

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIAN STUDENTS**

United Indian Association's attention has been drawn to cases of unprovoked violence against Indian students in Parramatta, Harris Park and Castle Hill area. This is a matter of deep concern to all. In one incident a student was admitted in the hospital and had to undergo surgery. President of UIA Dr. Prabhat Sinha and Vice President of UIA Dr. Rohitas Batta, Consul General of India Mr. Sujan R. Chinoy and Consul Mr. Y.V.Dayal have visited this student in the hospital and had detailed talks with some of the students involved in the latest incident to ascertain the situation first-hand. UIA will continue to address this issue at all levels.

UIA executive members, representative from Indian Consulate and a student representative are scheduled to meet state member of Parramatta Hon. Tanya Gadiel and Local Police area commander Mr.P.Hickman for appraisal of the situation and to work out best strategies to stop repetition of such incidents. The Consul General of India has written to NSW Premier Morris Iemma, Speaker of NSW Parliament John Aquilina and NSW Police Commissioner Ken Moroney, expressing deep concern on behalf of the Government of India and requesting the concerned authorities to take immediate action to halt the spate of attacks and ensure the safety and security of the Indian students. Assurances from relevant authorities have been received.

Detailed reports of 10 incidents are in hand. Similar cases were discussed with Police Minister, Local Member of Parliament and Chair of Community Relations Commission in the past. In order to take up this matter further, people involved in these attacks are requested to forward full details of specific incidents in writing, at UIA's address, P.O.Box 575, Strathfield, 2135.

Please visit student helpline on UIA website: [www.uia.org.au](http://www.uia.org.au) for further information.

United Indian Associations Inc. and the Consulate General of India in Sydney are determined to do their best to help the Indian students involved in these attacks and take all measures for the security and welfare of the Indian Community in Australia.