

CPI(ML) Condemns Harassment of Dr. Mohammed Haneef by the Australian Government, Demands Immediate Release

Thursday 19 July 2007, by [CPI\(ML\) Liberation](#) (Date first published: 17 July 2007).

The CPI(ML) strongly condemned the biased and vindictive treatment being meted out to Dr. Haneef, the doctor of Indian origin detained in Australia during investigations of the aborted Glasgow blasts.

The CPI(ML) said that Dr. Haneef had been detained without charges for a very long period, and yet no link could be established with the terror plot. Yet the Australian Government has refused to release him. Instead, a flimsy charge of 'recklessness' has been made against him, ostensibly for lending his mobile sim card to his cousins. He was released on bail, but his visa has been simultaneously cancelled in order to continue his incarceration in a Detention Centre for illegal immigrants. The CPI(ML) demanded that the Indian Government take up the matter with the Australian Government to ensure the immediate and honourable release of Dr. Haneef.

The CPI(ML), said that no evidence has been found linking Dr. Haneef with the crime, yet an innocent man is being branded as a terrorist. The party took strong exception to the Australian Immigration Minister's remark that Dr. Haneef's visa is being cancelled because he 'fails the character test'. This statement, made without an iota of evidence, reeks of racism.

The violations of human rights by the US at Guantanamo Bay in the name of its 'War on Terror' seem to be becoming the norm in Britain and Australia too. Discrimination on the grounds of race and religion are being justified in the name of fighting terror, and all legally guaranteed rights and norms of democratic societies are being set aside in the process.

P.S.

* ML Update, a CPI(ML) Weekly News Magazine, Vol. 10 No. 29 17-23 JULY 2007.