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JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

Indian Community Supports Government Efforts to Combat Terrorism

The Indian Community condemns terrorism in any shape or form and supports any action taken by the Australian Government to tackle terrorism in order to protect the Australian Community.

United Indian Association (**UIA**) is the Peak Body representing the various migrant community groups of Indian Origin in NSW in particular and Australia in general and Overseas and Australian Medical Graduates Association. Inc (**OAMGA**) represents the overseas trained doctors majority of them being of Indian Sub-continent origin.

UIA and **OAMGA** are deeply concerned about the negative impact the recent events involving the Gold Coast based Dr. Haneef is having on the Indian Community.

The fact that Dr. Haneef is an Indian Doctor has created a community backlash on Indian Doctors in particular and professionals of Indian origin in general. Media has been feeding on the fact Dr. Haneef is an Indian Doctor. We all know that Governments of all persuasions depend on Indian trained doctors and health professionals for the delivery health services in rural and regional Australia.

It is deplorable that Government is not doing enough to diffuse the community anxiety and media tainting and stereotyping of the Indian doctors. **UIA** and **OAMGA** express their deepest concern at the inaction and apathy of the Government towards the negative impact this issue is having on the law-abiding and socially responsible Indian Community in Australia.

Both **UIA** and **OAMGA** would like to see the issue of Dr. Haneef is resolved in such a way that the "Rule of Law" prevails and Dr. Haneef is given a fair go.

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