

Memorandum

17.11.2018

To,

**Sh. Narendra Modi,
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India,
New Delhi.**

Subject :- Request for a special corridor from Dera Baba Nanak to Gurudwara Kartarpur Sahib in Pakistan.

Dear Sh. Modi ji,

Punjab MLAs submit memorandum for special corridor from Dera Baba Nank to Gurdwara Kartarpur Sahib in Pakistan

Through this memorandum, the MLA's of Punjab - Sukhpal Singh Khaira MLA Bholath and Ex Leader of Opposition Punjab, Kanwar Singh MLA Kharar, Nazar Singh Masahia, Mansa, Jagdev Singh Kamalu, MLA Maur, Master Baldev Singh, MLA Jaito, Pirmal Singh Khalsa, LA Bahadur, Jagtar Singh Hissowal, MLA Raikot, Jai Singh Rori, MLA Garshankar - wish to bring to your notice a very popular demand of Sikh's and Punjabi's worldwide, for a special corridor from Dera Baba Nanak district Gurdaspur to Gurudwara Kartarpur Sahib in Pakistan.

Although all 'Guru Nanak naam leva' (followers of Guru Nanak Dev ji) across the globe have been vehemently demanding a permanent access to the said Gurudwara Kartarpur Sahib in Pakistan, where our first Guru spent 18 years of his life. This demand has further gathered momentum in view of the upcoming 550th birth anniversary celebrations in the next year of 2019.

The historical Gurudwara Kartarpur Sahib is situated just two miles across the international border, which the pilgrims can only see through high powered binoculars from an elevated platform erected at Dera Baba Nanak on the Indo-Pak border. Access and control of many such historic Gurudwaras including Nankana Sahib that have been left out of India after the partition, is a regular feature of our 'Ardaas' (daily prayer).

Needless to mention, the brave Sikh's and Punjabi's not only through their weight with India at the time of partition in 1947 but also played a very vital role and immensely contributed in its freedom struggle.

It is a matter of record, that almost 90 percent of our freedom fighters who went to gallows were Punjabi's. Similarly, they always remained in the forefront of our pre partition freedom struggles, Morcha's, courting arrests etc.

It is also pertinent to mention here, that the Sikh's and Punjabi's have left no stone unturned to continue sacrificing their lives even in the testing times of post partition, be it the wars with Pakistan, the Chinese aggression, Kargil war or while maintaining unity and integrity of India in internal aggressions as well.

Therefore, we all feel it would be a befitting magnanimous gesture on your part to return the above said contribution of the Punjabi's made to liberate India, by allowing a respectful passage for pilgrims worldwide to visit Gurudwara Kartarpur Sahib without any hindrance or legal hurdles, through the said corridor.

Sir, there has been an instance of even land swapping between India and Pakistan at Hussaniwala (Punjab) in 1962 for the cremation site of Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru.

This long standing demand for a corridor has recently got a boost from Mr. Imran Khan the newly elected Prime Minister of Pakistan, who has shown keen interest to allow the corridor. In fact as per information, the Pakistan government is also considering to issue coins in the name of Guru Nanak Dev ji, to commemorate his 550th birth celebrations.

We all are very sure that if bilateral talks are initiated with the Pakistan government at this point of time, they can bear fruit for a special corridor between Dera baba Nanak and Gurudwara Kartarpur Sahib. This step if taken will go a long way to not only ameliorate the sentiments of Sikh's, the followers of Guru Nanak Dev ji but all right thinking people of India. This magnanimous gesture of both the countries will further improve bilateral ties between India and Pakistan and will lay the stone of strong brotherhood, peace and progress between the people of both countries.

Therefore, we all beseech you to take up our burning demand for a special corridor with your counterpart in Pakistan, without any further delay. We would also appreciate if we are given an appointment with your goodself on this vital issue at the earliest.

Sukhpal Singh Khaira MLA Bholath and Ex Leader of Opposition Punjab, Kanwar Singh MLA Kharar, Nazar Singh Masahia, Mansa, Jagdev Singh Kamalu, MLA Maur, Master Baldev Singh, MLA Jaito, Pirmal Singh Khalsa, LA Bahadur, Jagtar Singh Hissowal, MLA Raikot, Jai Singh Rori, MLA Garshankar

With warm regards,

- 1. Sukhpal Singh Khaira, MLA Bholath and Ex Leader of Opposition, Punjab**
- 2. Kanwar Sandhu, MLA Kharar**
- 3. Nazar Singh Mansahia, MLA Mansa**
- 4. Jagdev Singh Kamalu, MLA Maur**

5. Master Baldev Singh, MLA Jaiton
6. Pirmal Singh Khalsa, MLA Bhadaur
7. Jagtar Singh Hissowal, MLA Raikot
8. Jai Singh Rori, MLA Garhshankar

Cc:-

1. Smt. Sushma Sawaraj, Minister for External Affairs, GOI
2. Sh. Arun Jaitley, Finance Minister, GOI