morar/Ramanbhai Vasan.

INTRODUCTION:

All delegates and life members introduced themselves to the conference.

MARK OF RESPECT:

Silence was observed by the delegates as a mark of respect for members who had passed away during the previous year. President Santokh Singh paid special tribute to Mrs. Dahibhen Vasan whose family had made a great contribution to the association over the many years and Rattan Singh who was Vice President of the country section when he died.

MEETING PROCEDURE:

President Santokh Singh advised the meeting that he intended to conduct the meeting according to the rules. At President's request Gulabhai Moral addressed the conference and explained the standing orders which were adopted in 1975 and which appeared to have been overlooked over the years. A

copy of the standing orders was provided to each delegate.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the last conference had been circulated to the delegates and it was resolved that the minutes as circulated were the true and correct record of the last conference - Gulabbhai Moral/Ganges Singh.

MATTERS ARISING:

Secretary informed the delegates that all matters arising from the minutes were covered in the report which was circulated to the delegates.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A list of all inward and outward correspondence was circulated to the delegates. It was resolved that the inward correspondence be received and the outward approved - Ravinder Singh/Bhukanlal Prabhu.

Secretary then outlined all the important correspondence.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

The President informed the conference that the following three nominations were received which have been duly approved by the Executive Committee.

Kantibhai Vasani - Wellington

Sarwan Singh - Country Section

Chhimabhai Vallabh - Auckland

Kantibhai's resume was tabled and it was moved that he be awarded life membership of the Association - Ramanbhai Vasani/Ganges Singh.

Sarwan's resume was tabled and it was moved that he be awarded life membership of the Association - Ajit Singh Sagoo/Govardhan.

Chhimabhai's resume was tabled and it was moved that he be awarded life membership of the Association - Ramanbhai Ganda/Khusalbai Madhu

On a secret ballot more than 2/3s of the delegates voted in favour of all three members. President Santokh then presented the life members badge to Chhimabhai Vallabh who was present at the conference.

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

Following the remit passed at the last conference and as required under the constitution due notice was given that Rule 13(a) be amended to read:

“The association may confer life membership upon any member in recognition of outstanding services to the Indian Community and the Association, but such member shall be proposed by an affiliated Association or by The New Zealand Indian Central Association six months prior to the A.G.M. of the Association whichever shall be the later and have the approval of the 2/3rd members of the Executive Committee of the N.Z.I.C.A. and be elected at a General Meeting of delegates to the Association. No more than 20 (twenty) life members of the Association may be in existence at any one time.”

Ramanbhai Khandu/Ganges Singh

After a lengthy discussion in which many delegates spoke in favour and against the amendment the motion was put to vote and was lost 28/43

Following the Executives resolution, due notice was also given that rule 23 be amended to read:

“There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the officers mentioned in Rule 22 and a member from each of the Branches to be nominated by that Branch at the Annual General Meeting PROVIDED HOWEVER the Branches shall have the right to substitute any other member for the member nominated at the annual general meeting. The Immediate Past-President shall be ex-office a member of the committee.”

Ramanbhai Vasani/Bhukanlal Parbhu

This amendment was unanimously carried.

AUCKLAND ETHNIC COUNCIL:

The Association's representative Ishvar Rambhai gave a written report on the Ethnic Council. Ramanbhai Khandu who represented the Wellington Association on the Wellington Ethnic Council gave a verbal report. It was suggested that there are Ethnic Councils at other centres and the branches should send their representatives to their local councils. It was also suggested that any member representing the Association should submit his report to the Association as Ishvar Rambhai had done. It was resolved that the Association donate \$150 to Auckland and Wellington Ethnic Councils - Uka Chhiba/Shivlal Masters.

IMMIGRATION REPORT

Amritbhai Vasani distributed information on immigration to the delegates and outlined the many options available to the Indian Community under the present Immigration Policy.

It was suggested by the President that further discussion be deferred until the discussion groups which were to discuss immigration in detail.

SCHOOL CERTIFICATE PRIZES:

The following received the prizes:

First Prize	DEVERSH DIXIT	Auckland	365 marks
Second Prize	DARIVS SINGH	Auckland	342 marks
Third Prize	SANDEEP C PATEL	Auckland	340 marks

(The donation of \$80.00 from Thokarbhai Gordon was included in the prize).

FINANCIAL REPORT:

It was resolved that the audited financial reports as circulated to the delegates be adopted
Gulab Moral/Jivanbhai Bava

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Santokh Singh read out his written report which was adopted by acclamation.

VOTE OF THANKS:

A vote of thanks was accorded to the outgoing office bearers.

The Wellington Indian Association has purchased a property to the value of \$2.6 million in Kemp Street, Kilbirnie with all the funds coming from within their membership. Auckland Indian Association is also undertaking a feasibility study to build on their present site for \$1.6 million. Pukekohe Indian Association is in the process of developing their 5 acre site for sports field, parking area and mandir followed by changing facilities for sports people and community hall.

YOUTH REPORT:

Sureshbhai Vallabh presented the report of the youth conference. (This report appears on a separate page)

DISCUSSION GROUPS:

The delegates were divided into 8 groups and they discussed the role of the Central Association, Immigration, needs of the youth and elderly. Chairman of each group reported to the conference. (A full report appears on separate pages.)

REMITTS:

The following remits were discussed:

1. That the NZICA review and update its constitution to incorporate Constitutional resolutions at various conferences and that this be completed in six months or before next executive meeting - (Wellington) Ramanbhai Vasani/Bhukanlal Parbhu

This remit was carried. The following committee was formed to update and review the constitution:

Santokh Singh Bhullar
Amritbhai Vasani
Ramanbhai Ganda
Thokorbhai Parbhu

2. That affiliation fees from all branches be restructured on a levy system according to the approximated Indian population within each boundaries with a minimum levy for smaller branches. We suggest that W.I.A. be the yardstick;

Wellington	\$1,000.00	1
Auckland	\$3,000.00	3X
Country Section	\$ 500.00	1/2
Pukekohe	\$ 500.00	1/2
All the rest	\$ 200.00	1/5

(Wellington) - Ramanbhai Khandu/Ashok Bhasin

After some discussion Wellington withdrew this remit.

3. The life members of the NZICA voluntarily relinquish their voting rights (Wellington) - Ramanbhai Vasani/Nanubhai Ranchhod

The remit was withdrawn after discussion.

MANAWATU

1. To prepare a booklet providing information for new comers to New Zealand from India be it for a

short time or long time. Information to contain not only regulations on visa etc. but also regarding traditions, customs and habits of people in New Zealand. This remit was also withdrawn after much discussion. It was agreed that the information that is already provided by the Labour Department is sufficient.

NEXT CONFERENCE/EXECUTIVE MEETING

Wellington Indian Association will host the next conference. Pukekohe will host the executive meeting Labour Weekend 1989.

GENERAL BUSINESS -

National Superannuation

That the NZICA write to the New Zealand Government and ask to review their policy regarding payment of National Superannuation to those retired New Zealand citizens who wish to retire and leave overseas:- Jagdishbhai Natali/Chhotubhai Sima

Conference was unanimous that we approach the Government as well as the opposition on this matter.

Queens Honour

That the nomination of Shival B. Masters be reviewed and necessary action taken:
Thakorbhai Parbhu/Jagdishbhai Natali

Affiliation Fee

Any Association that has not paid the affiliation fee at the rate of \$2.00 per member should pay forthwith. - Bhukanlal Parbhu/Ganges Singh

Nehru Centennial

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's centenary is being celebrated this year (14-1 1-89)

Wellington Indian Association is planning a function for this occasion. Other Association are also hoping to have similar functions.

The NZICA should write to the President of India on this happy occasion.

President Santokh Singh thanked Host Association on behalf of everyone for the excellent conference arrangements and wished everyone a safe journey home.

The conference concluded by the singing of the National Anthem at 7.45pm.

Uka Chhiba
General Secretary

YOUTH GROUP REPORT

The Youth Conference began at 10.45am, after the delegates sat in for the opening ceremony to the main conference.

The meeting was chaired by Suresh Wallabh from Pukekohe and he briefed delegates on last years

conference. Thereafter, delegates gave reports on activities from their own regions.

From Wellington, Neesha Vasani gave an account of youth involvement. Neesha stated that their youth groups were very much affiliated to the sports club. The two groups worked together in providing for the needs of the younger people. At present the group were actively involved with fund raising efforts for the proposed multi-purpose hall project.

In the Auckland region the present Youth group is a separate entity from the sports club but still body of the Association. The activities of the group were aimed at providing for cultural, community based and religious needs of its members. Recently a sponsorship programme with World Vision was undertaken. A young boy from the South Indian region is being sponsored for the course of the year. Other activities included Telethon fundraising, games evenings, and other outdoor events.

Delegates from the Country Section were involved in culturally centered activities like the Sikh Youth Camp. Hampreet Singh also mentioned that due to families being spread out in their region, young people were able to meet, often at meetings like the camp.

In Pukekohe a social is planned for the immediate future. Other activities organized by the group include meetings and both indoor and outdoor sporting arrangements.

Generally youth were well represented from regions throughout the country, however we were somewhat disappointed at the absence of youth representatives from the host city, Palmerston North. We would very much have appreciated their presence as we were unable to meet at the last conference also.

Towards the end of our conference nominations for Chairperson and Secretary were held. Suresh Wallabh and Hansa Daya accepted the positions for Chairperson and Secretary respectively, as they were currently being held. This year the Youth Group Cup was presented to the Auckland region and on behalf of their group, Raj Ganda thanked delegates at the conference for their recognition of the groups achievements.

We hope that next years Youth Conference will be more successful and many more youth groups will be represented.

Suresh Wallabh	Hansaben Daya
Chairperson	Secretary

IMMIGRATION & SOCIAL WELFARE REPORT

A report was presented by Mr. Amritbhai Vasani.

In order to achieve these, the proposed agenda for the year will be as follows:

1. Meetings with:-
 - a. Government (Labour Party)
Stan Rodger - Minister of Immigration
 - b. Opposition (National Party)
Bill Birch - Spokesman on Immigration
 - c. New Zealand Immigration Service
General Manager's Office
Jack Cavangh - Policy: Review & Development
2. Contact/Meetings with other interested groups affecting policy decisions of Government:
 - a. Human Rights Commission
 - b. Law Society - Legislative Law Reforms Committee.
 - c. Top Tier Group
 - d. Ethnic Councils
 - e. Ethnic Churches
 - f. Other effective ethnic groups

At Branch level each branch of the New Zealand Indian Central Association should:

1. Make submissions to the Chairman (A. L. Vasan)
2. Write to the local District Office of the Immigration Service and request to be included on their mailing list.
3. Write to the Chairman and arrange a mutually convenient time for him to visit each branch to present a seminar and hold discussions with each branch.

The Chairman will endeavour to provide his Committee Members and the branches with copies of articles and information of policy changes. These will be sent mainly for the purpose of gauging points of view on the matter.

It should be noted that feedback is essential. It is necessary to know the feeling of the whole Indian Community in New Zealand if we are to present a united front which will not only be noticed by this Government, but heeded when necessary. The Chairman requests that each member and each branch plays its part in this operation.

If there are any enquiries whatsoever to do with what has been said in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the writer. Written comments and suggestions are warmly welcomed.

Amrit L Vasan

BRIEF REPORT ON THE AUCKLAND ETHNIC COUNCIL

BACKGROUND

Through the initiative of the Race Relations Office under the former Race Relations Reconciliator Hiwi Tauroa the Auckland Ethnic Council was created in the second half of 1985. Mr. Peter Torhill who was

the Chief Executive Officer of the Race Relations Office provided the driving force in the creation of the Auckland Ethnic Council (AEC). The move to establish the AEC was keenly supported by the majority of the members of the Multicultural Society of Auckland.

In October 1985 Dr. Rangī Walker who was then the president of the Auckland Maori Council was elected as the first president of the AEC. His election showed the special respect the AEC had for the Maori community in the region. Mrs. Shantiben T. Patel who was the president of the NZ Indian Central Association at the time was elected as the first chairperson. This was an honour for the Indian Community. The deputy chairperson elected was Mr Ernest Markham of the Auckland Jewish Council.

Later, with the resignation of Dr. Rangī Walker the positions of President and Chairperson were merged into one. Mrs Shantiben T. Patel became the first Executive President of the AEC. Shantiben held this position until May 1987.

DEFINITION OF “ETHNIC GROUP”

The rules of the AEC gives the following definition of an Ethnic Group:

“An Ethnic Group is a segment of the population distinguished by a combination of shared customs, beliefs, traditions and characteristics derived from a common or presumed common past, even if not drawn from what in biological terms, is a common racial stock; a combination which gives them an historically determined social identity in their own eyes, and in the eyes of those outside the group. An ethnic group has a distinct social identity based not simply on group cohesion and solidarity, but also on their belief as to their historical antecedents.”

OBJECTS

The aim or purpose of the AEC is best explained by noting here the “Objects” of the AEC as they appear in the rules of the AEC. “The main objects of the Council shall be:

- a. To give and receive mutual support and co-operation between and among Ethnic Groups.
- b. To promote equality for ethnic groups in New Zealand, including effective participation in decision which effect them and in the sharing of community resources.
- c. To encourage the development of Ethnic Groups concerned with promoting social and cultural life within their communities and helping to create greater awareness, sensitivity and pride within New Zealand society as a whole.
- d. To promote awareness and acceptance of a multi-cultural society.
- e. To meet as a Council of divergent ethnic backgrounds in the context of citizens of New Zealand and/or member of the New Zealand society.
- f. To co-operate with central and local government, government agencies and voluntary organisations in the promotion of its objectives.

LIMITATION:

- a. Issues arising outside of New Zealand shall not be translated into the business of the Council.

b. Only persons authorised by the executive shall be empowered to make public statements on behalf of the Council.”

ACTIVITIES

An important and on going part of the AEC is in keeping contact with government agencies, following up on development and sharing of views and experience among member groups. The AEC has been involved in making submissions on the Bill of Rights, discussing Immigration and related problems, forming Access Radio and providing input into the creation of “The New Zealand Federation of Ethnic Councils Incorporated.”

Ishvar Rambhai

Asst. General Secretary NZICA
25/3/89

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION GROUPS:

1. ROLE OF CENTRAL ASSOCIATION

All groups wanted the President and Vice President to visit branch associations. Branches to organise a suitable function so members could meet the officials and ask any questions.

General Secretaries role is more on the administration and keeping branch secretaries informed on all matters.

Assistant Secretary is a back up to the General Secretary.

Public statements should be made by the President at the appropriate time and other office bearers kept informed of such statements.

Newsletter should be sent out by the General Secretary to all branch secretaries who would send them to all their members.

Extra executive meetings should be arranged if required by giving 3 weeks notice to discuss matters of importance.

2. IMMIGRATION

Delegates felt that the present government policy on Immigration is satisfactory but some members of

the Indian community are not showing respect to the people that they are sponsoring. For example; people arrive in the country, have very little knowledge of the English language, most people arrive on a visitors permit, but are put into employment by getting an IRD number. Some of these people are still practicing the Indian way of life here. The crime rate has increased with the recent influx of Indians from Fiji. This reflects back to all Indians, who over the years have had respect from New Zealanders.

Members should not in any way have illegal dealings to get fellow relatives or friends permanent residents

Central Association committee on Immigration to discuss local members expertise on Immigration in an advisory capacity.

3. NEEDS OF THE INDIAN YOUTH

All sports are well catered for by the larger associations. Minor association youth mix with local clubs but organise Indian teams for annual Hockey or Cricket tournaments.

Greater recognition be given for academic achievements.

Indian partners always need encouragement from their friends and relatives in N.Z. way of life. (This subject should be in next conference for more discussion)

All young people should be encouraged to take part in association activities.

Group tours of India to be encouraged. Promotion and exchange of cultural ideas. Approach travel agents to organise trips. To stay and spend the last 7 to 10 days at their respective village.

4. NEEDS OF THE ELDERLY

The Central Association to express concern about having National Superannuation paid to any N.Z. citizen who wish to retire overseas. The majority of delegates felt that we should look after our elderly at home rather than in rest homes. Association should arrange a get together for the elder members every week or monthly.

All groups were very happy with the group discussion. All delegates expressed their views on all the subjects put before them. Many delegates would not have spoken in the main conference. Reports from the Chairmen were duplicated in many cases, but that was expected as the subjects for each group were all the same. All groups indicated that more discussion groups should be held in future conferences and for any fault to be modified.

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING – 5 NOV 1988**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE NEW ZEALAND INDIAN CENTRAL ASSOCIATION HELD ON 5TH NOVEMBER, 1988 IN THE GANDHI HALL, ROTORUA.****PRESENT:**

Santokh Singh Bhullar (President), Amrit L. Vasan (Vice President), Uka Chhiba (General Secretary), Ishvar Rambhai (Assistant Secretary), Chhotu Sima (Auckland), Ganges B Singh (Pukekohe) Pravin Puna (Waikato), Sardol Singh (Country Section), Gulab Morar (Taranaki), Nanu C. Patel (Manawatu), Jivan Bava (Rotorua), Raman Vasan (Wellington), Shantiben Thakor (Immediate Past President).

ATTENDING LIFE MEMBERS:

Khushal Madhav (Auckland), Shivlal Masters (Rotorua), Thakor Parbhu (Auckland).

Before the meeting proceeded with the agenda Mr Jivan Bava, President of the Rotorua Indian Association, welcomed the executive to Rotorua and conveyed his best wishes for a successful meeting.

TWO MINUTES SILENCE was observed as a mark of respect for those members who had passed away.

APOLOGIES:

Executive members - none; Youth Delegate - Suresh Vallabh;
Life members - J.K. Natali, Rameshbhai Patel, Chhibabhai Lala Patel, Ravjibhai C Hari, Paragbhai Kanji, Parbhubhai Bhikha, Narshihbhai Vallabh, Harbans Singh Randhawa, Karam Singh Basi, Piara Singh.

Moved that apologies be accepted G. Singh/C. Sima

MINUTES:

It was noted that the minutes of the executive meeting of 28th November, 1987 have been confirmed by the previous executive at the Annual Conference. G. Singh indicated that he has five copies of the Royal Commission Report on Social Policy. These to be passed to the General Secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE - INWARD:

I Letter from Auckland Indian Assn. nominating Mr. Chhotubhai Sima and Mr Chhimabhai Vallabh for NZICA Life Membership.

It was noted that as a result of a resolution passed in 1981, that only one member from each branch was eligible for NZICA Life Membership each year.

Mr Chhotubhai Sima withdrew his name from nomination for Life Membership. Mr. Khusalbhair Madhav read out a resume of Mr Chhimabhai Vallabh.

Moved that Mr. Chhimabhai Vallabh be nominated for NZICA Life Membership.

K. Madhav/G. Singh

A secret ballot taken unanimously accepted nomination of Mr Chhimabhai Vallabh.

2. Letter from Country Section nominating Mr. Sarwan Singh for NZICA Life Membership. Mr. Sardool Singh read out a resume of Mr Sarwan Singh. Moved that Mr Sarwan Singh be nominated for NZICA Life Membership. Sardool Singh/G. Singh

A secret ballot taken accepted the nomination.

3. Letter from Wellington Association nominating Mr Kantibhai Vasani for NZICA Life Membership.

Mr. Ramanbhai Vasani read out a resume of Mr. Kantibhai Vasani. Moved that Mr Kantibhai Vasani be nominated for NZICA Life Membership. Ramanbhai Vasani/Gulabbhai Morar

A secret ballot taken unanimously accepted the nomination.

It was noted that Mr Kantibhai Vasani had recently been appointed a Director of the Earthquake and War damage Commission.

A number of members who spoke in support of the nominations were highly appreciative of the valuable services to the Community and the associations given by those nominated.

Moved that the voting papers be destroyed. G. Singh / K. Madhav

4. Letter re Visa

Problems encountered by N.Z. Travellers in India with respect to Visa was a result of people not being aware of travel formalities required to be observed. This letter should have been circulated to branches. Moved that any information which the President and Secretary think is relevant should be forwarded to branch associations.

A. Vasani/G. Singh

5. T. B. Stamps

These are to be forwarded to branch associations who are then required to send proceeds to NZICA. Santokh Bhullar and Amrit Vasani agree to donate \$50 to purchase these stamps.

6. Radio Access

The meeting was informed that Radio Access was providing a valuable service to the community and that it was short of funds. Moved a donation of \$15000 be made to Radio Access.

G. Singh/R. Vasani

Mr R. Vasani suggested that every inward correspondence should be acknowledged.

CORRESPONDENCE - OUTWARD

1. Cyclone Bola
2. India Drought Relief

Moved that Inward correspondence be accepted and outward be endorsed.
R. Vasan/Shantiben Thakor

FINANCIAL REPORT

A financial report as at October 1988 was presented, as well as a tabulation of affiliation fees from 1977/1978 to 1987/1988.

The credit balance of the Grant for Social Policy submissions is to be eliminated by reimbursing members who prepared the submission for their time expended. Then it will be for those members to donate the money to the Association for future submissions.

Outstanding advertisement accounts to be cleared by the Secretary by writing to persons concerned.

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

No report was available. Mr. Jivan Bava indicated that Anita Dheda was prepared to attend this meeting but declined as no other youth representatives were present.

NEXT CONFERENCE

Mr Nanubhai Patel reported that facilities for next year's conference were booked. The venue, accommodation and conference facilities are in the one complex. Members should book accommodation through Nanubhai or directly. Secretary has address for communication.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. The President Mr Santokh Bhullar indicated that a lot of time was unnecessarily wasted at conference and that he had certain ideas of streamlining items. These included, recording of S.C. Marks, typing errors in annual report (names especially) and correspondence. The president suggested that:

1. The assistant secretary attend to collecting and totalling school certificate marks.
2. Amendments to names and correction of typing errors be pre-identified and listed and presented to the conference.
3. A summary list of correspondence be circulated to eliminate reading the routine correspondence.
4. Other similar matters relating to the meeting procedure.

Moved that the meeting totally endorses all recommendations made by the President to streamline future conferences. A. Vasan/G. Singh

2. Mr. Amrit Vasan gave a report on a meeting with the Minister of Immigration, at which the items such as, the role of Indians in N.Z., the N.Z. Immigration Policy, Family Reunification, English

Requirements, Job Requirements and Employment were discussed.

3. Pukekohe Remit No. 3 page 6 of 1988 Annual Report requires a constitutional change. Moved that A. Vacant and S. Bhullar formulate wording for the constitutional change and include it in the agenda for the conference. G. Singh/G. Morar
4. The non-attendance of Christchurch Indian Association at Conference and Executive meetings was discussed. Moved that A. Vasan (Vice President) visit Christchurch Indian Association. G. Singh/G. Morar
5. Shantiben Thakor indicated that herself and Mr. G. Singh were on the Auckland Ethnic Council as Foundation Members. Moved that Ishvar Rambhai (Assistant Secretary) be NZICA representative on the Auckland Ethnic Council. A. Vasan/G. Singh
6. The sub-committee on Social Policy and Immigration should be amended at the next conference to include the Secretary of NZICA so that the Secretary is informed of matters.
7. It was reported that many people had died and suffered losses in recent floods in Punjab. Country section had already started a collection. Moved that the secretary write to other branches suggesting donations should be made to NZICA for forwarding on to India.
8. The Ram Katha given by Shri Morari Bapu and organised by the Ram Katha Committee was a worthwhile and successful occasion.
9. It was resolved that the constitution be amended authorising the branches to substitute their executive members if necessary.
10. Discussions also took place on the increasing number of criminal offences by recent sponsored overseas migrants, who although sponsored are left to their own resources once in the country. The sponsors must have a social responsibility.
11. The President Mr. Santokh Bhullar conveyed his sincere thanks on behalf of the members present of the hospitality afforded by Rotorua Indian Association in hosting the executive meeting.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 6.15 pm.

DRAVID UCHKAL BANGA,
VINDHYA HIMACHAL YAMUNA GANGA
UTCHHAL JALDHI TARANGA
TAV SHUBH NAME JAGE
TAV SHUBH ASHISH MANGE
GAHE TAV JAY GATHA
JANA GANA MANGAL DAYAK JAY HE
BHARAT BHAGVA VIDHATA,
JAYA HE, JAYA HE, JAVA HE,
JAYA, JAYA, JAYA, JAYA HE.

Translation:

Thou art the ruler of the minds of all people,
Thou Dispenser of India's destiny.
Thy name rouses the hearts
of the Punjab, Sind, Gujarat and Maratha,
of Dravid, Orissa and Bengal.
It echoes in the hills of the Vindhyas and Himalayas,
mingles in the music of Jumna and Ganges,
and is chanted by the waves of the Indian Sea.
They pray for Thy blessing and sing Thy praise,
Thou Dispenser of India's destiny,
Victory, Victory, Victory to Thee.

LIST OF SECRETARIES

The Secretary
The New Zealand Indian Central Association (Inc)
P.O. Box 1941
WELLINGTON

The Secretary
Auckland Indian Association Inc.
P.O. Box 2622
AUCKLAND

The Secretary
Wellington Indian Association Inc.
90 Tasman Street
WELLINGTON

The Secretary
Pukekohe Indian Association Inc

P.O. Box 149
PUKEKOHE

The Secretary
Country Section Indian Association
73 Maeroa Road
HAMILTON

The Secretary
Waikato Indian Association
34 Gilbrass Ave
HAMILTON

The Secretary
Bay of Plenty (Rotorua) Indian Association Inc.
P.O. Box 294
ROTORUA

The Secretary
Taranaki Indian Association
4 Vogel Street
HAWERA

The Secretary
Manawatu-Hawkes Bay Indian Association
23 Haast Place
PALMERSTON NORTH

The Secretary
Christchurch Indian Association Inc.
P.O. Box 22423
CHRISTCHURCH

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