

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 36/006/2003

3 October 2003

Further Information on UA 177/03 (ASA 36/001/2003, 19 June 2003) and follow-up (ASA 36/004/2003, 26 September 2003) - Imminent execution

SINGAPORE Arunprakash Vaithilingam (m), aged 24, Indian national

Amnesty International has learned with regret that Arunprakash Vaithilingam was hanged at 6am on 3 October, at Changi Prison in Singapore.

Arunprakash Vaithilingam, a migrant worker from India, was sentenced to death in December 2002 after being convicted of the murder of his room-mate, who was stabbed to death during a drunken argument. At his trial, Arunprakash Vaithilingam stated that he had not intended to kill his room-mate and, once he realized his roommate was injured, immediately rushed him to hospital. Despite eyewitness evidence, the Singapore High Court found Arunprakash Vaithilingam guilty of murder, an offence which carries a mandatory death sentence.

Arunprakash Vaithilingam was reportedly the 13th person executed in Singapore this year. Singapore, with a population of just over four million, is believed to have one of the highest *per capita* execution rates in the world.

Many thanks to all who sent appeals on behalf of Arunprakash Vaithilingam. No further action from the network is required.