

## **Indian Politician Detained For Alleged Bribery**

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**By P.Vijian**

NEW DELHI, Sept 6 (Bernama) -- A powerful Indian politician, closely linked to prominent Bollywood stars, was arrested and sent to judicial custody Tuesday for alleged involvement in a cash-for-votes scam.

Amar Singh was detained for allegedly bribing several parliamentarians during a crucial trust vote in July 2008, during the Indian-American civilian nuclear pact debate.

A special court judge Sangita Dhingra Sehgal did not sympathise with the 55-year-old politician from the northern state of Uttar Pradesh who is suffering from kidney ailment.

He will be in custody until 9 Sept 19.

"I have great faith in the judiciary. I came here against medical advice. I have to go abroad every three months for treatment and checkups," Singh told a local media.

His arrest followed the detention of politician and mining tycoon Janardhan Reddy in Bangalore yesterday for alleged illegal mining business in the southern state of Karnataka.

The high profile arrests came after a powerful civil society, led by veteran anti-graft activist Anna Hazare, stirred nationwide protests against widespread corruption.

Several prominent politicians and corporate figures had been jailed on charges of corruption in connection with the 2010 Commonwealth Games and the awarding of mobile phone spectrum licences.

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