



September 3, 2014

The Honourable Chris Alexander, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Canada
365 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 1L1

Dear Minister,

I am writing to follow up on my letter of November 21, 2013, with respect to Deepan Budlakoti, a Canadian-born citizen who is being deported to India. Once again, I urge you to use your discretion to permit Mr. Budlakoti to remain in Canada, to stop his deportation to India and restore his citizenship.

Also, we are greatly concerned that the recent passage of Bill C-24 *Strengthening Canadian Citizenship Act* will now be used regularly to strip away the citizenship of Canadians such as Mr. Budlakoti. This would go against the international image of Canada as a country that promotes diversity and human rights.

Under the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness that Canada signed and ratified, your government has an obligation not to render Mr. Budlakoti stateless. I understand that at the current time, India is still not willing to recognize him as a national of their country since he was born in Canada and has lived in Canada his entire life. He has been twice recognized as a citizen of Canada, by inclusion in his mother's passport in 1997 and the issuance of a Canadian passport in 2003.

I also understand he now lives under house arrest while your government is processing his deportation to a country that has rejected him. He is jobless and dependent on well-wishers to sustain himself.

In the meantime, I also urge you to immediately initiate a fair and independent review of the case instead of deporting Mr. Budlakoti.

Sincerely,

Hassan Yussuff
President

cc: CLC Officers and Assistants
David Onyalo, CLC

rlcope225