

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



**FINANCIAL STATEMENT
AND
ANNUAL REPORT**



**59th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
held at
SPORTS AND RECREATION ROOM, ROTORUA
SATURDAY 6 APRIL 1985**

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THE
**NEW ZEALAND INDIAN
 CENTRAL ASSOCIATION**

INC

President:

GANGES B. SINGH (Pukekohe)

Vice President:

SHANTIBEN THAKOR (Wellington)

General Secretary:

JAGDISH C. NATALI (Auckland)

Under Secretary:

UKA CHHIBA (Pukekohe)

Auditor:

AMRIT VASAN (Wellington)

Executive Committee:

CHHOTU SIMA (Auckland)

GOVIND LALLU (Christchurch)

SANTOKH SINGH BHULLAR (Country Section)

HARIBHAI NARAN (Manawatu)

ISH WAR RAMBHAI (Pukekohe)

CHIMAN BHANA (Rotorua)

GULAB MORAL (Taranaki)

BHANUBHAI PATEL (Waikato)

AMRIT VASAN (Wellington)

DELEGATES PRESENT**CONFERENCE
DELEGATES 1985****Auckland**

1. Chhotubhai Sima
2. Dinesh Tailor
3. Parbhu Kanji
4. Thakor Parbhu
5. Chhotu Mistry
6. Raman Ganda
7. Dinesh Patel
8. Shantilal Prema
9. Arvinds Masters
10. Mrs Paliben Ranchhod

Wellington

1. Kanti Soma Ramji
2. Raman Ranchhod
3. Pravin D. Patel
4. Amrit L. Vasani
5. Rama K. Ramanathan
6. Mrs Bala Thompson

Rotorua (Bay of Plenty)

1. Chiman Bhana
2. Jayanti Sima
3. Diyal Dheda
4. Jeram Bhana
5. Dr Ishwar Morar
6. Dr Munir Kadri

Pukekohe

1. Ramon Wallabh
2. Miss Parvatiben Khusal
3. Magan Ranchhod
4. Khushal Naran
5. Bhula Das Bhakta
6. Narendra Morar
7. Ishwar Rambhai
8. Mrs Pritam K. Singh

9. Mohan Parsot
10. Ganpat Hari

Country Section

1. Santokh Singh Bhullar
2. Daulat Singh
3. Sardool Singh
4. Sarwan Singh
5. Harkishan Singh Kung
6. Hardev Singh Kung
7. Mohon Singh Ark

Waikato

1. Pravin N. Puna
2. Raman Jeram

Taranaki

1. Parhubhai Pema
2. Girish Bhana
3. Gulab Moral
4. Kiran Rama
5. Chhagan Lala

Christchurch**Manawatu**

1. Haribhai Navan

Attending Life Members

1. Khushal Madhu
2. Shivilal Masters
3. Karam Singh Basi
4. Ravji C. Han
5. Parag Kanji

15 years or more

LIST OF YOUTH DELEGATES**List of Youth Delegates at 1985 Easter Conference Held at Government Gardens, Rotorua.**

Anita Dheda
Meena Nathoo
Neilar Dheda
Sue Bhana
Pradeep Nathoo
Jayanti Makan

BAY OF PLENTY

Bharati Patel
Bharti Sukha

TARANAKI

Chandan Govind

WELLINGTON

Reshma Patel
Meena Bhikha
Minakcey Lal

WAIKATO

Taranpal Singh

COUNTRY SECTION

Harsad Bhula
Janti Chhiba
Suresh Wallabh

PUKEKOHE

Seelha Bhana
Ramesh Dullabh

AUCKLAND

Mukesh Gordhan

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1984-1985

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Namaste,
Sat - Sin - Akal

Fellow Delegates, Life Members and Guests.
It gives me great pleasure to present the Annual Report of the N.Z.I.C.A.

The year has been one of gains, losses, happiness and sorrow. The Labour party managed to gain the treasury benches with a sound majority. Big changes will be implemented in their term of office. We are already experiencing changes in the foreign policy, some of these include:

- Nuclear-free New Zealand.
- Re-establishment of a New Zealand High Commission in Delhi.
- Discouragement of an All Black Tour to South Africa this year.
- And, changes to our tax structure.

I would like to thank the Rt. Hon. Mr. Birch - M.P. for Franklin for arranging Mr McDowell's visit to Pukekohe to meet members of our Association, I extend my thanks to Pukekohe Indian Association for their part in making this meeting a success. Mr McDowell was New Zealand High Commissioner to India, resident in Wellington.

We are delighted that finally the New Zealand High Commission has been re-established. I congratulate the Labour Government for appointing Sir Edmund Hillary as our High Commissioner in Delhi. Central Association in conjunction with Auckland Association first welcomed, and then farewelled Sir Edmund at a function held in Auckland before his departure. We wished him a successful term of office. This was a historic event. I thank the Auckland President Mr Chhotubhai Sima, and his committee for their help in organising this function.

The relationship developed during the last few years with the Indian High Commission in Wellington has brought positive results. On 7 December, 1984 the acting Indian High Commissioner Mr Keivom held a function at Bharat Bhavan to warm up relations between India and New Zealand. All branch Presidents and Secretaries were invited, I was honoured to speak on your behalf where the Prime Minister was the guest speaker.

Indian Government has just announced the appointment of a high ranking retired Navy Officer Admiral Oscar Dawson, an Anglo-Indian to take over the New Zealand High Commission from acting High Commission Mr Keivom.

Mr Keivom will be remembered as one of the boldest, straightforward, approachable and helpful High Commissioner we have experienced.

I hope the new High Commissioner will strengthen the relationship developed with our Association. It is with regret that I must record the passing of Mr Devjibhai. He was a Life Member of this Association, well known and highly respected by the Indian Community of New Zealand. To his family, and on behalf of the New Zealand Central Indian Association, I wish to convey my sincere condolences. Your loss is our loss also.

Congratulations Dr Satyanand for being the first Indian in New Zealand to receive the honour of O.B.E. for his services to the community. I hope more Indians will be honoured for their contributions and sacrifices in years to come.

Our women folk have not been behind in their achievements. Congratulations to Balaben Thompson for being the first Indian Woman Justice of the Peace, and Marriage Celebrant. I was interviewed by her on Radio Access on the history of the New Zealand Indian Central Association, for which I would like to thank her.

Last year we made history by electing a woman Vice President, Shantiben Parbhu. I congratulate you all for doing so. I hope our women will make history in every field in the future.

I congratulate the Auckland Indian Association for awarding Life Membership to 18 of their most deserving members.

We all felt very honoured when the Indian Cricket Team won the World Championship in Australia. I wish to congratulate our brothers for their fine achievement for their country. The highlight was Mr Shastri for winning 'The Man of the Series Title' and the prize.

All branches should help their youth with funds, support and guidance in all avenues. Parents can and should pay their part by giving encouragement and support to their youth. I would like to congratulate those students who have today received prizes from the Association and wish them success in furthering their careers.

On behalf of you all, I congratulate the Prime Minister, Mr David Lange, and his Government for appointing the first ever Maori Governor General. I wish Most Reverend Archbishop Reeves every success in his term of office.

Recent hurricanes in Fiji have brought problems and hardship to the people there. I would like to thank members of our Association who have contributed generously either directly or through the Fiji Association in Auckland, to the Hurricane Relief Fund organised by their Secretary, Satendra Singh.

I would also like to thank members for donating to the Te Aroha Flood Appeal. A great effort by you all.

We were saddened by the unfortunate chain of events that occurred at Amritsar's Golden Temple and in Punjab, where many innocent people lost their lives. The assassination of our Prime Minister, Smt.

Indira Gandhi was a shameful act, which we all condemned. I hope under the leadership of our new Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, our country will stabilise and remain united.

I wish to thank you all for working together and showing respect and concern during this time of unrest, hardship and suffering by our people in India. Punjabis, Gujaratis, and others have in the past, and are at present, and hope in the future will work together for the betterment of all Indians in New Zealand.

Professional people should give their support and take an active part first at their local branch so they can through their local branch come as delegates and take part in our conference.

A lot is spoken to criticise the Central Association for not doing a great deal. I wish to point out to the branches that they are not doing enough for their members. It is sad when bigger Associations cannot find people to be elected as office bearers, but speak of handing over their responsibilities to Central. Let's make 1985 a year for communication and go back to 1920's, 30's, 40's and 50's to bring back the brotherhood, friendship and respect for others that existed then. Let us make progress again through unity and respect for each other through communication.

I wish to thank the Auckland and Wellington Association and Wellington Sports Clubs for keeping me informed of their activities.

Finally, I thank Presidents of all branches and Life Members who have given me support during my stay in office over a period of 8 years. Five years as your Vice President and the last 3 years as President. It was a great honour to be elected unopposed. Thank you all.

I wish to pay special tributes to:

Bhula Das Bhakta from Pukekohe, Chotu Bhai Sima and Thakor Bhai Parbhu from Auckland and Gulab Moral from Taranaki, Bhukan Parbhu, Amrit L. Vasan from Wellington, Dayal Deda from Rotorua, Santokh Singh Bhullar and Harbans Singh Randawa from Country Section for their support and guidance. Please accept this as a personal acknowledgement.

Special thanks to my local branch for supporting me.

As I will not be standing for election this year, I wish to thank my Vice President Shantiben Parbhu and my most loyal and able secretary, Jagdish Natali and all other members of my committee; without their help my task would have been a difficult one. I thank you all for making my stay in office a successful and a memorable one.

While in office my motto has been: "Others before self", which I think has been the key to my success along with your support.

I wish the incoming President and the Committee all the best and every success.

The Association has my assurance of continued support in all its future endeavours. Any assistance that may be required will be always forthcoming.

Ganges B. Singh,
President. JAI HIND

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Host President Chiman Bhana, welcomed the Honoured guests, Delegates, Life members and the Youth Conference Delegates, and wished them every success in its deliberations. He then introduced the Guest Speaker Honourable Dr. Peter Tapsell (Member of Parliament for Eastern Maori).

Dr Tapsell in his opening address made mention of the Indian settlers in New Zealand and in particular in Bay of Plenty area. He stated that he found Indians very honest, loyal and industrious, and has made many friends in the Bay of Plenty Area. He has a great affinity for Indians in N.Z. and India. He advised that Indians should show higher profiles and be recognised by taking interest in school committees, charitable clubs local Body Governments and Community work. He also mentioned that this year is the International Year of Youth therefore he urged young Indians to take active part in youth activities and place their part on the map. This reference was particularly made to Youth Group.

As a Minister of Arts, he mentioned that Indian Arts & Culture is very ancient and there are many cultural groups in India which could be brought to N.Z. to promote Arts and culture here. He told the conference that during his recent visit to India he travelled through India very extensively and was amazed to see Indian Art spread through every corner of the country.

While in India he observed that India is a great Industrialised country with Atomic Power Stations, big Hydro Dams, big Industries (e.g. Hindustan, Tata etc) and predicted that India will become an Industrial Giant one day.

On N.Z. Immigration Policy, Dr. Tapsell stated that the present Immigration Policy is not fair. His Government has set up a committee to look into the Immigration Act and Policy. He would like to see submissions made by Indians when the Bill is in the draft form and before it is finalised.

In conclusion Dr Tapsell told the delegates to have a fruitful and useful meeting and declared the conference open.

In reply the President, Mr Ganges Singh, thanked Dr Tapsell and his wife for attending the opening session of the Conference.

With regard to Immigration Policy, the President informed Dr Tapsell that we do not want an open door policy for Indians, but we would like consideration given for blood relations and family re-unification.

The President, presented Dr Tapsell with a copy of the Historical Book "Indians in N.Z." and adjourned the meeting at approximately 10.30am for tea break.

The main conference commenced at 11am. The Youth Conference also commenced about the same time in the adjoining room.

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

The following apologies were recorded:—

Life Members:— Rameshbhai Patel; J.K. Natali; Diyal Kesry (Auckland); Parbhubhai Bhikha (Pukekohe); Piara Singh (Country Section); Govind Kanji; Narsinh Vallabh (Wellington); Chhiba Lala (Taranaki), Ramabhai Unka (Waikato). Govind Lallu (Christchurch Assoc).

The minutes of the 58th Annual Conference held in Auckland on 21 April 1984 were as read and adopted.

Matters Arising out of Minutes:

It was pointed out that on Page 12 of the Report, the phrase “or similar reward” from the Remit be deleted.

Telephone Directory

While Telephone Directory matter was being discussed, it was suggested that the Directory be printed every two years and that the directory to include surnames first.

After a lengthy discussion on the matter, it was suggested by the secretary that because of the cost factor, we should look at the feasibility of computerising the Directory information. The secretary to investigate and report back.

School Certificate Prizes:

The 1984 School Certificate Prizes were awarded as follows:—

1st Prize: Deepak N. Lala (AK)	348
2nd Prize: Sudesh K Chhita (AK)	340
3rd equal: Usha D. Narsai (AK)	336
Nina K. Patel (AK)	336

Inward and Outward Correspondence:

The following inward and outward letters were tabled:

1. Letter to Minister of Foreign Affairs (N.Z.) reopening of N.Z. High Commission’s Office in India. — Reply from the Ministry.
2. Letter from Ministry of Foreign Affairs re brief meeting with Mr David McDowell in Pukekohe.
3. Letter to Branches requesting names of people to be nominated for Queen’s Honours award.
4. Letter from Acting High Commissioner for India requesting members holding Indian Passport

to register with the High Commission's Office in Wellington.

5. Telegram to Mr David Lange, congratulating him and his party for being elected as a new Government.
 6. Letters and Newsletters from N.Z. Indian Youth Group.
 7. Letter to Waikato Indian Association requesting venue for Executive Committee meeting.
 8. Letter to the Prime Minister of N.Z. expressing our appreciation at their decision to re-open N.Z. High Commission's Office in New Delhi, and a reply from the Prime Minister (Mr Lange).
 9. Letter to the Immigration Department, advising of the names of Liaison Officers and to advise the Association of any changes in the Immigration Policy. Acknowledgement received.
 10. Letter to Indian High Commission's Office seeking information of Scholarship for Cultural Activities. Reply from the High Commission's Office.
 11. Letter to Sir Edmund Hillary congratulating him for being appointed High Commissioner for N.Z. to India. Also requesting him to meet as many members as possible before he takes up his post.
- Letter of acknowledgement and indication of a meeting in Auckland in January.
12. Letter from Sri Sathya Sai Baba Centre in Auckland re "chain letters".
 13. Telegram to President of India expressing our sympathy at untimely death of India's Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi.
 14. Letter from Auckland Branch expressing concern re articles published in New Zealand Papers after Mrs Gandhi's death, and suggesting an official reply be made by the President through the News Media.
 15. Telegram to Mrs Tara Singh (daughter of Devjibhai Patel) in Fiji expressing sympathy in her sad loss.
 16. Letter to the Prime Minister nominating Jelal Kalyanji Natali's for inclusion in Queen's Honours award for service to the community. Acknowledgement letter on behalf of the Prime Minister.
 17. Letter to the Minister of Social Welfare re National Superannuation Policy. Acknowledging letter from the Minister (Mrs Ann Hercus).

Moved that the inward letters be received and outward endorsed.

Gulab Moral/Chhotu Mistry
(Taranaki) / (Auckland)

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF CORRESPONDENCE

Matters Arising out of Correspondence

Visas to India

Members expressed concern at Visas requirement by Indians travelling to India on N.Z. or British Passport. After a lengthy discussion, it was moved that a letter be written to the Indian High Commission's Office in Wellington advising that they write to the Indian Government on our behalf

asking the Government to review their current policy on Visa requirement.

Sir Edmund Hillary's Farewell:

The President informed the conference that a Farewell function and reception in conjunction with Auckland Indian Association, was held in honour of Sir Edmund Hillary, the N.Z. High Commissioner for India. It was a highly successful function.

Letter from Chairman of Subcommittee on Culture:

Report of the subcommittee was endorsed as correct record by those who had attended the subcommittee meeting.

In order to promote culture, there were various points raised in the report worth noting. They are:

1. That any association can make application for funds from the N.Z. Arts Council through its regional offices for the promotions of the Indian Culture, Religious teaching or the establishing of an Indian School. (This would apply to any association that is thinking of starting a school for the first time) Arts Council grants are available for most projects but cannot be used as an on going proposition. Branches to notify the secretary NZICA of any application.
2. That emphasis should be made by associations for the promotion of Indian Schools, Indian Religion and Indian Culture and to encourage and support overseas artists. (Professional or others).
3. That the person that has moved away from the association be encouraged to take part in association activities and members of the association patch up differences and use the talents they have for the benefit of all association members.
4. That the Central Association arrange a special fund to help promotion of Indian culture. This fund may be organised by a lottery or direct contribution by associations. (The President has indicated that he is organising some raffle that would benefit In this direction).
5. That major associations support minor associations for providing items for promotion of Indian Culture.
6. That contact names of key organisers in associations for liasion and fact finding be made available to the secretary.
7. That the association look at any requests from members wanting to bequest funds for the promotion of Indian culture etc. (This is a legal matter which individual associations would have to look at).

Letter from New Zealand Insurance Co. Ltd.

One of the ways of raising funds for the Association was outlined in a letter from the New Zealand Insurance Co. The President stated that as outlined in the letter the Branches and the Central could benefit financially if the general insurance policies taken out by members were done through the N.Z. Insurance Co.

Instead of the commission going to the Agent it would be paid to the Association.

After a brief discussion, it was resolved that as this is a Commercial Venture and because the Association is regarded as charitable organisation, it would be unwise to accept the proposal.

Life Membership:

A letter received from Auckland Branch nominating Mr Parbhu Kanji for Life Membership was read. Also a resume on Mr Kanji was read by President of Auckland Mr Chhotubhai Sima.

The President pointed out that the nomination was received and considered at the last Executive Committee Meeting held in Hamilton and it was recommended by majority for the name to be forwarded to the next Annual Conference for consideration.

Various members made comments on Mr Kanji's contribution to the Association, especially in the Sporting field.

On a secret ballot more than 2/3 of the members voted in favour of Mr Kanji's nomination and he was duly made a life member and was presented with a Life Membership Badge.

Financial Report:

In presenting the Financial Report, the General Secretary drew attention to the outstanding affiliation fees. Branch Associations who were in arrears, were requested to update their affiliation fees.

Moved that the Financial Report be accepted as presented.

P. Kanji/G. Moral
(AK) (TNK)

Youth Conference Report:

At this point, the President asked the newly elected Chairman to give a brief report of the Youth Conference, which is reported here.

The President congratulated the newly elected officers of the N.Z. Indian Youth Group: — Taranpal Singh, chairman and Bharti Patel, Secretary. He wished the young members every success towards the progress of their activities and asked the Branches to support the Youth in every way.

The President also announced that he will donate a Cup to be known as N.Z.I.C.A. President's Cup which is to be awarded annually to the Youth Group which takes greater participation in the Regional Youth Activities and has greater social achievements.

NEW ZEALAND INDIAN YOUTH GROUP

**NEW ZEALAND
INDIAN YOUTH GROUP**

1985 EASTER CONFERENCE REPORT

On Saturday 6th April 1985, the New Zealand Indian Youth Group's Conference was held at the Government Gardens, Rotorua, in conjunction with Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Indian Central Association.

Anita Dheda, delegate for the Bay of Plenty Youth Group, opened the conference with a Maori welcome, which she later translated. She introduced our guest speaker, Sandy Morrison, who spoke on her job of Probation Officer, for the Justice Department.

General introduction was given by Chairperson, Ramesh Dullabh, who also gave his report on the Executive Committee Meeting, held in Hamilton on 1st December 1984. Apologies we've received from Auckland and Manawatu Youth Groups.

Each branch delegate then reported on their individual branch activities and problems.

Taranpal Singh, from Country Section, was elected Chairperson, and Bharati Patel, from Taranaki, as Secretary. Thanks was extended to Ramesh Dullabh and Seelha Bhana, for their excellent administration during their term as Chairperson and Secretary.

One suggestion to Dr Peter Tapsell's challenge of becoming involved in the International Year of the Youth was a South Island Trip. This trip would attempt to extend communications with Indians in New Zealand. This will come up for further consideration in the August Forum, with the view to finalise any details.

The lack of involvement in most regions was generally recognised. Various approaches are discussed with regards to positive action, the general consensus being that it was more fruitful to concentrate on those persons who were more responsive to appreciating the true value of the Indian Culture. It was also generally felt that the current Youth Group structure is adequate to meet the needs at regional representation.

While the Youth Group's newsletters were effective in communication among the Indian youth, there was a problem in distributions within some regions. To overcome this problem, we request the assistance of members in those regions to ensure that newsletters are read by all.

The conference closed with the venue for the August Forum yet to be finalised. Thanks went to the organisers of the Bay of Plenty Youth Group for hosting an enjoyable and successful conference.

Number of Official Delegates from Each Branch

Bay of Plenty	6	Taranaki	2
Wellington	1	Country Section	1
Pukekohe	3	Auckland	2

Branch Activities:

Each Branch presented its report of the activities carried out throughout the year.

It was noted that almost all Branches had common activities eg. Fund raising, Geeta classes, Festival celebrations, social and cultural activities. Also active participation in 3 main centres by Mahila Samaj.

President's Report:

The President's Report was read and accepted by acclamation. Upon concluding his report, the President announced of his generous donation of \$101.00 to the Rotorua Association in appreciation of organising to hold the Annual Conference at such a short notice. This stimulated other spontaneous donations as follows:

Gulab Moral \$101.00; Raman Ganda \$101.00; Auckland Assoc \$150.00; Pukekohe Assoc. \$111.50; Wellington Assoc. \$151.00; Country Section Assoc. \$100.00; Waikato Assoc. \$101.00.

Election of Officers:

A vote of thanks was moved and accorded to the outgoing officers.

R. Ganda/C. Sima (Auck) / (Auck)

The following were nominated and elected:

President:

Magan Ranchhod

Ramon Vallabh/Ishwar Rambhai

Shantiben Thakor

Chhotu Mistry/Parbhu Kanji

On a secret ballot Shantiben Thakor was elected President.

Vice President:

Santokh Singh Bhullar

Chhotu Sima/Karam Singh Basi

Magan Ranchhod

Ishwar Rambhai/Bhula Das Bhakta

Magan Ranchhod was elected Vice President on a secret ballot.

General Secretary

Jagdish C. Natali

Shivlal Masters/Parbhu Kanji

Assistant Secretary:

Dinesh Tailor

Parbhu Kanji/Chhotu Sima

Uka Chhiba

Khushal Naran/Ishwar Rambhai

On a secret ballot Uka Chhiba was elected Assistant Secretary.

Auditor:

Amrit Vasan (Wn)

Raman Ranchhod/Dalu Patel

Executive Committee:

Chhotubhai Sima	Auckland
Kanti Soma Ramji	Wellington
Ramon Wallabh	Pukekohe
Santokh Singh Bhullar	Country Section
Haribhai Naran	Manawatu
Govind Lallu	Christchurch
Bhanubhai Patel	Waikato
Chhotubhai Chhiba	Taranaki
Chiman Bhana	Rotorua

Sub Committees:**On Immigration:** Raman Ganda; Thakor Parbhu; Amrit Vasan.**On Cultural and Facts Finding:**

It was moved that the Office Bearers to follow up on the report presented by Uka Chhiba and they can co-opt members if and when need arises for further deliberation.

Raman Ranchhod/Gulab Moral
(Wellington)/(Taranaki)

REMITTS AND RESOLUTIONS

From Pukekohe

“That any office bearer is only to serve a term of two years”.

(not carried)

From Wellington

1. “That the Executive Committee meeting of the Central Association should be held at a location, centrally placed in the North Island”.

(Withdrawn)

2. “That the Annual Conference of the N.Z. Indian Central Association be held every alternative year”.

(Withdrawn)

From Bay of Plenty (Rotorua)

“That the Indian Telephone and address directory be printed every three years.
This matter was discussed earlier under “Telephone Directory.”

(Withdrawn)

From Waikato

“That the New Zealand Indian Central Association takes up the matter of dual-citizenship with the Indian High Commission”.

(Carried)

From Auckland

1. That the N.Z. Herald and also the N.Z. Press Council be written to, showing our concern and disapproval of a head line which singled out Indians in a news article concerning landlords in the Auckland area. It is to be noted that the article included many other communities within its survey for the material “Housing Commission Report”.

(Carried)

2. “That the Association strongly opposes and objects to the forthcoming N.Z. Rugby tour of South Africa.”

(Carried)

3. “That the Government be approached to extend Superannuation to members residing in India”. This matter covered in correspondence with a reply from Minister of Social Welfare.

4. “That the Central Association take the matter of Immigration with the Government with a view to allowing Immigration on the basis of blood relationship”.

(Carried)

Sub committee to look into the draft of the Immigration Policy and make submissions.

5. That N.Z. Broadcasting Corporation and Minister of Broadcasting be approached with a view to providing Indian Cultural programmes, films, musical items, with liaison with the central or local Indian Association”.

(Carried)

6. Qualifications from Gujerat University is recognised in N.Z., while the qualifications from other regional universities are not recognised here. All the Universities in Gujerat were part of Gujerat University until sometime, but simply divided for administration reason, and for the reason, we would like to request the qualification from other universities from Gujerat should be recognised in N.Z. for academic point of view; i.e. Gujerat University Ahmedabad; Sardar University Anand; South Gujerat University Surat; M.S. University Baroda, Saurashtra University Bhaunagar Rajput”.

After a lengthy discussion it was suggested that specific cases be presented for referral to the appropriate University.

General Business:

1. Re members having attended 15 or more conferences.

It was suggested that the General Secretary prepare list of names of people who have attended 15 or

more conferences and circulate the list to branches, and that they be given a certificate of merit in recognition of their services.

2. Indians Whos Who

Dr Kadri proposed that a handbook be compiled of Indians in N.Z. to include, Professionals, Graduates, people with Honorary Titles etc. There was a fair bit of discussion on the subject, but no resolution was passed at this stage.

3. Re Gift Parcels to India

As the tariff paid in India on gift parcels seemed to vary considerably, it was suggested that we write to the Indian High Commission in N.Z. and ask for the guide line re custom tariff etc.

4. Inclusion of Telephone Numbers in the Directory

It was suggested by Dinesh Tailor of Auckland Branch, that only personal and own business telephone numbers be included in the Address and Telephone Directory.

General Secretary advised that the Central Association will print what is included in the material supplied from the Branches. Therefore it is up to Branches to decide what information is to be included in their Branch Directory, before forwarding information to the Central for compiling final print.

5. News Paper Article in Garvi Gujarat

Mr Dinesh Tailor of Auckland Branch raised a matter concerning an article which appeared in “Garvi Gujarat”. After a brief discussion on the subject, it was pointed out by a member from Wellington that the matter is out of order and that it should not have been raised because it deemed to be personal.

Conference 1986:

Country Section extended an invitation to hold the 1986 conference at Easter at a Venue to be advised later. This was accepted with acclamation.

The President Mrs Shantiben Thakor Parbhu, in her closing address thanked the Host Association Bay of Plenty (Rotorua) for their hospitality and for organising the Conference Venue.

The Conference concluded at 8.30 pm with the National Anthem “Jan Gan Man ...“

J.C. Natali J.P.
General Secretary

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING: 1 DECEMBER 1984

An Executive Committee meeting of the Association was held in Turners & Fows Building, Hamilton on Saturday, 1 December 1984, under the auspicious of Waikato Indian Association.

The meeting commenced at approximately 3 p.m. The following were present at the meeting:— Ganges B. Singh (President), Shantiben Thakor (Vice President), Jagdish Natali (General Secretary), Uka Chhiba (Assistant Secretary), Chhotubhai Sima (Auckland), Vinod Patel (Hamilton), Ishwar Rambhai (Pukekohe), Gulab Moral (Taranaki), Chiman Bhana (Rotorua), Santokh Singh Bhullar (Country Section), Ramesh Nanu (N.Z. Indian Youth).

Life Members: Ramesh Patel, Khushla Madhu, Diyal Kesry, Shivlal Masters, Karam Singh Basi, R.C. Han, Rama Unka.

Apologies: Han Naran (Manawatu), Govind Lallu (Christchurch), N. Vallabh, J. K. Natali, Parbhu K. Chhiba, Chhiba Lala, Parag Kanji, Piyara Singh (Life members). Moved apologies be accepted - Gulab Moral/Ishwar Rambhai.

Delegates were welcomed by the Host President, Rambhai Unka, who wished the meeting every success.

Shantiben Thakor (Vice President) paid a tribute to father of Ganges Singh (President), Mr Bakshi Singh, who passed away recently in Fiji.

Two minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect for those members who had passed away recently. Particular mention was made of one of the long-standing Life Member Devjibhai Patel who died in Fiji in August and the late Prime Minister of India, Mrs Indira Gandhi.

A special tribute was paid to Mrs Gandhi by reading of Verses from Hindu Scripture GEETA, by Rameshbhai Patel and by reading of Verses from Guru Granth Sahib and Ardaas by Harbans Randhawa.

Branches represented at the Executive Committee meeting stated that prayer meetings were held to pay tribute to Mrs Gandhi.

A tribute was also paid to the Life Member Devjibhai Patel by various members, and an Obituary presented by Auckland to be included in the next Annual Report of the Central Association.

The President also expressed words of sympathy and in reply to a letter from Auckland Branch concerning a Press Statement, the President stated that he would make a statement through the news media that Indians in N.Z. were deeply grieved by Mrs Gandhi's tragic death and that the relationship of Indians in N.Z. has in no way been affected by Mrs Gandhi's death. The Hindus and Sikhs have lived like brothers and sisters and will continue to do so. Any mis-statement or distorted picture made by news media will also be clarified.

Minutes

Moved that the minutes of last Executive Committee meeting be accepted as circulated.

Uka Chhiba/Ishwar Rambhai.

Correspondence

The following letters were tabled:

1. A letter to and from Sir Edmund Hillary re a meeting prior to him taking up his posting in India. Resolved that a farewell meeting for Sir Edmund be organised in Auckland in conjunction with Auckland Indian Association.

If at all possible a separate meeting with Sir Edmund and Executive Committee members be also arranged to discuss Immigration procedures and other aspects concerning members travelling to and from India.

2. A letter from Auckland Branch nominating Parbhu Kanji as a Life Member.

Moved that nomination be recommended to Central's Conference for approval. Ganges Singh/Diyal Kesry. Motion accepted.

3. A letter from Sai Baba Society disclaiming all knowledge and disassociating itself from the chain letter being circulated to many members throughout N.Z.

Moved that the letter from Sai Baba Society of Auckland be circulated to all Branches. Khushal Madhu/Gulab Moral.

Being circulated to many members throughout N.Z. Moved that the letter from Sai Baba Society of Auckland be circulated to all Branches. Khushal Madhu/Gulab Moral.

4. Letters to and from Indian High Commissions Office concerning:

- (a) Visa to India.
- (b) Acquisition of land in India by Indians residing overseas.
- (c) Indian Government Scholarship for Culture and Music.

Reports From Special Committee

Mr Ukabhai Chhiba gave a verbal report on the Special Cultural Committee meeting held in Pukekohe. He was requested to supply a written report as soon as possible.

Youth Forum

The Chairman of the Youth Association (Ramesh Nanu) gave a brief report on the Youth Forum held in New Plymouth. He expressed his disappointment at no representation from Rotorua, Country Section, Manawatu and Christchurch.

The following reasons were given:—

Rotorua: Younger members have left the area for bigger cities.
Country Section: Because of their locality situation, it is not possible for youth to meet together.

According to the Chairman, the Forum was a success.

With regard to holding a 2 day Conference and group discussions, the Chairman stated that they are not quite prepared for it. Therefore one day Conference is sufficient at present.

The General Secretary pointed out that to keep the members informed of the Youth activities, the Branches should circulate to all its members periodical newsletters published by the Youth Association.

General Business

1. Mr Ukabhai notified the meeting that Pukekohe is holding another fund raising function in March 1985 and is looking forward to a full support from all the Branches. It was pointed out that any request for items should be made through the Branches and no approach should be made to individual members.

2. Chiman Bhana of Rotorua advised the meeting that his Association is planning to build a hall on a lease land (set aside by the Government) for cultural and sports activities. He inquired if his Association required Central's approval. Chiman Bhana was informed that as long as his Association consults and gets legal advice on building a hall on lease land, the Central does not object or intervene in their affairs. He was also informed that services and legal advice of Thakorbhai Parbhu were available if required.

Q.S.M. Award

The members had in-house meeting to select one nomination out of three names to recommend to the Government for Queen's Service Medal Award for services to the Indian community and to the people of New Zealand.

A brief resume was read on all the three nominations, and on secret ballot voting the name of J.K. Natali was selected by a majority vote.

Resume on unsuccessful nominations were to be retained for future use.

Conference 1985

Mr Gulab Moral (Taranaki Association) stated that due to insufficient people and lack of organisers in Taranaki area, it may not be possible for them to hold Conference 1985 in New Plymouth. He inquired if Country Section would be prepared to host the Conference. It was suggested that the two Branches discuss the issue and advise the General Secretary of the decision as soon as possible.

The President, Ganges Singh, thanked the Waikato Indian Association for hosting the meeting and providing afternoon tea and a cocktail party in the evening.

The meeting concluded at 7.30 p.m.

JAGDISH NATALI
(General Secretary)

G. Moral/Santokh Bhulla

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS JANUARY-DECEMBER 1984

**NEW ZEALAND INDIAN CENTRAL ASSOCIATION
FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
JANUARY-DECEMBER 1984**

RECEIPTS

Opening Balance

Current Account	2766.61	
9.02 Telephone Directory		
Taranaki	87.50	
Auckland	1312.50	
Rotorua	122.50	
Pukekohe	350.00	
Waikato	87.50	
10.02 Wellington	1312.50	
15.02 Country Section	105.00	
Christchurch	122.50	
Manawatu	<u>87.50</u>	3587.50
Affiliation Fees		
Wellington 82/83	630.00	2.5.
6.06 Manawatu 82/83 83/84	50.50	6.6.
Rotorua 82/83	69.00	26.9.
Waikato 82/83	38.00	
Taranaki 83/84	67.00	
Auckland 83/84	585.00	
Auckland 82/83	27.00	
Country Section 83/84	70.00	
Pukekohe 82/83	<u>239.00</u>	1775.50
Advertising		
1.03 Alcan	150.00	
17.05 Air India	200.00	15.11
DW Ford	150.00	
Raj Bombay	100.00	10.09
18.07 Bhanubhai	100.00	
Waitemata Press	100.00	
Ganesh Chhima	100.00	
26.09 Dinesh Tailor	150.00	
1.10 Bert Bradford	125.00	
24.10 British Airways	150.00	
21.11 Caledonian Motors	100.00	
Nagin Patel	100.00	
Rama K. Ramanathan	100.00	
Radley	150.00	
National BNZ	<u>100.00</u>	1875.00
Freight for Directory		
18.07 Taranaki	8.20	
Pukekohe	21.50	
Waikato	<u>8.00</u>	37.70
1.03 Historical Books		62.00
(Manawatu)		
Interest C/A March	50.11	
September	<u>43.78</u>	<u>93.83</u>
		<u>\$10198.20</u>

Payments

3.4.84 Waitemata Press

Part Payment for		
Directory Printing	3000.00	
Balance of Directory		
Printing	<u>3403.95</u>	6403.95
21.4. School Certificate Prizes		
1st Rajesh K Patel	50.00	
2nd Bharti Parbhu	20.00	
3rd Sukhdeep Singh	<u>10.00</u>	80.00
Travel Fare		
(Christchurch Indian Assoc)		100.00
P.O. Box Rental		35.00
Postage	24.00	
Postage	<u>18.00</u>	42.00
Telegrams		
To India	2.60	
To Prime Minister		
NZ Indian Youth		
Taraben Devji	<u>18.17</u>	20.77
Toll Calls		
28.6. Britain (S Ramphal)	32.54	
WNCHCH		
15.11 CHCH, WN, ROT,		
HN etc	<u>33.16</u>	65.70
10.09 Printing of Letterheads		
& Envelopes		300.00
Bank Balance		3150.78
		<u>\$10198.20</u>

DEVJIBHAI PATEL — OBITUARY

Devjibhai Patel — OBITUARY

Gandhi Hall, the social and cultural centre of the Indian Community was built in Auckland by the Indian Community in 1955 pioneered by one of the outstanding members, Mr Devjibhai Patel, a former President of the Auckland Indian Association who recently passed away on 17 August 1984 at his daughters residence in Labasa, Fiji aged 70 years. Mr Patel was instrumental in initiating general interest in the construction and in raising financial support for the Gandhi Hall amongst the Indian Community. He personally devoted much of his own time in collecting funds from the members all over New Zealand together with the other volunteers, for the project. It had been his life long dream to provide such a facility which would be a focal point for the cultural and social needs and activities of its members.

Devjibhai (Deojibhai) came to New Zealand in 1935 in his teens and worked various retail businesses ranging from fruit shops and dairies to a drapery shop. Even when he was operating a general store in Parawera he still took an active interest in community activities in Auckland and Hamilton, as well as the New Zealand Central Indian Association. Frequently and without hesitation he and his wife Jasodaben would play the host to overseas guests offering them their hospitality and facilities. President for almost 15 years, he was bestowed the honour of life member of the New Zealand Indian Central Association, for his many years of outstanding community service, genuine devotion and active participation in the progress of the Indian Community in New Zealand.

Devjibhai, a true gentleman by nature and appearance was a sincere and caring individual who had the ability to communicate to young and old alike.

Devjibhai is survived by a daughter, Taraben by his first wife who passed away and a son and daughter from his second marriage. In recent years Devjibhai had been living in Fiji with his daughter Tara.

The Auckland Indian Association have expressed deep sympathy for his loss and will always remember him for his unswerving loyalty and pride in his people and for his genuine interest in the welfare and progress of the Indian people throughout New Zealand.

LIFE MEMBERS**1971**

J.K. Natali (Auck)
Ravjibhai Hira (Wellington) deceased.
Karam Singh Basi (Country Section)
Inder Singh (Country Section) deceased.

1972

Parbhubhai Kasanji (Auck) deceased.

1975

Lalbhai N. Patel (Auck) deceased.
Rameshbhai Patel (Auck)
Devjibhai Patel (Auck) deceased.

1977

Narsinhbhai Vallabh (Wellington)
Govindbhai Kanji (Wellington) deceased.

1978

Dayalbhai Kesry (Auckland)
Shivlal B. Masters (Rotorua)

1980

Piara Singh (Country Section)

1982

Khushalbhai Madhav (Auckland)
Ramabhai Unka (Hamilton)
Chhibabhai Lala Patel (Taranaki)
Ravjibhai C. Han (Pukekohe)
Parbhubhai Bhikha (Pukekohe)

1983

Paragbhai Kanji (Pukekohe)

1985

Parbhubhai Kanji (Auckland)

LIST OF SECRETARIES**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,
Bay of Plenty (Rotorua) Indian Association Inc.,
P.O. Box 294,
Rotorua

The Secretary,
Waikato Indian Association,
34 Gilbas Ave,
Hamilton

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

The Secretary,
Manawatu-Hawke's Bay Indian Association,
43 The Square
Palmerston North

The Secretary,
Taranaki Indian Association,
4 Vogel Street,
Hawera

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

The Secretary,
Country Section Indian Association,
C/- Mr H S Kung
Piako Road,
Hamilton

INDIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM

JANA GANA MANA ADHI
NAYAK JAY HE
BHARAT BHAGYA VIDHATA,
PUNJAB SINDH GUJARAT MARATHA
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.
