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**British Parliament suspends
Indian-origin MP Keith Vaz** DH
2/11/19

► Keith Vaz, one of Britain's longest-serving Indian-origin MPs, has been suspended by the UK Parliament for six months after he was found to have "expressed willingness" to purchase cocaine for male prostitutes, PTI reports from London.

The MPs approved the suspension on Thursday after the Parliament Standards Committee concluded in its report that the 62-year-old Goan-origin Labour Party MP for Leicester East had "disregarded" the law when he "expressed willingness" to purchase cocaine for male prostitutes. In a strongly-word-



Keith Vaz.

ed report earlier this week, the Commons watchdog said there was "convincing evidence" that Vaz was "evasive or unhelpful" during an investigation into his conduct. The Labour Party said it accepted the suspension recommendation, describing it as a "sad day for us". Labour's shadow home secretary Diane Abbott said Vaz should stand aside as the party's candidate for Leicester East, the seat he has held since 1987.