

His Excellency  
The President of the Republic of India  
Mr. Ram Nath Kovind  
c/o Botschaft der Republik Indien  
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Your Excellency;

Please forgive me for taking the liberty of bringing the fate of the Indian Roman Catholic priest, the Rev. Stan Lourdusamy, also known as Father Stan Swamy, to your attention. This 83-year old priest has been kept behind bars since October 8<sup>th</sup> 2020. The charges against him are obviously fabricated.

Among other things, he has been falsely accused of supporting Maoist terrorists. Father Swamy is particularly dedicated to the rights of the Adivasi and Dalit in the northeastern state of Jharkhand, whose equal rights are enshrined in the Indian constitution. But sadly, these rights are still not a reality in many rural regions of India. As part of his services as a Catholic monk, Father Swamy has tried with all his might to protect these people from official attacks or land grabs.

Dear Mr. President, I humbly beseech you to do everything in your power to advocate the release of this Jesuit priest, who is suffering from the Parkinson's disease.

Most respectfully,

Yours sincerely