

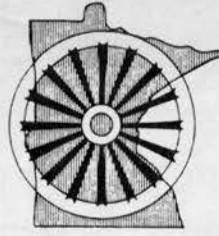


India Association of Minnesota:  
Association Records

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**THE INDIA CLUB**  
OF MINNESOTA

April 7, 1989

To: All Presidents  
Indian Community Organizations  
Twin Cities, Minnesota

Ref: Joint Meeting on April 22, 1989  
Subject: United Community Actions

Dear Sir/Madam:

As Indians living in North America, we face a mixed bag of benefits and challenges. We are fortunate that for the most part, we have been able to partake the benefits and position ourselves as one of the most successful ethnic groups in the USA.

Yet this success is not without its challenges. We are in the process of fashioning an Indian niche within the larger American social fabric. The subject of cultural integration, preservation of our heritage, traditions, and values, raising awareness about India among our American neighbours and our children are some of the issues facing us as a community in the Twin Cities.

India Club invites you to attend a breakfast meeting to discuss these and other issues of concern to our community. As a leader in one of several organizations that represent various aspects of Indian culture, you are uniquely positioned to contribute in this discussion and in developing plans of action.

Please find enclosed a Meeting Agenda. If you are unable to attend personally, please have your other office bearer attend on your behalf.

We would appreciate your RSVP by calling me at 934-1795 or Ram Gada, our Liaison Committee Chairperson at 636-1075.

Looking forward to see you on April 22.

Sincerely,

Vijay Balakrishnan  
President

Encl. Agenda/Direction

Ques.

- unholiness  
- A PK.

Progress

US

Ind.

Progress

# The Sides of a Coin

- Graduate party.

Ask the opinion of youth.

India. - i-factors.

Across

① Carter P. / Ram C. to call  
issues meeting on resume guide  
to get feedback.

② Agnel, D. Rathi, Pradeep, Dr. Desai.  
Mrs. Patankar, Geetika Srinivas, Basily  
Chodan N. - Feedback Guide  
June 10 from today  
Get

③ Anita Sivasubalan to form T.F.  
V.B. to leave. Feedback by June 10.

Integration with Community

⑦ Luvu Rao, (Rajput; Litesh Ahluwalia).  
Pradeep, V. Sharma to feedback.  
Jacob C., Anita S., feedback Issue 3

⑧ Newsletter, Pradeep, Ram, Durgapada D.,  
Sharma will depote, Bhakti will depote,  
Nina will depote, Rajani will depote.

④ PCH - Ram / Vijay B.

⑥ Agnel will do feasibility study  
Common data base

## MEETING AGENDA

DATE: Saturday, April 22, 1989

TIME: 10:00 AM To Noon

LOCATION: Coffman Union at University of Minnesota, Room 309  
300 Washington Avenue S.E., Minneapolis

9:45 AM Continental Breakfast (Coffee, Tea, Donuts, Snacks)

10:05 AM Welcome - Vijay Balakrishnan - India Club

10:10 AM Each Organization Representative

10:20 AM Discussion Issues

-Cultural Integration With Main Stream

-Raising Image/Awareness about India/Indian Culture

-Indian Identity

-Integration Within Indian Community

-Other

11:30 AM Summary & Plan of Action

12 Noon Adjourn

## INVITED TO ATTEND

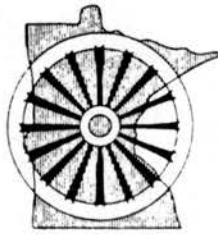
### ORGANIZATIONS

- Indian Music Society of Minnesota
- Indo-American Association
- School of India for Languages & Culture (SILC)
- India Club
- Hindu Society of Minnesota
- Geeta ashram
- Jain Center of Minnesota
- Sikh Society of Minnesota
- United Christian Club
- Benagali Community
- Gujarati Samaj
- Kannada Koota
- Malayalam Association
- Marathi Association
- Nriya Jyoti
- Orissa Society of Minnesota
- Tamil Association of Minnesota
- Telugu Association
- Asian Pacific Council

### PRESIDENT

- S. Ramakrishnan / *Gopal* ✓
- G. Sivasaiem ✓
- N. Gada ✓
- V. Balakrishnan ✓
- P. Lahiri ✓
- V. Sharma ✓
- R. Gada ✓
- S.K. Singh
- S. Fristedt
- M. Ganguli ✓
- Y. Upadhyaya / *Mr. Pathre* ✓
- P. Kumar / *Mr. Rao* ✓
- J. Cherucheril ✓
- R. Pathre / *Mr. Pathre* ✓
- R. Mustafi / *Raj. Ramani* ✓
- S. Dash ✓
- S. Balagopal / *Venkatesh* ✓
- C. Meka ✓
- Dr. A. DeLeon

DIRECTIONS: Washington Avenue to U of M Campus East Bank, Take Right (South Direction) on Church Street (Coming from West); Right on stop sign, Right to Garage Parking. Parking available in Undergrade Garage on Weekends.



## THE INDIA CLUB OF MINNESOTA

### MINUTES OF MEETING

#### INDIAN COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS - PRESIDENTS/REPRESENTATIVES

DATE: Saturday, April 22, 1989 at Coffman Union, U of M, Minneapolis  
10:00 AM to Noon

ATTENDING: See the enclosed list with Names, Organizations Represented,  
and Telephone Numbers.

- 
- A. BACKGROUND: India Club through its Community Liasion Committee invited all Community Organization Presidents/their Representatives in this joint meeting to discuss and to take action on the immediate and important issues facing the community, including:
1. Cultural integration with main stream.
  2. Raising image/awareness about India/Indian Culture
  3. Indian Identity
  4. Integration within Indian Community
  5. Other
- B. At 10:05 AM, Vijay Balakrishnan, President of India Club, welcomed all the participants and explained the goals and objectives of India Club, and its role as a community liasion to focus on the issues where all organizations can work together.
- C. Each participant explained his/her organization mission and shared information about its current and future activities.
- D. Discussion on each major category was enthusiastic and positive. Many ideas generated were grouped under three (3) main categories as follows:
- I. Cultural Integration with Community at Large - 11 items.
  - II. Cultural Integration within Indian Community - 8 items.
  - III. Youth Activities - 7 items.



E. Each member was requested to choose two (2) most important items from each category for immediate action.

F. Attached Exhibit "A" lists all the ideas. The circled items received most votes and were selected as action items from each group.

G. PLAN OF ACTION

1. Raise Public Image/Develop Resource Guide/Material (Item I-8)

- a. Ram Gada and Carla Prakash (India Club) will share and review the Resource Guide Material India Club is preparing, with other members.
- b. Identify who has what. Each organization will prepare an inventory of material available from its members. List each item and its source/availability. Name the Speaker and his/her subject expertise.

2. Participate in Local Community Events

- a. Task Force was formed to identify events, method and extent of participation, with the following members to serve on it:

Godan Nambu Diripad (Chair)	894-8945
Pranab Lahiri	432-8829
Gopal Sadgopal	829-0084
Shrinivasa Murthy	941-9539
Dr. S.K. Dash	888-9644
Mrs. Patankar	420-7667
Geetha Sivasalem	894-6114
Mukul Ganguli	483-5483

- b. Submit report to the group at the next meeting on June 10, 1989.

3. Youth Activity Task Force:

- a. Geetha Sivasalem will coordinate the action items III1 and III7 with report to the group on June 10, 1989.

- b. Following Youth Members were identified to serve on this Committee:

-Geetha Sivasalem (Chair)	894-6114
-Hari Arimalli	
-Hindu Society Youth Representative - (P. Lahiri)	
-Gujarati Samaj Youth Representative - (G. Bhatt)	
-Sujan Kamran	645-9827

Note: Please call Geetha, if your organization youth representative would like to serve.

- c. Adult Liasion: Vijay Balakrishnan 934-1795  
S.K. Dash 888-9644

4. Common Data Base (Item II6)

- a. Gopal Sadgopal volunteered to evaluate existing databases at several community organizations and make recommendations to the group at June 10th meeting.

Please contact Gopal (829-0084) on your current data base format, software and storage medium.

5. Newsletter (Item II5)

- a. Task Force to review feasibility of a common Community newsletter and report at June 10th meeting.

Ram Gada (Chair)	636-1075
Pranab Lahiri	432-8829
Preeti Mathur	483-0793
Dipankar Dasgupta	
Geeta Ashram Representative (Dr. Sharma)	
Gujarati Samaj Representative (G. Bhatt)	
Marathi Association Representative (R. Patankar)	

- b. Report to the group at June 10th meeting.

6. Community Calendar (Item II4)

- a. To avoid conflicts of the programs on same date, single clearing house - telephone base system - was recommended and approved.
- b. India Club volunteered to coordinate this activity by maintaining the community event calendar. Each member should call the following individual(s) on any upcoming events, planned or being planned. (Both have message recorders)

1st - Ram Gada 636-1075 (H), 633-5405 (O)  
Back Up - Vijay Balakrishnan 934-1795 (H),

7. Support Group (Item II7)

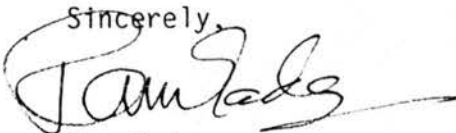
- a. Task Force to come up with the areas where community can help to the needy in distress, emergency, etc.:

7. Support Group (cont'd)

Gundu Rao (Chair)	835-9725
Jacob Cherucheril	888-3599
Geetha Sivasalem	894-6114
Hindu Society of Minnesota Representative	
Geeta Ashram Representative	

Note: Please call to Gundu Rao if your representative would like to serve.

Sincerely,



Ram Gada  
Chair, Community Liason Committee  
India Club

P.S. Please call me if I have inadequately omitted any item.

c.c. To all Organization Presidents & Meeting Participants

Encl. Exhibit A

Meeting Attendance

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, June 10, 1989

10:00 AM to 12 Noon

At Coffman Union, U of M, Minneapolis

(Coffee, Tea, Juice & Snacks will be available)

Major Items: Reports from all above task groups

Plan of Action

RSVP: Ram Gada 636-1075 (H), 633-5405 (O)

India Club Community Liason Committee

-Ram Gada (Chair)

-Dr. Gundu Rao

-Bipin Prasad



## EXHIBIT A

### I. CULTURAL INTEGRATION WITH COMMUNITY AT LARGE

1. Communicate with Local Community at Large.
2. Assist in Charity and Community Help Programs. 1
- ③ Participate in Local Events i.e. Food Share, Monetary Contributions, Diwali Outreach, Asia-Pacific Council, telethon, University Education Awareness. ⑥
- ④ Our Youth - Heritage Awareness, support of School of India for Languages & Culture (SILC), High School Graduates Recognition and Career Assistance. ⑥
5. Adopted Indian Children Cultural Support. 5
6. Indian Identity. 2
7. Political Action, Awareness, Education.
- ⑧ Raise Public Image About India & Indian Culture Speakers Bureau, Resource Material, Guide Publication ⑭
9. Interact with Other State and National Organizations.
10. Host Family Program
11. Encourage Members to Join Internat'l Organizations like Lions, Rotary Club, etc.

### II. CULTURAL INTEGRATION WITHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

1. Arrange Cultural Programs on a Community Basis. 3
2. Interact with Student Organizations. 5
3. Host Family Program at Universities. 1
4. Develop a Community Event Calendar to Avoid Conflicts. 4
- ⑤ Publish Newsletter - Joint ⑥
- ⑥ Develop Common Data Base ⑥
- ⑦ Form a Community Support Group for Emergency, Relief, etc. ⑨
8. Find Ways to Help India

### III. YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- ① Obtain Feedback From Youth ⑭
2. Youth Day
3. Youth Camps
4. Provide Incentives for Youth Participation 2
5. Newsletter
6. Arrange Regular Meetings 2
- ⑦ Facilitate Youth Entertainment ⑭

Number in right margin against each item shows number of votes received from the group when asked to choose the top two priorities.

Circled items in A,B & C Groups were selected as high priority for immediate action.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION MEETING ATTENDANCE

DATE: Saturday, April 22, 1989 - At U of M

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
Gundu H.R. Rao	India Club	835-9725
Srinivasa B. Murthy	Kannada Koota	941-9539
Gopal Sadagopal	Ind. Music Society	829-0084
Rajani Patankar	Marathi Association	420-7667
Geetha Sivasailam	Indo-American Student Assoc.	894-6114
Neena Gada	SILC School	636-1075
Aparna Ganguli	Bengali Community	483-5483
Pranab Lahiri	Hindu Soc. of MN	432-8829
Jacob Cherucheril	Malayalee Community	888-3599
S.K. Dash	Orissa Society	888-9644
Chandra Mohan Meka	Telugu Association	378-2349
Ved P. Sharma	Gita Ashram	507-387-3882
Ganvant R. Bhatt	Gujarati Samaj	559-4602
Raj Ramaswamy	Nritya Jyoti	894-9785
Vijay Balakrishnan	India Club	934-1795
Ram Gada	India Club/Jain Center of MN	636-1075

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Ram Gada  
**FROM:** Sadanand Pathre  
**DATE:** June 10, 1989  
**SUBJECT:** Merging of Marathi newsletter "Hitgooj"

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I was unable to the last meeting in its entirety. However, I presented the synopsis of the last meeting to the Operating Committee of Marathi Association. I am enclosing their views on this subject matter.

Sadanand Pathre

Marathi news letter "Hitgooj" is not just for giving news but also serves as a Marathi language magazine. It is the medium for all the members of Marathi Association to express their feelings and views on several issues. The primary objective of Hitgooj is to entertain and provide a common bond between members. We all miss a magazine in our own language; and we are trying to fill this void with Hitgooj. It is a general consensus that we are doing a good job of it. The Marathi community is enjoying and getting enthusiastic about Hitgooj as you can see from the contributing articles we receive from the community.

It sounds like a good idea to have one common newsletter for several reasons. However, to totally duplicate the entire magazine with a common newsletter does not seem to have any appeal for the following reasons:

- 1) The leading format of the common newsletter would be in English so that all items of the common interest can be communicated with the Indian members in Minnesota. If you duplicate the entire magazine, no one except the Marathi community will read and understand it. If this is the case, why duplicate efforts and resources to reproduce it ?
- 2) The Marathi community is relatively small in number and is close knit as a family. We, therefore, pour our emotions into "Hitgooj". It will lose its identity and appeal if we merge with the common and larger newsletter.
- 3) Some of the things you like to share and enjoy only with your family. It is a similar situation here. Recently, one of our younger member passed away. We dedicated the 2nd issue of Hitgooj to her. Everybody wrote what they felt about her. Some of these feelings are too personal to share with non-family members. (It is not to be misunderstood that we do not consider the Indian community a family at large). People who knew her, they cherish her memories. But for a stranger, it would be one of the news of a departed member.

India is the country which has unity in diversity. We have so many different languages. We should preserve the particular culture of that language by allowing it to foster by its own way.

This does not mean that all communities cannot come together by having a common newsletter. Why not combine news letters such as India club, Hindu Mandir, Music Society and Geetashram ? All other communities can give their news and items of common interest to produce a newsletter in English

- Rijuta Pathre (Editor: Hitgooj)