

## **PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING**

### **Meeting No. 24**

#### **Meeting with Sikh Minority Community**

**Organised by:** Global Punjabi Association, Amritsar

**Date:** 13 December 2024

**Venue:** Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar

**Chairperson - Shri Iqbal Singh Lalpura Ji** Hon'ble Chairman

National Commission for Minorities, Government of India

### **1. Background**

Meeting No. 24 of the **Global Punjabi Association** was convened on **13 December 2024** at Amritsar during the official visit of **Shri Iqbal Singh Lalpura Ji**, Hon'ble Chairman, National Commission for Minorities, Government of India.

The meeting was organised in compliance with the directions issued by the **Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar**, as part of the Hon'ble Chairman's scheduled interaction with representatives of the Sikh Minority Community. The purpose of the meeting was to provide a structured platform for dialogue, enabling community members to present their concerns, suggestions, and expectations directly before the Hon'ble Chairman and the district authorities.

The Global Punjabi Association facilitated the meeting with the objective of strengthening coordination between the Sikh

community and the government institutions responsible for minority welfare.

## **2. Attendance**

The meeting was attended by the following:

- **Shri Iqbal Singh Lalpura Ji**, Hon'ble Chairman, National Commission for Minorities (Chair) & Patron Global Punjabi Association
- Dr. Jaswinder Singh Dhillon, Honorary Secretary Global Punjabi Association
- Dr. Jaswinder Kaur Sohal, Cashier Global Punjabi Association
- Shri .Raman Gupta, secretary Finance Global Punjabi Association
- Brigd. Harcharan Singh Bhoparai , Executive Member Global Punjabi Association
- S.Kuldeep Singh Khalon Executive Member Global Punjabi Association
- S.Harinder Singh Khalon Executive Member Global Punjabi Association
- Mrs. Rama Mehra
- S. Sarbjit Singh Sathiala
- Shri Tarsem Lala Saini
- Prof. Gurwinder Singh Mamanke

- Shri Surya Parkash Anand
- S. Daljit Singh Kohli
- Sh.Ashray Gupta
- S. Mahmohon Singh Sathiala, Ex-MLA
- S. Rajinder Singh Marwaha
- S. Pardeep Singh Bhullar
- Dr. Mrs Neha Sharma
- Dr. Dharamveer Singh
- Representatives and members of the **Sikh Minority Community** from various backgrounds
- **District Welfare Officer, Amritsar**
- Officers from the **District Administration** and other concerned departments –
  - I. Mrs. Sakshi Sawhney, IAS Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar
  - II. Sh. Pallav Shrestha, District Welfare Office, Amritsar
  - III. SDM Ajnala
- Eminent social workers, educationists, and community representatives

The participation reflected a broad representation of the Sikh Minority Community.

### **3. Welcome Address**

The meeting commenced with a formal welcome address by the representatives of the **Global Punjabi Association**. The Hon'ble Chairman was respectfully welcomed and felicitated, and sincere gratitude was expressed for sparing valuable time to interact with the Sikh Minority Community.

The Association also placed on record its appreciation for the cooperation and support extended by the **District Administration, Amritsar**, in making the necessary arrangements for the meeting and ensuring its smooth conduct.

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#### **4. Address by the Hon'ble Chairman**

The Hon'ble Chairman, Shri Iqbal Singh Lalpura Ji, addressed the gathering and elaborated on the following key aspects:

- The **mandate, role, and responsibilities** of the National Commission for Minorities
- **Constitutional safeguards and legal provisions** available for the protection of minority rights
- Various **Central Government schemes and initiatives** related to minority welfare, education, scholarships, skill development, and economic empowerment
- The importance of **awareness, participation, and coordination** between the community and government agencies

He emphasized that community organisations play a crucial role in disseminating information and ensuring that the benefits of welfare schemes reach the deserving sections.

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## **5. Issues and Suggestions Discussed**

During the interactive session, members of the Sikh Minority Community, through the platform of the Global Punjabi Association, raised the following issues and suggestions:

### **1. Education and Scholarships**

- Need for wider awareness of minority scholarship schemes
- Simplification of application procedures and timely disbursement

### **2. Skill Development and Employment**

- Demand for skill-oriented training programmes for youth
- Enhanced linkage between trained youth and employment opportunities

### **3. Cultural and Linguistic Preservation**

- Preservation and promotion of Sikh heritage, religious institutions, and historical sites
- Promotion of Punjabi language and cultural activities

### **4. Social Welfare Measures**

- Inclusion of eligible and deserving Sikh families under minority welfare schemes
- Ensuring transparency and ease of access to government benefits

## 5. Administrative Coordination

- Better coordination between departments and community organisations
- Regular interaction and feedback mechanisms at the district level

All issues were presented in a constructive manner, focusing on long-term solutions and collaborative efforts.

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## 6. Observations and Assurances

After hearing the participants, the Hon'ble Chairman made the following observations and assurances:

- All genuine issues and representations would be **examined carefully**
- Relevant matters would be **taken up with the concerned Ministries and Departments**
- District officers were advised to ensure **effective implementation and wider publicity** of minority welfare schemes

- Community organisations such as the **Global Punjabi Association** were encouraged to assist the administration in outreach, awareness, and feedback

The Hon'ble Chairman reaffirmed the commitment of the National Commission for Minorities towards the welfare and empowerment of minority communities.

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## **7. Conclusion**

Meeting No. 24 concluded with a formal **vote of thanks**, proposed by the representatives of the Global Punjabi Association, expressing sincere gratitude to:

- The Hon'ble Chairman for his guidance and interaction
- The District Administration, Amritsar, for their cooperation
- All participants for their valuable contributions

The meeting ended on a positive and constructive note, with an assurance of continued cooperation and coordinated efforts for the welfare and upliftment of the Sikh Minority Community.

OFFICE OF DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, AMRITSAR (MA/VIP BRANCH)		ਦਫਤਰ ਡਿਪਟੀ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨਰ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ (ਐਮ. ਏ/ਵੀ. ਪੀ. ਬਾਂਚਾ) Phone no:- 0183-2223551 (Office), 0183-2226262 (Camp Office)
Email:- dc.asr@punjab.gov.in		

**Subject:** Tour Programme of Shri Iqbal Singh Lalpura Ji, Chairman, National Commission for Minorities by Air from Delhi to Amritsar on 15.12.2024

**Reference:** AMR/PB/12/2024-NCM Dated 13.12.2024 From Sh Santosh Kumar, PA to Hon'ble Chairman, National Commission for Minorities, Government of India

No: MA/VIP/ Spl-6

Dated: 13.12.2023

A copy of the above along with detailed minute to minute tour programme is forwarded to the following and for information and further necessary action:

1. **Commissioner of Police, Amritsar (City)** is requested to provide police security including Pilot/Escort to the Hon'ble Chairman as per protocol. He is also requested to make necessary security arrangements where the VIP visits or stays.
2. **Senior Superintendent of Police, Amritsar (Rural)** is requested to provide police security including Pilot/Escort to the Hon'ble Chairman within their jurisdiction as per protocol. He is also requested to make necessary security arrangements where the VIP visits or stays.
3. **Sh. Khushdil Singh (Mob: 77107-87990) PCS, Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Amritsar** requested to provide ONE Innova Crysta car for the use of Hon'ble Chairman..
4. **Duty Manager (Mob.90569-96082), Premier Sarovar (Circuit House), Amritsar** to provide TWO good conditioned suites/rooms for the use of the Hon'ble Chairman w.e.f. 15.12.2024 till the visit is over.
5. **Civil Surgeon, Amritsar** for information and further necessary action. The Hon'ble Chairman is covered under 'Z' category security.
6. **Sh. Pallav Shrestha, (Mob: 7508924673) District Welfare Officer, Amritsar** shall be the overall incharge of this visit and shall receive, accompany and see-off the Hon'ble Chairman during their visit in Amritsar.  
He shall make necessary arrangements regarding "Meeting with Sikh Minority Community. (To be arranged by Dr. Jaswinder Singh Dhillon (Mob.98151-50030)).  
He shall make necessary arrangements regarding refreshment/Tea/Snacks and venue regarding above said meeting well in advance.  
He shall contact **Sh Sukhwinder Singh (Mob.9417932472), District Nazar, Nzarat Branch o/o Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar** for any sort of reference/information.
7. **Director SGRDJI Airport, Amritsar** for information and further necessary action.
8. **Regional Director, SGRDJI Airport, Amritsar** for information and further necessary action.
9. **Commandant, CISF, BCAS, SGRDJI Airport, Amritsar** for information and further necessary action.
10. **Capt Ajaypal Singh, (Mob: 97790-25554) Flying Safety Manager, Civil Aviation Club, SGRDJI Airport, Amritsar** for information and further necessary protocol arrangements.
11. **Sh Sukhwinder Singh (Mob: 94179-32472), District Nazar, Nzarat Branch o/o Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar** for information and further necessary action.
12. **Sh Santosh Kumar (Mob: 8847395051) PA to Hon'ble Chairman, National Commission for Minorities, Government of India** for information and necessary action.
13. **PA to DC, Amritsar** for information.
14. **PA to ADC (G), Amritsar** for information.
15. **Steno to AC (G), Amritsar** for information.

  
For Deputy Commissioner  
Amritsar