



Australia India Society of Victoria inc.



# AISVIEWS

*Newsletter of AISV – January 2011*

## Management Committee:

**President** - Dr Gurdip Aurora

Tel : 9763 5005; 0417 357 715

**Vice President** - Dr. Manjula

O'Connor, Tel : 0419 354 482

**Treasurer** - Uma Ganapathireddy

Tel : 0415 341 627

**Secretary** – Sheena Bakshi

Tel : 0421 890 550

**Asst. Secretary** - Vijetha Arekatla

Tel : 0415 746 351

## Committee Members

Shashi Rane – Tel : 9560 6212

Jasmeet Bakshi – Tel : 0402 314 109

Natraj V Narayann

Tel : 0421 785 379

Raj Kumar Dhamodra Swamy

Tel : 0437 852 450

Ian Dorman – 0459 111 085

## AISV Sub-committees

### PR/Promotion

Gurdip Aurora (Chair), AISV Committee

### Newsletter/Website

Natraj N(Chair), Jasmeet Bakshi, Vijetha

### Cultural

Shashi Rane (Chair), Pratima Francis

### Immigration

Gurdip Aurora (Chair)

Natraj N, Manjula O'Connor

### Youth Affairs

Vijetha Arekatla (Chair), Manjula O'Connor, Raj Kumar

### Women's Affairs

Manjula O'Connor (Chair), Vijetha Arekatla, Pratima Francis

### Major Events

Sheena Bakshi (Chair), Gurdip Aurora, Manjula O'Connor, Jasmeet Bakshi, Shashi Rane

All Correspondence to:

Australia India Society of Victoria  
P O Box 482, Brunswick, VIC 3056

Or email to - [aisv@aisv.org.au](mailto:aisv@aisv.org.au)

## From the President's Desk

The Victorian Indian Community Charitable Trust (VICCT) was founded on 28th October 1986. Donations to the VICCT are tax deductible. Under the provisions of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936, gifts to the trust of the value of \$2.00 and upwards made by a taxpayer in the year of income are fully deductible.

For those of you who may not remember the objectives of the Trust, they are as follows.

## OBJECTIVE OF THE TRUST

(a) The provision of low cost housing whether temporary or permanent to economically disadvantaged persons in necessitous circumstances including but not limited to deserted wives, unmarried mothers, paupers and alcoholics.

(B) To relieve distress sickness and financial suffering for the aged poor and economically disadvantaged persons in necessitous circumstances in Victoria. This is to be achieved by means of direct financial assistance or by provision of accommodation, clothing, food, employment or any other assistance considered desirable and necessary by the Trustee which will alleviate the aforementioned conditions.

## Republic Day Dinner:

SAT 12<sup>th</sup> February 2011

AISV Annual Dinner will be filled with great food, amazing entertainment & an opportunity to mingle with great people.

Time: 7 pm

Venue: Tandoori Junction

Restaurant 29 Railway Parade North

Glen Waverley 3150

Tickets: \$40 members

\$45 non-members

Tickets at this venue are very limited, so please book your tables now. The best way is to fill out the form in the attached flyer and fax it through.

## HOW WILL THE TRUSTEES ASSESS PERSONS IN NECESSITOUS CIRCUMSTANCES AND WHO ELECTS THE TRUSTEES

The method of assessment of persons in necessitous circumstances shall where practicable be in accordance with guidelines from time to time adopted by the State Community Welfare Services and shall include the requirement that such persons shall be in possession of a **Commonwealth Health Card**. In all cases relief shall be given only to persons in necessitous

circumstances in accordance with the provisions of this Trust.

The trustees shall comprise a Board of a minimum of four persons elected by the members of the **Committee of Australia-India Society of Victoria Incorporated.** One of the members of the Board of Trustees shall act as the Chairman.

### **WHAT IS THE ROLE OF AUSTRALIA INDIA SOCIETY IN THE FUNCTIONING OF THE TRUST?**

(1) The Committee of the Australian India Society shall have the power at any time to remove any Trustee from office and to appoint any person to be a Trustee either to fill a vacant office or as a new or additional Trustee.

(2) The Trustee shall keep or cause accounts to be kept, in such a manner as the Trustee thinks fit, of all receipts and payments, assets and liabilities of the Trust and of all other matters necessary for showing the financial position of the Trust. The Trustee shall at the expense of the Trust cause those accounts to be audited at least once a year by a registered company Auditor appointed in that behalf by the **Committee of Australia India Society.**

There has been an important development in the past few weeks and I would like to know the opinion of the members of AISV and especially the life members of the Society in relation to these developments.

The Victorian Indian Community Charitable Trust has been inactive

for the last 10 years or so. I was the Chairman of the Trust as well as the president of Australia-India Society of Victoria just before the trust became inactive.

The committee of the day decided that I should not hold on to both the positions and hence I should relinquish the Chairmanship of the VICCT. I offered my resignation and the trustees of VICCT appointed Dr. Jaswant Jassal, ENT surgeon as Chairman of the trust.

Soon after his appointment Dr. Jassal resigned from the position for personal and family reasons. This was ten years ago and VICCT has not been active since then

**About eight weeks ago I was approached by Vasanth Srinivasan, President of FIAV to reactivate the trust with a view of collecting funds to build an Indian Community Centre.**

**In the meeting Vasanth was accompanied by four other people including a solicitor and AISV was represented by Dr. Manjula O'Connor, Vice President of AISV and I.**

**Vasanth and his party suggested that the constitution of The Victorian Indian Community Charitable Trust be changed so that AISV committee no longer had the power to appoint the Trustees and that the trustees be appointed by an Independent body yet to be determined subject to the approval of the Office of Taxation**

I have agreed to AISV relinquishing its role in functioning of the Trust and the setting up of an Independent body to take on the role of running the trust.

I was of the opinion that if another group was able to get the Charitable Trust going with the objectives of the Trust in mind, then this group should be given the opportunity to do so.

I am not sure how the Tax Office would view these changes and give its approval.

If you as members of AISV have objection to these changes, please write to me on my email [gaurora@ozemail.com.au](mailto:gaurora@ozemail.com.au)



Multicultural Development  
Officer - AFL Victoria

The job advertised via link following may be of interest to you or someone you know:

<http://afl.bigredsky.com/page.php?source=23319&AdvertID=114677>

People with a good understanding of Multiculturalism, Australian football and the Indian community are encouraged to apply.

#### **Advertisement Rates:**

Full Page \$150, Half Page \$ 80  
Quarter Page \$ 50, Leaflet Insert \$ 50. Repeat Ad 20% discount, AISV members 25% discount.

#### **Disclaimer**

Australia India Society of Victoria Inc.(AISV) disclaim all and any liability to any person in respect of anything and of the consequences of anything done or omitted to be done by such a person, in reliance whole or partial, upon this newsletter or any part of the content of this newsletter.

## INFORMATION ON INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY CELEBRATIONS

Australia India Society of Victoria (AISV) Taskforce on Prevention of Domestic Violence (DV) is celebrating The International Women's Day on 8 March 2011.

### Background Information on the Taskforce

The Taskforce chaired by AISV Vice President Dr Manjula O'Connor, is comprised of professional bodies and the Indian community. Jewish Community is represented by the Jewish Taskforce on DV in selected projects.

- Indian Community represented by AISV, DISHA(ladies philanthropic organisation), FIAV
- Professionals DV
- service delivery organisations such as Immigrant Women's Domestic Violence Service, (now called IN TOUCH), Drummond Street Services(NGO service delivery and research organisation).
- University of Melbourne's Centre for International Mental Health.
- Sunshine Court Magistrate
- Sunshine Court Family Violence Worker
- Victoria Police
- Jewish Taskforce on DV
- Relationships Australia(Greensborough Branch)
- Victorian immigrant women refugee organisation

The AIMS of the Taskforce are to develop MEANS AND WAYS OF PREVENTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE in the Indian community, AND to improve access to and usage rate of Domestic Violence and family services, to improve community education on DV related issues, and develop prevention strategies.

Initially it was aimed at the Indian community only, but we are now moving into the area of researching Muslim women and families as well as working with The Jewish community on developing ideas for White Ribbon Day in November 2011.

At our last meeting held on 7 December 2010, the Taskforce membership decided to hold a celebration of International Women's Day on Tuesday 8 March at 6 30 pm.

We chose western suburbs as that is where most ethnicities are represented.

Free food, Entertainment, Dancing will be provided by KAPS College,

The evening will be open to women, men and children of all cultural backgrounds.

### Theme of the Day

***“Women and men united to end violence against women and girls.”***

All of us – men and women, soldiers and peacekeepers, citizens and leaders – have a responsibility to help end violence against women. States must honour their commitments to prevent violence, bring perpetrators to justice and provide redress to victims. And each of us must speak out in our families, workplaces and communities, so that acts of violence against women cease."

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, 2008.

The day will be inaugurated by

MP Ms Andrea Coote –Parliamentary Secretary to Ms Mary Woolridge on Women's Affairs and Community Affairs.

Other speakers will be

- CG of India Ms Anita Nayyar,
- Magistrate Noreen Toohey,
- CEO Nth Melbourne Football Club,
- Dr Gurdip Aurora & Dr Manjula O'Connor.

Dr Manjula O'Connor.  
Vice President  
Chair, Taskforce

