

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 20/31/00

13 July 2000

Further information on UA 183/00 (ASA 20/27/00, 28 June 2000) - Fear for Safety

INDIA           Sikander Ahmad Mir  
                  Gulshan Bano (his daughter) aged 15  
                  Abdul Rashid Mir (his son)

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Amnesty International has today received a reliable report that Sikander Ahmad Mir, Gulshan Bano and Abdul Rashid Mir were released on 29 June.

The police Special Operations Group had been holding the three in an attempt to make another of Sikander Ahmad Mir's sons, suspected of being a former member of an armed opposition group, surrender to police.

Amnesty International is aware of other cases where the authorities have detained juveniles to pressurize relatives accused of militancy to give themselves up.

**Many thanks to all those who sent appeals. Please send one final telegram/telex/fax/express/airmail letter, in English or your own language:**  
- urging that children in Jammu and Kashmir are treated in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which India is a party, including Article 37(b), which states that: "No child shall be deprived of his or her liberty unlawfully or arbitrarily. The arrest, detention or imprisonment of a child shall be in conformity with the law and shall be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time".

**APPEALS TO:**

Dr Farooq Abdullah  
The Chief Minister  
Office of the Chief Minister  
Raj Bhavan  
Srinagar  
Jammu and Kashmir  
India

**Faxes:**           + 91 194 452356 / 191 545649 (fax lines to India are frequently engaged and callers may receive messages that the lines are out of order or not known - please keep trying)

**Telegrams:** Chief Minister, Srinagar, India

**Salutation:** Dear Chief Minister

Mr P L Handoo  
Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs  
Government of Jammu and Kashmir  
Raj Bhavan  
Srinagar  
Jammu and Kashmir  
India

**Telegrams:** Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs, Srinagar, India

**Salutation:** Dear Minister

**COPIES TO:** diplomatic representatives of India accredited to your country.