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*Rakshabandhan  
and Eid  
Wishes*

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# E tū suspends staffer for allegedly demanding sexual favours from a female business owner, in return for settling her worker exploitation case; says investigations are on

• Gaurav Sharma



The biggest private sector union in New Zealand, E tū, has suspended a staff member and unionist, after a female

business owner has come forward with allegations that the E tū representative had demanded sexual favours from her, in

return for settling her worker exploitation case in which he [the E tū representative] was involved as a mediator.

Confirming this was Bill Newson, E tū National Secretary, who said, “I can confirm that I have received a complaint making serious allegations against one of my staff.”

“I am treating the complaint very seriously. I started an investigation immediately upon receiving the formal complaint. The staff member has been suspended from work while we undertake the investigation,” Newson added. He also advised that with

regard to Privacy Act, he cannot confirm any names.

For privacy reasons, and as the case is under investigation, The Indian News is not naming either parties involved in the case. We also understand that the complainant had approached E tū with the allegations before July 10.

Meanwhile, Newson stressed that E tū has kept the complainant informed throughout. “The process required by law has been carefully explained to the complainant,” he added.

On our part, The Indian News has asked E tū to confirm the date when it began the investigation, on receiving the formal complaint.

We have also asked the union for a time-frame on when the investigation is expected to complete, and will its finding be shared with us, meaning the wider public.

E tū’s reply to the above questions is awaited, and we will be updating the online version of the story with the reply, as soon as we receive it.





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# Jami-Lee Ross joins hands with New Zealand Public Party

• *Yugal Parashar*

Former national MP from Botany, Jami-Lee Ross merged his newly launched political party Advance New Zealand Party with another social media sensation and newly launched political party New Zealand Public Party, on Sunday July 26, at Logan Campbell Centre in Auckland. Jami-Lee Ross had launched his party only a couple of days back and will now be the co-leader of New Zealand Public Party.

New Zealand Public Party's leader Billy Te Kahika announced the merger at a packed Logan Campbell Centre amidst a crowd of over 1,500 attendees. Since the announcement of elections this year,

most political party have launched their election campaigning in past couple of weeks and including the current incumbent and favourite Labour Party, the attendance in most places have been confined to a few hundred people only. So, if the numbers of attendees do suggest anything, yesterday's merger event should send some strong signal to all other parties to understand the mood of public. Te Kahika, later announced his intention of standing in the election from Te Tai Tokerau.

The Public Party is a new entity and has racked up a significant social media following is largely ignored by mainstream

media except Sunday's merger event making an exception. The party is anti-1080 and as per their website, are sceptical of '5G, fluoridation, vaccines, pharmaceuticals, poisons, electromagnetics, industrial products and waste, consumer products and food products. It also believes that United Nations is eroding New Zealander's property rights "without any votes,



referendum or legal recourse".

As per the policies listed on the Party's website, it says its two main policies are rebuilding New Zealand back into democracy and restoring government integrity.

## Launching Business Start



It is great to be in Petone today to announce the next stage of National's Plan to Get New Zealand Working. First, thank you to Chris Bishop for arranging today's visit, and getting me out to the Hutt once again.

Today's policy is called BusinessStart. It is the companion policy to JobStart, which we launched in West Auckland in late May.

As we gather here today, New Zealand faces its worst economic downturn for 160 years.

That's not me saying that. It's the Reserve Bank.

Right now, around 200,000 New Zealanders are on unemployment benefits.

Another 400,000 jobs are at risk, being kept alive through the wage subsidy scheme, which ends on 1 September – the day before overseas voting begins.

By Christmas, as many as half a million Kiwis may be unemployed.

All of us will know someone who loses their job. It could be you.

You will remember that JobStart provides \$10,000 cash grants, to every New Zealand business, for every new permanent full-time employee you hire – up to 10 new staff, or \$100,000 per business.

JobStart is an emergency programme that will begin on 1 November. It was then planned to run for five months through to the end of this financial year, 31 March 2021.

I am revisiting that, given it had overwhelmingly positive feedback from employers.

JobStart's \$10,000 is designed to cover the cost of hiring a new worker – their tools, training, getting them settled.

In good times, the New Zealand economy generates around 30,000 net new jobs a quarter.

JobStart is capped at \$500 million, or 50,000 new jobs.

As we said when we launched it, if you as small business owners – the heroes of the economic crisis – employ even 10,000 of your neighbours under the scheme

before Christmas, then there will be:

- 10,000 fewer people on the dole,
- 10,000 families who can face next year with confidence and who have choices they otherwise would not have had, and
- Ten, twenty or thirty thousand kids who might get a Christmas present that they might otherwise not.

BusinessStart is bolder still.

Kiwis are entrepreneurs. We are a nation of small businesses. Setting up a small business gives people the freedom to be your own boss.

And, economically, the great thing about small businesses is they can grow at a much faster rate than big businesses. It's hard for a big business to double in size. It's not so hard for a sole trader to hire a mate.

National's BusinessStart is designed to help those who have lost their job since 1 March 2020 – or who lose their job in the months ahead – to set up their own small businesses.

We're going to make at least \$30,000 available to you to help you do it, to buy your kit, to make sure you have some working capital, and to lower your taxes in the early stages, as you start to become successful.

Here's how we'll do it. Here's how BusinessStart works.

First, pretty much all Kiwis have one business idea or another. We want to harness your ideas to get us all through the crisis.

What we are going to do is this; for Kiwis who have lost their jobs since 1 March, plus those who lose them in the months ahead, National will give you a \$1000 voucher for you to:

- Get proper financial advice from a Chartered Accountant or Registered Financial Adviser on your ideas,
- Put together a genuine and viable business plan, and
- Have you set up on systems like MYOB or Xero.

When your plan is signed off by your Chartered Accountant or Registered

Financial Adviser, you're eligible for the second part of BusinessStart.

We'll let you withdraw up to \$20,000 from your KiwiSaver account to get your business going.

It's your money that you've put aside for a rainy day. Well, if you've lost your job, it's not raining, it's pouring.

A lot of that KiwiSaver money is sitting in default funds. Another big chunk of it is held in foreign shares. National says it may be more valuable to you invested in your own business. It's your choice whether to leave it with the fund managers or invest it yourself.

We know people will criticise us for this. We want them to tell us why it's better for Kiwis to have their money invested in Wall Street rather than in their Kiwi High Street.

We will also incentivise BusinessStart recipients to return the money to their KiwiSaver accounts when they can. Their future KiwiSaver contributions will be tax free until they have repaid the amount they took out.

The second thing we'll do – if you have been made redundant – is give you the entire taxed portion of your redundancy as a tax credit with the IRD. If your redundancy is, say, \$150,000 that could be as much as \$50k.

You'll then be able to use that to pay GST – or your provisional tax when you start making a profit.

But we think BusinessStart should be for all New Zealanders who lose their job.

So, for everyone else who becomes eligible by having their business plan signed off, National will give you a \$10,000 tax credit – \$5000 on day one and another \$5000 after 90 days.

We'll also pay your Company Office registration fee of \$130 if you choose that structure for your business.

With your approved business plan, your \$20,000 and your tax credit, we're sure the banks will compete to give you a decent banking finance package for any additional capex and working capital you need.

And, remember like all business owners, BusinessStart recipients will be able to write off new investment of up to \$150,000 for each new asset instantly under National's previously announced policy.

Running a small business is still not for the faint-hearted.

That's why BusinessStart also includes a new \$10 million contestable fund for additional advisers, for the likes of chambers of commerce, employers and manufacturers associations and Business Mentors New Zealand to pitch for.

BusinessStart recipients will be able to get that mentoring free.

What we then want, is for BusinessStart recipients to be confident enough to take on a mate using JobStart.

That's another \$10,000 if you do.

As I said, JobStart was originally planned to end on 31 March 2021. I am extending it until 31 March 2022, the same time period BusinessStart will be available.

I am also announcing three further measures to assist existing small businesses:

- National will increase the provisional tax threshold tenfold, from \$2,500 to \$25,000
- Lift the threshold to write off old assets from \$2000 to \$5000
- Increase tenfold the threshold where a tax invoice from the current \$50 to \$500
- National plans 17 months of an entrepreneurial and job-growth explosion, during the toughest times any of us has ever known.

We're using a combination of KiwiSaver money, tax credits and taxpayers' money to back you.

No Government ever creates jobs. You, the business owners of New Zealand, do that. National wants there to be more of you. National wants to back you, as you back yourselves and your mates to get this country working again.

- *Judith Collins, National Party.*



# Kanwaljit Singh Bakshi launches his campaign



Kanwaljit Singh Bakshi launched his campaign for the 2020 General Elections for the Panmure – Otahuhu Constituency. Kanwaljit is the first Indian born candidate, he has served as a list Member of Parliament for the Manukau East electorate since 2008. His campaign

launch was well attended by volunteers; the National Party Board Members Andrew Hunt, Alastair Bell and Stefan Sundae along with fellow candidates Simon O'Connor, Alfred Ngaro Agnes Loheni, Paulo Garcia, Christopher Luxon and Nuwi Samarkone. *-TIN Bureau*

## New Windsor now part of Mt Roskill Electorate this election

I am delighted the Mt Roskill electorate will include New Windsor and the main western boundary will be Whitney St. Go to [www.vote.nz](http://www.vote.nz) for detailed information.

**Dr Parmjeet Parmar**  
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# Why does an economic recovery require lower taxes and less red tape?

Last week we covered why ACT stands for empowering families. “One-size-fits-all big government solutions” do not meet the needs of our diverse community, may never arrive from Wellington, and do not enable us to rebuild and Change our Futures today. Recovery starts with tax cuts – 30% rate to 17.5% permanently, and GST from 15% to 10% for 1 year.

This week I cover how to empower ourselves - our businesses and our families – with options and choice by reducing restrictions. Next week, safely operating our economy, border and healthcare on a pandemic planet.

### How will ACT empower small businesses (SMEs)?

ACT has fought for years against ideological cigarette taxes that have risen too high, and made small shop owners the target of violent criminals.

During COVID we saw how easily SMEs get swept aside, and even though many put measures in place to operate safely from a public health perspective, they were still not trusted to take care of their customers.

Not being trusted and having to adhere to rules which are costly and ineffective, impedes our speed of innovation. ACT

will cut ineffective red tape, decrease GST to boost sales, and enable all business to take a chance on a good person changing industries by extending the trial period to 1 year.

ACT recognises that despite working long hours, 7 days a week, the income tax rates are too high – so reducing the 30% rate to 17.5% ensures you keep more of your earnings – and your customers also have more to spend.

Many people who contact ACT through [act.org.nz](http://act.org.nz) or the ACT App say making provisional tax voluntary, and the interest charged by IRD needs to be more equitable if they owe the taxpayer from overpayments – both of which ACT has adopted.

Putting more money into the economy and enabling SMEs to innovate is one step, but red tape and restrictions must be removed as well to enable Kiwis to make progress quickly.

### Empowered to build

New Zealand is only 3-4% urbanised – there is plenty of land in our paradise. The reason the cost of land and building in New Zealand expensive is that we are over regulated, and the councils are risk averse. This is hindering working families from

owning their own homes, reducing their stress, and improving their lives.

ACT would replace the Resource Management Act (RMA) with an Urban Development Act, which will allow property owners increased rights to build on their own land and automatically free up land for development when land prices become too inflated.

ACT would replace slow, inconsistent and frustrating council inspections with 25-year compulsory insurance for builders, (a guarantee to homeowners), while allowing innovation and a faster rate of construction.

Building materials would be automatically allowed if authorised in jurisdictions with similar conditions to New Zealand (e.g. Japan). This ensures materials have been approved by a quality regulator, while increasing competition in the New Zealand building materials market, lowering costs.

ACT trusts families and industry to get on with building once the incentives are set up correctly. The current Coalition know the RMA is bad law but is only allowing the Government to side-step the RMA for its pet projects – this is unfair on hard working families that want to own

their own home or expand their business.

### Only ACT trusts you

To Change your Future, consider that only a Party Vote for ACT will decrease taxes, eliminate wasteful spending, and empower families and businesses to innovate by removing red tape (not wait for decisions from Wellington). - *by ACT's candidate for Mt Roskill, Chris Johnston, who has outlined above, what principles and policies ACT stands for. Chris is a Project Manager who was born in Whanganui and has lived around Mt Roskill and Dominion Road for eight years with his wife and children.*





# Hindu Elders Foundation celebrates Matariki, the Māori New Year

Members of Hindu Elders Foundation (HEF), met after a long gap of four months, for the twin-celebrations of Matariki and the Foundation's anniversary. It was in July 2007, when HEF was registered as an incorporated society, with the aim of providing services for the well-being of senior citizens in the community.

Physical, Mental, Intellectual, Social and Spiritual aspects have been the key drivers while conducting HEF regular fortnightly meetings. These programs are structured by dedicated volunteers

who give their time and efforts to run the Foundation.

This 14th Anniversary was an occasion to remember the devoted services rendered by past and present volunteers. Some of them are no more in this mortal world. However, members very much cherish the memories of their deceased volunteers and their selfless services.

Shradhanjali was offered to Late Shaileshbhai Patel, a businessman from Rotorua, a great philanthropist who had recently passed away, and who had kindly donated a nine-seater van to HEF during

its early years.

Pravin Patel, the Patron of HEF, and members in addition to offering shradhanjali to all those who have passed away during the Corona epidemic, prayed for the safe world and peaceful world.

Lalita Raman Ranchhod was the chief guest at the occasion. The Ranchhod family have supported HEF over the years for which the members are extremely grateful.

Being a month of Matariki, it was also an occasion to celebrate the Māori New Year by mingling with a Māori group to

understand rich Māori traditions, learn about Matariki and develop greater bonds with the community. The Māori group was led by Matariki Korero, Richie, their Kaumotua.

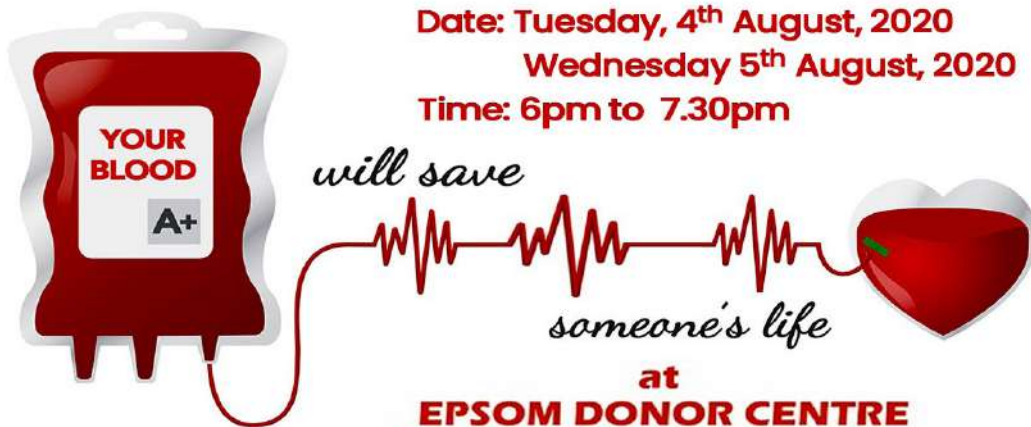
The Māori Group displayed local artefacts and handicrafts made by the Whanau. They offered to conduct workshops for HEF members to learn how to make such beautiful articles. They also exhibited many plants of medicinal value grown by them.

- from Hindu Elders Foundation



## BLOOD DONATION

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# Recent approvals for repatriation flights from India to Europe may open up options for New Zealanders wishing to return home: NZ Govt responds to the plight of New Zealanders stuck in India

• Gaurav Sharma

In The Indian News' Volume 3 Issue 14, dated July 16 - July 22, 2020, we published the story, Kiwis stuck in India demand a time-frame for allowing private charters to bring them home. Later, we asked the office of Minister Megan Woods to respond to our story, and to the specific questions as under:

There are over 450 New Zealand citizens and PRs stuck in India right now. We believe New Zealand High Commission in India (MFAT) also has the list, with this number. With three Air NZ

flights, and nine Air India Vande Bharat Mission flights completed, and none scheduled as of now, the only way these Kiwis can return home to New Zealand, is via a charter flight. They say, they have been following this up with the New Zealand Government (High Commission in India), and the response has been negative so far citing restrictive capacity for managed isolation at New Zealand borders.

**Q1)** So these Kiwis are asking, while private charters have been allowed by the Government for film crews and sporting teams, why is the Government not considering the request of its own citizens and PRs. What's your response to this?

**Q2)** Considering the managed isolation capacity, will you be able to provide a time-frame to this set of Kiwis stuck in India, on when they can expect to be allowed to come back home?

Now, we have received a detailed response from the New Zealand Government, which is posted below.



## A COVID-19 All of Government

### response group spokesperson says:

"Protecting our border is a critical part of stopping the spread of COVID-19 in New Zealand. While New Zealand is at Alert Level 1 and the disease is contained at our border, it is uncontrolled overseas. Being able to carry out managed isolation in regions across New Zealand is a key part of managing the numbers of New Zealanders seeking to return, while keeping our communities protected from COVID-19.

We have opened more managed isolation facilities to handle demand, with current capacity provided by 32 managed isolation and quarantine facilities across five regions. In the past three weeks, we've increased effective capacity by over a third, to around 6,700 spaces.

Between April and early July around 2,800 New Zealand citizens and permanent residents were supported to return home from India via New Zealand government chartered flights operated by Air New Zealand, commercial flights and third-country repatriation flights.

Looking ahead, we understand a

number of airlines have received approval for repatriation flights from India to Europe which may begin to open up options for New Zealanders wishing to return home.

In the meantime the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade is continuing to provide consular assistance for our citizens in India.

Ongoing measures to smooth the demand include the introduction of a rolling two-week quota on the number of people airlines can return to New Zealand. The Government has worked collaboratively with airlines operating commercial flights into New Zealand to amend their licenses to enable the quota to be introduced. The new system will align demand with supply, as increasing numbers of New Zealanders seek to return home from around the globe.

This is an important measure that gives us an additional defence against COVID-19. We have a responsibility to New Zealand to make sure the demand on our managed isolation system does not exceed the safe level of capacity."

## Shanti Niwas reopens Balmoral drop-in centre

• Yugal Parashar

Shanti Niwas Charitable Trust, the oldest Indian organisation in Auckland serving elders of South Asian Communities, has started re-opening its drop-in centres spread in different parts of Auckland. On Wednesday 29th August, the drop-in centre situated at Balmoral Community centre started with lots of fanfare with around a hundred people attending the programme.

Shanti Niwas Charitable Trust is a not for profit organisation which

was started in January 1994 with the objective of helping reduce the social isolation of elderly people from south Asian communities. The main objective is to empower seniors to learn to live life independently, in a culturally appropriate environment. In past 26 years since its inception, Shanti Niwas has helped thousands of people from the community to live a well contented and dignified life. Members also celebrated birthday of Shanti Niwas General Manager Nilima Venkat on this occasion.



## Auckland's Bharatiya Mandir to celebrate Sri Ram Mandir foundation ceremony



On the coming Wednesday, August 5, the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi temple in Ayodhya, India.

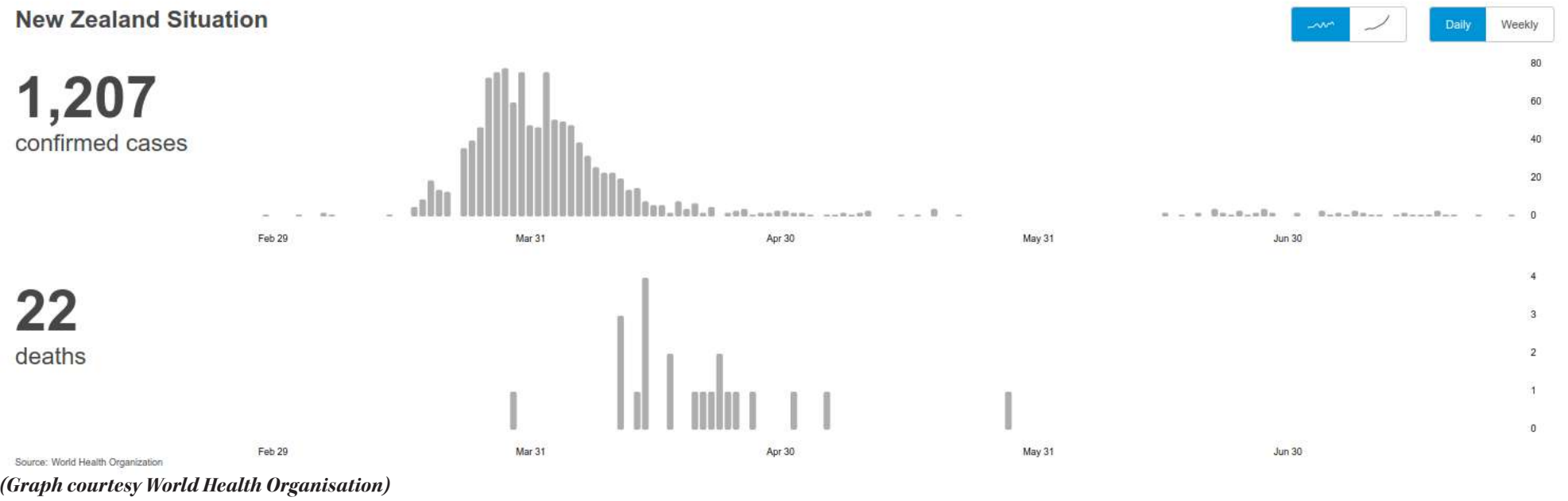
To celebrate this very special occasion, Bharatiya Mandir is inviting all devotees to the Mandir at 5pm on Wednesday, August 5, when a live telecast of the foundation stone ceremony is expected. From 6pm there will be lighting of diyas, bhajans and Shri Ram Katha by Acharya Shri Upendrabhai Joshi. This will be followed by evening Aarti and Mahaprasad. The Mandir management is

appealing the wider Indian community in New Zealand to be a part of this celebration.

Shri Ram Janmabhoomi temple site is the birthplace of Lord Shri Ram, believed to be the seventh avatar of the Hindu deity Vishnu. The Ramayana states that the location of Shri Ram's birthplace is on the banks of the Sarayu river in the city called "Ayodhya". A time capsule, enlisting the history and facts related to the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi, will be placed thousands of feet below the construction site to ensure that there are no disputes in the future. -TIN Bureau



In New Zealand, from Feb 28 to 4:52pm CEST, 28 July 2020, there have been 1,207 confirmed cases of COVID-19 with 22 deaths.



# COVID-19 related announcements this week

## Combating debt in the wake of COVID-19

Additional funding is being made available to strengthen existing debt solution services with access to debt specialists, and develop a national approach to address problem debt Minister for Social Development Carmel Sepuloni and Minister for Commerce and Consumer Affairs Hon Kris Faafoi announced.

“Our services are expecting about 2,000 people to get specialist debt support and about 1,400 people to get no-interest and low-interest debt consolidation microfinance loans or help with variations to high-cost loans via specialist debt solutions,” said Sepuloni.

Carmel Sepuloni said anyone with problem debt can access help through BFC services, currently just over 41% of their clients are self-referred.

The funding boost of \$4.3 million over two years is for the expansion of existing specialist debt services, building on the extra \$35m of funding (\$9.7m cost pressure funding and \$25.2m Covid Response and Recovery funding) rolled out for core Building Financial Capability (BFC) services, formerly budgeting services, announced at the end of May.

Carmel Sepuloni adds that as well as funding problem debt support, the Ministry of Social Development will engage with providers and diverse communities, including Māori, Pacific and other ethnic groups, to design a comprehensive National Debt Solution for all New Zealanders. **-TIN Bureau**

## Stabilising international education as the sector rebuilds

The Government has released a long-term strategic recovery plan, backed by \$51.6 million investment from the COVID recovery and response fund to help stabilise New Zealand’s international education sector. This include:

- \$20 million in support for state and state-integrated schools for the remainder of 2020 to continue to employ the specialist international workforce to continue teaching and providing pastoral care to international students who remain in New Zealand.
- \$10 million for Private Training Establishments (PTEs) including English language schools to buffer the sharp decline in revenue and maintain a foundation of PTEs for the recovery phase.
- \$10 million to develop new future-focused products and services to drive growth in our system onshore and offshore, to ensure a more resilient sector.
- \$6.6 million to continue the pastoral care and other activities for international students, subject to the proposed cancellation of Export Education Levy payments until the end of 2021.
- \$3 million for marketing activities to keep New Zealand’s education brand visible in key markets while travel is restricted.
- \$1.5 million for English Language Schools to deliver English language training to migrants to help them to succeed in our schools and communities.
- \$500k to develop a quality assurance process to ensure the ongoing quality of a New Zealand education being delivered offshore. **-TIN Bureau**

## Supporting tourism in our regions

More than \$20 million has been approved for New Zealand’s 31 Regional Tourism Organisations (RTOs) to support the industry’s recovery in the short and long term, Tourism Minister Kelvin Davis announced.

“Our country’s 31 RTOs do a great job contributing to their regional economies and play an important role in supporting the tourism system. In June we announced up to \$20.2 million would be available to them, and following the application process, I’m pleased to announce all the RTOs have had their funding confirmed,” Kelvin Davis said.

“The funding will allow RTOs to support their local communities and tourism operators, stimulate regional demand, leverage Tourism New Zealand’s national marketing campaign and increase the industry’s capability,” he added. **-TIN Bureau**

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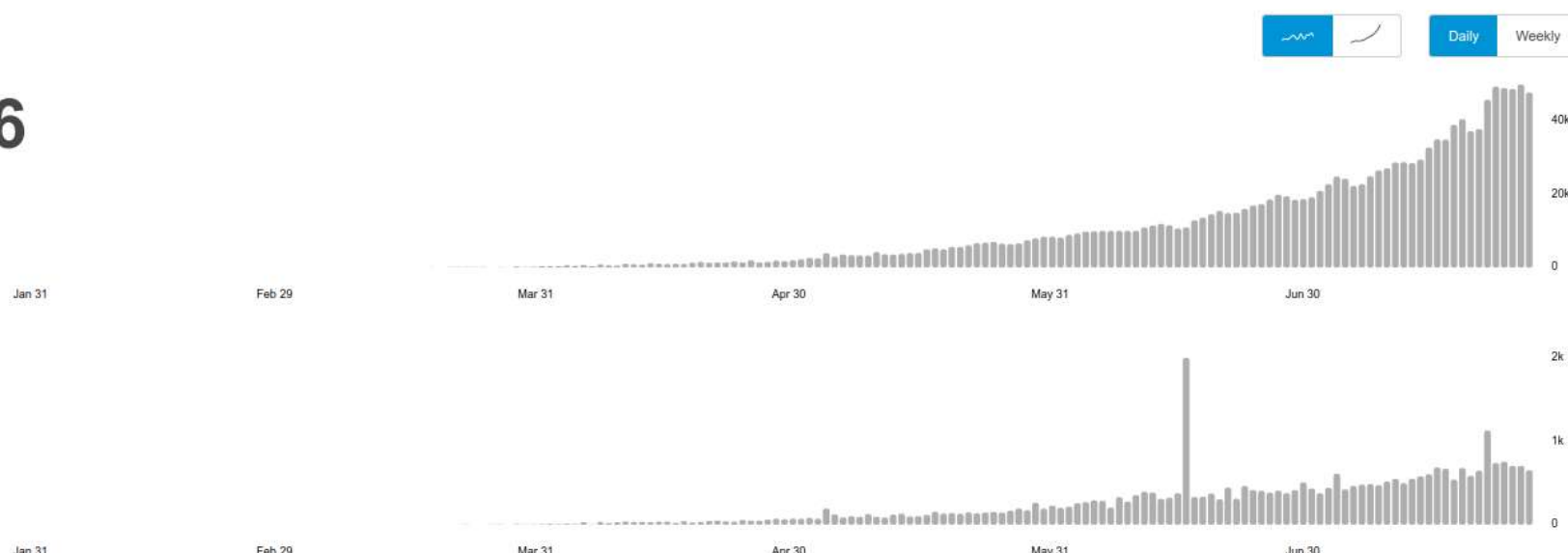
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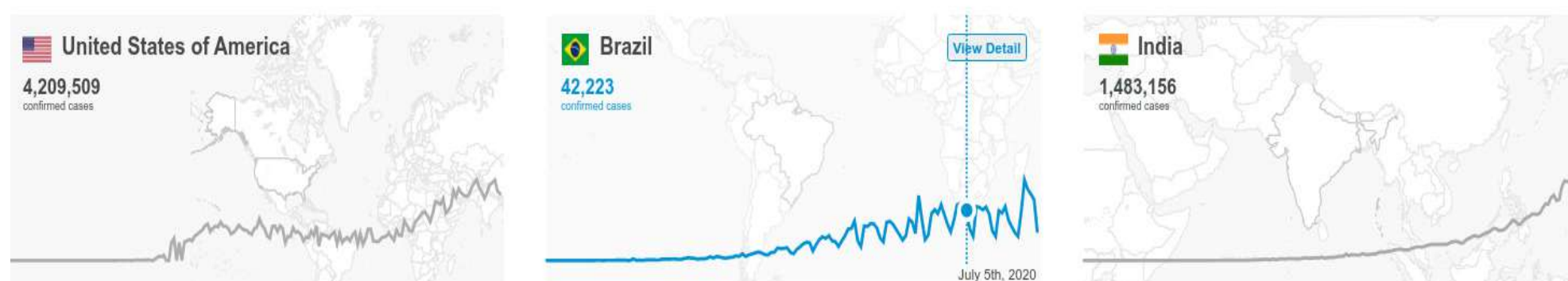
## India Situation

**33,425**  
deaths

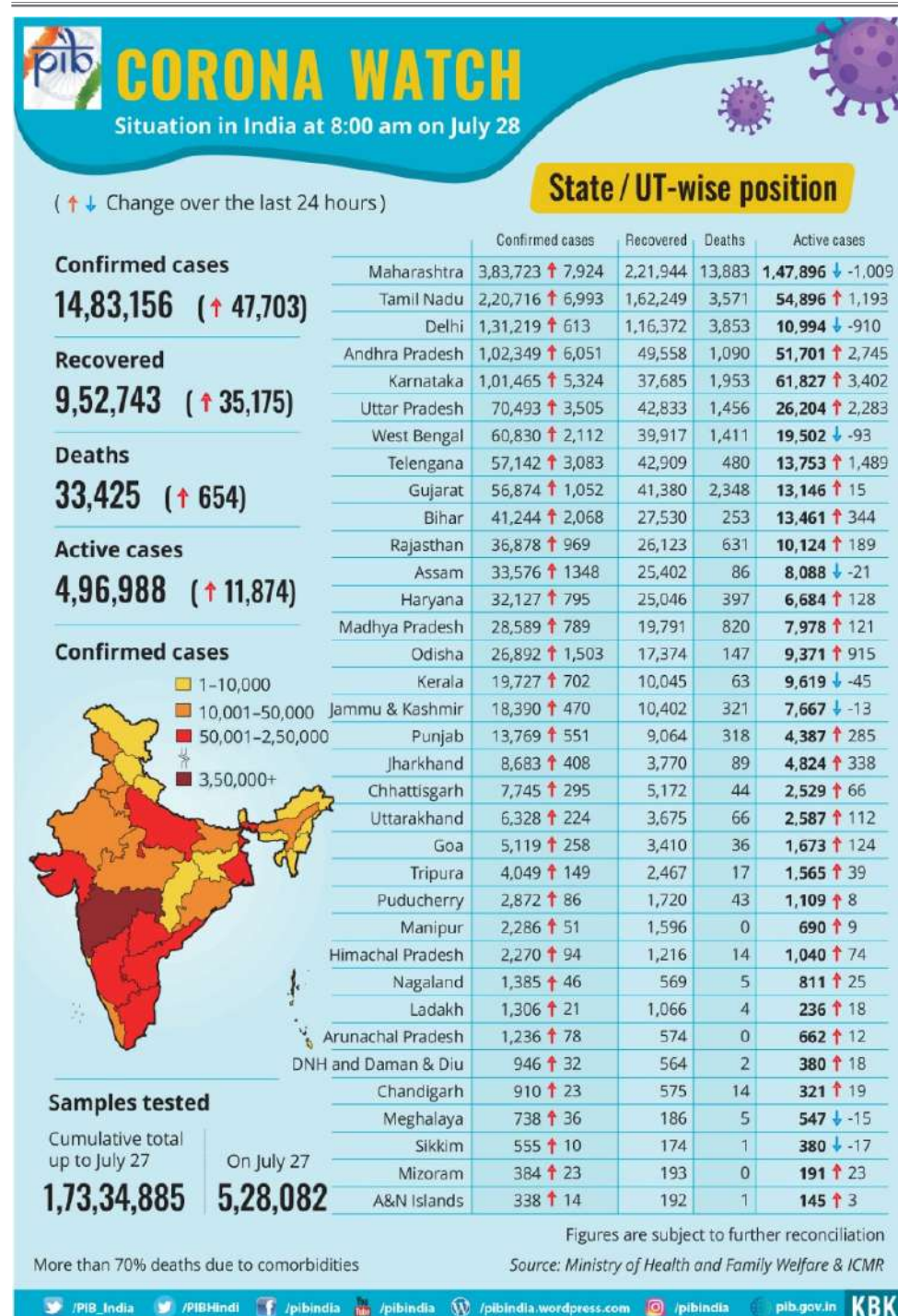


Source: World Health Organization  
(Graph courtesy World Health Organisation)

## COVID-19 world situation



*(Graph courtesy World Health Organisation)*



# India testing more than half a million daily now

Pursuant to “Test, Track, Treat” strategy, India has created and maintained a new high of testing more than 5 lakh (half a million) COVID-19 in a single day over two consecutive days. This is the outcome of the combined and focused efforts of Union and State/UT Governments on aggressive testing as the first important step in the early detection and isolation of COVID-19 positive cases. On July 26, India tested a total of 5,15,000 samples, and on July 27, a total of 5,28,000 samples were tested.

The graded and evolving response resulted in a testing strategy that steadily widened the testing network in the country, and the cumulative testing as on date has crossed 1.73 crore. The Tests Per Million has further improved to 12,562.

The testing capacity of India has

received another boost with the induction of three high throughput testing facilities in Noida, Mumbai and Kolkata that were inaugurated virtually by Prime Minister Narendra Modi this week. The testing lab

network in the country is continuously strengthened with 1310 labs in the country; 905 labs in the government sector and 405 private labs. These include:

- Real-Time RT PCR based testing labs: 668 (Govt: 407 + Private: 261)
- TrueNat based testing labs: 537 (Govt: 467 + Private: 70)
- CBNAAT based testing labs: 105 (Govt: 31 + Private: 74)

Meanwhile, India's Case Fatality Rate (CFR) is progressively falling and currently, it is 2.25%. India continues its march as a country with one of the lowest fatality rates in the world. The CFR has reduced from around 3.33% in mid-June to 2.25% this week. For the fifth day in a row this week, India has seen more than 30,000 recoveries per day. **-TIN Bureau**



*Pic courtesy: Financial Times*



# Will Rafael change security equation for India!

The delivery of the first batch of much talked about and one of the most controversial defence deals of India after the Bofors gun scandal controversy, 5 Rafael fighter jets have reached India. India signed a deal with Dassault Aviation of France to buy 136 Rafael jets on 31 January, 2012 along with an option of 63 additional aircrafts. The first 18 Rafael aircrafts were to be supplied by Dassault Aviation fully built and remaining aircrafts were to be built under licence by India's Hindustan Aeronautics Limited as per the agreement.

Situations changed when government at the centre changed and the Modi government after doing a stock take of situation of India's defence capabilities changed the entire procedure of agreement and decided to deal with French government directly to minimise the cost and to fast track the deal. During this period the cost of aircraft got escalated and the new government also added lots of new tactical warfare to be fitted in aircraft to make more attacking and fearsome fighter jet. As Indian Air Force was lacking very badly on its squadron numbers so Modi government decided to acquire 36 fully built Rafael jets citing critical operational necessity. The deal to buy 36 operational ready fighter jets was signed at the lowest price of Euro 7.87 billion which was much lower than earlier quoted price of Euro 11.8 billion in 2015 and later Euro 8.6 billion quoted in January, 2016. This decrease in price could happen due to change in escalation formula from a fixed 3.9% to a floating rate linked to European inflation indices along with a cap of 3.5%. The deal was marred by political controversy when Congress Party spokesperson Randeep Singh Surjewala accused Modi government of doing financial bungling in the deal and also that why the government bypassed HAL approved Sukhoi fighter jet and chose Dassault

Aviation's Rafael jet.

During 2019 elections, the then Congress leader Rahul Gandhi made the deal an election issue and kept accusing the government and Modi in particular of corruption in the deal which was later given a clean chit by the Apex Court that no irregularity was found in the entire deal and everything was done by following all the laid down procedures. Modi government chose to buy 36 planes in the first stage to urgently fulfil the Air Force requirement of 2 squadrons which were the need of hour and at look at situation today, the first batch has arrived just in time. The situation at borders today between India and China and also with Pakistan is so explosive that war between the adversaries could start any time. So, there could not be a better time for these one of the best fighter jets in the world to reach India, than now. Government of India has also ordered France, HAMMER standoff missile with the capability to take out any types of targets up to the range of 70 kms using emergency powers to acquire them for armed forces in a war like situation. All the Indian Air Force pilots who flew the jet to India were getting trained in France for many months and will later be given training in India as well for basic war worthiness and maintenance. The Chief of Air Staff later visited the Air Force Base to receive and inspect the prize possession and to give his nod.

Despite of continuing controversies and lots of efforts still being made by opposition parties and Congress party in particular to carry on the issue, its time now when all the controversies should be put to an end, keeping national security interests in mind. Nothing can be more important for any person political or non-political, more than the safety, security and integrity of their nation and today is the time for all Indians to stand together and stand united.

- Yugal Parashar

## THE INDIAN NEWS

**Publisher - The Indian News NZ Limited**

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**Marketing & PR - Yugal Parashar**

**Printer - Horton Media, Auckland.**

**Registered Office - 258 Balmoral Road, Sandringham, Auckland 1025, New Zealand.**

**Time: 10am - 6pm | Phone: +64 9 846 8080 | www.indiannews.co.nz**

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Raksha Bandhan, is a very popular and traditional Hindu festival which falls on the full moon day of Shravan month of Hindu calendar every year. Raksha Bandhan is celebrated in India, Nepal and some other parts of Indian subcontinent. Though this tradition of women tying sacred thread to men's wrist is centuries old where ladies would tie a sacred thread for the safety and wellbeing of men folks going for wars. With the course of time this ritual changed into sisters tying the rakhi or amulet to the right arm's wrist of their brothers and praying for their prosperity, health and wellbeing who in return would give them gifts and money and promise sisters to protect and take care of them.

There are many stories in history where wives of kings tied rakhi or the sacred thread to other rulers and kings to seek help from them to protect

their kingdom from enemy countries. The name Raksha Bandhan literally means 'a bond for protection'. The tradition keeps evolving as time goes by and currently it is purely a festival of emotional bond between brothers and sisters which is full of love and compassion.

This is the time of the year in India when there is greenery all over in the countryside and people are in festive mood to enjoy the beautiful season of monsoon. All family members gather, and married girls of house come back to their parents' home to celebrate rakhi with their brothers. On the Raksha Bandhan day, sister would tie the sacred thread or the amulet to the wrist of right hand of their brothers and brothers in return would give their sisters gifts and money out of affection and love. Brothers are supposed to take a vow to support and protect their sisters from any difficulties

and this vow is renewed every year by celebrating this festival. Several historic folklores tell us about Raksha Bandhan or the festival of rakhi, crossing the race or religious lines. When a Hindu queen asked for help from a Muslim king by sending him a rakhi and the Muslim king respected and valued the rakhi tradition and came in defence of his rakhi sister, the Hindu queen.

Basically, the bonding between brother and sister is very unique and beyond description in words. Actually, the relationship and the bond between the siblings is always very special and is valued all over the world but when it comes to India, it is celebrated as a festival. This festival is also a constant reminder as well every year, to both brothers and sisters to continue fulfilling their obligations and to keep the relation intact. Lucky ones are those who have a brother or sister to

celebrate this festival. This year rakhi festival falls on the Shravan Purnima day on August 3. *Yugal Parashar*

# Bakrid



Bakrid or Eid-al-Adha is also known as the second of the two Islamic holidays celebrated worldwide. The first which is popularly known as Eid and marks the end of the sacred month of Ramadan where Muslims fast from dusk to dusk. The Second Eid is known as Bakrid and is a significant celebration as it is the time when Hajj, a pilgrimage which the followers of Islam are required to complete once in their lives, is performed in Mecca.

**New Zealand Date**  
Eid al-Adha or Bakrid in New Zealand, will be observed on August 1, 2020. Bakrid is celebrated on the tenth day of Dhu al-Hijjah, the last month of the Islamic calendar. As Islam follows the Lunar calendar, the dates can change based on the moon sightings.

**History**  
The festival of Eid al-Adha is a commemoration of the Prophet Ibrahim's (Abraham) absolute dedication to Allah. It is meant to honour the sacrifice that Ibrahim was more than willing to make for his God. The Prophet had to sacrifice something that he held very close to his heart. His steadfast faith prompted him to offer his son Ismail who was born after many years of their marriage and loved most deeply by both his parents. Seeing this absolute devotion, Jibreel (Angel Gabriel), the Archangel, was sent bearing a sheep for slaughter in place of his son.

**Significance**  
More than the actual act of sacrificing the animal itself, Eid al-Adha is the celebration of both Ibrahim and Ismail's love for Allah. In commemoration of the sheep sent by Allah through Jibreel, Muslims across the globe perform a

symbolic sacrifice of a goat or sheep in the same spirit. But the larger goal is charity and the purpose is to look after the community especially the people who cannot afford to buy and eat meals that a rich man can afford.

For most poor families, to be able to buy and eat meat is almost a festival. Hence, it is made obligatory for earning members of the family to buy an animal and to follow the rules around performing the ritual. The meat prepared from the sacrifice has to be distributed in three equal parts. Where only one portion feeds the family, and the second feeds the relatives while the third goes to the poor and needy. The family cannot and must not consume the entire meat themselves. This is also one of the reasons that it will not help to do it symbolically or on the internet and social media like the other festivals are celebrated.

The practise is only meant as a gesture that shows that one is willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for the supreme energy. It is the sacrifice of what one loves the most. Sometimes, what holds us back is our physical attachment to what we love the most. Our worldly pursuits and desires do not allow us to go in pursuit of our higher spiritual selves. It is symbolic of placing our trust in the higher energy – an act of complete surrender to that one big energy that runs this entire universe keeping in mind what serves the greater good of humanity as a whole.

**Eid Al Adha Festive food**  
Bakrid feast dishes include mutton biryani, mutton korma, mutton keema and bluni kaleji. Among the desserts are sheer kurma and kheer.

The recipe for Biryani and korma is quite popular. I will share with you the mutton keema recipe which my father used to cook on Bakrid which is our family favourite and brings back beautiful memories. Try it out.

## Lucknowi Mutton Keema

### Ingredients

- 1 Kg mutton keema
- 750 gms onion, sliced
- 2 Garlic cloves (crushed)
- 6 tbsp ginger-garlic paste
- 1 tbsp coriander powder
- 1/2 tsp turmeric powder
- 2 to 3 green chillies – optional
- 2 tsp Kashmiri red chilly powder
- 1 tsp cumin powder
- 150 gms yogurt
- 1/2 cup sunflower oil
- 1 tsp garam masala powder
- 4 tsp cumin seeds
- 1 whole lemon juice
- Fenugreek leaves 2 tbsp
- To taste salt

### How to Make Lucknowi Mutton Keema

1. In a big thick bottom saucepan, add oil, then add cumin seeds. Now add onions and fry till golden brown. Add the ginger garlic paste, coriander powder, turmeric powder, red chilly powder, salt, cumin powder along with green chillies. Keep adding a couple of table spoons of water and keep frying all the masalas.
2. Once the smell of ginger garlic paste is gone, now add the mutton keema. Add the Fenugreek leaves. Then add the lime juice. Lastly add the beaten curd. Put the lid on, and cook on low heat stirring occasionally.
3. Cook on low heat for 20 to 25 mins



and then slowly increase the flame to medium and let the mutton keema cook for 10-15 minutes depending on how much gravy or dryness you prefer.  
4. Check if the oil has come up and the mutton keema is tender and well-cooked.  
5. Garnish with coriander leaves and serve hot.

By Erum Ali, who is a regular columnist for the Indian News. Erum loves to connect and share food along with her food recipes. Food cooked by her on special occasions for 'loved ones' and 'friends' disappears in less than 10 minutes. She always finds her way through food almost in any situation – happy or sad. Her soulmates are most likely to be food binging beings.

# Raksha Bandhan

a festival of love and compassion



# From fruit-picker to leading supplier of stones in New Zealand, a true-blue Kiwi-Indian success story of Siva Kilari

• Gaurav Sharma



Zealand's leading supplier of stones including marbles, granites, quartzite, soapstone, onyx and more. UC is also the country's exclusive supplier of Compac, Uniquartz engineered stone and Ascale porcelain; as well as the largest importer of natural stones from Brazil, Italy, India, Greece, Turkey, Taiwan, Spain, Sweden, Portugal and even Taiwan.

"I still remember those days. Especially working in the fruit and vegetable farms, and vineyards. Those were tough days," he says.

Nowadays, Kilari lives in Auckland, with his wife and two sons and a daughter. He employs 18 people, and owns warehouses in Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch.

"We are suppliers of more than 60 percent of stones used in New Zealand. We work with Cambridge Homes, Stonewood Homes, and Landmark Homes, among others, supplying them kitchen benchtop, stone induction cooktop and another installations. We

have worked with SkyCity fulfilling their stone requirements. We have supplied the entire black granite that you see in every Prada outlet in New Zealand," Kilari adds.

But like any good and inspiring story, Kilari's journey also had many hiccups. And a serial entrepreneur, he had his share of unsuccessful businesses as well.

"After completing my course in engineering, I joined a Toyota dealership as a stock controller. I also drove a taxi on the weekends to earn some extra money during that time. But my heart was always in becoming an entrepreneur and starting my own business. So in 2006, I started selling print cartridges. It collapsed and I lost almost 5 thousand dollars, which was a very big deal for me at that time," he says.

He then thought of advertising New Zealand as a shooting location to the South India movie industry. "This business also collapsed, and this time, my loss was double the last time."

Then, a chance encounter happened.

He was smoke break with a work colleague pondering about his future, when he saw a truck with granite slabs passing by.

"I was instantly curious, and invested a

great deal of time learning the nitty-gritty of importing granite slabs to New Zealand from India. Then in 2007, I launched UC. In the first year, we imported six containers full of stone slabs. Here too, the business took some time to take-off, as the quality of material in the first lot was not good, and we couldn't sell it," he says.

But not the one to give up, Kilari persisted. And rest as they say is history.

Last year, UC imported 282 containers full of stone slabs, he informs.

On the question, of what he wants to achieve now, Kilari is very candid. "Firstly, from 60 percent, I want UC share in the New Zealand's stone market to increase to at least 80 percent. Furthermore, I am investing in larger warehouse space, so that customers can come and have a look themselves at the quality and range of stone products we offer. I want them to go back impressed, and then demand from their designers, fabricators, architects, and builders to use only UC products in their homes."

"While our products range is already quite big, a further product diversification is also on the cards," Kilari concludes.

*(For a more detailed story, read the online version on our website.)*

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# Individual tax obligations - Inland Revenue talking to Indian tax authorities



Every New Zealand tax resident is required pay tax on their worldwide income (including income earned in New Zealand and overseas). Residential status for tax purposes is different from New Zealand citizenship or permanent residency. Even if you are not a New Zealand resident for tax purposes, you still you must pay tax on any income you earned in New Zealand. Similarly, a tax resident of New Zealand is liable to pay income tax on their worldwide income. New Zealand tax residents must state their income from all sources, including that from overseas, in an Individual tax return (IR3). To avoid double taxation, individuals usually are allowed a tax credit for any tax paid abroad. Still, individuals must be able to produce records which show the overseas tax paid on that income.

**An individual will be resident in NZ for tax purposes if:**

- the person has a "permanent place

of abode" in NZ, irrespective of whether the person has another permanent place of abode outside NZ; or

- the person is personally present in NZ for more than 183 days (in aggregate) during any period of 12 months. or
- the person is personally absent from NZ in the service of the NZ Government.

"Permanent place of abode" in New Zealand is a place in which individual can (and does) live when required, with which the individual has a durable connection, and that is a current focal point of their living. Double tax agreements have been negotiated between New Zealand and many other countries (including India) to determine the taxing rights of each country. A person may be a tax resident in both New Zealand and another country. In that event, the person must satisfy his or her obligations in respect of income tax following the double tax agreement.

**Temporary exemption of foreign income:**

A New Zealand tax resident after 1 April 2006 qualifies for four years (48 months) temporary tax exemption on foreign-sourced income.

The exemption applies to all foreign income (e.g. interest, rent, dividend) except employment income and income from the supply of services.

## Exchange of Information (EOI)

After discussions with our various clients, we have found that it is a myth that New Zealand tax is not applicable for income otherwise considered exempt in India.

As per Indian Income Tax rules, interest income of non-resident Indians (NRI) on fixed deposits and savings accounts is exempt income in India. However, this income is not exempt under the New Zealand's Income Tax rules.

It is a misconception that if individuals are deriving foreign income in India, it will be difficult for Inland Revenue

to investigate. We have seen first-hand Inland Revenue send letters to NZ taxpayers requesting them to declare their foreign sourced income

from India. Inland Revenue takes its Exchange of Information (EOI) obligations under global tax conventions very seriously and has a very active and effective (EOI) policy and practice. By adopting and implementing rules for automatic exchange of financial accounts information, Inland Revenue has taken a significant step forward in combating tax evasion and avoidance. In the case of tax evasion, Inland Revenue can make tax adjustments that go back many years in certain circumstances.

Finally, we suggest that anybody who has income and assets in India or in other jurisdictions that should be declared to Inland Revenue at the earliest. It will avoid Inland Revenue taking action after receiving that information under Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) which could lead to unintentional non-compliance behaviour.

*For more advice on the taxation of your investment property and other accounting and business services, please contact the expert team at Tax Professionals. First consultation is FREE.*

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**Eshan Gupta**

## Two Kiwi-Indians rank among top 10 in NZ Adviser's fourth annual Top Advisers rankings

*While Auckland-based Dev Dhingra of The Fundmaster secured his second spot for the second year running, Christchurch-based Nathan Miglani of Loan Market was ranked sixth.*

The leading business publication NZ Adviser, which is delivered exclusively online to New Zealand's mortgage and finance industry, on July 22, revealed its latest fourth annual Top Advisers rankings of New Zealand's top 30 mortgage advisers of 2020. And once again as a proof of success of people of Indian origin, in whatever field they choose to in New Zealand, two Kiwi-Indians figure prominently in the top 10. While Auckland-based Dev Dhingra of The Fundmaster secured his second spot for the second year running, Christchurch-based Nathan Miglani of Loan Market was ranked sixth.

Ksenia Stepanova writing at [www.nzadviseronline.co.nz](http://www.nzadviseronline.co.nz), noted, "The report asked mortgage advisers across the country to provide some key performance metrics from the past 12 months to uncover the top adviser in the industry."

This period ranged from April 1, 2019, to March 31, 2020. Dhingra settled \$203,000,000 across 498 residential loans for this period, Stepanova added.

Later in a LinkedIn post, Miglani said, "After achieving Chairman's Club status (top one percent of mortgage advisers)

at Loan Market, I've now received the amazing news that I was awarded sixth mortgage adviser in New Zealand by NZ Adviser – that's across all mortgage brokers working in NZ. This is a real honour, and I'd like to dedicate this achievement to my amazing team – and to the CEO of Loan Market, Brian Greer."

**-TIN Bureau**



### Ranked sixth in NZ Adviser Top Advisers 2020: Nathan Miglani, Loan Market

"Christchurch-based Nathan Miglani began his finance career as a home loan specialist at ANZ, and gained his

### Ranked second in NZ Adviser Top Advisers 2020: Dev Dhingra, The Fundmaster



"Dev Dhingra started his journey far from the financial advice sector, having

first years of brokerage experience with local Christchurch firm Tony Mounce Mortgages. Having gained a good grounding in the industry, joining the high-performing team at Loan Market in 2016 was a natural move for Miglani. He now works with clients to choose the right finance products and interest rates,

graduated with a degree in pharmacy before pursuing a graduate diploma in business management from AUT. He went on to work as a business development manager with ASB Bank for almost six years, where he started up the bank's first Indian segment as part of the Migrant Banking Division, and offered banking services to customers in Hindi. Dhingra set up The Fund Master in 2012, where his expertise in relationship management, business strategy and retail and commercial banking resulting in it gaining significant traction in the mortgage and insurance spaces." - *citation by NZ Adviser, Pic courtesy Dev Dhingra social media*

whether they're buying their own home, their next investment or commercial property or simply re-financing to get the right deal. As a property investor himself, Miglani has a strong understanding of the importance of timeframes, as well as an in-depth knowledge of the property market." - *citation by NZ Adviser*



## An embarrassed Congress, finally wakes up to former PM Rao's legacy

After nearly a month of Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao launching his government's year-long celebrations to mark the birth centenary of former prime minister PV Narasimha Rao, the Congress last week woke up to the legacy of the life-long Congressman. The event kicked off with another former PM Manmohan Singh remembering how 29 years ago, he presented the historic union budget which ushered in the era of globalisation and liberalisation in India.

Congress president Sonia Gandhi in her message, called Rao "scholarly, erudite and bold". Her son, Rahul Gandhi also hailed the former PM for his contributions to economic reforms.

Meanwhile, Singh in his messaged added, "Rao Ji can truly be called the father of Economic Reforms in India... On the foreign affairs front, he made efforts to improve the relationship with our neighbours including China. India signed the South Asian Preferential Trade Agreement along with the SAARC countries."

"Then the 'Look East Policy' was also

his brainchild to link India with East and South-East Asian countries... That was a difficult era in politics. Endowed with a cool temperament and deep political prowess Narasimha Rao ji was always open to debates and discussion. He always tried to take the opposition into confidence. To cite a few examples, he had deputed Shri Atal Bihar Vajpayee Ji as the leader of the Indian delegation to the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva to discuss Pakistan-sponsored resolution to censure India on its record of human rights in Jammu & Kashmir, which was successfully thwarted. He had also nominated Shri Subramaniam Swamy as Chairman of the Commission on Labour Standards and International Trade, with a Cabinet-rank."

"Narasimha Rao Ji left behind an unmatched legacy of being a linguist, well versed in 10 Indian and four foreign languages and a scholar. He was one of the first converts to new technology by not only becoming adept with using a computer but also became proficient with programming." -*TIN Bureau*

## Grant of Permanent Commission to women officers in Indian Army

The Indian Government's Ministry of Defence has issued the formal Government Sanction Letter for grant of Permanent Commission (PC) to Women Officers in the Indian Army, paving the way for empowering Women Officers to shoulder larger roles in the organisation.

The order specifies grant of PC to Short Service Commissioned (SSC) Women Officers in all ten streams of the Indian Army i.e Army Air Defence (AAD), Signals, Engineers, Army Aviation, Electronics and Mechanical Engineers (EME), Army Service Corps (ASC), Army Ordnance Corps (AOC), and Intelligence Corps in addition to the existing streams of Judge and Advocate General (JAG) and Army Educational Corps (AEC).

In anticipation, the Army Headquarters



Another milestone in #WomenEmpowerment

Thanks to @narendramodi Ji for creating a Permanent Commission to women officers in @adgpi. This path-breaking initiative will go a long way in empowering women & enable them to shoulder crucial responsibilities at par with men #IndianArmy



had set in motion a series of preparatory actions for conduct of the Permanent Commission Selection Board for affected Women Officers. The Selection Board will be scheduled as soon as all affected SSC Women Officers exercise their option and complete requisite documentation.

-*TIN Bureau*

## India now in leadership role in Tiger Conservation, will share best practices with Tiger range countries



"Tiger is an incredible part of the nature and the increased number of the big cats in India reflects equilibrium in the nature.", said India's Union Environment Minister, Prakash Javadekar at the release of the detailed report of Tiger Census on the occasion of Global Tiger Day in New Delhi this week.

"Tigers and other wild life are a kind of soft power India has to show on the international front. The Minister said, despite several constraints such as less land mass, India has eight percent of bio-diversity because our country has a culture of saving and preserving the nature, trees and its wild life," the Minister said.

Noting that wildlife is our natural wealth, he added, "It is praise worthy that India has 70 percent of world's tiger population. The Minister mentioned, India is tirelessly working with all 13 tiger range countries towards nurturing the tiger."

He also announced that his Ministry

is working on a programme in which efforts would be made to provide water and fodder to animals in the forest itself to deal with the challenge of human-animal conflict which is causing deaths of animals. For this LIDAR based survey technology will be used for the first time. Lidar is a method for measuring distances by illuminating the target with laser light and measuring the reflection with a sensor.

The detailed report of the 4th All India Tiger Estimation is unique in the following ways;

- Abundance index of co-predators and other species has been carried out which hitherto was restricted only to occupancy
- Sex ratio of tigers in all camera trap sites has been carried out for the first time.
- Anthropogenic effects on tiger population have been elaborated in a detailed manner.
- Tiger abundance within pockets in tiger reserves has been demonstrated for the first time.

The Heads of the Governments of Tiger Range countries at St. Petersburg, Russia, had resolved to double tiger numbers across their global range by 2022 by signing the St. Petersburg declaration on tiger conservation. During the said meeting it was also decided to celebrate July 29 as Global Tiger Day across the world, which is since, being celebrated to spread and generate awareness on tiger conservation.

During Global Tiger Day 2019, it was a proud moment for India as the Prime Minister declared to the world fulfilment of India's resolve as it had doubled its tiger numbers four years in advance to the target year highlighting resolute action taken by all concerned. India's tiger population now stands at 2967 which is 70 percent of the global tiger population. A feather in India's cap was added with the Guinness World Records recognizing the country's efforts as the world largest camera trap survey of wildlife.

The detailed report released this week assesses the status of tigers in terms of spatial occupancy and density of individual populations across India. In addition to the summary report released by the Prime Minister of India on the "Status of Tigers in India" in July 2019, this detailed report compares information obtained from the earlier three surveys (2006, 2010, and 2014) with data obtained from the 2018-19 survey to estimate population trends at country and landscape

scales, patch colonization and extinction rates along with information on likely factors responsible for changes in tiger status at the fine spatial resolution of 100 km.

The report evaluates the status of habitat corridors connecting major tiger populations and highlights vulnerable areas that require conservation attention for each landscape. The report provides information on major carnivores and ungulates regarding their distribution and relative abundance. -*TIN Bureau*



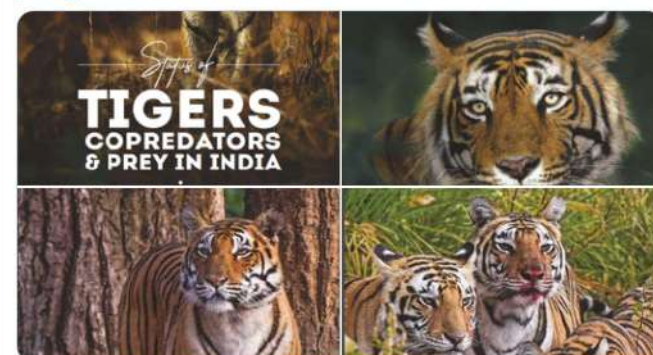
#IndiasTigerSuccess

Union Minister @PrakashJavdekar releases detailed report of Tiger Census on the eve of #GlobalTigerDay

here  
[projecttiger.nic.in/WriteReadData/...](http://projecttiger.nic.in/WriteReadData/...)

#InternationalTigerDay

[pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDet...](http://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDet...)





# Fighting stigma and stereotypes: All Day, Every Day

• Gaurav Sharma

The ongoing exhibition at Depot Artspace in Auckland, Sex Workers of Aotearoa – a day in the life of, is unique in every possible sense. While challenging the beliefs, the stigma and the stereotypes that surround New Zealand's sex industry, it is also a behind-the-curtain into an industry still fighting for mainstream space, almost 17 years after the Prostitution Reform Act was passed in 2003, which decriminalised sex work in Aotearoa New Zealand.

"But most importantly, the exhibition is about sex workers taking charge of how they want to be represented. We need to tell our own stories. Sure, stereotypes exist, but they don't represent everyone," says Jordan Quinn, the curator of the exhibition.

As she wrote in the July issue of Gay Express, the idea of such an exhibition originated in 2018, when she was working for a documentary on sex workers. "I asked myself why are sex workers not representing themselves? The glaringly obvious answer is stigma, privacy and access to a platform," she writes, adding, "Having been creative for most of my life and knowing many fellow sex workers also with artistic abilities, I planted the

seed for an all sex worker art exhibition."

With help from New Zealand Prostitutes Collective, the first exhibition debuted in Wellington last year. This year, it was brought to Auckland, after Covid derailed plans for hosting the exhibitions in Wellington and Christchurch.

With 24 art pieces on display, the exhibition covers the history of sex work, the physicality involved, the widely accepted standards of beauty, the discrimination faced by sex workers, the need and awareness about consent, as well as the value of sex work as a therapeutic tool in some cases.

In fact, Quinn herself has created a piece called, All Day, Every Day, detailing the work around sex work, including accounting, marketing, and even maintaining a website.

On if she is seeing her efforts making any change in the societal attitude towards sex work, now that the exhibition is in its second year, Quinn says, "Yes, it has. Certainly for those who have visited the exhibition and seen the art works. So I hope more people do so till August 12."

*For a more detailed story, read the online version on our website.*

"In the face of so much stigmatisation and isolation it can be easy to forget to be proud of myself as a sex worker. This exhibition made me feel so proud."

"It's a gentle, beautiful insight into the world of sex workers"

"Exposure to a part of society that you hear a bit about, yet know very little about due to lack of exposure. Nice to get to hear directly from the protagonists!"

## Sex Workers of Aotearoa

### ART EXHIBITION

JULY 25th - AUG 12th

**DEPOT ARTSPACE**

28 CLARENCE STREET  
DEVONPORT, AUCKLAND

A day in the life of a sex worker - depicted through art by sex workers themselves

Depot Artspace [WWW.SWOA.CO.NZ](http://WWW.SWOA.CO.NZ) Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

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Depot Artspace Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

## Decriminalization in the world of sex work

Why do we talk about sex work in hushed tones? It is because of the stigma. At Depot Artspace, Devonport, Auckland on July 29, Lynzi Armstrong and Gillian Abel spoke on 'Sex Work and the New Zealand Social Model: Decriminalization and Social Change' which is the title of their co-edited book as well. This session was a part of the on-going art exhibition- Sex Workers of Aotearoa, A day in the life of.

### The social stigma

Lynzi and Gillian spoke about how the Prostitution Reform Act (PRA) in New Zealand decriminalized sex work by repealing existing laws that criminalized it, as well as providing sex workers with rights to challenge exploitation. This has empowered the sex workers to some extent and have made it a safe professional choice. The editors of the book mentioned that the stigma with the profession is deeply connected with historical ideas of sexuality, religion, physicality, homophobia, and various such elements.

Touching on the sensitive topic of migrant sex workers, Lynzi mentioned that as migrant workers aren't allowed to be a part of this industry, there is a gap in research work done on their lives. "The non-English-speaking migrant sex workers are subjected to exploitation as they can't make police complaints due to the fear of being deported. For

example, few clients get away without paying and few sex workers are even raped," said Lynzi.

### Trafficking

Gillian remarked, "There is no evidence of human trafficking in New Zealand yet. There have been instances of trafficking in the horticulture industry. While no prosecutions have occurred for trafficking into sex work in New Zealand, the prohibition of migrant sex work and the lack of rights afforded to migrant sex workers arguably increase their vulnerability to injustices."

### New Zealand versus the world

After an hour of engaging conversations, the editors wrapped up the session by mentioning how the stigma associated with sex work has a lot to do with social hypocrisy and unawareness. Compared to earlier years, the stigma with sex work has reduced a lot but there is a long way to go. They also mentioned that the environment for sex workers in New Zealand is much better than other countries where providing and receiving paid sex is criminalized.

The Sex Workers of Aotearoa - a day in the life of, the art exhibition will be at Depot Artspace until August 12. Do visit to have a look at art from the sex workers' perspective!

- by Shivangi Bose, an experienced media professional and writer, who recently moved to Auckland, and has a special interest in script-writing for brand videos.



# First-time homeowners scheme announced as mortgage repayment hit four year low

The government announced ahead of the election a fund to help low-income first-time buyers into the property market, just as a report announced that mortgage repayments have hit a four-year low.

Here's what you need to know:

## Auckland Announced as First out of Blocks in Housing Scheme For First Time Buyers

The Government on Friday took its first step towards helping more New Zealanders into their first homes via progressive home ownership, by giving two community organisations a total of \$23 million to scale up their existing offerings.

The Housing Foundation in Auckland received \$17 million to deliver 78 homes mainly through its Shared Home Ownership Programme, and also its Rent to Own offering.

This has been a long time coming from the government, announced at the beginning of their tenure, as part of the Green Party's supply and confidence agreement with the Labour Party in forming the government, and come well timed in the run-up to the Sept. 20 elections.

Greens co-leader Marama Davidson stated that it was a huge step forward to get more kiwis into their first home, "This fund means more low-income families who have been locked out of the housing market will finally have a chance at owning their own home."

To qualify applicants must be older than 18, must be a first-home buyer or 'second chancer', must be citizens, permanent residents, or resident visa holders, have a household income below \$130,000 and be able to secure a commercial mortgage and have some money for a deposit.

Housing Minister Megan Woods also commented on a proposed "rent to buy" scheme, stating that work was underway to establish an initiative within Kāinga Ora for households with an annual income of under \$130,000 to receive shared ownership support directly from the Government and is expected to be available in early 2021.

## First Time Mortgage Payments the most Affordable They've Been in Nearly Four Years

According to a recent Home Loan Affordability Report, the rapid decline in mortgage interest rates since the

COVID-19 crisis started to bite has made the mortgage payments on a starter home the most affordable they have been in nearly four years.

The average of the two-year fixed mortgage rates offered by the major banks was 3.52% in February before severe lockdown restrictions were put in place and had fallen to 2.76% in June. Over the same period the Real Estate Institute of New Zealand's national lower quartile selling price moved marginally, from \$458,500 in February to \$452,000 in June, after briefly peaking at \$480,000 in March.

In Auckland, the most expensive region in the country where the lower



quartile price was \$726,000 in June, falling interest rates saw the mortgage payments on a lower quartile-priced home drop from \$581.06 a week in February to \$547.57 a week in June, a saving of \$33.49 week, while the ratio of mortgage payments to net pay dropped from 33.8% to 31.6% over the same period.

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**Ravi Mehta**

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*THE*  
**INDIAN NEWS**



# IPL 2020 schedule likely to be finalised at Governing Council meeting on August 1

## NZ Cricket to issue NOC to players for playing in the IPL, PTI reports

The Indian news agency Press Trust of India (PTI) has reported that New Zealand Cricket (NZC) will issue No Objection

Certificate (NOCs) to the six players – Kane Williamson, Lockie Ferguson, James Neesham, Mitchell Santner, Trent Boult, and Mitchell McClenaghan – who are contracted to play IPL this year.

“Regarding the IPL, NZC will be issuing NOCs to the relevant players and it’s

This weekend, on August 1, the cash-rich Indian Premier League (IPL) Governing Council, BCCI office bearers including its President Sourav Ganguly and Secretary Jay Shah, are meeting to finalise the dates, venues, training facilities, and the SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) of this year’s IPL.

Meanwhile, the Emirates Cricket

up to them to decide..However, the due diligence is something for the respective players to shoulder - although we are happy to pass on as much info as we can to assist in these matters,” PTI quoted NZC spokesperson Richard Boock.

Meanwhile, unconfirmed reports

Board has confirmed that it has received a letter on intent from BCCI about its plans to conduct the IPL 2020 in the UAE, between September 19, and November 10. The plan came to light last week after an announcement by the IPL Governing Council chairman Brijesh Patel, about the event during which eight teams will play 60 matches over a course of 50 days.

from Australia and South Africa have also claimed that their respective cricket boards are also considering giving NOCs to their players in playing the IPL in UAE this year. While 14 Australian players are contracted with IPL, the number is 10 for South Africans.

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**SAURABH SINGH THAKUR**


**Date: 15th August, 2020**

**Time: 7pm onwards**

**Venue: Playhouse Theatre, Glen Eden**

**Ticket Price: \$15 (incl two plays Marathi & Hindi)**

**Contact for Tickets: Devadatta Paranjape (0226101814) Vjesh Nangia (021431930) Saurabh Singh (0223104916)**





# Additional Vande Bharat Mission flights announced for New Zealand

High Commission of India  
Wellington

The High Commission announces two special Air India flights and one private charter flight under #VandeBharatMission-Phase5:

| Date(s)                  | Sector                                | Flight   |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 07/08/2020<br>(Friday)   | Auckland-Singapore-Kochi              | Private Charter by M/s. Sehion. DGCA approval is under process. Passengers may directly contact M/s. Sehion at their facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/SEHIONTOURS/">https://www.facebook.com/SEHIONTOURS/</a> |
| 08/08/2020<br>(Saturday) | Auckland - Delhi<br>(09:00-18:30 hrs) | AI 1317  |
| 13/08/2020<br>(Thursday) | Auckland - Delhi<br>(09:00-18:30 hrs) | AI 1317  |

2. Further details will be shared/posted as and when finalized.

\*\*\*\*\*  
28 July 2020

# Govt introduces bill to legislate managed isolation payments



Minister of Housing Megan Woods announced on Wednesday the Government’s decision to introduce a legislation to allow the Government to recover some of the costs for managed isolation and quarantine.

“The Bill will allow the government to charge for managed isolation and quarantine facilities. We have carefully considered how to design a system that is fair on arrivals and not a barrier for

returning to New Zealand, especially for those who might already be experiencing financial stress,” said Megan Woods.

“We want to share the costs in a way that fairly reflects the benefits to both the New Zealand public of having such a robust system, and those who leave and enter the country.

“As Minister I am proposing to only charge New Zealanders who enter temporarily, or who leave New Zealand



# Stronger enforcement and protection for migrant workers, Govt announces

THE TEMPORARY MIGRANT WORKER EXPLOITATION REVIEW:  
A summary of changes

As part of the Temporary Migrant Worker Exploitation Review and its response to COVID-19, the Government recently announced changes to reduce the exploitation of temporary migrant workers, including international students. The changes will support people in New Zealand to be in safe and fulfilling work, and businesses to operate with confidence on a level playing field.

**Migrant exploitation leads to serious negative outcomes for...**

**MIGRANTS**  
Exploited migrant workers suffer physical, psychological, and financial harm. This harm extends to their families both within New Zealand and in their country of origin.

**BUSINESSES**  
Compliant employers that promote fair and productive employment relationships are undercut by exploitative employers. This may render the business unsustainable.

**NEW ZEALANDERS**  
Exploitation facilitates crimes that affect the wider community, such as fraud and money laundering. Exploitation also puts pressure on tax and healthcare systems.

**OUR INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION**  
Migrant exploitation damages our international reputation as a non-corrupt, safe place to work and live.

The changes being implemented represent a coordinated end-to-end set of policy and operational changes to reduce migrant exploitation in New Zealand. They will be implemented in stages. Some of the changes require legislation, which would go through the full Parliamentary process. Other changes will come into force within the next year.

| PREVENT   | PROTECT  | ENFORCE   |
|---|--|---|
| the occurrence of workplace (and other) conditions that might enable temporary migrant worker exploitation.   | temporary migrant workers in New Zealand and enable them to leave exploitative employment.   | immigration and employment law to deter employer non-compliance through a fit-for-purpose offence and penalty regime.   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Introduce a duty on third parties with significant control or influence over an employer to take reasonable steps to prevent a breach of employment standards occurring.</li><li>Require franchisees to meet higher accreditation standards under the employer-assisted visa gateway system.</li><li>Disqualify people convicted of migrant exploitation and people trafficking from managing or directing a company.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Establish a dedicated migrant exploitation 0800 phone line and online reporting, and establish a specialised migrant worker exploitation-focused reporting and triaging function.</li><li>Create a new visa to enable temporary migrant workers to leave exploitative employment situations.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Establish three new immigration infringement offences targeting non-compliant employer behaviour.</li><li>Allow Labour Inspectorate to issue an infringement notice where employers fail to provide requested documents in a reasonable timeframe.</li><li>Expand the stand down list to cover existing Immigration Act offences. Ensure employers with serious immigration convictions cannot support applications for migrant workers.</li><li>Notify impacted migrant workers that their employer has been stood-down.</li></ul> |

These changes will be supported by: increased funding for Employment New Zealand and Immigration New Zealand to work together to ensure that serious action is taken against non-compliance, and a new information and education action plan to ensure that migrant workers and employers understand their rights and obligations.

MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT  
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

New Zealand Government

Find out more at: [mbie.govt.nz/exploitationreview](https://mbie.govt.nz/exploitationreview)

after the regulations come into force. Temporary visa holders would have to pay unless they were ordinarily resident in New Zealand before the border closure, and left before the border closure. I intend to seek Cabinet agreement to a charging structure of \$3100 per person in a room, \$950 for each additional adult and \$475 for each additional child sharing the room. There will also be mechanisms to allow charges to be waived in full or in part,” said Woods.

The COVID-19 Public Health Response Amendment Bill provides a legal framework to allow the Government to set payment terms, exempt groups of people and waive charges in cases of financial hardship. It will also ensure that recovered charges do not exceed the actual costs of managed isolation and quarantine.

“The legislation will be passed next week before the House rises for the parliamentary term, and will enable regulations to be developed. Further details of the charging scheme and when it will come into force, will be announced soon. Charges will not apply to anyone

entering New Zealand and going into MIQ before regulations are in force.

“All our confirmed COVID-19 cases in June and July have been linked to international travel. Our managed isolation and quarantine system is working. It is keeping COVID-19 at the border and stopping community transmission.

“We are carefully balancing the rights of New Zealand citizens and residents to return home and the charges structure will be designed to maintain this right. This solution balances the rights of New Zealanders to return home, while ensuring those who choose to holiday here, or holiday overseas before returning home, are contributing to the considerable cost of managed isolation,” the Minister added.

It is forecast that more people will be travelling and arriving at the border. The Government has set aside a total of \$479 million dollars to pay for the costs of managed isolation facilities until the end of the year. -TIN Bureau



# Get that sheet mask on!

• Vritti Parasher

An absolute truth of current times is that when you are spending more time by yourself, you do have an option to self-reflect and incorporate a skin care routine which gives you results similar to that of facial treatment by trained professionals.

Today, I am talking about sheet masks that are easily available in supermarkets and pharmacy stores near you, although you have wide variety when you visit a cosmetic brand store like MECCA or Sephora.

## So what exactly are sheet masks?

“Sheet masks are face-shaped sheet fabrics soaked in nutrition-packed solution called serum. The sheet is made up of variety of materials including papers, fibers or gel types. These sheet masks are different from facial masks (paste type) that you only need to apply, take off or pat in extra serum instead of washing the paste after applying and putting on other skincare products. Sheet mask is generally used once and it is individually packaged, making them fast, convenient, and easy to use.” as precisely described in [www.orgadi.com](http://www.orgadi.com)

According to Mecca Beauty New Zealand, “Laying a formula-soaked

mask over one’s face seems like an innately 2000s concept designed for the ultimate humblebrag and ironic selfie while still imbuing one’s skin with benefits (win, win!). But, this skincare innovation has actually been around since the 1800s; what has changed though is what these sheet masks can actually deliver. They refresh and wake-up the skin, but now, they also can do so much more.”

Sheet masks originally came in existence from Japan and South Korea, and it is not a hidden fact that they are well known for their dedication on skin care and cosmetic products.

## How does sheet mask work?

As Orgadi writes, there is a sheet fully soaked with concentrated serum, which consists of many beneficial ingredients to the skin such as hyaluronic acid and vitamins. These ingredients are in the water phase as dissolved. The sheet prevents quick evaporation of the water phase and extends the time frame the ingredients required to penetrate deep into the skin. This result in the sheet masks outperforming the effects of the traditional serum-type skincare even when applied once. Basically, sheet masks are inexpensive compared to

going to a spa, convenient, easy to apply, and brings a glowing effect on your skin.

The sheet mask are available for dry skin, when you know you need a detox, perhaps your skin looks a bit dull or maybe there is a need of collagen boost.

If you are new to this category of quick fix then the range available in the market can be over whelming. But here my suggestion would be go by your skin condition.

Also, of course if you are going on brands then there are sure some good ones out there, but there is no harm in checking ingredients and the benefits written down on the backside of face sheet mask packaging.

Broadly, when you are checking on them or researching about them



online you will find your correct fit. Current recommendations from my end would be K-Beauty Facial Sheet Mask Korea Skin Care Moisturizing, Dr Jart+, Garnier Moisture Bomb Sakura Hydrating Face Sheet Mask for Dull Skin, Luminous Dewy Skin Sheet Mask from TATCHA and Glow Lab.



HYDRATING FACE MASK



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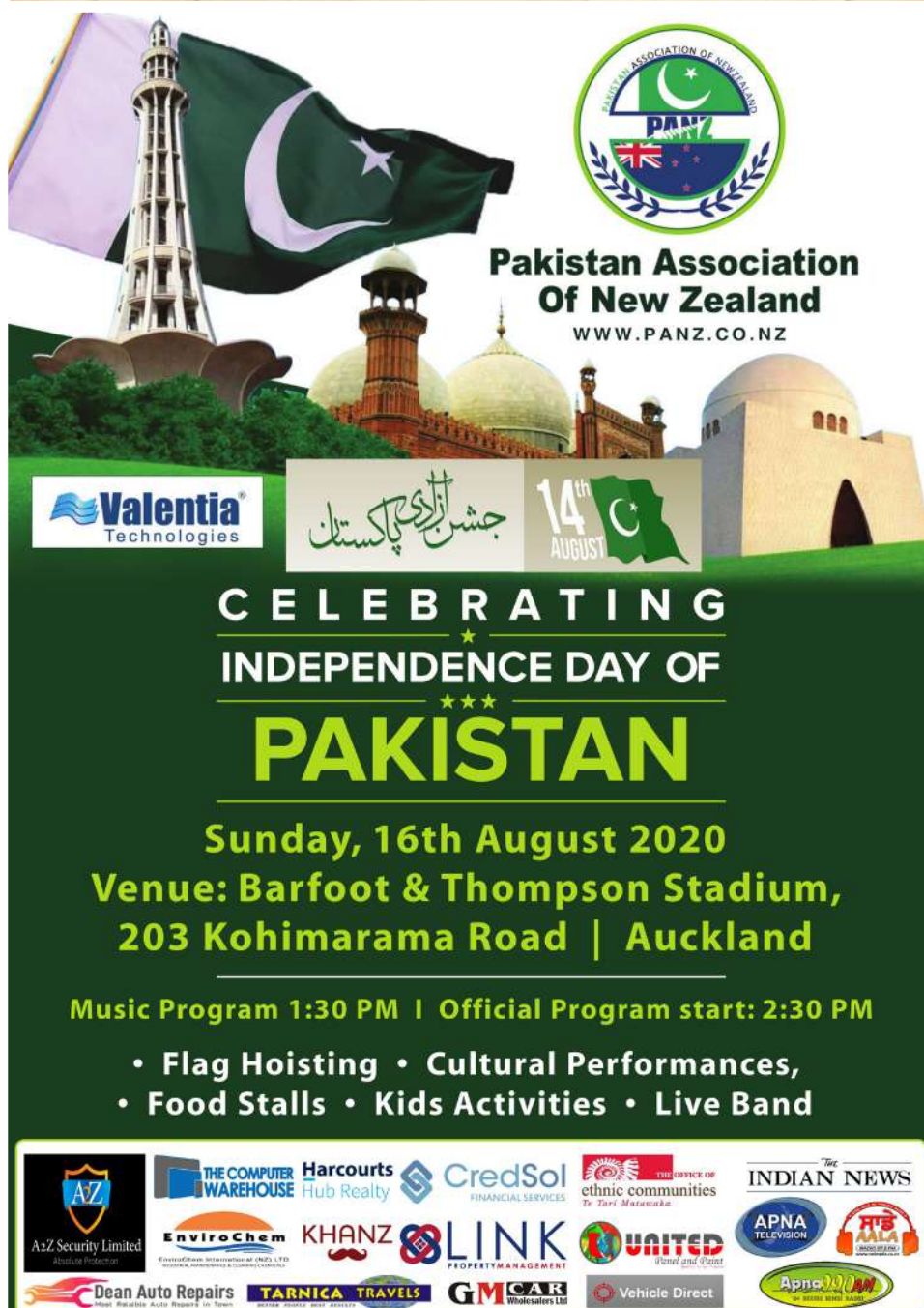
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on **Saturday, 15th August 2020**  
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at **11:00 am onwards.**





## EID AL-ADHA

WHEN: SATURDAY, 1ST AUGUST 2020

WHERE: 223A LINWOOD AVENUE, WHITE BUILDING (OLD KFC BUILDING)

8.30AM: IQAMAH

9-FINISH :LIGHT BREAKFAST



Please join us with your families, we will ensure to play it safe!!!

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## EDEN PARK STADIUM

Saturday 1st August

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EVENT ENDS 3.30PM

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Venue: Mt Roskill War Memorial Hall

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