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INDIANS ARE THE FASTEST GROWING

Sangeeta Anand

Indians are the largest growing ethnic group in New Zealand, up 68 percent between 2001 and 2006, according to the latest census report.

Indians also form the second largest Asian group in New Zealand, after Chinese. According to the 2006 census figures, there are 104,583 Indians in New Zealand, up from

62,190 in 2001.

New Zealand's changing ethnic composition within the five years was reflected in the increasing diversity of languages spoken. Now there are more Hindi speakers (44,589) than Mandarin speakers (41,391) in New Zealand.

The number of Sikhs increased to 9,507 (up 83 percent), Hindus up from 39,798 to 64,392 and Muslim up from 23,631 to 36,072.

Asians are also a young population,

with 3 in 10 people (31 percent) aged between 15 and 29 years. Two in three Asians live in the Auckland region. Almost one in five people in the Auckland region is an Asian, the highest proportion of all the regions.

The census also revealed some interesting facts. For example, Korean is the second most popular language in Auckland's north shore.

Over 2.6 million people (68 percent of the population) identified themselves as Europeans in 2006.

Seven Largest Asian Ethnic Groups
2001–2006 Censuses

Ethnic group	2001 count	2006 count	Percentage change 2001–2006
Chinese	105,057	147,570	40.5
Indian	62,190	104,583	68.2
Korean	19,026	30,792	61.8
Filipino	11,091	16,938	52.7
Japanese	10,023	11,910	18.8
Sri Lankan	7,011	8,310	18.5
Cambodian	5,268	6,918	31.3

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**NEW ZEALANDER
WINS MISS INDIA
EARTH TITLE**

Sangeeta Anand

It was the contest dominated by daughters of NRIs (non-resident Indians). Indian New Zealander Pooja Chitgopekar was crowned Miss India-Earth at the Femina Pantaloons Miss India contest 2007.

She was contesting the title with 24 other girls from India. Twenty-four-year-old Sarah-Jane Dias, a Channel [V] VJ and former Miss India-Oman won the Miss India World title.

Twenty-one year old Pooja is studying medicine in Auckland and is the former winner of the Miss India-New Zealand (2002) contest. She was also a runner-up at the Miss India Worldwide in 2003 and Miss Auckland the year before.

Celebrity judges for the event included Sanjay Dutt, Priyanka Chopra, Subhash Ghai and Ujwala Raut, India's IBN 7 channel reported.

The contest, known for posing tricky questions to contestants, lived up to



its fame when the final five were tested for their presence-of-mind with a typical Miss India question: "If you had to convince a rural woman to take part in this pageant, what would you tell her?"

Wonder which rural women Pooja had in mind when she answered the question – New Zealand's or India's?

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HIGHER PAY FOR LIGHTER SKIN

Staff correspondent

Lighter skin leads to heavier pay packets, according to a survey published in the February edition of America's New Scientist magazine.

Immigrants with the lightest skin earned about 8 to 15 percent more than those with much darker skin, the survey of 2000 recent migrants in the US found. Researcher Joni Hersch at

Vanderbilt University rated the skin tones on an 11-point scale during face-to-face interviews of these immigrants.

"There are well-known differences in salary based on race and country of origin, but I was surprised that, even after accounting for these, skin colour still had an independent effect," Hersch told the magazine.

The findings could support the growing number of lawsuits brought on the grounds of colour, rather than

racial, discrimination, she says. At present such cases rarely succeed.

Hersch also checked for correlations between salary and height, the New Scientist story added. "There's a common saying that all US presidents are tall, and immigrants tend to be shorter on average than Americans," she explains.

She found that taller immigrants indeed earn more, with 1 per cent more income for every extra inch of height.



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ROAD RAGE SPREADS TO AUCKLAND

Brian Jones

Over the last few weeks, significant road rage has been displayed on our roads, in the papers, on the radio and TV. The rage being vented by commuters is now catered for by a new website www.roadragenz.com.

Roadragenz.com is a forum where commuters can express their frustrations, observations and ideas on road, rail, bus, ferry and air transport situations they have encountered. There certainly seems to be a long list and plenty of issues for people to comment on.

Roadragenz was originally targeted at the Wellington region, but not to be outdone, some JAFAs (Just

Another F***ing Aucklander) have suggested they were more deserving, and than Wellingtonians didn't know what real road rage and traffic chaos is. So roadragenz.com has obliged and set up a dedicated category just for Aucklanders.

Roadragenz.com has only been going a few weeks but has already built up a loyal following showing that the subject is as topical as the weather. One service that is now displayed is a link to the Wellington road cams; very useful to check just before going home in your car.

One interesting thread that has gained some traction is the vision for our transport infrastructure servants of a double lane highway between Wellington and Auckland within the next 20-30 years. But hey, why then

do we have bridges, expansions and improvements that only deliver two (Lindale overpass) or three lane (Paramata) highways on our number one state highway?

In inner Wellington city, there has been mass congestion for weeks with the partial opening of the new bypass.

Now with its final opening, the comments appearing are mixed depending on which way you are traveling; either longer or shorter travel times. One posting shows the very early plans and what was supposed to happen.

The plan displayed bears no resemblance to what is there today, some 40 years and \$40 million later.

Brian Jones is a freelance journalist.

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INDIA'S ALLAHABAD BANK TO COME DOWN UNDER

If all goes well, Indians in New Zealand and Australia will be served by an Indian bank. India's oldest public sector lender, Allahabad Bank, is initiating plans to open branches in New Zealand and Australia, targeting non-resident Indians.

"We have plans to have a presence in Australia and New Zealand, but it would take some time," Allahabad Bank Chairman and Managing Director A C Mahajan told India's PTI.

The Calcutta-based bank is in a major expansion drive and has opened a branch in Hong Kong and China earlier this year, and expects to increase its revenue by 23 percent, to \$40 billion.

The bank is opening 30 more branches in India's north-western state of Punjab.

"We would like to consolidate our business position in Punjab by opening at least 30 branches in rural and



remote areas in the State in order to capture more growth from the agricultural sector," he told PTI.

TWO INDIANS DIE IN A CRASH

A dangerous stretch of road near the Hauraki Plains claimed more lives – this time of two Indian men. Their names have not yet been released.

It took four hours for firefighters to cut the dead men from their car after a truck crushed their car which had crossed the centre line, and pushed it in a ditch 40 metres away.

The relatives of the men are in India.

The notorious patch of road has claimed 40 lives in the last six years, including historian Michael King and his wife Maria Jungowska in 2004, the New Zealand Herald reported.

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NRI TO ENTER INDIA'S MOBILE MARKET

Sangeeta Anand

Malaysia's second-richest man, T. Ananda Krishnan, knows the potential of India's mobile market.

Only 10 percent Indians currently own mobile phones in India, and Krishnan wants a pie of this growing market. The 69-year old NRI (non resident Indian) is preparing to buyout Malaysia's largest mobile company - Maxis Communications Bhd. He then intends to expand Maxis' business in the rewarding mobile market in India, a Bloomberg report said.

Harvard Business School educated Krishnan will borrow close to \$10



billion to buy over half the shares in Maxis. Since he will be funding the takeover with private equity, he will not need shareholders' approval for business decision, thus being able to expand rapidly in a very competitive market.

According to the Bloomberg report, Maxis is worth about \$43 billion, if the recent Vodafone deal in India is used as a guideline. Vodafone will buy 67 percent shares in India's Hutchison Essar Ltd., valuing Hutchison at \$25 billion.

Maxis plans to spend \$5 billion in the next five years expanding its network in India, as its growth at home slows down.

AMERICA SENDS MEDIA JOBS TO INDIA

A California-based newspaper is recruiting reporters from India for media coverage in the US.

In a recruitment advertisement posted on the internet, the Pasadena Now is "seeking a newspaper journalist to report on the city government and political scene of California."

While India has been providing

editorial services to leading American media houses like Reuters, Bloomberg and Dow Jones, this is probably the first time that reporting services will be provided by Indians. "We do not believe that geographic distance between India and California will present unsurmountable problems, and that working together with you will result in your development of a keen working knowledge of this city's affairs. This will result in accurate and authoritative news reports,"

Pasadena Now's Publisher James Macpherson said in the job posting, a PTI report stated.

"Due to California's public access laws, virtually all relevant government documents and meetings are available on the Internet," MacPherson told PTI.

The publication's staff in Pasadena would record and photograph all the required meetings and interviews and send them to India through e-mail.

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CHEENI KUM

Bollywood is rapidly changing, and the movies that are being released this year are any indication, we are in for a good change.

Cheeni Kum, which is being confused with Nishabd, has similar theme – man falling in love with a younger woman. But except for this theme, there is nothing common between the two movies except the lead actor Amitabh Bachchan.

PREVIEW

CHEENI KUM is a romantic comedy about two people who fall in love. Amitabh plays 64-year old Buddhadev Gupta while Tabu is 34-year old Nina Verma.

The movie releases in May and promises to be fun to watch!



STAR OF THE MONTH



TABU

With two national awards, five Filmfare awards and seven other awards, Tabu has 'been there and done that'. The 37-year old Tabassum's debut film, Vijay Path, won her Filmfare best debut award in 1995. In a career spanning 12 years, the Hyderabad diva has acted in over 66 movies in seven languages including English.

Her most memorable roles include Astitva, Chandni Bar, Maqbool and The Namesake.

Her recent releases are: Bombay

High, The Namesake, Sarhad Par, Dilruba and Cheeni Kum. She is the niece of noted Bollywood actress Shabana Azmi and the younger sister of Farha Khan.

Mira Nair directed and Jhumpa Lahiri authored The Namesake is expected to be the pinnacle of Tabu's career.

Written by Seema Patel. Seema is a Malaysia-based freelance writer and a movie buff. Starting this issue, she brings an exclusive Bollywood feature for The Global Indian readers.

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NEW YORK TO HOST BOLLYWOOD AWARDS

Sandeep Chandra

Sony Entertainment Television Asia (SET Asia) has signed an exclusive deal for the Bollywood Movie Awards to be held on 26 May at the Nassau Coliseum, New York. The awards ceremony will also be aired on the channel internationally at a later date. The Bollywood Awards will be telecast mainly in New Zealand, Australia, the US, Canada, the UK, Europe, South Africa, Fiji, Mauritius, Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan and the Middle East.

The ceremony has an emphasis on movies that have had a strong impact on the International South Asian community. Past attendees have included Michael Jackson, Shah Rukh Khan, Aishwarya Rai, Akshay Kumar, Salman Khan, Richard Gere, Sharon Stone - to name but a diverse few.

This year the event will be hosted by Sony Entertainment Television Asia star, Mona Singh, who rose to fame for her role in Jassi Jaissi Koi Nahin, the South Asian version of popular American comedy Ugly Betty. The celebrities slated to perform at this



Vivek Oberoi, Soha Ali Khan, Kangana Ranaut and Mona Singh to will perform in the US for the first time.



year's magnum opus include Bipasha Basu, Arjun Rampal, Vivek Oberoi, Urmilla Matondkar, Soha Ali Khan, Neha Dhupia, Kangana Ranaut, UK's Raghav, Pakistan's top actress and singer Shahida Mini, Caribbean Singer Ricki Ramdehal and Pakistan's popular singer –Waris Beg.

Rajan Singh, Sony's executive vice president for international business says the event will make a sensational programme for around 1 billion SET Asia viewers across the world.

This year's nominations celebrate the biggest movies in Indian Cinema for 2006. Films such as Kabhi Alvida Naa Kehna, Rang De Basanti, Dhoom 2 and Lage Raho Munnabhai have had phenomenal global success as well as being extremely popular in India.

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CELINA JAITLEY TO SHOOT IN NZ

If you bump into someone in an Auckland street who looked like Celina Jaitley, you don't need to pinch yourself. The Bollywood actress has signed a New Zealand-Australia co-production movie which will be shot entirely in New Zealand. Celina is expected to arrive in New Zealand for the shooting on 25th May, and will be here for good 45 days. Celina will be cast against New Zealand actor Ben Mitchell in the movie titled 'Love Has No Language'. It's a story of an Indian family living in - of course, our Aotearoa.

The 26-year old Calcutta girl has very few roles to her credit and is looking forward to this big budget international production. "When I was narrated the script, I was of course excited about being a part of the project. Nevertheless, there was big money involved and I was keeping my fingers crossed while the signing of contract happened", the former Miss India (2001) was quoted in a report in the Pak Tribune.

Celina plays Marina Roy who is a born and bred Kiwi, born to very traditional Indian parents. The movie will attempt to portray the cultural conflict between the parents and the daughter.

Known for her steamy item numbers in Bollywood movies, the Kabul-born actress wants to assure her fans that they won't be disappointed. "I play a Kiwi-Indian in the movie but that doesn't mean that I have to be in a no-makeup or so-called non-glam avatar." But she doesn't see herself singing around the tress in the film. The movie is supported by a Hollywood production house and is expected to be released early next year.

BORING FACTS

WORLD'S TOP 10 LANGUAGES

- 1 Mandarin: 1051 million speakers
- 2 English: 510 million speakers
- 3 Hindi: 490 million speakers
- 4 Spanish: 425 million speakers
- 5 Arabic: 255 million speakers
- 6 Russian: 254 million speakers
- 7 Portuguese: 218 million speakers
- 8 Bengali: 215 million speakers
- 9 Malay: 175 million speakers
- 10 French: 130 million speakers

NRI'S MONEY TRANSFER

Some 23 percent of India's forex reserves - US\$32 billion, are deposits made by non-resident Indians (NRIs).

Cash sent back by overseas Indians, US \$22 billion, last year is the highest remittance. Source: World Bank.

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MONGOLIAN LAMB

Ingredients (Serves four)

1 3/4 pounds boneless leg of lamb; 2 cloves garlic; 2 green onions; Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste; 1/4 teaspoon sesame oil

Marinade: 1 tablespoon soy sauce; 1 tablespoon Chinese rice wine or dry sherry

Sauce: 5 teaspoons dark soy sauce; 5 teaspoons Chinese rice wine or dry sherry; 4 teaspoons sesame oil; 1 teaspoon granulated sugar; 2 teaspoons rice vinegar

Method



Cut the lamb into thin strips. Combine with the marinade ingredients. Marinate the lamb for 25 minutes. While the lamb is marinating, prepare the sauce and other ingredients.

In a small bowl, combine the sauce ingredients. Set aside.

Heat the wok over medium-high to

high heat. Add 2 tablespoons oil. When the oil is hot, add the garlic. Stir-fry until aromatic (about 30 seconds).

Add the lamb. Stir-fry very briefly, until the lamb changes color (1 to 2 minutes).

Add the sauce. Bring to a boil. Stir in the green onions. Taste and season with salt and pepper if desired. Stir-fry for 1 more minute, or until the sauce is absorbed. Remove from the heat, stir in the sesame oil, and serve.

Contributed by: Shivani Kedar, Sydney

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TO THE MOON AND BACK

K. Jayaraman

(Editor's note: all figures in this article are American dollars.)

WHY DOES India, a poor country, want to explore the moon instead of using that money to alleviate poverty?

That was the question raised six years ago when India's space agency ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation) asked the government for \$65 million to build and launch an unmanned scientific spacecraft to circle the moon.

The government ultimately sanctioned the funds - the mission is all set to take place early 2008 — but only after critics were appeased by protracted public debates and several seminars.

The scenario has changed considerably since then.

6 November 2006 witnessed a dramatic twist when a cross section of the scientific community assembled in the southern Indian city of Bangalore to unanimously endorse



ISRO's most ambitious and expensive project to date — a manned space flight — without batting an eyelid.

The project, yet to be formally cleared by the government, will cost \$2.2 billion in the first phase to put an

Indian in orbit by 2014, and at least twice as much in the second phase to land him or her on the moon by 2020 — four years ahead of China.

If approved — which is a certainty given India's scientist-President A.P. J. Abdul Kalam's backing — India will join the select club of US, Russia and China that run manned space missions.

The decision marks a reversal of ISRO's proclaimed policy enunciated four decades ago by Vikram Sarabhai, father of India's space programme, who had said: "India does not have the fantasy of competing with the economically advanced nations in the explorations of the moon or planets or manned space flights."

What caused the change?

"There are two reasons for this," ISRO chairperson Gopalan Madhavan Nair told this reporter. "We have set planetary exploration as our next long-term goal and human presence in space is essential for this effort."



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Secondly, with India's economy booming, costs that used to be a problem before should not be of concern now.

Nair's predecessor, Udipi Ramachandra Rao, a key advocate of manned missions, agreed.

"Sarabhai's words are not relevant today as planetary exploration beckons future mankind. Even if India wants to build solar power stations in space to meet its energy needs, you need humans there to assemble the solar panels."

A third reason, not aired publicly, is a feeling in ISRO that it is losing ground to its neighbour China — which in 2003 sent an astronaut into space — and therefore should catch up.

If planetary exploration is ISRO's longterm goal and manned space flights are a prerequisite for this, why not team up with Russia or the US rather than go it alone?

Rao doubts if collaboration would work in the area of human space flights given the constantly shifting geopolitical equations and the fact

that manned activities in space do have a commercial angle.

"We have to develop our own capability like the Chinese have done."

Self-reliance, in fact, has been the hallmark of ISRO, especially after the US and Europe banned the export of space technologies to India following its first nuclear test in 1974.

This turned out to be a blessing in the long run as it drove ISRO to reinvent technologies it could no longer buy, said Nair.

In fact, ISRO embarked on developing the GSLV ignoring advice that Indians would find it cheaper to get their satellites launched by western rockets than developing the launchers themselves.

"I am glad we invested in developing our own launcher," said Rao. "But for that, we would not be talking today about manned mission."

ISRO's quest for self-reliance has extended to other areas as well. This year, it began setting up a \$320 million navigation satellite system to reduce the country's dependence on US owned Global Positioning System

(GPS) satellites.

But the real jewel in ISRO's crown is its constellation of seven remote-sensing satellites - two will be added next year—the world's largest.

Sale of its images worldwide generates \$7 million in revenue to Antrix Corporation, ISRO's commercial arm. Within India, scientists have used the satellite pictures to combat deforestation, monitor desertification, and predict crop yields and to locate groundwater and increase fish catch.

Thanks to the INSAT network of nine communication satellites — the biggest in the Asia-Pacific region — 90 percent of Indians can watch television, get daily weather forecasts and disaster warnings.

The "super-cyclone" that hit India's eastern coast on 29 October 1999 could have killed thousands but for an INSAT satellite that tracked its course every half hour identifying areas that needed to be evacuated.



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According to Nair, ISRO is keen to share the benefits of remote sensing with other developing nations. It will build and launch in 2009 the TWSAT (Third World Satellite) that will beam imageries for use by select developing countries.

In 2004, ISRO pulled off a world first, launching Edusat, a 'teacher in the sky' that now connects 2,300 classrooms in the country. And what started in 2001 as a pilot telemedicine project - bringing healthcare to the rural areas via satellite — now links 165 smaller hospitals across the nation to 33 specialty hospitals in major cities. This means the patient in a village can get the best medical advice without travelling huge distances.

And with production lines for two types of rockets – PSLV and

GSLV — India has also carved a place in the launch business.

It has launched small satellites for Belgium, Germany and South Korea and has payloads of European Union, Argentina, Israel, Singapore, Indonesia, Canada and France awaiting launch by 2008 end. The commissioning of the \$95 million second launch pad at Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh state last year was in anticipation of the boost in launch business, says ISRO.

ISRO says its reliance on foreign launchers for the INSAT satellites will also end once the Mark-3 version of GSLV, that can lift four tonnes, comes out in 2008.

Remarkably, ISRO has been able to do all this with an annual budget of \$660 million - three percent of what the US space agency NASA spends

in a year.

In 1981, when ISRO scientists were transporting their first communications satellite APPLE to the launch pad on a bullock cart, sceptics wondered if a primitive country could really harness advanced technology.

Their doubts will vanish in January 2008 when an Indian rocket with scientific payloads from Europe and the US will blast off from Sriharikota (India) for a rendezvous with the moon.

The moon mission, Chandrayaan-1, will create 3D maps of the moon's surface at a resolution of between 5 and 10 meters, something that has never been done before, said Nair.

Courtesy: Indian High Commission New Zealand. Source: Indo-Asian News Service

NZ's No. 1 Indian publication Website*

Source: Alexa, an independent website ranking agency based in the US.

www.theglobalindian.co.nz

MONTH SPECIAL

INDIANS ARE FAST GROWING

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HIGHER PAY FOR LIGHTER SKIN

ROAD RAGE RISES IN AUCKLAND

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PROBLEMS

An American and an Indian were sitting in a bar drinking shot after shot. The Indian man said to the American, "You know my parents are forcing me to get married to this so called homely girl from a village whom I haven't even met once. We call this arranged marriage. I don't want to marry a woman whom I don't love. I told them that openly and now have a hell lot of family problems."

The American said, "Talking about love marriages, I'll tell you my story. I married a widow whom I deeply loved and dated for 3 years. After a couple of years, my father fell in love with my step-daughter and so my father became my son-in-law and I became my father's father-in-law. My daughter is my mother and my wife my grandmother. More problems occurred when I had a son. My son is my father's brother and so he my

uncle. Situations turned worse when my father had a son. Now my father's son i.e. my brother is my grandson. Ultimately, I have become my own grand father and I am my own grandson. And you say you have family problems.. Gimme a break!"

PATIENT CARE

A woman called a local hospital. "Hello. Could you connect me to the person who gives information about patients. I'd like to find out if a patient is getting better, doing as expected, or getting worse."

The voice on the other end said, "What is the patient's name and room number?"

"Sarah Finkel, room 302."

I'll connect you with the nursing station."

"3rd floor Nursing Station. How can I

help You?"

"I 'd like to know the condition of Sarah Finkel in room 302."

"Let me look at her records. Mrs. Finkel is doing very well. In fact, she's had two full meals, her blood pressure is fine, to be taken off the heart monitor in a couple of hours and, if she continues this improvement, Dr. Cohen is going to send her home Tuesday at noon."

The woman said, "What a relief! Oh, that's fantastic .. that's wonderful news!"

The nurse said, " I take it you are a close family member or a very close friend!"

"Neither! I'm Sarah Finkel in 302! Nobody here tells me a thing."

Contributed by Brian DeSilva, Auckland

DEEP THOUGHTS!

The nicest thing about the future is that it always starts tomorrow.

Seat belts are not as confining as wheelchairs.

A good time to keep your mouth shut

is when you're in deep water.

Business conventions are important because they demonstrate how many people a company can operate without.

Why is it that at class reunions you feel younger than everyone else?

No one ever says "It's only a game" when their team is winning.

How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?

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SHOW MORE RESPECT TO ANNA

Good issue. But I think more respect should have been shown to Anna Devathanan and her friend Jenny Suo on the page one story by using their names, and not referring to them as "kids". They may be student researchers, but calling them "kids" implies they were children fooling around and this is hardly the case.

Kay Jones

LOOK OUTSIDE OF YOUR OWN

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following email has not been edited for errors, so that our readers can form their own opinion.

This is my response to your story about why indians are discriminated against (October 2006 issue). I have

noticed this is an issue with westerners and being the manager of a large business, I have noticed their are too types of Indians , those who were born or raised for most of their life the kiwi way, thats fine their attitudes and skills fit in, and those who immgrated here who have poor english or good english but fail to assimmiliate into society and do not respect kiwi customs or ways of doing business ie. i noticed that Indian sikhs and hindu's love to bargain and want discounts , however in the west we tend not too bargain, some indian clients can be quite rude and agressive abou this , others also tend too purposely damage our goods by scratching them and hence try to get a price reduction , this is also noticeable among cambodians too , i can only suggest that immgrants learn and adopt to our ways as westerners are not going too change for these guests, till then i

wont hire any of them . also many immgrants alike must look outside of thier own communitys and become pro active in kiwi sports ,clubs , organizations ect. this will help over come ill feeling and help gain more acceptance into mainstream kiwi society, it worked for me others should try it,

Abdul (i was born in lebanon but raised in wellington)

(Letters to editor: We welcome your letters and emails. Your email should be relevant to Indians living outside India, and should be no longer than a page (200 words). You can also contribute articles and photos for The Global Indian. Please send your contributions to: editor@theglobalindian.co.nz)



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