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IMMEDIATE

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OO VENICE (DESKBY 230800Z)

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GRS 200

RESTRICTED

DESKBY 230800Z

FM DELHI 230611Z JUN 80

TO IMMEDIATE VENICE

TELEGRAM NUMBER 001 OF 23 JUNE

INFO IMMEDIATE FCO (FOR RESIDENT CLERK)

IMMEDIATE MODUK (D14)

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 Ps No 10 A.S.
 RC

**PRIME MINISTER'S
 PERSONAL MESSAGE**
 SERIAL No. T 132/80

subject copy filed on:-

India: Internal Situation: May 79.

FOLLOWING FOR PRIVATE SECRETARY TO PRIME MINISTER AND PRIVATE SECRETARY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

1. SANJAY GANDHI WAS KILLED IN AN AIR CRASH IN DELHI EARLY THIS MORNING.

2. I RECOMMEND THAT THE PRIME MINISTER AND SECRETARY OF STATE SHOULD SEND IMMEDIATE MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE TO MRS GANDHI. I SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING TEXT FOR PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE:

"I WAS GREATLY SHOCKED TO HEAR THIS MORNING THE TRAGIC NEWS OF YOUR SON'S DEATH IN A FLYING ACCIDENT. IT IS PARTICULARLY SAD THAT HIS LIFE, WHICH WAS SO FULL OF PROMISE, SHOULD HAVE BEEN CUT SHORT AT SO EARLY AN AGE. PLEASE ACCEPT MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY IN YOUR GREAT LOSS."

3. I SUGGEST FOLLOWING TEXT FOR SECRETARY OF STATE'S MESSAGE:

"I WAS SHAKEN TO HEAR THE APPALLING NEWS OF YOUR SON'S DEATH THIS MORNING. I SEND YOU MY HEARTFUL CONDOLENCES."

4. RESIDENT CLERK, PLEASE INFORM HIGH COMMISSIONER.

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