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# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE 154/94

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**PLEASE NOTE:** The Haiti crisis group at the International Secretariat is up and running, meeting every day. A full strategy is being drawn up this week and scheduled to be sent out for section comments by next week. There's also discussion about setting up a bulletin board for section communication on Haiti, similar to that on Rwanda/Burundi. The contact person for press officers about media will be Casey Kelso (ext. 5728), and the contact person for all other questions on campaigning etc. will be Ruth Cotten (ext. 5744).

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS RELEASES

Pakistan - 27 July - SEE NEWS SERVICE 81/94 - We are sending the report out via Swift air so it should reach you in time for the release date.

Myanmar - 20 July - SEE NEWS SERVICE 99/94

India - 16 August - SEE NEWS SERVICE 129/94

Kosovo - 20 September - SEE NEWS SERVICE 137/94

Algeria - first week of October - SEE NEWS SERVICE 137/94

France - second week of October - SEE NEWS SERVICE 137/94

## TARGETED AND LIMITED NEWS RELEASES

Sri Lanka - 15 July - SEE NS 146/94

Brazil - 14 September - SEE NEWS SERVICE 137/94

**News Service 154/94**

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19 JULY 1994**

**INDIA: CHALLENGE TO GOVERNMENT TO SERIOUSLY ADDRESS 'DISAPPEARANCES' IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR AND PUNJAB**

**Amnesty International is challenging the Indian Government to respond seriously to more than 200 cases of "disappearance" in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab, following the issue of a disappointing response by the Indian Government to an Amnesty International publication in December.**

**"The government's response neither addresses the 200 cases of 'disappearance' in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab that we raised in December, nor does it comment on our recommendations to stop the practice of 'disappearance'," the international human rights organization said.**

**According to Amnesty International, the government's response focuses more on political issues raised by Pakistan and others rather than responding to the grave human rights violations being committed by its security forces in the state.**

**"The government maintains that it has never been its intention to 'overlook, encourage, and much less, actually itself perpetrate human rights excesses,' but it shows little determination to halt them," said the organization.**

**Amnesty International is also repeating its call on the Indian Government to permit Amnesty International to visit Jammu and Kashmir.**

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**A more detailed 6-page response to the Indian Government's document is available from the International Secretariat of Amnesty International in London, UK.**