

PUBLIC

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Further information on UA 195/02 (ASA 20/008/2002, 27 June 2002) - Fear for safety/Prisoner of Conscience

INDIAB.N. Jagdish (m), Human Rights defender

B.N. Jagdish, an activist with the *Narmada Bachao Andolan*(NBA), Movement to Save the Narmada, was released on bail on 7 July.

He was picked up by the police at a bus stop in Khedi Balwadie, Dhar District, in the state of Madhya Pradesh on 25 June. His whereabouts were unknown until 27 June, when his colleagues found out that he was detained at Sardarpur jail, Dhar district. Prior to this he had spent several hours at Amjhera police station.

B.N. Jagdish was detained under a piece of legislation aimed at preventing vagrancy. Under this legislation however, an individual should not be arrested. Prior to his release, B.N. Jagdish's bail application was also obstructed for several days by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) in Dhar district before finally being granted.

Members of the NBA consider B.N. Jagdish's illegal detention and the obstruction of his bail application to be a form of intimidation aimed at the whole movement. They are however appreciative of the support offered in this case.

No further action is required by the UA network. Many thanks to all those who sent appeals.