

THE  
NEW ZEALAND INDIAN  
CENTRAL ASSOCIATION  
(Incorporated)

●  
37<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REPORT

and

BALANCE SHEET

●  
*CONFERENCE*

13<sup>th</sup> April, 1963 at Pukekohe

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# THE NEW ZEALAND INDIAN CENTRAL ASSOCIATION

(Incorporated)

## GENERAL

The 37th Annual Conference of The New Zealand Indian Central Association (Inc.), was held at Pukekohe on 13th April, 1963 in “Nehru Hall”. The President, Mr. D. Kesry, taking the chair at 10.45 a.m., declared the Conference opened. This was preceded by a cordial speech of welcome to Pukekohe by a member of the local Branch, Mr. Dahyabhai Ranchhodbhai, who also wished the Conference every success.

Two minutes’ silence was observed by the assembly as a mark of respect to those patriots who sacrificed time and their lives in achieving and defending Independence for Mother India, and also in remembrance of those New Zealand Indians who passed away during the last year.

## DELEGATES PRESENT

The following delegates represented their respective branches:

### **AUCKLAND:**

- |                             |                         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Lalbhai N. Patel     | 4. Mr. Jagdish Natali   |
| 2. Mr. Rameshbhai Patel     | 5. Mr. Parhubhai Mantri |
| 3. Mr. Khushalbai Madhubhai | 6. Mr. Dayalbhai Kesry  |
|                             | 7. Mr. Maganbhai Bhikha |

**WELLINGTON:**

1. Mr. Chhibabhai Parbhubhai
2. Mr. Amratbhai Dullabhbbhai
3. Mr. Narsinhbhai Vallabhbbhai
4. Mr. Govindbhai Bhagabhai
5. Mr. Ravjibhai Hirabhai
6. Mr. Haribhai Dahyabhai
7. Mr. Ranchhodbhai Ramabhai

**TARANAKI:**

1. Mr. Jerambhai Govindji Patel
2. Mr. Hirabhai Lalbhai Patel

**COUNTRY SECTION:**

1. Mr. Karam Singh Basi
2. Mr. H. S. Basi
3. Mr. Harbhajan Singh
4. Mr. Harbans Singh Radhawa
5. Mr. Gurudas Singh
6. Mr. Piara Singh

**PUKEKOHE:**

1. Mr. Keshavbhai Parsot
2. Mr. Paragbhai Kanjibhai
3. Mr. Dahyabhai Ranchhodbhai
4. Mr. Bhuladas Bhakta
5. Mr. Narsai Bhana
6. Mr. Ravji Uka

**ROTORUA:**

1. Mr. Ramabhai Makanbhai
2. Mr. Shivial B. Master
3. Mr. Jerambhai Chhimabhai
4. Mr. Jayantilal Bhagwan Rathod

**WAIKATO:**

1. Mr. Phuman Singh
2. Mr. Maganbhai Parbhu
3. Mr. Parbhubhai Daya

**CHRISTCHURCH:**

1. Mr. Bhikhabhai Jerambhai
2. Mr. Govindbhai Lallubhai

**MANAWATU AND HAWKE'S BAY:**

Minutes of last year's Conference were read by the General Secretary. Actions taken on last year's resolutions and suggestions:

1. Maori Education Foundation Fund: All the Branches contributed to this fund. Contribution from Waikato Branch was received too late to be included in the financial report. The total amount contributed was £405. A cheque of £425 including £20 being our membership towards this organisation, was handed over at Auckland by the President of our Association.
2. Concession in Air India Fares: A report was given by Mr. L. N. Patel who approached Air India while he was in Bombay. From this report it was considered as being impracticable as a guarantee of number of intending Indian passengers could not be given to Air India.
3. No letter was written to the Government of India regarding the difficulties being experienced in obtaining passport in India, as the required information was not provided by the Country Section Branch.
4. The Directory of names and addresses of Indian residents in New Zealand had only recently been sent to printer and consequently was not on hand for distribution. But it was assured that they will be sent to all Branches in about two or three months' time.
5. A copy of the Constitution of The New Zealand Indian Central Association (Inc.) was forwarded to the office of incorporated Societies for registration. However, this was returned to Mr. L. N. Patel for amendment as follows:

The whole of clause 33(f) was required to be deleted, as it was thought that this clause would constitute some form of financial gain for the Indian Central Association.

6. The following report on funds raised during the year 1962-63 was presented to the Conference:
- (i) Freedom From Hunger Campaign: Total amount of £572 15s. 6d. was raised by six branches (Wellington, Pukekohe, Auckland, Rotorua, Country Section, Christchurch) which was donated at CORSO Headquarters in Wellington. Manawatu and Waikato could not raise this fund as their members were living far away from one another. These associations informed that their members donated individually when the appeal was made by Corso. Waikato claimed that the appeal from the Central Association was not received by them. Due to some misunderstanding Taranaki sent their contribution direct to Corso in Taranaki District.
  - (ii) India's Defense Fund: An encouraging response was met to this appeal by all the branches. The total amount of £24,797 17s. 1. was raised and was remitted to India in three instalments. This fund was completed at all the branches except Auckland. A further contribution of a ring was made by Mr. Parbhubhai Patel of Auckland in this Conference. Comments on the splendid community efforts for this appeal were made by several speakers and fully endorsed by the rest of the delegates present.
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A copy of the letter received from the Private Secretary of the Prime Minister of India in regard to the remittance of first instalment.

Prime Minister's Secretariat,  
New Delhi-11,  
17th December, 1962.

No. D/S. 10818

Dear Sir,

I am desired by the Prime Minister to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter dated 13th November 1962, together with a Bank Draft for £7,000 being the contribution made by the Indian Community in New Zealand for the National Defence Fund. It is indeed a very encouraging response for which the Prime Minister has asked me to convey to you and through you to all the Indians living in New Zealand his grateful thanks for this fine gesture. It is heartening to note how our countrymen abroad are one with us in our joys and sorrows. Our people are, however, facing the situation with courage and resolute determination which is the surest foundation of our ultimate victory.

The draft has been deposited with the State Bank of India, New Delhi, who will send you their receipt direct, in due course.

Yours faithfully,  
(Sgd.) M. L. BAZAZ,  
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister.

The President,  
Indian Central Association Inc.,  
G.P.O. Box 1941,  
Wellington, New Zealand.

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gentlemen,

Many times we feel that we are only concerned with our own problems in New Zealand. However, there are many important happenings beyond our senses that effects our minds and lives in this country. At present, it has been a practice for many nations to preach indifferent to their practice on many subjects. Past events of last twelve months has brought this picture so clearer to our eyes. Slogans of "HINDI CHINI BHAIBRAI" was still on the lips of many Indians when suddenly the Chinese, from a border dispute, lodged a massive ruthless attack on North East Frontiers of India taking whole of India by surprise. Our soldiers were not fully equipped with modern arms as India was not fully prepared for war or defence. We lacked communications, roadings and supply lines which were the most essential things for any country who is at war. This has found that we were at undeclared war with Chinese. The people and the Government of India immediately rose to this occasion. Other political parties than Communists had pledged their unconditional support to the Government. As the situation became more critical we appealed to U.S.A. and Britain to give us modern arms and ammunition aid. They immediately promised and forwarded some arms by air and by sea. We are most

grateful to these countries for their help in the hour of our need. Furthermore they are still helping with experts by planning our defence against land and air attacks. Situation was so grave that it was shocking to learn that we lived in a darkness or an artificialness. State of emergency was declared in the country and all our resources of power and strength was focused on defending the freedom of India. People helped with money, gold and jewellery, some giving their entire belongings. This is an occasion to value that no price was too high to maintain the freedom of our Motherland. Many JAWANS have given their lives so bravely defending our Motherland. We who lived thousands of miles away had the same feelings as those who lived in India. Our support was limited to money and economy only. While we were considering our part of contribution to this situation India's Prime Minister's world wide appeal for funds came to our hands. We decided, with the consent of our Executive, to raise "Defence of India Fund" amongst the Indians of New Zealand. We sent an appeal to all our branches requesting them to take steps to raise funds for this greatest cause of defending our freedom. Response was very wonderful indeed. Most of our people had understood the grave need of our Motherland and donated very generously. I want to extend my congratulations to all, and specially to those who singularly donated £100 and over. They are few, but they are well appreciated. Our total has almost reached twenty-five thousand pounds (£25,000). It is a wonderful donation by such a small community of Indian residents of New Zealand. I am completely pleased with our result of total sum. I also feel that I must remind you of the fact that there was ample room for improvement; if the situation had been handled with some due understanding, the total would have been higher. This fund money has been handled with all the best possible care that could be taken by our Secretary and myself. I assure you of the fact that not a single penny was misused or mismanaged. As the money came to hand we forwarded different instalments to the Prime Minister of India. In raising this fund in New Zealand, Indian High Commission had played an important part by giving some very valuable information regarding current relationship between India and China. I am very grateful for such co-operation. Chinese have ceased fire but their intentions are yet unknown. In Tibet they are preparing on a much heavier scale. Though the rain has stopped, the darkness of clouds have not disappeared. In fact they are getting darker still. Intervening by some neutral nations has not yet solved this problem completely; and the state of emergency and preparations of defence still goes in India. We are also duty bound to consider further help.

At times, our Central Association has been a target of criticism, not in Central Meeting, but at Branch Association Meeting. The principle of democracy gives a greater freedom to every person who is always entitled to express his personal opinion. Therefore, it is also equally necessary to hear the reply and then consider and judge for yourself of right and wrong. Central is a vigilant body keeping in mind the interest and safety of Indian residents of New Zealand and to this respect it has a history of achievements behind it:

1. It has taken up representations to New Zealand Parliament against the charges of "White League" and succeeded in persuading the Committee concerned.
2. It has met visiting Parliamentarians and explained to them our situation.
3. Taken up to the Customs and Immigration Officials, the cases of many Indians who felt their cases were unjustified and succeeded in some of them.
4. Met Ministers and represented the problems and views

of our people and have succeeded in:

- (a) Gaining admission of our intending Son-in-laws.
- (b) Extending limits of our re-entry permits.
- (c) Settling passport issues for 'Baroda State residents.
- (d) Verification on citizenship definition.

5. Taken up cases of many young men who were not able to travel due to last world war difficulties as either their permit limit had expired or their age had reached over 21 years. Our Association gained some success with the help of Government of India.

6. Handled rice rationing issue during the war.

7. Raised funds for Earthquake disaster, Flood disaster, Freedom from Hunger, and recently for Defence of India, the greatest cause to which we ever contributed.

These are only a few which I intend to bring to your notice. There are many more besides these which could be revealed by our pioneer members. Central is OUR body. If 'Central is sitting idle it is our duty to make it active and see it carries out the resolutions instructed by your representatives. To put this question very bluntly, what has CENTRAL not done which you had intended to do? Please always bear in mind that you are a part and parcel of CENTRAL; also it is your duty to improve Central's administration and see it keeps up with the march of time.

Last year, I had already pointed out that our co-operation among members was not of good standard. I feel our co-operation should be improved to a higher standard of understanding and unity be re-stabilised for our own benefit. There is no real cause for disunity, even in spite of differences of opinion on different subjects, we still remain of same family with same cause and same skin. We have this organisation almost for forty years. It has served many important purposes for all of us and it still could do so if we only desire to do so. Some of our Associations have not been functioning in proper order; it is our duty to pay attention to them.

We also bear the responsibility of creating the atmosphere to inspire our young generation to come forward and serve our society. We should discuss these subjects and benefit by gaining each others' opinions.

I extend my appeal to many former leading members of our community to come forward again and give their service to this Society. Please do not let down your Society for differences on small matters which could be discussed and dissolved. Always remember United we Stand and United we March.

Standard of living has been improved, also the standard of earning has been improved, because we are being able to stand on our feet. Let not proudness, arrogance or jealousy overtake your mind. Be simple and humble. Come forward and join with us in serving the humble cause of serving our people. Give your knowledge and experience to the Society and obtain opportunity to gain further.

I am,  
Your most humble servant,

D. KESRY, President,  
N.Z. Indian Central Assn.

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The President, Mr. D. Kesry, presented his report to the Conference. This report was approved and duly adopted.

The financial statement for the past year was presented by the General Secretary together with the correspondence carried out by him. These were also approved and adopted.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the outgoing officers who had efficiently rendered their honorary service for the cause of the community.

All the branches wished the President a happy holiday as he was to leave for a short visit to India.

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## **OFFICERS ELECTED**

*The following officers were elected for the year 1963-64:*

**President:** Mr. Dayal Kesry, 207 Great South Rd., Papakura.

**Vice-President:** Mr. Karam Singh, R.D. No. 3, Te Awamutu.

**General Secretary:** Mr. Narsinhbhai Vallabh, 5 Wilson St., Newtown, Wellington.

**Assistant Secretary:** Mr. Govindbhai Bhagaghai, 6 Nikau Grove, Lower Hutt.

**Auditor:** Mr. Khushalbhai 'Madhu, 478 Richmond Rd., Auck.

**Executive Committee:** Messrs. L. N. Patel (Auckland), Dahya Ranchhod (Pukekohe), Piara Singh (Country Section), Jeram Chhima (Rotorua), Chhiba Parbhu (Wellington), Phuman Singh (Waikato), Jeram Govind (Taranaki), Govind Lallu (Christchurch).

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## **RESOLUTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

1. A subject of "Further Aid to India" was brought forward to the Conference. After a long discussion, a motion was put forward by the President that this Association should send further aid to India in the form of materials or food. 'The fund to be raised by the branches should reach the Central Association by 30th September and 30th March. This motion was passed unanimously. It was further suggested that the requirements of the soldiers are to be consulted with the Government of India and the Executive Committee should be called to decide what to send.

2. On the suggestion of the Rotorua Branch it was resolved to write to ALL INDIA RADIO regarding

the suitability and times of the programmes broadcast to Australia and New Zealand as the present 'evening broadcast is a bit late for New Zealand listeners and the programme is classical only.

3. An application was received by the Central Association. It came from Mr. Babubhai Vishwanath Bhatt, residing in Karadi, Dist. Surat, India, appealing to the community to sponsor him in order that he may come to New Zealand. In return, it was stated that he would be willing to offer his services as teacher and as Brahmin to the community. After the discussion it was decided not to sponsor this gentleman.

4. A resolution was brought forward by Auckland Branch for an amendment to Rule 18 of the Constitution to the effect that "No branch shall be entitled to be represented by more than ten delegates at any Conference" instead of the present figure of seven. This resolution was passed unanimously.

5. Country Section presented a case of Mr. Jagiri Singh who has been refused to be granted re-entry permit by Immigration Department. After hearing the full facts of the case, it was decided that the Central Association should handle this case. And it was also suggested that before taking any necessary step, the whole case should be examined with the consult of Mr. L. N. Patel. Country Section was asked to forward all necessary relevant information connected with this case.

6. Mr. Moran Patel from Auckland was permitted to address the Conference regarding the activities and aims of the newly formed Indian Central Sports Organisation. He intimated that the Organisation was looking for a donor for the proposed "DHYANCHAND TROPHY" which was to be the prize to be presented to the winning team competing at the annual Hockey Tournament now conducted at either Wellington or Auckland. He suggested that Indian Central Sports Organisation would be honoured if New Zealand Indian Central Association, as a parent body, would agree to donating this trophy. After a discussion on this suggestion, it was moved that Indian Central Association donate "Dhyanchand Trophy" to Central Sports Organisation. This motion was carried. The amount of £25 was also approved to purchase this trophy.

7. It was requested by the President that a letter be written to Manawatu Branch asking them to participate in the affairs of the Central body as it has not been represented continuously for two Conferences.

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The Rotorua Branch extended an invitation to hold the next Annual Conference at Rotorua, during the Easter holidays. This was thankfully accepted.

An invitation from Pukekohe branch to hold the next Executive Committee meeting was also received with accord.

All the branches represented thanked the Pukekohe Indian Association for the hospitality and cordial welcome extended to them during their stay in Pukekohe.

The Conference concluded at 11.15 p.m. on 13th April, with the singing of the National Anthem "Jan Gan Man".

## ADDRESSES OF GENERAL SECRETARY AND ALL THE BRANCHES

All communications to be addressed to:

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

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### ADDRESSES OF ALL THE BRANCHES

The Secretary,  
Auckland Indian Association,  
44 Hakanoa Street,  
Grey Lynn,  
Auckland.

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

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

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

The Secretary,  
Manawatu and Hawke's Bay

Indian Association,  
79 The Square,  
Palmerston North.

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

The Secretary,  
Christchurch Indian Association  
122 Ferry Road,  
Christchurch.

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

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

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1963

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

CREDIT				DEBIT			
	£	s.	d.				
Last year's Balance in Bank of N.Z	156	0	11	Printing of Annual Reports	28	17	6
Last year's Balance in P.O. Savings	473	11	11	Envelopes	2	14	0
Affiliation Fees:				Mahatma Gandhi Prize	5	0	6
Auckland (1960)	47	8	0	Prize (£5; Exchange 6d.)			
Wellington (1961-62)	32	18	0	Maori Education Foundation	425	0	0
Country Section (1961-62, 1962-63)	12	0	0	Fund (£405; Membership £20)			
Manawatu (1959-60, 60-61, 61-62)	9	0	6	Bank Charges for Amount Overdrawn (Fee £3; Interest 5s.)	3	5	0
Pukekohe (1961-62)	6	10	0	Posting Annual Reports	0	9	8
Maori Education Foundation Fund				Posting Copy of Funeral Services to Four Branches	0	2	8
Wellington	125	0	0	Registered Letters to Branches & India	1	2	6
Auckland	100	0	0	Postal Stamps	1	10	0
Pukekohe	50	0	0	Freedom from Hunger Fund	572	15	6
Country Section	30	0	0	Exchanges on Cheques	15	19	3
Taranaki	25	0	0	India's Defence Fund:			
Rotorua	25	0	0	First Installment (Stg. £6930 13s. 10d.)	7000	0	0
Christchurch	20	0	0	Second Installment (Stg. £9901)	10,000	0	3
Manawatu	15	1	0	Third Installment (Stg. £7721)	7798	4	2
Freedom From Hunger Fund:				Charges for Three Drafts	0	0	6
Wellington	401	10	6	Telegrams:			
Pukekohe	55	15	0	Auckland Indian Sports Club	0	4	7
Auckland	51	0	0	Branches	1	13	4
Rotorua	29	10	0	Cables:			
				Dr. Radhakrishnan (elected President)	1	4	3
				President of India, 26 <sup>th</sup> January	1	5	7
				Sympathy, to Prime	1	6	11

