

Auto

August 6, 1975

Srimati Indira Gandhi
Prime Minister
Republic of India
New Delhi, India

Dear Srimati Gandhi:

In this letter we express the sincere feelings of a number of Indian scholars and scientists living in the United States. We are dismayed at the partisan and deliberately selective reporting of the events in India during the past month in much of the Western press. We recognize that there was a probability of breakdown of law and order as a result of the campaigns launched by certain elements among your oppositionists. We also recognize that during the critical mid-June days, it was these opposition leaders who threatened to resort to extra-legal means while you strictly adhered to the letter of the law and the emergency provisions dictated by our constitution.

We understand that a majority of those arrested are hoarders and profiteers, that politicians are in fact in the minority. The former, because of their alleged crimes, must be subjected to the due process of law when the emergency is lifted. We strongly feel, however, that all political prisoners, especially since some of them are aged and ailing, should be freed, with their civil liberties and fundamental rights restored as soon as the crisis is over.

In the past, our young republic experienced several stressful phases of emergency situations. We have successfully overcome them, maintaining and preserving our democratic ideals and values which are, by any measure, an outstanding achievement for a developing nation. We are hopeful that, with your leadership, the current emergency will be no exception.

Yours sincerely,

Name:

Academic position:

Address: