

Sridhar K
President
Taranaki Multi-Ethnic Council
398 Devon St East
Strandon
New Plymouth 4312

26 May 2010

Dear Sridhar K

During the last 18 months the Labour team and I have been lobbying the National Government to fix the problems that have seen too many religious leaders denied visas to work and stay in this country. I have received many concerns from the Buddhist, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh and Jewish communities over this issue.

I am pleased that the Minister of Immigration, Jonathan Coleman, has finally listened and has announced that his officials will be carrying out a 'Review of immigration policies for religious workers'.

If you or anyone you know has been affected by the current regulations governing the immigration of religious workers, I would urge you to make a submission to the Department of Labour. Please find enclosed a copy of the submission form. You can download and print additional copies of the form from the internet at <http://bit.ly/9BleuT>. The deadline for submissions is very tight, and I need your feedback by Friday 10 July 2010.

You can return your form directly to Immigration New Zealand or you can freepost it to me at the Office of Dr Ashraf Choudhary, MP, Private Bag 18 888, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand.

I look forward to reading your responses, and having your voices heard on this important issue.

Kind regards



Dr Ashraf Choudhary, MP
Labour Associate Spokesperson for Ethnic Affairs