



ਤਾਰ ਦਾ ਪਤਾ:-

“ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ”

ੴ ਵਾਹਿਗੁਰੂ ਜੀ ਕੀ ਫਤਹਿ॥



ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ ਦੀ ਅੰਤਿਮ ਕਮੇਟੀ ਦੀ ਇਕੱਤਰਤਾ ਮਿਤੀ
25-04-2006 (12 ਵੈਸਾਖ ਸੰਮਤ ਨਾਨਕਸ਼ਾਹੀ 538) ਦੇ ਮਤਾ ਨੰਬਰ 381 ਦੀ ਨਕਲ:

ਡਾ. ਜਸਬੀਰ ਸਿੰਘ, ‘ਆਹਲੂਵਾਲੀਆ’ ਆਈ.ਏ.ਐਸ. ਰਿਟਾਇਰਡ, ਵਾਈਸ ਚਾਂਸਲਰ, ਪੰਜਾਬੀ
ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ ਵਲੋਂ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਦੇ ਨਾਮ ਪੁੱਜਾ ਪੱਤਰ ਜਿਸ ਵਿਚ ਫ਼ਰਾਂਸ ਵਿਚ ਧਾਰਮਿਕ ਚਿੰਨ੍ਹ ਧਾਰਨ
ਕਰਨ ਖਿਲਾਫ਼ ਬਣਾਏ ਗਏ ਕਾਨੂੰਨ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅਕਾਲ ਤਖ਼ਤ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਦੀ ਸਰਪ੍ਰਸਤੀ ਹੇਠ ਯੂਨਾਈਟਿਡ ਮਾਇਨੋਰਿਟੀਜ਼
ਔਰਗੇਨਾਇਜ਼ੇਸ਼ਨ ਬਣਾਉਣ ਦਾ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਸੁਝਾਓ ਪੈਡਿੰਗ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ।

ਦਫਤਰ:- ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ,

ਨੰਬਰ 20640

ਤੇਜਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਸਮੁੰਦਰੀ ਹਾਲ, ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ।

ਮਿਤੀ 27-4-06

ਉਤਾਰਾ:-

1. ਇੰਚਾਰਜ ਜੀ, ਟਰੱਸਟ ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁ: ਪ੍ਰ: ਕਮੇਟੀ।
-ਪਾਸ ਗਿਆਤ ਤੇ ਲੋੜੀਂਦੀ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਹਿੱਤ।

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ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ
(ਹਰਬੇਅੰਤ ਸਿੰਘ)

ਸਕੱਤਰ

ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ
ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ।

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10/2/06

Respected Sardar Ji,

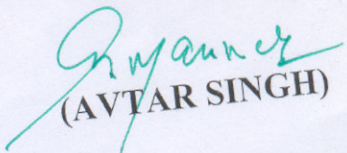
**Wahe Guru Ji Ka Khalsa,
Wahe Guru Ji Ki Fateh.**

I thank you for your letter of Jan. 9, 2006 carrying your deep affections.

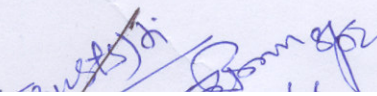
The ban on Sikh turban in France is receiving our priority attention, because the French legislation in question has rattled the entire Sikh world. The S.G.P.C. has been pursuing the case too vigorously by writing constantly to the Govt. of India and France, but the French Govt. has been adamantly refusing to clear the visit of our delegation to France. However, we are not going to relax our efforts to diffuse, the situation created by such bizarre legislation which transgresses all international-conventions on human rights. I appreciate the diligence and sincerity with which Dr. M.S. Rahi has contributed to this cause.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,


(AVTAR SINGH)

S.Kuldeep Singh,
1121 Warwick circle N.
Hoffman Estates IL 60194
(847) 843-2518.





Tele. Address :-
"SHIROMANI"

ੴ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਜੀ ਕੀ ਫਤਹ ॥



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Fax :-0183-2553919

Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee,

Teja Singh Samundri Hall, SRI AMRITSAR.

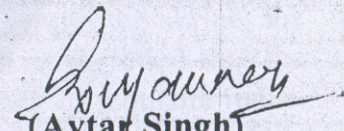
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10. SIKH YOUTHS STRANDED IN THE JAILS OF PAKISTAN:- Finding no job opportunities, facing unemployment, exploitation and humiliation, the Sikh youths fled to overseas countries in search of their livelihood and better perspectives but due to discrepancies in their travel documents or other reasons, which are mostly best known to the travel agents only, they were pushed to Pakistan who kicked them to different jails where they are languishing for years without trial. Now, when the relations between the two neighboring countries have normalised to much extent, the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) urges upon you to kindly take up the matter with the Govt. of Pakistan for their quick release.

11. SIKHS IN SAUDI ARABIA:- Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) Sri Amritsar is in receipt of very disturbing reports that the turbans of the Sikhs are being taken off forcibly and their hair trimmed. The turban and the hair of a Sikh, as you know, are inseparable for him, as mandated by the Sikh Code of Conduct (Sikh Rehat Maryada) and as part of his religious adherence, a Sikh has to retain them at any cost. During the last couple of years it has been observed that such incidents are taking place world over due to the misconception and misunderstanding of Sikh religious symbols by the world community. You are hereby requested to kindly take steps through your diplomatic missions to correct this aberration.

12. TERM OF PRESIDENT, OFFICE BEARERS & EXECUTIVE MEMBERS:- Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) Sri Amritsar, the apex representative religious Organisation of the Sikhs, has been constituted under the Sikh Gurdwaras Act-1925. The President, office bearers as well as the members of the Executive Committee are elected for the term of just one year as per the existing provisions in the said Act which is too short a period to provide them an opportunity to make any improvements/contributions in the preaching of Sikh religion, history and culture. By virtue of being inter-state Act i.e. Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh, any amendment falls in the purview of the Ministry of Home Affairs Govt. of India. Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee requests the term to be raised to two and a half years, as the term of the house is five years. The copy of resolution passed to the effect has already been sent to the concerned Ministry.


(Avtar Singh)
President



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Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee,

Teja Singh Samundri Hall; SRI AMRITSAR.

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founder of Sikh religion. They are not merely the places of worship but a history concretized which we owe to the next generations. But due to lack of maintenance, repair and renovation, we are going to loose them for which we shall be answerable to the future generations. To resume the conducting of daily services at these shrines and proper upkeep and maintenance, we request you to kindly get permission to SGPC for deputing Granthis and Sewadars with long term visas and also Kar Sewa of these shrines and also allow a jatha of at least 100 pilgrims to these shrines in consultation with the Govt. of Bangladesh.

7. CORRIDOR TO GURDWARA SRI KARTARPUR SAHIB :- Gurdwara Sri Darbar Sahib, Kartarpur Sahib situated in Pakistan, is a historical Sikh Shrine where Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji, the founder of Sikh religion, tilled his agricultural land, symbolizing the dignity of hard earned bread before leaving for his heavenly abode anointing Bhai Lehna Ji as SriGuru Angad Dev Ji, the second Sikh Guru. The said shrine is situated so close to the Indo-Pak border that it can be seen without binoculars standing on the border line. This shrine has already been opened to the pilgrims visiting other Sikh shrines of Pakistan. It is the earnest desire of the entire Sikh community that a corridor, to the said shrine, be provided enabling the devotees to have an access to this historical shrine. Kindly take up the matter with the Govt. of Pakistan and get the corridor allowed.

8. THE SIKH SHRINES IN AFGHANISTAN :- A considerable damage was done to Gurdwaras in strife torn Afghanistan, especially because Taliban, taking advantage of a strong build structures of Sikh Gurdwaras, allegedly carried out their fighting operation from the Gurdwaras, with the result that the American shelling was said to have been mostly targeted to these shrines. The Sikh Diaspora in general and the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee in particular, feels strongly concerned about the earliest repairs/ reconstruction of these Sikh shrines in Afghanistan. Kindly take up the matter with Govt. of Afghanistan to allow SGPC, the apex representative religious organization of the Sikhs to undertake KARSEWA of these Shrines. Also please allow a delegation to these Shrines to assess the loss as well as requirements.

9. SIKH REPRESENTATIVE ON FILM CENSOR & TEXT BOOK BOARD:-

The Sikhs have made innumerable sacrifices and fought tooth and nail to win freedom to India and then defending its frontiers from the invaders. They have always been front runners so far as agriculture, industry, business and sports are concerned. But it is regretted that since independence they have been projected as an object of mockery in the feature films as well as T.V. serials and their history, culture & character has been distorted and tarnished. Even the revered Sikh Gurus have not been spared in the books and materials prescribed for the students. The repeated requests and representations to the Govt. have failed to have the desired effect. Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee requests to the Govt. of India to have a representatives of the Sikh community on the panels and censor boards for films, T.V.



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3. **PUNISHMENT TO THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR SIKH CARNAGE 1984:-**
Thousands of Sikhs were massacred in November 1984 and their houses and properties were burnt to ashes. Nearly 3000 Sikhs were hacked, butchered and burnt alive in Delhi alone not sparing the women and children even. Right from 1984 onward these affected families have been running from pillar to post demanding severe punishments to those who are responsible for the carnage of their families and loss to their properties. The formation of committees and commissions by the Govt. have failed to give them the justice. The recent financial package by the Govt. no doubt is a step in the right direction but no amount of money is sufficient until and unless the guilty are put behind the bars and severe and exemplary punishments are awarded to them.

4. **PILGRIMAGE BUSES:-** It is a very welcome decision of India and Pakistan Govts to launch a pilgrimage bus service between Amritsar to Lahore and Amritsar to Nankana Sahib. It is a long awaited step towards the long cherished desire of the Sikh community to have an unrestricted access to their shrines. Already a bus service exists between the two neighboring countries but as the bus under reference would be exclusively for the pilgrimage to Sikh shrines, it is desired by the Sikh community that instead of Government or any Govt. agency managing the affairs, the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Sri Amritsar be entrusted upon the management of the pilgrimage buses. We also request that the entry system be made easy and provided at Amritsar as the intending pilgrim from Amritsar should not be compelled to travel from Amritsar to Delhi and back (1000 km) to travel to Lahore and Nankana Sahib hardly a 100 Kms.

5. **TURBAN IN FRANCE:-** The turban, as you know, is not merely a religious symbol of the Sikhs but a symbol of their independent and distinct identity too which has long been asserted and acknowledged throughout the world. The Sikh community takes light and guidance, in determining their way of living, from their Holy Scripture i.e. Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji which ordains the Sikhs to keep their appearances intact. They are required to keep their bearded and hair untrimmed/unshorn and wear turban. A number of quotations can be cited from Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji to this effect. The Sikh students studying in the Govt. Schools in France have been denied admission with their turbans and without caring for the resentment and appeals from all over the world with special mention to Govt. of India, have been shown the door. The Sikhs, you know, have proved their loyalty, integrity, bravery, commitment as well as their existence as law abiding and hard working community. So much so they have fought defending France in the World-War with their turbans on their heads. Sikh history is replete with such examples where the Sikhs have preferred getting their heads being chopped off than allowing any tyrant or so called ruler touching their hair and turban. I would, therefore, request you on behalf of the entire Sikh community to press upon the Govt. of France to withdraw the restriction imposed upon the Sikh students studying in the Govt. Schools of France.



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MEMORANDUM

1. SIKH REFERENCE LIBRARY:- The wounds inflicted on the Sikh psyche by the action of Indian Army on Sri Harmandir Sahib complex in 1984 could have been healed with the passage of time, but the plunder of rich literary treasure from Sikh Reference Library housed in Sri Darbar Sahib complex, by the Indian Army has rubbed salt into these wounds to render them pestering beyond any healing. What has pained us the most is the casual manner in which the Govt. of India has dealt with our earnest repeated requests to restore the same to S.G.P.C. Based on information from some reliable and intimate sources, this office has narrated the sequence of how this treasured material was first taken to Youth-Hostel Amritsar, catalogued and then consigned to unknown destination. The return of library accession registers by the govt., which bear the coding of CBI, goes to prove our above assertion and speaks in confirmation of our claim to the large bulk of religious literature having been taken away.

It is only due to the sincere intervention of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India S. Manmohan Singh Ji on our request when he visited Sri Harmandir Sahib on Sep. 1, 2004 that the probing agencies made a showing of some interest but what our persistent correspondence and efforts have achieved in long 21 years, is a cruel joke in the form of a letter from Superintendent Police C.B.I. New Delhi admitting to the possession of a few trivial articles, which ridiculously we have never claimed for, in our list sent to the Govt., detailing the items having been taken away. It is, indeed, intriguing to see, what actually, holds the Govt. back from returning this research treasure carried on papers only which, if returned, can not pose any security threat.

In view of the position explained above you are again requested to look into the matter and order the restoration of items taken away from Sikh Reference Library, which would be in the larger interest of the entire Sikh community.

2. REDESIGNING THE 5TH AND 6TH PHASES OF CORRIDOR:- In the aftermaths of infamous action of Indian Army on Sri Harimandar Sahib complex in 1984 and thereafter the so called operation "Black Thunder" thousands of residential and commercial properties were bulldozed to provide corridor around the shrine, the first four phases of which have already been completed. But it is regretted that the most important phases i.e. 5th and 6th are yet to be touched for lack of requisite funds. In view of the inflow of millions of devotees and tourists, the problems like landing, parking, landscaping etc. are being faced. The office of the SGPC, the apex representative religious organization of the Sikhs and the managing body of historical Sikh shrines in Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh particularly being the management of Sri Harimandar Sahib, Amritsar, is thronged with the calls and representations suggesting the redesigning of the 5th and 6th phase of the corridor keeping in view the facilities of devotees and tourists. You are, therefore, requested to kindly have the same redesigned in consultation with the SGPC taking its representatives on the panel to be given the assignment and sanction sufficient funds

humanity - retrograding its progression towards civilization. Is this lesson of history not serious enough for France?²⁷

A brief look at the law passed by the upper house of French Parliament in March 2000, banning conspicuous religious symbols like the Islamic headscarves (*Hijabs*), Jewish skull caps (*Kippas*), large Christian crucifixes, Sikh turban and other overtly visible symbols that 'lead to an immediate recognition of religious affiliation' in state schools would bring out its contradiction not only with the UN laws, but also with the French Constitution itself. That provision of law reads as under: -

"In public elementary schools, junior high schools and high schools, students are prohibited from wearing signs or attire through which they exhibit conspicuously a religious affiliation".²⁸

- On the other hand, the Preamble of the Constitution of France and Article 2 reads as under: -

PREAMBLE

'The French people hereby solemnly proclaim their dedication to the Rights of Man and the principle of national sovereignty as defined by the Declaration of 1789, reaffirmed and complemented by the Preamble to the 1946 Constitution.

By virtue of these principles and that of the free determination of peoples, the Republic offers to the Overseas Territories expressly desiring this to adhere to them new institutions based on the common ideal of liberty, equality, and fraternity and conceived with a view to their democratic evolution.'²⁹

Article 2: State Form and Symbols

- (1) France is an indivisible, secular, democratic and social Republic. It ensures the equality of all before the law, without distinction as to origin, race or religion. **It respects all beliefs.**
- (2) The language of the Republic is French.
- (3) The national emblem is the blue, white, and red tricolour flag.
- (4) The national anthem is: the "Marseillaise".
- (5) The motto of the Republic is "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity".
- (6) Its principle is Government of the people, by the people, and for the people.³⁰

Even Napoleon, on whose code the French Constitution is primarily based, conceded that without religion is like a ship without a compass; that good morality without religion.³¹ Napoleonic law guaranteed freedom of religion within the dominion. However, French law targets school children in their formation when all religiously conscious people wish to instill religious values in their children. Moreover, this law is the roots of the civil society, of which France is an intellectual supporter. The historical events which led France to turn Catholic peasants into French Republic citizens are not relevant in the changed circumstances. The concept of Free Civil Society is rooted in the Hegelian concept of Free Will;³² if citizens are allowed to live their life according to their conscience, there cannot be any civil society. With the French revolution, *Liberty, Equality, Fraternity*, which

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ਹਰਬੇਅੰਤ ਸਿੰਘ

ਸਕੱਤਰ,
ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ,
ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ।

ਗੁਰੂ ਸਵਾਰੇ ਸਰਦਾਰ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਜੀਓ,

ਵਾਹਿਗੁਰੂ ਜੀ ਕਾ ਖਾਲਸਾ॥
ਵਾਹਿਗੁਰੂ ਜੀ ਕੀ ਫਤਹਿ॥

ਮਾਨਯੋਗ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਸਾਹਿਬ, ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁ:ਪ੍ਰ:ਕਮੇਟੀ ਦੇ ਨਾਮ ਪੁਰ ਮਿਤੀ 16-01-06 ਰਾਹੀਂ ਪੁੱਜੇ ਪੱਤਰ ਵਿਚ ਭੇਜੇ ਕੀਮਤੀ ਸੁਝਾਉ ਸਲਾਘਾਯੋਗ ਹਨ। ਇਸ ਲਈ ਮੈਂ ਤਹਿਦਿਲੋਂ ਧੰਨਵਾਦੀ ਹਾਂ। ਵਾਹਿਗੁਰੂ ਆਪ ਜੀ ਨੂੰ ਹੋਰ ਬੱਲ ਬੁੱਧੀ ਬਖਸਿਸ਼ ਕਰਨ ਤਾਂ ਜੋ ਆਪ ਇਸੇ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਪੰਥ ਦੀ ਸੇਵਾ ਕਰਦੇ ਰਹੋ। ਅਗਲੇਰੀ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਲਈ ਪੱਤਰ ਸਬੰਧਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਨੂੰ ਭੇਜਿਆ ਜਾ ਰਿਹਾ ਹੈ।

ਧੰਨਵਾਦਿ ਸਹਿਤ,

ਸੁਭਚਿੰਤਕ,

ਸ਼੍ਰੀਮਤੀ

ਸ਼੍ਰੀਮਤੀ ਸ਼੍ਰੀਮਤੀ ਸ਼੍ਰੀਮਤੀ ਸ਼੍ਰੀਮਤੀ
ਤਾਂ ਜੋ ਆਪ ਨੂੰ ਕਿਤੇ ਫਾਜ਼ਲੀ
ਪਛਾਤੀ ਨਾ ਸਾਧੇ (ਹਰਬੇਅੰਤ ਸਿੰਘ)

S.J.S. Sodhi,
PCS(Retd.),
#542, Sector-53,
S.A.S. Nagar, Mohali.

ਉਤਾਰਾ:-

- 1- ਸਕੱਤਰ ਸਾਹਿਬ(ਪ੍ਰ), ਪਾਸ ਪੱਤ੍ਰਿਕਾ ਯੋਗ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਹਿੱਤ ਭੇਜੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ।
- 2- ਸੁਪਰਵਾਈਜ਼ਰ ਜੀ ਟਰੱਸਟ, ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਕਮੇਟੀ ਪਾਸ ਅਸਲ ਪੱਤ੍ਰਿਕਾ ਯੋਗ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਹਿੱਤ।

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France turban ban: HC notice to Centre

HT Correspondent
Chandigarh, October 20

A DIVISION Bench headed by Chief Justice D.K. Jain of the Punjab and Haryana High Court today issued notice to the Union government on the issue of France not allowing Sikh students to sport turbans. It asked the Centre to file a reply by December 15, explaining the steps taken so far to protect the rights of Sikhs, who are Indian citizens and living abroad.

The Singh Legal Foundation of Chandigarh had filed a Public Interest Litigation, through counsel Dr. M.S. Rahl, for the issuance of writ of mandamus to direct the respondent (Union of India through Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs) to protect the fundamental rights of Sikhs living in India and abroad.

The respondent, prayed the petitioner, had the fundamental duty to protect the rights of citizens of India within the framework of the Constitution of India and the laws framed by UN for the protection of such rights and to have harmonious relations among people throughout the world.

Dr. Rahl told mediapersons that the petitioner contended that in February, 2004, the French government passed the law banning turbans in schools. Highlighting the problems being faced by Sikhs in France, the petitioner said when one Ranjit Singh - living in France for the past 14 years - went for renewal of his social identity card in France, he was directed to remove his turban as a photograph along with turban could not be affixed on his social security card.

Citing another case, the counsel informed that one Ramandeep Singh, citizen of India and studying in Denmark, was arrested because he was sporting a small "kirpan" as a baptised Sikh. "The fact remains that it is an open humiliation of the citizens of India when they are unnecessarily asked to remove their turban at public places against the basic freedoms provided by the Constitution of India as well as the law enacted by UN. The respondent state must give a positive response if the Government of India is really committed to the respect and dignity of its citizens," he said.

Asked to list by Dec 15 steps taken so far to protect the rights of Sikhs

According to the petitioner, the law enacted by the French government to ban turban reads: "In public elementary schools, junior high schools and high school students are prohibited from wearing signs or attire through which they exhibit conspicuously a religious affiliation."

On the other hand, according to the PIL, the preamble of the French Constitution and Article 2 reads: "... solemnly proclaim their dedication to the Rights of Man... France is an indivisible, secular, democratic and social republic. It ensures the equality of all citizens before the law, without distinction as to origin, race, or religion. It respects all beliefs... The motto of the republic is Liberty, Equality, Fraternity..."

The petitioner prayed that he made a number of representations to the Government of India that the turban issue be resolved with the French government within the framework of the Fundamental Rights as enshrined in the Constitution of India and the laws enacted by the UN on the subject.

He said the statement of Parliamentary Affairs and Urban Development Minister in Parliament that the French government had allowed Sikh boys to sport "patka" in schools "was factually wrong as the French government had not given any concession to the Sikh students".

"When the Union government has done so much for the protection of propagation of Sikhism, it is also the duty of the respondent government to protect the fundamental rights of Sikhs, when they are unnecessarily humiliated because of their dress and personality by making anti humanist laws by French government, for whom the Sikhs have done a lot in protecting their land and liberties during the World Wars," the petitioner pleaded.

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ਵੀਰੀ ਕੌਰ ਕਪੂਰ
ਪਤਨੀ
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ਪਤਨੀ

ਸ਼੍ਰੀਮਤੀ
ਵੀਰੀ ਕੌਰ ਕਪੂਰ
ਪਤਨੀ
25/06

Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee,

Teja Singh Samundri Hall, SRI AMRITSAR.

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AMRITSAR

26-5-05

His Excellency Mr. Jaque Chirac,
President,
Govt. of France,
Paris.

Sub: The visit by a Sikh delegation to France on turban issue

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to submit that we are feeling extremely concerned about the difficulties being faced by Sikh citizens living in France, as a sequel to the new French legislation banning the entry of Sikh students sporting a turban in schools. The Sikhs world-over have felt greatly agitated, with the result that this office has been flooded with requests from Sikhs living the various countries for our immediate intervention to explain the case of turban and Sikh religious sensitivities related to it, to your esteemed Govt. We are the most representative elected organization and an apex body of Sikh Gurdwara (Church). The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Amritsar is elected Religious Parliament of Sikhs (Golden Temple Complex) and is very much obsessed with the difficulties that our co-religionists are facing in the democratic republic of France.

Since the wearing of turban for a Sikh is religiously mandatory and unique and is basically different from the similar head-gears of the various communities, so it does not at all stand for any fundamentalist, radical or communal creed but is an integral part of Sikh religion and personality.

There are a lot of facts which we would like to bring to your kind notice at a face to face meeting with the Govt. representatives.

In this context we propose to send a high-powered Sikh delegation to meet your representatives so that we can have a dialogue and understanding of each-other's position to arrive at a respectable solution of the issue. We would be grateful if you kindly grant us an audience between 7-15 June. We shall, now, look forward to an intimation of a suitable date for the above-said purpose.

With best regards,

Yours faithfully,

Sal Singh
Secretary

Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee,

Teja Singh Samundri Hall, SRI AMRITSAR.

No.

21263

AMRITSAR. 26-5-05

Hon'ble Secretary to President,
Govt. of France,
Paris.

Sub: The visit by a Sikh delegation to France on turban issue

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With best regards,

Yours faithfully,

Da Megh Singh
Secretary.



ੴ ਓ ਵਾਹਿਗੁਰੂ ਜੀ ਕੀ ਫਤਹ ॥

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ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ, ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ

ਆਫਿਸ ਨੋਟ

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ਫਾਈਲ ਨੰ: 967-ਨ

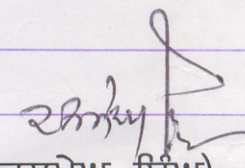
ਸ੍ਰੀ ਮਾਨ ਜੀ,

ਨੱਥੀ ਵਰਕੇ _____

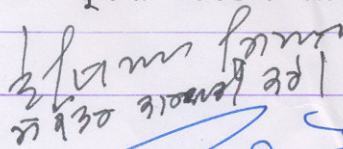
ਹਵਾਲਾ ਚਿੱਠੀ ਨੰ: _____

ਤਾਰੀਖ 20.01.05

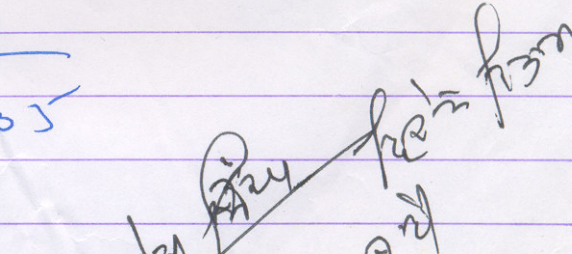
ਫਰਾਂਸ ਵਿਚ ਦਸਤਾਰ ਦੇ ਕੇਸ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਸ੍ਰ: ਇਕਬਾਲ ਸਿੰਘ ਭੱਟੀ, ਸਕੱਤਰ ਜਨਰਲ ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਅਕਾਲੀ ਦਲ ਫਰਾਂਸ ਯੂਨਿਟ ਵਲੋਂ ਪੁੱਜੇ ਫੈਕਸ ਪੱਤਰ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਪਿਛਲੀ ਕਾਰਗੁਜ਼ਾਰੀ ਤੇ ਚਾਨਣਾ ਪਾਉਂਦਿਆਂ ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ ਵਲੋਂ ਦਸਤਾਰ ਦੇ ਮਾਮਲੇ ਨੂੰ ਫਰਾਂਸ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਤੱਕ ਪਹੁੰਚਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਡੈਲੀਗੇਸ਼ਨ ਭੇਜਣ ਦੀ ਮੰਗ ਕੀਤੀ ਹੈ। ਪਹਿਲਾਂ ਕੁਝ ਕਾਰਨਾਂ ਕਰਕੇ ਬੇਸ਼ਕ ਡੈਲੀਗੇਸ਼ਨ ਨਹੀਂ ਜਾ ਸਕਿਆ। ਪਰੰਤੂ ਪੱਤਰ ਵਿਹਾਰ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਦਸਤਾਰ ਬਾਰੇ ਬਹੁਤ ਸਾਰੀਆਂ ਲਿਖਤਾਂ ਸਬੂਤ ਭੇਜੇ ਗਏ ਹਨ। ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਵੇਰਵੇ ਮੁਤਾਬਿਕ ਸਤੰਬਰ ਦੇ ਮਹੀਨੇ ਵਿਚ ਫਰਾਂਸ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਦੀ ਆਪੋਜੀਸ਼ਨ ਪਾਰਟੀ ਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਖੇਤਰੀ ਪਾਰਟੀਆਂ ਤੇ ਐਮ ਪੀਜ਼ ਨਾਲ ਮੀਟਿੰਗਾਂ ਕਰਨੀਆਂ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਹੋਣ ਕਾਰਨ ਡੈਲੀਗੇਸ਼ਨ ਭੇਜਣ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਰਿਪੋਰਟ ਯੋਗ ਵਿਚਾਰ ਤੇ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਲਈ ਪੇਸ਼ ਹੈ।


(ਦਲਮੇਘ ਸਿੰਘ)
ਸਕੱਤਰ।

ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਜੀ


ਸਕੱਤਰ

20/1/05


ਸਕੱਤਰ

ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ ਦੀ ਜਨਰਲ ਕਮੇਟੀ ਦੀ ਇਕੱਤਰਤਾ ੧੭ ਜੇਠ ਸੰਮਤ
ਨਾਨਕਸ਼ਾਹੀ ੫੩੭ ਮੁਤਾਬਿਕ (੩੧-੫-੨੦੦੫) ਦੇ ਮਤਾ ਨੰਬਰ ੦੨ ਦੀ ਨਕਲ:-

ਦਸਤਾਰ ਜਿਥੇ ਸਿੱਖਾਂ ਦਾ ਧਾਰਮਿਕ ਚਿੰਨ੍ਹ ਹੈ ਉਥੇ ਉਹਨਾਂ ਦੀ ਨਿਆਰੀ ਤੇ ਵੱਖਰੀ ਪਹਿਚਾਣ ਦਾ ਪ੍ਰਤੀਕ ਵੀ ਹੈ। ਵਿਸ਼ਵ ਪੱਧਰ ਤੇ ਸਿੱਖ ਦੀ ਪਹਿਚਾਣ ਦਸਤਾਰ ਵਾਲੇ ਮਨੁੱਖ ਦੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਸਥਾਪਤ ਹੋ ਚੁੱਕੀ ਹੈ, ਜਿਸ ਤੋਂ ਦੁਨੀਆਂ ਦਾ ਕੋਈ ਆਦਮੀ ਮੁਨਕਰ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੋ ਸਕਦਾ। ਕਈ ਬਾਹਰਲੇ ਮੁਲਕਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਕੇਵਲ ਦਸਤਾਰ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੀ ਸਿੱਖਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਡਰਾਈਵਿੰਗ ਅਤੇ ਫੈਕਟਰੀਆਂ ਵਿਚ ਕੰਮ ਕਰਨ ਸਮੇਂ ਲੋੜ ਟੋਪ ਪਾਉਣ ਤੋਂ ਛੋਟ ਮਿਲੀ ਹੋਈ ਹੈ। ਪੰਥ ਪ੍ਰਵਾਨਤ ਸਿੱਖ ਮਰਯਾਦਾ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਸਿੱਖ ਲਈ ਸਾਬਤ ਸੂਰਤ ਰਹਿਣਾ ਸਤਿਗੁਰੂ ਦਾ ਹੁਕਮ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਲਈ ਸਿੱਖ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਦਾਹੜੀ ਕੇਸ ਰੱਖਣੇ ਅਤੇ ਸਿੱਖ ਰਹਿਤ ਮਰਯਾਦਾ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਦਸਤਾਰ ਸਜਾਉਣੀ ਲਾਜ਼ਮੀ ਹੈ ਜਿਸਦਾ ਦੁਨੀਆਂ ਭਰ ਦੇ ਮੁਲਕਾਂ ਨੇ ਇਹਤਰਾਮ ਕੀਤਾ ਹੈ। ਭਾਰਤ ਵਿਚ ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ਾਂ ਦੇ ਰਾਜ ਸਮੇਂ ਫੌਜਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਸਿੱਖ ਸਿਪਾਹੀ ਅਤੇ ਅਫਸਰਾਂ ਲਈ ਸਾਬਤ ਸੂਰਤ ਦਸਤਾਰਧਾਰੀ ਰਹਿਣਾ ਲਾਜ਼ਮੀ ਸੀ। ਸੰਸਾਰ ਯੁੱਧਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਸਿੱਖ ਦਸਤਾਰਧਾਰੀ ਸਿੱਖ ਦੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਲੜੇ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਫਰਾਂਸ ਦੀ ਆਜ਼ਾਦ ਲਈ ਵੀ ਜੁਝੇ। ਪਰ ਅਫਸੋਸ ਦੀ ਗੱਲ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਅੱਜ ਫਰਾਂਸ ਵਿਚ ਹੀ ਸਕੂਲੀ ਸਿੱਖ ਬੱਚਿਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਦਸਤਾਰ ਸਜਾਉਣ ਦੇ ਬੁਨਿਆਦੀ ਅਤੇ ਧਾਰਮਿਕ ਹੱਕ ਤੋਂ ਮਹਿਰੂਮ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾ ਰਿਹਾ ਹੈ। ਦੁਨੀਆਂ ਭਰ ਤੋਂ ਇਸ ਵਿਰੁੱਧ ਕੀਤੀਆਂ ਗਈਆਂ ਅਪੀਲਾਂ ਦਲੀਲਾਂ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਵਾਹ ਨਾ ਕਰਦਿਆਂ ਫਰਾਂਸ ਦੇ ਸਕੂਲਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਧਾਰਮਿਕ ਚਿੰਨ੍ਹਾਂ, ਦੇ ਬਾਹਰੀ ਦਿਖਾਵੇ ਤੇ ਪਾਬੰਧੀ ਲਗਾਉਣ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਕਾਨੂੰਨ ਬਣਾ ਕੇ ਦਸਤਾਰਧਾਰੀ ਸਿੱਖ ਵਿਦਿਆਰਥੀਆਂ ਦੇ ਸਕੂਲ ਦਾਖਲੇ ਤੇ ਪਾਬੰਧੀ ਲਗਾ ਦਿਤੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ ਜੋ ਸਿੱਖ ਘੱਟ ਗਿਣਤੀ ਦੇ ਮੌਲਿਕ ਅਧਿਕਾਰਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਧਾਰਮਿਕ ਆਜ਼ਾਦੀ ਦੀ ਉਲੰਘਣਾ ਹੈ। ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ ਦਾ ਅੱਜ ਦਾ ਜਨਰਲ ਅਜਲਾਸ ਇਸ ਨਵੇਂ ਬਣੇ ਕਾਨੂੰਨ ਤੇ ਮੁੜ ਨਜ਼ਰਸਾਨੀ ਲਈ ਅਪੀਲ ਕਰਦਾ ਹੋਇਆ ਭਾਰਤ ਸਰਕਾਰ, ਅੰਤਰ-ਰਾਸ਼ਟਰੀ ਸੰਗਠਨਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਮਨੁੱਖੀ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਸੰਗਠਨਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਅਪੀਲ ਕਰਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਫਰਾਂਸ ਵਿਚ ਸਿੱਖ ਬੱਚਿਆਂ ਦੇ ਦਸਤਾਰ ਸਜਾਉਣ ਤੇ ਲਾਈ ਗਈ ਪਾਬੰਧੀ ਵਾਪਸ ਲੈਣ ਲਈ ਡਿਪਲੋਮੈਟਿਕ ਪੱਧਰ ਤੇ ਫਰਾਂਸ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਨੂੰ ਪ੍ਰੇਰਿਆ ਜਾਵੇ।

ਦਫਤਰ:- ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ,

ਤੇਜਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਸਮੁੰਦਰੀ ਹਾਲ, ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ।

ਨੰਬਰ 22826
ਉਤਾਰਾ:-

ਮਿਤੀ 20-6-05

1. ਸਕੱਤਰ ਸਾਹਿਬ, ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁ: ਪ੍ਰ: ਕਮੇਟੀ।
2. ਨਿੱਜੀ ਸਕੱਤਰ ਜੀ (ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਸਾਹਿਬ) ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁ: ਪ੍ਰ: ਕਮੇਟੀ।
3. ਐਡੀ: ਸਕੱਤਰ ਜੀ (ਟ੍ਰ) ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁ: ਪ੍ਰ: ਕਮੇਟੀ।
4. ਇੰਚਾਰਜ ਜੀ ਪਬਲੀਸਿਟੀ, ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁ: ਪ੍ਰ: ਕਮੇਟੀ।
5. ਸੁਪਰਵਾਈਜਰ, ਰੀਕਾਰਡ, ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁ: ਪ੍ਰ: ਕਮੇਟੀ

(ਦਲਮੇਘ ਸਿੰਘ)

ਸਕੱਤਰ

ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ
ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ।

ਤੇਜੀ ਕਮੇਟੀ ਦੀ ਮਿਤੀ 02/03
ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ



ਤਾਰ ਦਾ ਪਤਾ:-

“ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ”

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ੴ ਵਾਹਿਗੁਰੂ ਜੀ ਕੀ ਫਤਹਿ ॥

ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ

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ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ ਦੀ ਜਨਰਲ ਕਮੇਟੀ ਦੀ ਇਕੱਤਰਤਾ ੧੬ ਚੇਤ ਸੰਮਤ ਨਾਨਕਸ਼ਾਹੀ ੫੩੭ ਮੁਤਾਬਿਕ (੨੯-੩-੨੦੦੫) ਦੇ ਮਤਾ ਨੰਬਰ ੨੬੭ ਦੀ ਨਕਲ:-

ਦਸਤਾਰ ਕੇਵਲ ਸਿੱਖਾਂ ਦਾ ਧਾਰਮਿਕ ਚਿੰਨ੍ਹ ਹੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਬਲਕਿ ਉਹਨਾਂ ਦੀ ਨਿਆਰੀ ਅਤੇ ਵੱਖਰੀ ਪਹਿਚਾਣ ਦਾ ਚਿੰਨ੍ਹ ਵੀ ਹੈ। ਵਿਸ਼ਵ-ਪੱਧਰ 'ਤੇ ਸਿੱਖ ਦੀ ਪਹਿਚਾਣ ਦਸਤਾਰ ਵਾਲੇ ਮਨੁੱਖ ਦੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਥਾਪਤ ਹੋ ਚੁੱਕੀ ਹੈ, ਜਿਸਤੋਂ ਦੁਨੀਆਂ ਦਾ ਕੋਈ ਆਦਮੀ ਮੁਨਕਰ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੋ ਸਕਦਾ। ਕਈ ਬਾਹਰਲੇ ਮੁਲਕਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਕੇਵਲ ਦਸਤਾਰ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੀ ਸਿੱਖਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਡਰਾਈਵਿੰਗ ਅਤੇ ਫੈਕਟਰੀਆਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਆ ਟੋਪ ਪਾਉਣ ਤੋਂ ਛੋਟ ਮਿਲੀ ਹੋਈ ਹੈ। ਕਿਉਂਕਿ ਸਿੱਖ ਧਰਮ ਸਾਬਤ ਸੂਰਤ ਦਸਤਾਰ ਸਿਰਾ ਦਾ ਧਾਰਨੀ ਹੈ, ਇਸ ਲਈ ਪ੍ਰਵਾਨਤ ਸਿੱਖ ਰਹਿਤ ਮਰਯਾਦਾ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਸਿੱਖ ਲਈ ਸਾਬਤ ਸੂਰਤ ਰਹਿਣਾ ਧਾਰਮਿਕ ਫਰਜ਼ ਹੈ। ਰਹਿਤ ਮਰਯਾਦਾ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਰੋਮਾਂ ਦੀ ਬੇਅਦਬੀ ਬੱਜਰ ਕੁਰਹਿਤ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਲਈ ਸਿੱਖ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਦਾਹੜੀ ਕੇਸ ਰੱਖਣੇ ਅਤੇ ਦਸਤਾਰ ਸਜਾਉਣੀ ਲਾਜ਼ਮੀ ਹੈ, ਜਿਸਨੂੰ ਦੁਨੀਆਂ ਭਰ ਦੇ ਮੁਲਕਾਂ ਨੇ ਪ੍ਰਵਾਨਿਆ ਹੈ। ਦਸਤਾਰਧਾਰੀ ਸਿੱਖ ਅੱਜ ਦੁਨੀਆਂ ਦੇ ਕੋਨੇ ਕੋਨੇ ਵਿੱਚ ਰੋਜ਼ਮਰਾ ਜ਼ਿੰਦਗੀ, ਬਿਨਾਂ ਰੋਕ ਟੋਕ, ਅਮਨ ਚੈਨ ਨਾਲ ਬਤੀਤ ਕਰ ਰਿਹਾ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਦਸਤਾਰਧਾਰੀ ਮਨੁੱਖ ਦੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿੱਚ ਹੀ ਦੁਨੀਆਂ ਦੇ ਕੋਨੇ ਕੋਨੇ ਵਿੱਚ ਡਾਕਟਰ, ਵਕੀਲ, ਇੰਜਨੀਅਰ ਅਤੇ ਨੇਤਾ ਦੇ ਤੌਰ 'ਤੇ ਵਿਚਰ ਰਿਹਾ ਹੈ। ਭਾਰਤ ਵਿੱਚ ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ਾਂ ਦੇ ਰਾਜ ਸਮੇਂ ਫੌਜਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਿੱਖ ਸਿਪਾਹੀ ਅਤੇ ਅਫਸਰ ਲਈ ਸਾਬਤ ਸੂਰਤ ਦਸਤਾਰਧਾਰੀ ਰਹਿਣਾ ਲਾਜ਼ਮੀ ਸੀ। ਸੰਸਾਰ ਯੁੱਧਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਵੀ ਫੌਜੀ ਸਿੱਖ ਦਸਤਾਰਧਾਰੀ ਮਨੁੱਖ ਦੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿੱਚ ਹੀ ਲੜੇ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਫਰਾਂਸ ਲਈ ਵੀ ਜੂਝੇ। ਪਰ ਅਫਸੋਸ ਦੀ ਗੱਲ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਅੱਜ ਫਰਾਂਸ ਵਿੱਚ ਹੀ ਸਕੂਲੀ ਬੱਚਿਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਦਸਤਾਰ ਸਜਾਉਣ ਦੇ ਬੁਨਿਆਦੀ ਅਤੇ ਧਾਰਮਿਕ ਹੱਕ ਤੋਂ ਮਹਿਰੂਮ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾ ਰਿਹਾ ਹੈ। ਦੁਨੀਆਂ ਭਰ ਤੋਂ ਇਸ ਵਿਰੁੱਧ ਕੀਤੀਆਂ ਗਈਆਂ ਅਪੀਲਾਂ ਦਲੀਲਾਂ ਦੀ ਪਰਵਾਹ ਨਾ ਕਰਦਿਆਂ ਸਿੱਖ ਬੱਚਿਆਂ ਦੇ ਦਸਤਾਰ ਸਜਾਉਣ ਤੇ ਪਾਬੰਦੀ ਆਇਦ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ। ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁ:ਪ੍ਰ:ਕਮੇਟੀ ਦਾ ਅੱਜ ਦਾ ਜਨਰਲ ਅਜਲਾਸ ਇਸ ਨਵੇਂ ਕਾਨੂੰਨ ਤੇ ਮੁੜ ਨਜ਼ਰਸਾਨੀ ਦੀ ਮੰਗ ਕਰਦਾ ਹੋਇਆ ਭਾਰਤ ਸਰਕਾਰ, ਅੰਤਰ-ਰਾਸ਼ਟਰੀ ਸੰਗਠਨਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਮਨੁੱਖੀ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਸੰਗਠਨਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਅਪੀਲ ਕਰਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਫਰਾਂਸ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਿੱਖ ਬੱਚਿਆਂ ਦੇ ਦਸਤਾਰ ਸਜਾਉਣ 'ਤੇ ਲਾਈ ਗਈ ਪਾਬੰਦੀ ਵਾਪਸ ਲੈਣ ਲਈ ਫਰਾਂਸ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਨੂੰ ਪ੍ਰੇਰਿਆ ਜਾਵੇ।

ਦਫਤਰ:- ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ,

ਤੇਜਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਸਮੁੰਦਰੀ ਹਾਲ, ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ।

ਨੰਬਰ 27082

ਮਿਤੀ 30-3-05

ਉਤਾਰਾ:-

1. ਸਕੱਤਰ ਸਾਹਿਬ, ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁ: ਪ੍ਰ: ਕਮੇਟੀ।
2. ਐਡੀ: ਸਕੱਤਰ ਜੀ (ਟਰੱਸਟ) ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁ: ਪ੍ਰ: ਕਮੇਟੀ।
3. ਇੰਚਾਰਜ ਜੀ ਪਬਲੀਸਿਟੀ, ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁ: ਪ੍ਰ: ਕਮੇਟੀ।
4. ਸੁਪਰਵਾਈਜਰ, ਰੀਕਾਰਡ ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁ: ਪ੍ਰ: ਕਮੇਟੀ।

(ਦਲਮੇਘ ਸਿੰਘ)

ਸਕੱਤਰ

ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ
ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ।

22020
1-7-05

Shri Natwar Singh Ji,
Hon'ble Minister For External Affairs,
Govt. of India,
New Delhi.

Sub : Sikh Delegation to France

Dear Sir,

While drawing you honour's attention to our representations regarding ban on Sikh turban in Govt. schools of France, I have the honour to state that the Sikh diaspora is greatly perturbed over this denial of human right to Sikhs in France. I feel that French Govt. is totally ignorant of the importance of turban for a Sikh. The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee which bears the responsibility to tackle any crisis relating to Sikh identity, has earnestly called-upon the French Govt. to lift the ban, but to no effect.

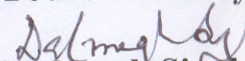
Despite our repeated requests to French as well as your Govt., the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee is yet to receive the requisite permission to send a delegation of intellectuals and lawyers to convince the Govt. of France in the wake of religious obligations to withdraw the restrictions on the students studying the Govt. schools of France. This office is thronged with innumerable representations and telephone calls requiring a prompt action in the matter.

You are, therefore, once again requested to kindly get approval enabling SGPC to send the delegation without further delay in consultation with the French High Commissioner, in India or the Govt. of France.

Thanking you,



Yours faithfully,


(Dalmegh Singh)

Secretary,

Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee,
Sri Amritsar.



Tele. Address :-
"SHIROMANI"

ੴ ਸਤਿਗੁਰੂ ਜੀ ਕੀ ਫਤਹ ॥

2553957
2553958
2553959

Fax :-0183-2553919

Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee,

Teja Singh Samundri Hall, SRI AMRITSAR.

No. 92020

AMRITSAR... 1-7-05

Shri Natwar Singh Ji,
Hon'ble Minister For External Affairs,
Govt. of India,
New Delhi.

Sub : Sikh Delegation to France

Dear Sir,

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You are, therefore, once again requested to kindly get approval enabling SGPC to send the delegation without further delay in consultation with the French High Commissioner, in India or the Govt. of France.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Dalmech Singh
(Dalmech Singh)

22021

1-7-05

S. Manmohan Singh Ji,
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India,
New Delhi.

Sub : Sikh Delegation to France

Dear Sir,

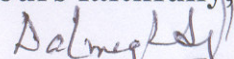
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9/c You are, therefore, once again requested to kindly get approval enabling SGPC to send the delegation without further delay in consultation with the French High Commissioner, in India or the Govt. of France.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,


(Dalmegh Singh)

Secretary,

Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee,
Sri Amritsar.

76
Respected Sardar

I have the honour to once again draw your kind attention to the burning issue of Sikh turban in France. The reports (photo copies attached) appearing in a section of the press testify to the fact that the issue of turban remains unresolved in France and turbaned students continue to be denied entry to class rooms. The Sikh Diaspora has strongly condemned the inexorable stand taken by French Govt., despite our numerous pleas explaining the mandatory nature of turban as a Sikh wear under religious dress code. While U.S.A., Canada and England have shown their deep appreciation of the significance of Sikh religious symbols like turban and small-sword, the most recent instance of such liberalness being the permission by a New York school to wear small sword, the Govt. of France refuses to budge even under strong pressure.

I would like to add here as quite relevant to the context that the Sikh community is under a strong apprehension that French President who weilds a great influence with European Union, may have such a ban on turban introduced in E.U. constitution which is in the process of formulation. If it so happens, it would open a Pandora's Box for Sikhs.

You are therefore, requested to again exert diplomatic pressure on France to review the ban on turban in the larger interest of Sikh community.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Bibi Jagir Kaur)

Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji,
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India,
New Delhi.

Encl: As stated (three)

CC: To Shri Natwar Singh Ji, Hon'ble Minister for External Affairs, Govt. of India,
New Delhi for information & necessary action.

ੴ ਵਾਹਿਗੁਰੂ ਜੀ ਕੀ ਫਤਹ ॥



Office : { 2553950
2553957
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2553959
Fax : 2553919
Website : www.sgpc.net
E-mail : sgpc@vsnl.com

Harjit Singh

Personal Secretary to President

Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee,
Sri Amritsar.

No. 50255

Date 23.6.05

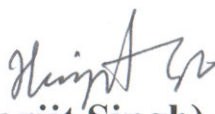
Respected Sardar Sahib Ji,

Wahaguru Ji Ka Khalsa,

Wahaguru Ji Ki Fateh,

I acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter dated 13-6-2005 addressed to our hon'ble President SGPC regarding the Bearing of religious Kirpan. This letter is being forwarded to department concerned for necessary action.

With best regards,


(Harjit Singh)

S.Kuldip Singh
Khalsa Shoping Complex
G.T.Road,Beri Brahmans,
Jammun(J&K)

C.c:- Supervisor Ji Trust for necessary action.

Bibi Jagir Kaur
President



Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee,
Sri Amritsar.

Turban in France

The turban, as you know, is not merely a religious symbol of the Sikhs but a symbol of their independent and distinct identity too which has long been asserted and acknowledged throughout the world. The Sikh community takes light and guidance, in determining their way of living, from their Holy Scripture i.e. Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji which ordains the Sikhs to keep their appearances intact. They are required to keep their beard and hair untrimmed / unshorn and wear turban. A number of quotations can be cited from Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji to this effect. The Sikh students studying in the Govt. schools in France have been denied admission with their turbans and without caring for the collective efforts and appeals from all over the world with special mention to Govt. of India, have been shown the door. The Sikhs, you know, have proved their loyalty, integrity, bravery, commitment as well as their existence as law abiding and hard working community. So much so they have fought defending France in the world war with their turbans on their heads. Sikh history is replete with such examples where the Sikhs had preferred getting their heads being chopped off than allowing any tyrant or so called ruler touching their hair and turban. Enclosing herewith a copy of the resolution unanimously passed by the General House of SGPC dated 23-09-2004, I would request you, on behalf of the entire Sikh community to press upon the Govt. of France to withdraw the restriction imposed upon the Sikh students studying in the Govt. schools of France.

Granthis & Sewadars to Sikh Shrines in Bangladesh

There are three historical Sikh Shrines in Bangladesh related to Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji, the founder of Sikhism. They are not merely the places of worship but a history concretized which we owe to the next generations. But due to lack of maintenance, repair and renovation we are going to loose them for which we shall be answerable to the future generations. To resume the conducting of daily services at these shrines and proper upkeep and maintenance, we request you to kindly get permission to SGPC for deputing Granthis and Sewadars and also Kar Sewa of these Shrines in consultation with the Govt. of Bangladesh. A unanimous resolution, passed by the General House of SGPC, to this effect, is being enclosed.

Allowing entry to India,

In the aftermaths of Army action on Sri Harimandir Sahib Complex in 1984 and the state terror let loose on the Punjabi especially the Sikh youths under the black laws, many of them managed to flee abroad. Now, when the normalcy have returned to Punjab, they yearn to come to India but entry to them is not being allowed. We, therefore, urge upon you to kindly ask the concerned Ministry to review their case sympathetically and allow them to join their families. We shall be obliged for this favour.

ੴ ਵਾਗਿਗੁਰੂ ਜੀ ਕੀ ਫਤਹ ॥

Offi : 0183-2553950

Fax : 0183-2553919

Bibi Jagir Kaur
President



Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee,
Sri Amritsar.

ਜਪੀਤ ਪੰਨਾ

21456

7-6-05

Respected, Shri Natwar Singh Ji,

While expressing our gratefulness to you for your quick response to our correspondence and lending very attentive ear to our requests concerning most sensitive issues related to Sikh community, I take the liberty to enclose herewith a copies of the resolutions unanimously passed by the General House of Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) Sri Amritsar regarding Turban issue in France and historical Sikh shrines in Bengla Desh as well as Punjabis, especially the Sikhs who have been black listed and are being denied entry in India, seeking your immediate intervention, as these are matters of far-reaching consequences.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

Bibi Jagir Kaur
(Bibi Jagir Kaur)

Shri Natwar Singh Ji,
Hon'ble Minister for External Affairs,
New Delhi.

o/c

VPO Begowal, Teh. Bhulath, Distt. Kapurthala. Ph.: 01822-248051, 01822-248151

Website : www.sgpc.net

email : sgpc@vsnl.com

68
REGISTERED A.D.

S. Manmohan Singh Ji,
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India,
Govt. of India,
New Delhi.

21325
31-5-05

Sub : Ban on turban in France

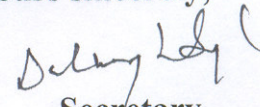
Dear Sir,

I have the honour to state that the General House of General House of Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC), Sri Amritsar has passed resolution No. 267 on 29-03-2005 calling upon the Govt. of India, all international organizations and human rights organisation to exert their pressure on French Govt. to withdraw the ban on turban, as it encroaches upon the religious freedom of the Sikh community there.

You are, therefore, again requested to wield diplomatic skills to prevail upon that Govt. to lift the ban on turban in the larger interest of the Sikhs.

With best regards,

o/c
Yours sincerely,



Secretary,
Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee,
Sri Amritsar.

21299

28-5-05

Hon'ble Mr. Low Philippe,

I have the honour to submit that we are feeling extremely concerned about the difficulties being faced by Sikh citizens living in France, as a sequel to the new French legislation banning the entry of Sikh students sporting a turban in schools. The Sikhs world-over have felt greatly agitated, with the result that this office has been flooded with requests from Sikhs living the various countries for our immediate intervention to explain the case of turban and Sikh religious sensitivities related to it, to your esteemed Govt. We are the most representative elected organization and an apex body of Sikh Gurdwara (Church). The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Amritsar is elected Religious Parliament of Sikhs (Golden Temple Complex) and is very much obsessed with the difficulties that our co-religionists are facing in the democratic republic of France.

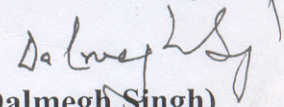
Since the wearing of turban for a Sikh is religiously mandatory and unique and is basically different from the similar head-gears of the various communities, so it does not at all stand for any fundamentalist, radical or communal creed but is an integral part of Sikh religion and personality.

There are a lot of facts which we would like to bring to your kind notice at a face to face meeting with the Govt. representatives.

In this context we propose to send a high-powered Sikh delegation to meet your representatives so that we can have a dialogue and understanding of each-other's position to arrive at a respectable solution of the issue. We would be grateful if you kindly grant us an audience between 7-15 June. We shall, now, look forward to an intimation of a suitable date for the above-said purpose.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Dalmegh Singh)

o/c
Mr. Low Philippe,
Secretary General,
Elysee palace,

55, Avenue de la Saint-Henri, 75006 Paris

66

21292
28-5-05

Hon'ble Mr. President,

I have the honour to submit that we are feeling extremely concerned about the difficulties being faced by Sikh citizens living in France, as a sequel to the new French legislation banning the entry of Sikh students sporting a turban in schools. The Sikhs world-over have felt greatly agitated, with the result that this office has been flooded with requests from Sikhs living the various countries for our immediate intervention to explain the case of turban and Sikh religious sensitivities related to it, to your esteemed Govt. We are the most representative elected organization and an apex body of Sikh Gurdwara (Church). The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Amritsar is elected Religious Parliament of Sikhs (Golden Temple Complex) and is very much obsessed with the difficulties that our co-religionists are facing in the democratic republic of France.

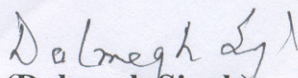
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
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With best regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Dalmegh Singh)


His Excellency Mr. President of the Republic,
Elysee palace.

65

21291
28-5-05

Hon'ble M. Le Premier Ministre,

I have the honour to submit that we are feeling extremely concerned about the difficulties being faced by Sikh citizens living in France, as a sequel to the new French legislation banning the entry of Sikh students sporting a turban in schools. The Sikhs world-over have felt greatly agitated, with the result that this office has been flooded with requests from Sikhs living the various countries for our immediate intervention to explain the case of turban and Sikh religious sensitivities related to it, to your esteemed Govt. We are the most representative elected organization and an apex body of Sikh Gurdwara (Church). The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Amritsar is elected Religious Parliament of Sikhs (Golden Temple Complex) and is very much obsessed with the difficulties that our co-religionists are facing in the democratic republic of France.

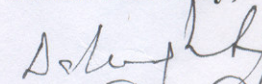
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With best regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Dalmegh Singh)

His Excellency M. Le Premier minister,
Hotel de Matignon,

64

21294
28-5-05

Hon'ble

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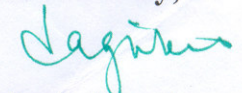
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With best regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Bibi Jagir Kaur)

o/c
His Excellency Mr. Jaque Chirac,
President,
Govt. of France,
Paris.

63

21293

28-5-05

Hon'ble

I have the honour to submit that we are feeling extremely concerned about the difficulties being faced by Sikh citizens living in France, as a sequel to the new French legislation banning the entry of Sikh students sporting a turban in schools. The Sikhs world-over have felt greatly agitated, with the result that this office has been flooded with requests from Sikhs living the various countries for our immediate intervention to explain the case of turban and Sikh religious sensitivities related to it, to your esteemed Govt. We are the most representative elected organization and an apex body of Sikh Gurdwara (Church). The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Amritsar is elected Religious Parliament of Sikhs (Golden Temple Complex) and is very much obsessed with the difficulties that our co-religionists are facing in the democratic republic of France.


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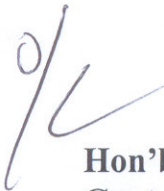
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With best regards,

Yours Sincerely,


(Bibi Jagir Kaur)


Hon'ble Secretary to President,
Govt. of France,
Paris.

21298
28-5-05

Hon'ble Michel Blangy,

I have the honour to submit that we are feeling extremely concerned about the difficulties being faced by Sikh citizens living in France, as a sequel to the new French legislation banning the entry of Sikh students sporting a turban in schools. The Sikhs world-over have felt greatly agitated, with the result that this office has been flooded with requests from Sikhs living the various countries for our immediate intervention to explain the case of turban and Sikh religious sensitivities related to it, to your esteemed Govt. We are the most representative elected organization and an apex body of Sikh Gurdwara (Church). The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Amritsar is elected Religious Parliament of Sikhs (Golden Temple Complex) and is very much obsessed with the difficulties that our co-religionists are facing in the democratic republic of France.

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With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Dalmegh Singh)

o/k
Michel Blangy,
Principal Private Secretary,

21297
28-5-05

Hon'ble Mr. Fredric Salat Baroux,

I have the honour to submit that we are feeling extremely concerned about the difficulties being faced by Sikh citizens living in France, as a sequel to the new French legislation banning the entry of Sikh students sporting a turban in schools. The Sikhs world-over have felt greatly agitated, with the result that this office has been flooded with requests from Sikhs living the various countries for our immediate intervention to explain the case of turban and Sikh religious sensitivities related to it, to your esteemed Govt. We are the most representative elected organization and an apex body of Sikh Gurdwara (Church). The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Amritsar is elected Religious Parliament of Sikhs (Golden Temple Complex) and is very much obsessed with the difficulties that our co-religionists are facing in the democratic republic of France.

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With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Dalmegh Singh)

Mr. Frederic Salat Baroux,
Associated Secretary General,
Elysee palace,
55, street of the Saint-House suburb,

o/c

21296
28-5-05

Hon'ble Maurice Gourdault Montagne,

I have the honour to submit that we are feeling extremely concerned about the difficulties being faced by Sikh citizens living in France, as a sequel to the new French legislation banning the entry of Sikh students sporting a turban in schools. The Sikhs world-over have felt greatly agitated, with the result that this office has been flooded with requests from Sikhs living the various countries for our immediate intervention to explain the case of turban and Sikh religious sensitivities related to it, to your esteemed Govt. We are the most representative elected organization and an apex body of Sikh Gurdwara (Church). The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Amritsar is elected Religious Parliament of Sikhs (Golden Temple Complex) and is very much obsessed with the difficulties that our co-religionists are facing in the democratic republic of France.

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With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Dalmegh Singh)

Hon'ble Maurice Gourdault Montagne,
Diplomatic Advisor.

59

21295

28-5-05

E-mail: dolmehsingh@gmail.com

Hon'ble Annie Lheritier,

I have the honour to submit that we are feeling extremely concerned about the difficulties being faced by Sikh citizens living in France, as a sequel to the new French legislation banning the entry of Sikh students sporting a turban in schools. The Sikhs world-over have felt greatly agitated, with the result that this office has been flooded with requests from Sikhs living the various countries for our immediate intervention to explain the case of turban and Sikh religious sensitivities related to it, to your esteemed Govt. We are the most representative elected organization and an apex body of Sikh Gurdwara (Church). The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Amritsar is elected Religious Parliament of Sikhs (Golden Temple Complex) and is very much obsessed with the difficulties that our co-religionists are facing in the democratic republic of France.

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With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Dalmegh Singh
(Dalmegh Singh)

Hon'ble Annie Lheritier,
Principal Private Secretary

21262

26-5-05

His Excellency Mr. Jaque Chirac,
President,
Govt. of France,
Paris.

Sub: The visit by a Sikh delegation to France on turban issue

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to submit that we are feeling extremely concerned about the difficulties being faced by Sikh citizens living in France, as a sequel to the new French legislation banning the entry of Sikh students sporting a turban in schools. The Sikhs world-over have felt greatly agitated, with the result that this office has been flooded with requests from Sikhs living the various countries for our immediate intervention to explain the case of turban and Sikh religious sensitivities related to it, to your esteemed Govt. We are the most representative elected organization and an apex body of Sikh Gurdwara (Church). The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Amritsar is elected Religious Parliament of Sikhs (Golden Temple Complex) and is very much obsessed with the difficulties that our co-religionists are facing in the democratic republic of France.

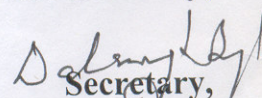
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With best regards,

Yours faithfully,


Secretary,

Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee,
Sri Amritsar, Punjab (India)



Tele. Address :-
"SHIROMANI"

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Fax :-0183-2553919

Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee,

Teja Singh Samundri Hall, SRI AMRITSAR.

No. 11263

AMRITSAR 26-5-05

Hon'ble Secretary to President,
Govt. of France,
Paris.

Sub: The visit by a Sikh delegation to France on turban issue

Dear Sir,

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