5<sup>th</sup> February, 2018 VOL.8 ISSUE 02

# PIA NEWS FORTNIGHTLY

The official newsletter of Pakistanis In Australia Inc.



#### Dear all,

Pakistanis around world are expressing solidarity with Kashmiris and their struggle for freedom. On the occasion of Kashmir Solidarity Day, Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa said on Monday the struggle of Kashmiris under Indian-rule is destined to succeed. In a statement issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations, the army chief expressed solidarity with the people of Kashmir. "Repression of Indian occupying forces can never suppress valiant spirit of Kashmiris who rightfully await awakening of international community for plebiscite under UN resolution," he said. "Regardless of the ordeal, their struggle is destined to succeed Insha Allah."

Pakistanis in Australia affirm their continued support to the cause and hope international community will try to resolve the human rights violations in line with the Human rights charter and as per aspirations of Kashmiris.

# Immigration Wing, FIA Headquarters, Islamabad

A valid NICOP or POC (both 5-10 Years Validity) issued by NADRA is a Visa for Overseas Pakistanis (5-10 years). If you are a dual Pakistani National you are entitled to have a NICOP (National Identity Card for Overseas Pakistanis). If you presently hold nationality of another country but are of Pakistani origin or born to parents of Pakistani origin or married to a Pakistani National, you are entitled to have a POC (Pakistan Origin Card).

Overseas Pakistanis who are traveling to Pakistan and have their NICOP or POC expired can get a Renewal Slip from any NADRA Overseas Office and travel. However, if you do not have a Renewal Slip and have arrived at a Pakistani Airport, don't worry! Just request the FIA Immigration Officers at Arrivals for a Landing Permit.

Landing Permit is a 72 hours validity entry permit, which allows Pakistani Nationals or Nationals of Pakistani Origin, a provisional entry into Pakistan and travel to nearest NADRA Office and apply for NICOP or POC. Pakistanis, whose NICOP or POC card has expired can also get a renewal slip from the NADRA facilitation centers at the Airports. Remember! You may be required to show an expired NICOP / POC / Pakistani Passport; or prove Pakistani origin through CNIC, Birth Certificate with CNIC of parents or Marrige Certificate with CNIC of spouse.

Overseas Pakistanis are an asset of our Country. Immigration Wing-FIA welcomes you to Pakistan and is committed to your facilitation and making your Arrivals and Departures smooth and hassle-free.

If you have any complaints or queries please feel free to contact an Immigration Officer at your nearest counter or contact us:



### **MELBOURNE CONSULATE IS ACTIVE**

Consular Services facilities will be available in Melbourne from 1st Feb 2018. The address is 4/492 St. Kilda Rd, Melbourne, VIC 3004 and the Phone number is 03 9866 4975.

# **UPDATE ON GRANTS**

The extension has been granted for WA crime prevention grant and will be meeting the WA Police community engagement team while we wait for other grants.

# A NEW PARTNERSHIP BEGINS THIS AUSTRALIA DAY.

A new collaboration has come into effect this Australia Day as we got to know of this exciting project to educated girls in Pakistan and hopefully we can spread the project form one small city to all over Pakistan through assistance from friends and volunteers in Pakistan and Australia. Watch the space.

#### **INCOMING STUDENTS.**

It is also high time when new students arrive in Australia and the need for accommodation and job opportunities is higher. This is reflected in 89 members joining this week on our facebook group taking the total to 10, 800 members.

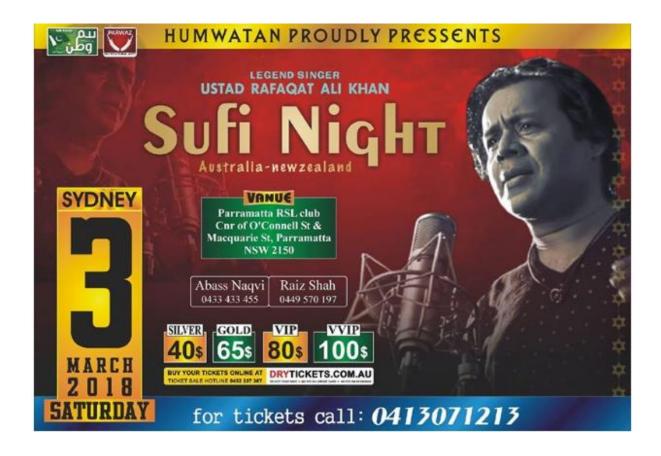
We will also be attending an event for Study Perth on 7<sup>th</sup> Feb and more details in next issue. Please note that Australia Awards scholarships are now open and feel free to contact us if required. The details are available at <a href="http://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards/Pages/how-to-apply-for-an-australia-awards-scholarship.aspx">http://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/australia-awards-scholarship.aspx</a>.

#### **CRICKET CUP IN CANBERRA**



Sydney smashers were the winners of the tape ball cricket tournament held on 4<sup>th</sup> February played among 12 cricket teams from Sydney and Canberra. Congratulations to the team and organisers.

# **IN SYDNEY AND PERTH**





#### IN MELBOURNE:

