

# Sikh Council of Australia Inc

Inc No: INC9877869

Uniting Sikhs in Australia...  
[www.sikhcouncil.org.au](http://www.sikhcouncil.org.au)



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## FOR GENERAL COMMENTS > SCA REQUESTS YOUR FEEDBACK

I had a call early this morning from ABC Radio and then Channel 10 in Sydney asking me to express the views of the Sikh Council Of Australia on the proposed introduction of the amendments to the immigration entry rules, which are:

- (a) Every new migrant must pass an English language test.
- (b) Every new migrant must accept and respect the Australian values.

I expressed my views, in the interviews, in general on both of these issues and the way I feel about is:

(a) The English test: that although I don't know the type of the English test they have in mind, oral or written, yet I feel that any migrant to a country should be able to find his/ own ways around and go about his/her business without feeling the need of an interpreter.

(b) Australian values: I feel it is a very vague statement, the "values" first have to be defined as we don't know which values they are talking about or referring to. Different ethnic groups hold different values dear to them. Are they talking about cultural, social, religious, spiritual, moral, visual form of cultural or political values?. In culturally diverse Australian society to ask to accept and respect one will have its implications.

These changes, which are in the pipeline to be introduced, by the Federal government, in the near future, will affect the chances of the prospective Sikh migrants and more of the aged parents.

The purpose of this email is to ask you to express your views on these mooted points, which no doubt will come up for discussion again and we should be prepared to have a common answer.

Sikh Council will appreciate your comments and views on these topics and can be e-mailed to [secretary@sikhcouncil.org.au](mailto:secretary@sikhcouncil.org.au)

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