

## **Press Release**

### **New England: The newest chapter in FIA history**

#### **We are now in 8 states**

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**After New York, New Jersey & Connecticut, FIA enters 5 more states— Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont,** The Federation of Indian Associations (FIA), one of the largest umbrella organizations of the Indian community, launched its New England (NE) chapter at an event in Boston on May 8. With this, the association now has extended its presence to Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine, and Vermont along with the existing tristate area of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. Those in attendance included Massachusetts State representative Carolyn Dykema, Justice Sabita Singh, Associate Justice of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Appeal Court, FIA Chairman Ankur Vaidya, Padma Shri S P Kothari, entrepreneur philanthropist Ramesh Kapoor, veteran community leader Dr Dinesh Patel and Professor Balram Singh among others.

#### **Why the New England chapter?**

The NE region was in need of a true grassroots non-profit organization for the Indian American diaspora. The formation of FIA NE will ensure that community initiatives and issues more core to the Indian American community in the region get due attention.

#### **The team**

Abhishek Singh, has been named the president of FIA New England. The FIA NE team includes Sanjay Gokhale, Shova Sharma, Gautam Patel, Deepak Rathore, Rakesh Kavsari, Karan, Sainil, Karthkeyan Ramu, Amol Penshanwar and others. They were sworn in by Consul General of India NY Randhir Jaiswal

## **Indian visa camp marks FIA's entry in New England**

**Federation of Indian Associations partners with the Consulate General of India New York and prominent community organizations for Indian visa camp in Boston on May 8; over 1,000 applications processed.**

The Federation of Indian Associations (FIA) in association with prominent organizations in New England facilitated a consular services access programme in partnership with the Consulate General of India York for the community in Boston on May 8. The Indian Visa Camp 2021 coincided with the formation of FIA's New England chapter. It was a grand success with nearly 1,000 applications processed with the help of a team of over 60 volunteers, coordinated by FIA New England. Prominent organizations of the Indian community in New England like World Hindu Council of America (VHPA), Bihar Jharkhand Association of New England, Ekal Vidyalaya, Gujarati Association, Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh USA, India Association of New Hampshire, India Society of Worcester, India Circle for Caring, Kerala Association, Marathi Mandal, Rhode Island, New England Malayalee Association, New England Marathi Mandal, Overseas Friends of BJP, Patidar Samaj, Rajput Association of North America, Rhode Island Tamil Sangam, Saheli, SamarthanamUSA, Sewa International-USA, Tamil Nadu Foundation, Team Aid, Telugu Association of Greater Boston, World NRI Association besides the Consulate General of India NY and VFS Global partnered for the visa camp.