

**MALVINDER SINGH KANG**

Member of Parliament,  
(Lok Sabha)  
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**Date 26/10/2025**

To

Prof. Dr. Renu Vig,  
Vice-Chancellor,  
Panjab University,  
Chandigarh.

**Subject: Urgent Request for Approval of Seminar Commemorating the 350th Martyrdom Anniversary of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji.**

Respected Madam Vice-Chancellor,

As an alumnus of the esteemed Panjab University, having had the honor of serving as President of the Students' Council twice and as a former Senate member, I write to you with a profound sense of responsibility and deep concern. I have been approached by a students' organization, which has brought to my attention the unjustifiable denial of permission for a seminar dedicated to the 350th martyrdom anniversary of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji, the ninth Sikh Guru, whose supreme sacrifice stands as a beacon of justice, religious freedom, and human dignity. This event, scheduled for October 27, 2025, seeks to honor the Guru's unparalleled legacy—a legacy that resonates not only with the Sikh community but with all who cherish the values of sacrifice and liberty.

It is with dismay that I note the administration's decision to withhold approval for this seminar, citing alleged concerns about the participation of Sardar Ajmer Singh, a respected Sikh political analyst and scholar of international repute. The stated rationale—that Sardar Ajmer Singh is a "controversial figure" due to his past—lacks both merit and substance. For over three decades, Sardar Ajmer Singh has lived openly among the public, with no legal cases pending against him. His contributions to Sikh scholarship are widely acknowledged, and he has been invited to speak at numerous prestigious platforms, including universities across Punjab and beyond. To label such an individual as unfit to address a university audience is not only an affront to academic freedom but also a grave injustice to the spirit of intellectual discourse that Panjab University has long championed.

The denial of this seminar is not an isolated incident but part of a troubling pattern that threatens to stifle the vibrant Sikh heritage and the voices of Punjab's youth. The reported pressure on the students' organization to remove the photograph

of Shaheed Bhai Jaswant Singh Khalsa from the student council office further underscores this alarming trend. Such actions, if left unchecked, risk alienating the very community that has been the lifeblood of this institution, established on the sacred soil of Punjab. It is unconscionable that in a university founded to nurture the aspirations of Punjab's people, there appears to be a shrinking space for Sikh identity and expression.

Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji, revered as the "Hind di Chadar," laid down his life to protect the fundamental right to freedom of belief—a sacrifice that remains a cornerstone of India's pluralistic ethos. To commemorate his 350th martyrdom anniversary is not merely a religious obligation but a moral imperative to uphold the principles of justice and equality that he embodied. Denying permission for such an event undermines the very values that Panjab University, as a cradle of learning, is duty-bound to uphold.

In light of the above, I urge you, in your capacity as Vice-Chancellor, to immediately reconsider and grant approval for the proposed seminar. This is not only a matter of respecting the sentiments of the student community but also of safeguarding the university's legacy as a bastion of free thought and cultural pride. Let us not allow bureaucratic overreach or narrow considerations to cast a shadow over the radiant legacy of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji. I trust that under your stewardship, Panjab University will rise above these challenges and reaffirm its commitment to fostering an inclusive environment where every voice is heard, and every heritage is honored.

I earnestly request your personal intervention to ensure that this seminar proceeds as planned, thereby restoring faith in the university's dedication to academic freedom and cultural sensitivity. I am confident that your leadership will steer this institution toward a path that reflects the values of justice, compassion, and inclusivity that Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji stood for.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing matter. I await your positive response and stand ready to discuss this further, should the need arise.

Yours Sincerely,



**(Malvinder Singh Kang)**

Member of Parliament, Sri Anandpur Sahib  
Alumnus, Panjab University  
Former President, Panjab University Students'  
Council Former Senate Member, PB. University.

CC:

1. Dean of Student Welfare, Panjab University.
2. President, Students' Organization, Panjab University.