

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND  
TRANSPORTATION  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

May 15, 2012

Ambassador Nancy J. Powell  
U.S. Embassy  
Shantipath, Chanakyapuri  
New Delhi - 110021

Ambassador Powell:

For several months, my staff has been working with one of my constituents, a business owner here in Nevada, Mr. Rajesh Patel.

Mr. Patel opened an Indian restaurant in October 2010. In March of 2011, he was forced to close his doors after his chef returned to India due to a family emergency. Faced with financial trouble, Mr. Patel set out on his journey to bring two experienced chefs from India to operate his kitchen, train others that could assume the responsibility upon their return to India, and save the business he had worked so hard to create.

After receiving labor certificates for the proposed chefs, Mr. Patel also secured an H-2B Visa through the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) identifying two chefs with whom he had a relationship of trust. These two gentlemen, Tilak Raj and Anand Singh Rana, each had interviews at the embassy in New Delhi, and each was denied. Mr. Raj and Mr. Rana feel that evidence supporting their temporary immigration to the United States was not considered and would like to reapply.

During this time of economic stress, Mr. Patel's restaurant would create jobs and contribute to our community. I trust that when Mr. Raj and Mr. Rana come before the embassy for further interviews, you will give full consideration to their applications and documentation.

Sincerely,



Dean Heller  
United States Senator

DH/mm