



ALLIANCE FOR SOUTH ASIAN AIDS PREVENTION



PRESS RELEASE

AIDS Demonstration At The Indian Consulate

Concerned South Asians and their friends are calling for a demonstration at the Consulate General of India to protest the Government of India's irrational and irresponsible policies with respect to the growing HIV/AIDS crisis in that country.

Far from implementing the guidelines of the World Health Organization (WHO), law enforcement and medical authorities have created a climate of hysteria and fear. Recent incidents of harassment of HIV positive people have included coercive testing, forced confinement, and refusal of medical treatment. The authorities and the press have colluded to sensationalize the issue instead of educating the public about the real nature of the epidemic.

The objective of the demonstration is to bring to the attention of the Indian Government and the South Asian community the serious nature of the health and social issues posed by HIV/AIDS. We will be presenting a charter of demands which we believe must be implemented if HIV/AIDS is not to become a full-blown epidemic in India as projected in a recent WHO report.

The demonstration is being organized by AIDS Action Now! and the Alliance for South Asian AIDS Prevention (ASAP), with the support of The Ontario Federation of South Asian Students and Khush: South Asian Gay Association. All of which are Toronto based groups.

Simultaneous actions are being planned in New York City, Chicago, Washington D.C., San Francisco and London U.K..

**Noon
Tuesday August 13**

**Indian Consulate
2 Bloor Street West**

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