



From the President's Desk: May 2015

Good Morning Members and Friends of ICS

It has been an eventful few months for ICS members and the committee. We started our new year with Holi, a day of fun food and good wishes. Holi was a roaring success and very popular with the young and not so young. We had about eighty members, friends and new arrivals take part in the celebrations. It was pleasing to see so many new people enjoy our hospitality and share the fabulous Pave Bhaji and a variety of sweets. Present at the event were Lauren Moss and Michael Gunner. Thank you all for your support.

In March we kicked off the youth week programs that included, talent quest, writing and painting competition and stress management workshop followed by the dazzling performances by NB Dance and Bindas Bollywood group from Melbourne and our local talent. Even though the youth week had modest attendance then expected the people who participated appreciated our efforts and have asked that the youth activities continue into the future. I would like to thank Mr Sharam Bali for sponsoring free student membership as part of youth week. We have 15 students who signed up to be members of the association.

Without the support and involvement by many in the community, youth week will not have been successful. I would like to specially thank the, competition participants, performers, Bharatya Pravasi Diwas committee, the High commissioner of India, counsel general Perth Mr Subbarayadu, NT government, Charles Darwin university, ICS committee, Nameste NT, Jimmy from Hanuman Thai restaurant. Members of the judging panel Jaya, RamKumar, Lauren, Amarjeet, Priti, Jasminder, Priya and Mathews for your time to judge the different competitions. Thank you to the organizers of the youth week events Pritika, Anjali, Aditi, Sumit and many young people from the community who supported them. To Saurav (Rus) and Matilda for MC-ing the YUVA night. Thank you to Manisha who facilitated the stress management workshop. Jhon Naing for his motivation speech. The Yoga Space Darwin for their yoga demonstration to manage stress and many others who worked behind the scenes selling tickets, transporting artists etc. Thank you also to partners of committee members who are always more than willing to assist wherever needed.

Thank you also to members and others who assisting in setting up and clearing after the YUVA event.

I@M: is three weeks away and the ICS committee and others in the community are working feverishly to organize this grand event. Colours of India is our theme this year and 20th of June will see the community emulate our colourful country with dance, music and food.

Bharat Desai.
President ICS



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From the Secretary Desk:

Yuva

Thanks to all those who celebrated Yuva with us as part of National Youth Celebrations! The Indian Cultural Society in conjunction with the youth subcommittee hosted a stress management workshop at the Charles Darwin University International House showcasing a diverse range of speakers in an informal setting to engage young members and tailor the programs to their individual needs. John from MCNT gave us an insight into the myriad of issues newcomers to Australia face and how taking a risk and embracing different cultures with an open heart and mind can lead to a happy transition into a new country. Manisha discussed the physiological and psychological reasoning behind stress and how to cope with daily stressors—after all ‘it is not about waiting for the storm to pass, but learning to dance in the rain’. Pritika Desai discussed the stigma associated with mental health conditions and how we as a society must rise up to acknowledge the struggles our peers go through, and to lend them a helping, compassionate hand when they need it. Mr Subbaraiddu joined us for some Iyengar yoga directed by Darwin Yoga Space instructors.

The Yuva night was a spectacular success with our local performers and professional dancers dazzling the audience with a mesmerizing display of culture and colour. Followed by a sumptuous buffet dinner from Hanumans, this was a night not to be missed and we sincerely thank all those who took the time out to help organise, perform and of course attend.

We thank the Indian Consul General for his generous sponsorship and active participation in ensuring the success of both of these events, and wish him well as he moves on to a different posting. We also take this opportunity to thank the Northern Territory Government for their generous sponsorship of the events.

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Professor R. Narayanan** on becoming an Ambassador of Peace. The Universal Peace Federation acknowledges as Ambassadors for Peace those individuals whose lives exemplify the ideal of living for the sake of others, and who dedicate themselves to practices which promote universal moral values, strong family life, interreligious cooperation and international harmony, renewal of the United Nations, a responsible public media, and the establishment of a culture of peace.

Transcending racial, national and religious barriers, the Ambassadors for Peace contribute to the fulfillment of the hope of all ages, a unified world of peace wherein the spiritual and material dimensions of life are harmonized.

Congratulations to **Pritika Desai** on her Young Achiever’s Awards. Pritika Desai, 24 of Lyons has completed a Bachelor of Science, Zoology and works as an Education Officer for Animal Management in Rural and Remote Indigenous Communities. Her work involves educating people in remote Indigenous communities about responsible pet ownership. Pritika works with schools and local community members and has attended and spoken on Animal Health at



many conferences. She also developed a project called Shout Out, a program focusing on youth mental health. Pritika was one of two mentors for the Kaleidoscope 2014 Youth Leadership Summit and is a mentor for many young people. (Awards Australia) Pritika has worked hard to destigmatise mental health conditions and has worked hard on making our Yuva events this year a success.

Congratulations **Mr Balachandran Velukutty Nair** for received the Northern Territory Volunteer Award 2015, from Hon Adam Giles Chief Minister, on 11th May 2015, at a function at the Parliament House.

This certificate was awarded in recognition of the generous contribution to the Northern Territory Community.

Congratulations —**Pradipta and Kamalika Chatterjee** on becoming parents to cute Ayush.

Like our face book page **Indian Cultural Society Darwin** and get instant information on ICS events

Web Page—Under Development

Good news stories: We would like to encourage our members to send us good news stories to our email address icsdarwin.nt@gmail.com to be then published in our news letter.



Announcements

Hindi Class

Free Hindi classes are currently being run on every Saturday (school term only) at Alawa Primary School, from 2pm to 3pm Room—4

(Entrance is from Pett Street)

For further enquires please contact Mr. Sumesh Dhiir on 0414 66 3075

Welcome

ICS welcome all it's new members and new arrivals to Darwin.

ICS 2014 Committee

Bharat Desai - President – bharat.desai@cdu.edu.au

Sumit Sharma – Vice President - cheenu82@hotmail.com

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Committee Members

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For membership forms and payment Details contact any of the committee members.

Indian Consulate news Letter

You may be aware that Consulate has been publishing a weekly newsletter entitled “India bulletin”.

This newsletter has been providing a summary on economic, policy developments as well as opportunities to do business in India. The latest issue of India Bulletin is now available at <http://www.cgiperth.org/newsletter.htm?139> .

