Indian Workers Association Great Britain

(HINDUSTANI MAZDOOR SABHA)

NATIONAL PRESIDENT

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Mr.Rajib Gandhi,
The Prime Minister of India,
Prime Minister's Office,
South Block,
New Delhi-110011.

Dear Sir,

We have come to know from the media that you are likely to visit Britain to attend the ensuing Prime Ministers'Conference of the Commonwealth, scheduled to take place in August, 1986.

May we be allowed to avail of the opportunity to meet you with a view to discussing the difficulties of a variety of nature the people of Indian origin living abroad have been confronted with because of the imposition of Visa System.

A similar request was made through a letter written to you before your last visit to this country, on behalf of the Association. To our amazement our deleration was not permitted to see you. All our repeated attempts to the effect went in vain for reasons unknown to us.

However, failure to have a meeting with you then does not, in any way deter us to make such an imploration once again.

Though, in my previous letter your attention was drawn to a range of arguments in favour of the demand for the withdrawal of visa requirements, I would like to raise some of the salient ones herein again.

Its imposition has been, constantly and consistently used as a ploy by khalistani faction to create anti-India feelings among the Indians residing in Britain, particularly among the sikhs. In this, they have succeeded to a large extent. These restrictions provide them a fertile ground to propagate that India is not our country. Therefore, Indians living abroad need a separate country. So, establishment of khalistan is the only answer. So on and so forth.

Under these circumstances, it has become extremely difficult for organisations, groups and individuals which are not only opposed to their nefarious game but stand for India's integrity, to continue the fight against these forces of darkness. Instead of isolating them, the secular and democratic people find themselves being rather more isolated. The reason for this is obvious. The visa is not helping us in this struggle at all. Instead it bluntens our fight and, hence has become totally counterproductive.

Regrettably, it has given rise to corrupt practices within the officialdom at the London High Commission. At the time of its inception, we were told with crescendo that the visa system was designed to stop the extremists travelling to India. But our experience shows a different picture. These extremists go to India freely thanks to the corruption. In the light of all this, we can infer that it, no longer serves this purpose as well.

NATIONAL SECRETARY

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In conclusion, I repeat my request hoping that you will find some time out of your busy schedule to meet a delegation of our Association which have been in the forefront of the struggle against the extremists and separatists—the struggle which is being fought on the streets of Britain, and discuss the issue concerned.

I lookforward to meeting you at the requested meeting.

With thanks,

Yours Faithfully, Prem Singh.

5.7.86.