

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

**AI Index: ASA 20/11/94
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13 April 1994

Further information on UA 134/94 (ASA 20/10/94, 6 April 1994) - Fear for Safety

**INDIA: Kanwar SINGH Dhani
Kuldip KAUR (Kanwar's wife who is pregnant) (f)
and their six-year-old son**

Amnesty International welcomes reports that Ranbir Singh, the six-year-old son of Kanwar Singh Dhani and Kuldip Kaur, was released on 4 April after the Punjab and Haryana High Court found that there was "no justification for the detention of the child" and ordered his release.

The High Court order was given in response to two writ petitions filed by human rights activists on behalf of Kanwar Singh Dhani, Kuldip Kaur and Ranbir Singh. The Court however rejected the petitions on behalf of Kanwar Singh Dhani and Kuldip Kaur. The Court further ordered that Kanwar Singh should be allowed visits from his father and lawyers representing him.

It is reported that on 29 March, the police obtained an "order of remand" from an executive magistrate to detain the couple for 10 days in order to obtain information about militant activities.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes and airmail letters either in English or in your own language:

- welcoming reports that Ranbir Singh, the six-year-old son of Kanwar Singh Dhani and Kuldip Kaur has been released;**
- urging that Kanwar Singh Dhani and Kuldip Kaur themselves be released if they are not charged with a recognizably criminal offence in view of the expiry of the 10 day period of remand;**
- seeking assurances that they are humanely treated while in police custody and given regular access to lawyers and relatives;**
- calling for an impartial and independent inquiry into the allegations that they were held in unacknowledged detention for ten months and into allegations that they were tortured in detention.**

APPEALS TO:

**1) Beant Singh
Chief Minister of Punjab
Office of the Chief Minister
Chandigarh, Punjab, India.
Telegrams: Chief Minister of Punjab, Chandigarh, Punjab, India
Faxes: + 91 172 540 647 Attn Chief Minister
Salutation: Dear Chief Minister**

**2) Mr K.P.S. Gill
Director General of Police
Police Headquarters
Chandigarh, Punjab, India**

Telegrams: Director General Police, Chandigarh, Punjab, India
Salutation: Dear Director General of Police

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Mr S.B. Chavan
Minister of Home Affairs
Ministry of Home Affairs
North Block
New Delhi 110 001, India

and to diplomatic representatives of India accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 25 May 1994.**