



## *UNITED INDIAN ASSOCIATIONS Inc.*

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24<sup>th</sup> December 2008

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

The scathing report by former Supreme Court judge John Clarke, QC, clearly exposes blunders by the nation's senior security officials and politicians who branded Dr. Haneef a terrorism suspect. The Attorney-General, Robert McClelland, acknowledges that mistakes were made "at the highest level" but says he would not take action against any government officials.

Mr. Raj Natarajan, President of United Indian Associations said while the Indian Australians support any action by the Government to combat evils of terrorism, using the legislation for political purposes will only undermine the confidence of the public in such legislation. Therefore it is time that The Attorney-General comes clean and sets the record straight on this issue and not hide behind the fact that it was the previous Government's mistake.

Mr. Natarajan calls on The Attorney-General to not only apologize to Dr. Haneef but also to the Indian Australians, in particular overseas trained Indian doctors, who experienced community backlash because of this bungled investigation and the resulting unwanted media spotlight.

Mr. Natarajan said that the Federal Government must immediately acknowledge the hurt caused to the law-abiding and socially responsible Indian Community in Australia, especially overseas trained Indian doctors due to this bungled investigation of Dr. Haneef. The Attorney-General must come out with statements accepting responsibility for the mistakes of the past and restore the dignity of overseas trained Indian Doctors to ensure that the delivery of medical services, especially in rural and regional Australia, is not starved of medical professionals.

**ENDS**

For further information or comment please contact:

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