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7 July 1983

India: UN Summit Proposal

Thank you for your letter of 6 July.

The Prime Minister would like to receive Mr. L.K. Jha and could do so for 30 minutes at 11 o'clock on Monday, 11 July. I should be grateful if you could let me have a brief as early as possible tomorrow.

BFI

A J COLES

John Holmes, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

N/R



10 DOWNING STREET

Tim

Can you give me 30
minutes?

at 7/7.

Tom

11-11-30 on
Monday

T



Prime Minister

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

do you want to see Mr.
Jha, please next Sunday?

London SW1A 2AH

A.J.C. $\frac{6}{8}$

6 July, 1983

Yes not

Dear John,

India: UN Summit Proposal

Mr L K Jha, a member of the Brandt Commission and an adviser to Mrs Gandhi, will visit the UK from 7-11 July, principally to attend the Cambridge Commonwealth Trust dinner at Trinity College on 7 July. While in London, he will call on the Chief Secretary to the Treasury and the Governor of the Bank of England. As you will have seen from Delhi telno 456 (copy enclosed) he has in addition asked to call on the Prime Minister to discuss Mrs Gandhi's proposal for a UN Summit.

Mr Jha is an outstandingly able public servant with great experience and a sure political touch. The many important positions he has held include Secretary to the Prime Minister, Governor of the Reserve Bank and Indian Ambassador to the United States. He accompanied Mrs Gandhi to the Cancun Summit and is probably her closest adviser on economic questions. He has been the principal architect of the active and constructive role played by India since Cancun in the field of international economic affairs.

The possibility of the Indians returning to the charge on Mrs Gandhi's summit proposal was foreshadowed in Brian Fall's exchange of letters with you last week. It would have suited us better if they had done so in slower time, but Mrs Gandhi no doubt feels that time presses and another round of lobbying might help to get matters moving. Press reports from Delhi suggest that the subject was raised with Secretary of State Shultz during his talks there last week.

If the Prime Minister can spare the time, we believe she should agree to see Mr Jha. It would serve our bilateral relations to use the opportunity to demonstrate to Mrs Gandhi that Mrs Thatcher continues to have an open mind on the proposed summit. It will not be easy to strike the right balance between encouraging the Summit on the one hand and appearing too overtly sceptical on the other. But it will be an opportunity to ask some frank questions about agenda and objectives. We will provide a brief accordingly.

/Appointments

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Appointments have been made for Mr Jha to call on the Governor of the Bank at 3 pm on 8 July and on the Chief Secretary at 3 pm on 11 July. Otherwise he is free to call on the Prime Minister any time on 8 or 11 July and on the morning of 7 July, before travelling to Cambridge.

Your ever

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J E Holmes', written in a cursive style.

(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street

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