

people who have set up kokiri management units in partnership with department officials. The fact that this innovation operates at all, notwithstanding how well it works, is of considerable interest to bureaucrats outside the department.

The units are funded by the department, but the leaders say the existing amount — \$5000 a Maori Affairs district — is insufficient and suggest an overall national figure of \$100,000.

The alleged inadequacy of present marae facilities to cope with cultural and educational courses promoted a demand for increased marae subsidies. The suggested figure is an extra \$300,000 for this financial year and an extra \$100,000 each year until at least 1985.

The expanding role of the maraes and their new important in the awhinatia te rangatahi project, would seem to guarantee that this request will be met.

Everything discussed by the leaders falls under the Tu Tangata umbrella which at present is assured of Government backing.

Mr Muldoon, in his opening address to Tu Tangata Wananga Whakatauirā said, "I believe that other New Zealanders are beginning to see now what Tu Tangata is all about — that it is not another gimmick. We talk of Tu Tangata for the Maori people, but it is for the common good of all New Zealanders."

The Prime Minister noted also a more



positive and optimistic ring about Maori confidence.

Both that and the shift into a new gear are obvious. The only place now to go is forward.

An Indian Viewpoint

One of the international participants in the Wananga Whakatauirā last year was a representative from the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs.

As well as praising the Department of Maori Affairs for setting up the International Symposium which worked in with the conference, the Indian representative had this to say about Maoris.

"Their language is used on a daily basis among the majority of Maori 40 years and over. The Maori are a very proud people, rich in tradition and culture. They have kept their native song and religion. Nowhere in New Zealand can you not see Maorism reflected in the country, whether it is designs on their coins, the names of towns or the many marae throughout the country. The Maori people are well established in all levels of society.

The fact that New Zealand has a Minister of Maori Affairs who is Maori sitting in Parliament is a tremendous asset. The 'unified voice' approach is very effective. The idea of workshops attended by the people working on key issues in which they make their proposals to the Department of Maori Affairs has a lot of significance to me. I can see where tribal leaders, if they would take issues to the people and involve them in the decision making process, would solve a lot of problems we are now encountering."

