



PRIME MINISTER  
INDIA

PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T.165 A/84.

New Delhi,  
September 27, 1984.

*Dear Prime Minister*

The "elections" in South Africa are over. The very basis on which they were held was rejected by the overwhelming majority of the non-White electorate. The so-called constitutional reforms of the South African Government did not indicate any change in its policy of apartheid. The Non-aligned Movement has always been exercised about South Africa's apartheid. It is good that the recent ministerial meeting of the EEC spoke out against such discriminatory racial policies and expressed concern over the detention of those who opposed the South African regime.

I am writing now in regard to the aftermath of the elections. I am anxious about a matter of some immediacy, which is worrying others also.

... 2

Six activists of the Natal Indian Congress and the United Democratic Front sought and were kindly given refuge by the British Consulate in Durban. I was glad to note your Government's statement that these activists would not be turned over to the South African Government against their wishes. I hope that no pressure from the South African regime to change this decision will be tolerated. In view of your Government's and your personal commitment, perhaps you could impress upon the South African Government that they should show some consideration, and if possible, clemency, to these persons.

*With regards*

*Indira Gandhi*

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher,  
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom,  
10, Downing Street,  
London.