



Media Release: Let the Indian Australians come home. 5 May 2021

Following a travel ban imposed by the Australian government, the SMH (4 May 2021) reported the response from the Indian community " 'Racist' India travel ban has MPs wavering and community fuming."

The Indian Australian community is furious and accuse the federal government of imposing racist jail terms on Australians returning from India.

Dr Jagvinder Singh Virk, Chair of the Australia India Strategic Alliance and a long term Liberal Party member said that community members felt like second-class citizens with the White Australia policy running under the radar decades after it ended.

Today, 5 May 2021 in the SMH, Dr Virk said that the India Australian community wants a concrete federal government plan to manage the repatriation of thousands of Australians and stand ready to assist.

We strongly supports the statement and proposal by Dr Virk.

Although Dr Paul Kelly's advice to the PM is medically sound but adopting it without consideration of other factors can lead to a strong allegation of racism by the present government.

The crisis in India is a good reason for the Government to act now to protect all Australians by expediting their return. The Government should be taking additional measures to secure the return of Australians from overseas, not abandoning them.

Positive and compassionate action by the Federal Government can avoid the perception of racism.

MR authorized by:

Mr Ajmer Singh Gill, President, Sikh Council of Australia Inc. &

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