

**1989****Letter from Rajiv Gandhi to M. S. Gorbachev****Citation:**

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**Summary:**

Letter from Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev asking him to personally intervene on behalf of a project to create an atomic submarine in India.

**Credits:**

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**Original Language:**

Russian

**Contents:**

Translation - English

TRANSLATED INTO RUSSIAN

Dear Mister President

I am writing this letter in connection with the planned construction in India of a nuclear submarine with the help of the Soviet Union. You may remember that at the time of our conversation on the 15th of July in Moscow we clearly talked about this topic.

The progress of this plan has been delayed because of our inability to come to an understanding on the main arms installation for this submarine. When we preferred the local Indian plan for this installation, the Soviet specialists declared their concern about the security of this installation. At the time of his visit in India Academician Igor Dmitrevich Spaskii assured me that at the same time when he was content with the progress on the planning and construction he was convinced that in consideration of security, it will be necessary to modify the reactor plan.

I am certain that we will be able to work out the details on a resolution of this problem through consultation on planning and through cooperation. If necessary, defending mutual interests and concerns we also will be able to make a delivery plan for coal and systems from the Soviet Union.

I ask for your personal intervention, because the impasse this aspect of the program has held up the project for over a year. I also recommend the Counselor of the Indian Ministry of Defense for Science and Technology Ms. Arunachalama to visit the Soviet Union in order to work out the details with the assistance of the relevant Soviet specialists through a political directive, which will allow a resolution of the problems awaiting an answer.

With personal warm greetings

[Signature]  
(R. Gandhi)

To His Excellency  
The Chair of the USSR Supreme Soviet  
General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mr. M.S. Gorbachev  
Moscow