5 October 2026

s9(2)(a) [redacted]

Our ref: OIA 2627-0400

Tēnā koe s9(2)(a) [redacted]

Response to your Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 18 September 2026 to the Ministry for Ethnic Communities (the Ministry) requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

> *...in relation to the visit by PM Modi from India as of DATE 18 SEPTEMBER 2026:*
>
> - *What has New Zealand paid (in costs) via Ministry of Ethnic Affairs (and including yet to be paid) in total for hosting this visit?*
> - *Please break down into who paid what and what expenses were covered by the New Zealand taxpayer through which departments.*
> - *Please also break down and list any and all gifts to Modi and any of his team.*
> - *Please transfer a copy of this request to any and all other government departments that may have had costs in relation to Modi's visit.*

Before responding to your request, I note that you have asked for this request to also be passed onto other government departments that may have had costs related to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit. The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) are the responsible agency for Prime Minister, Rt Hon Christopher Luxon's official engagements, and I understand that they have also received your request. As DPMC will be providing their own response, we have not transferred your request to them, and are instead responding in relation to the Ministry only.

In response to your request, the Ministry had no involvement in hosting, nor paid any costs related to, Prime Minister Modi's July 2026 visit to New Zealand to meet with Prime Minister, Rt Hon Christopher Luxon. Further, the Ministry did not provide any gifts to either Prime Minister Modi or his team.

As such, this request is being refused in full under section 18(e) of the Act on the grounds that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

Under section 28 of the OIA, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my response relating to this request. The relevant details can be found on their website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz

Please note, due to the public interest in our work, the Ministry may publish responses to requests for official information on our website, shortly after the response has been sent. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team: Ministerial@ethniccommunities.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi

Edward Firth
Director of Ministerial Services

Proactively released by the Ministry for Ethnic Communities