

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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20 July 1992

Further information on UA 231/92 (ASA 20/38/92, 10 July 1992) - Illegal Detention

**INDIA: Rajendra Sail, human rights activist
and new additional concern: illegal detention of 89 individuals**

Amnesty International has now learnt that 89 people were arrested in Raipur, Madhya Pradesh on 2 July 1992 under section 151 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CPC), (prevention of a cognizable offence). These arrests took place on the same day as the organising secretary of the People's Union for Civil Liberties, Rajendra Sail, was arrested under the same section of the CPC.

The 89 people were denied access to a lawyer for at least the first week of their arrest which contravenes international human rights standards (the UN Basic Principles on the role of lawyers specifies that lawyers should have access to detainees within 48 hours of arrest). They were arrested after an incident in Bhilai on 1 July in which police opened fire on striking demonstrators, killing 16 and injuring approximately 100 others.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams and airmail letters

- urging that all 89 people be immediately granted access to a lawyer as required by international human rights standards;

- urging that they be immediately released if they are not to be charged with a recognizably criminal offence.

APPEALS TO:

1. Mr Sunder Lal Patwa
Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh
Office of the Chief Minister
Bhopal
Madhya Pradesh
India

**Telegrams: Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India
[Salutation: Dear Chief Minister]**

2. Kailash Chawla
Home Minister of Madhya Pradesh
Office of the Home Minister
Bhopal
Madhya Pradesh

India

Telegrams: Madhya Pradesh Home Minister, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India
[Salutation: Dear Home Minister]

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

S B Chavan
Minister of Home Affairs
4 Krishna Menon Marg
New Delhi
India

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PUCL
A-38 Housing Board Colony
Shankar Nagar
Raipur 492007
Madhya Pradesh
INDIA

and to diplomatic representatives of India accredited in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 31 August 1992.