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President's Message

I recently attended The Southern Cross Travel Medicine Conference in Melbourne and was amazed to hear that India was the diarrhoea capital of the world in addition to Typhoid disease.

India topped in the incidence of Diarrhoeal diseases in the world; and through the International traveller, exported the diarrhoeal diseases to all parts of the world.

The other distressing news was that India had the highest incidence of Typhoid disease affecting the travellers to India. Typhoid and diarrhoeal diseases are spread from sewerage contaminated water and from person to person contact.

There is a much higher risk for immigrants living in developed nations and travelling home, which may be a third world nation, in our instance India, of developing hepatitis A, Typhoid and diarrhoeal diseases from our relatives who may not have been vaccinated. Immunisation against Typhoid and Hepatitis A prevents people from contracting Typhoid and Hepatitis A

Tuberculosis is an infectious disease and is on the rise all over the world. Children under five years of age are at high risk of contracting the disease. Parents going back home to India to visit friends and relatives for more than four weeks with their young children should seriously consider having their children vaccinated with the BCG vaccination. TB is commonly more severe in children under the age of 5 years. The protective efficacy of BCG vaccine varies and the protection rate is around 50%. However, it is about 80 percent protective against disseminated TB (where TB has spread to other parts of the body including the spine and brain), TB meningitis and death.



Dr. Gurdip Aurora

India has unfortunately also got the Zika Virus and the vector (mosquito) that transmits this virus. Dengue fever and Chicken gunya virus is also present and in an epidemic form. There is no vaccination available as yet and the only protection is to use an insect repellent containing 80 % DEET as the mosquitoes have developed resistance to the milder forms of insect repellents.

On a positive note Rabies has been controlled and possibly eradicated from the state of Goa. This was done through the efforts of WHO (World Health Organisation). All dogs in Goa were vaccinated against the rabies virus and there have been no reported cases of Rabies in Goa in the last three years.

AGM:

We had an AGM scheduled in March this year. Unfortunately as in some previous years we did not have a quorum and the AGM was postponed to a later date.

Inside this newsletter

Secretary's Message

Annual Membership New/Renewal Application form

Page 2

Page 3

For some reason quite unknown to me the then Secretary formed an opinion that there was lack of interest in AISV, there were no new members, the life members were getting old and possibly no longer interested in AISV. However, this did not eventuate and the second AGM on 9 July had thirty two life members who were keen to see that the oldest organisation did not fold away. I am extremely grateful to them for attending the AGM and saving AISV.

We have a very dedicated team of new committee members and hopefully someone in the committee will take over from me to run the AISV for next few decades.

Dr. Gurdip Aurora, President.

Secretary's Message

Dear Member(s)

The following are some of the recent key activities

- 24 July 2017— Dr Gurdip Aurora & Manjit Singh met with World Vision India - CEO during his visit here at Melbourne head office to discuss support for funding Indian Village sponsorship programs
- Mr Singh shall visit WV Indian programs this October to pursue this further.
- 03 Aug 2017— Mr Manjit Singh (VP) & Karan Gandhok met Regional Director Vic / Tas, Mr Peter Van Vliet -Department of Immigration and Border Protection to discuss recent initiatives in various programme areas that was of great interest to our local Indian community.
- 19 Aug 2017— AISV & FIAV jointly hosted the celebration of 70th anniversary of India's Independence; it was welcomed by all to see this event being hosted jointly in harmony.

Pavan Cheema , Secretary

Vice President's Message

Dear Member(s)

Recently 'President of India - Sh Ram Nath Kovind Ji' guided the Indian diaspora in his Independence Day speech

I quote...

New India must include that integral humanist component that is in our DNA, and which has defined our country and our civilisation. New India must be a society rushing towards the future, but also a compassionate society.

End quote...

I personally believe this mantra goes for any society not just New India.

I would like to share today that AISV have been through a positive refresh in administration and now we have some young energetic volunteers who have chosen to be part of AISV committee. We all share a common passion of Australian-Indian community welfare and are keen to support our seniors at AISV who hold such a strong legacy thru some commendable works performed for last 54 years since 1963.

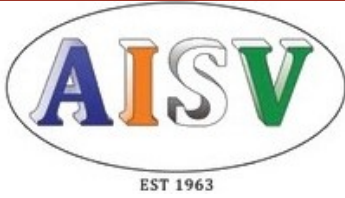
We will continue this focus at AISV to provide representation to Federal, State and Local government bodies on community issues with support from all of you gathered here today.

Thank you for this opportunity and I look forward to connecting with you all.

For my fellow Indians friends... arz kiya hei...
Ye baat hawaaon ko bataaye rakhna,
Roshni hogi chiraago ko jalaaye rakhna,
Lahoo dekar ki jiski hifaazat hamne
Aise Tirange ko sadaa apne dil me basaye rakhna!!

Jai Hind.

Manjit Singh, Vice President



Australia India Society of Victoria Inc.

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Annual Membership - New/Renewal Application Form

Select: **New Application / Renewal**

Title/s

First Name.....Surname.....

Partner/Spouse's First Name.....Surname.....

Children's names

1.....

2.....

3.....

Address:

CityPost Code

Mobile:Email:

Other Details: (Hobbies, Interests)

.....

Would you be interested to join the committee of AISV Yes No.....

Membership Category (Circle one) Life: \$500, Family: \$80, Concession: \$50, Single: \$50

Cheque Payable to Australia India Society of VIC Inc. or Online transfer : BSB 083-414 Account number 69-047-1204

Do you want a receipt : Yes/ No

I hereby apply/renew membership of AISV in the above category. I am aware of the rules and regulations of the society

Signature / Date / Place

Membership Application to be mailed to:

1401 Ferntree Gully Road, Scoresby, VIC 3179

Australia India Society of Victoria is an integrated non-sectarian, Indian Association in Victoria. It represents Indians and Australians from many parts of the world. AISV membership is open to anyone who is interested in India, her culture and her people. The aims of AISV are to promote cultural and social events in context of India, safeguard interests of its members and to act as representatives for the Indian community in Victoria at various Federal, State and Local governmental levels.

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