

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY TO ARRIVE TODAY.**

EXTRA 80/92

Imminent Execution

8 October 1992

INDIA:

Sukhdev Singh alias Sukha  
Harjinder Singh alias Jinda

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Amnesty International has just learned that officials of the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that Sukhdev Singh alias Sukha and Harjinder Singh alias Jinda will be executed on 9 October 1992 at 4am (indian time), 11.30pm (GMT), in Pune, Maharashtra where the two men are awaiting execution.

Amnesty International has been told that their parents were taken away from their homes two days ago for their final meeting with the two men. The Supreme Court rejected today another petition brought on their behalf requesting the death sentence be commuted and that they be retried.

Only the President of India and the Governor of Maharashtra can at this stage grant clemency and commute the death sentences to life imprisonment.

Although Sukhdev Singh and Harjinder Singh have refused to appeal against the death sentence imposed on them for murdering General A.S. Vaidya, a petition has now been filed requesting the commutation of the sentence or a retrial on the technical ground that their conviction initiated under the special legal procedures of the Terrorist and Disruptive Act could only be appealed to the Supreme Court and did not allow a two stage appeal, first to the High Court and then to the Supreme Court

**(For further information please refer to UA 242/92, 28 July 1992, ASA 20/41/92.)**

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/telephone:**

- urging that the death sentence of Sukhdev Singh and Harjinder Singh be commuted to life imprisonment;

- expressing unconditional opposition to the death penalty as a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

**APPEALS TO:**

1) President

Mr Shankar Dayal Sharma  
Office of the President  
Rashtrapati Bhavan  
New Delhi 110 004  
India

Delhi, India

**Telexes:** 3166427 RBND IN

**Faxes:** +91 11 3017290

**Salutation:** Dear President

**Telegrams:** President Dayal Sharma, New

2) Governor of Maharashtra

C. Subramanian

Governor of Maharashtra

Office of the Governor

Raj Bhavan

Bombay 400 006

India

**Telegrams:** Governor Subramanian, Raj

Bhavan, Bombay, India

**Telephone:** +91 22 3632660

**Salutation:** Dear Governor

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY TO ARRIVE TODAY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 8 October 1992.