



INTERNATIONAL SIKH CONFEDERATION

ਅੰਤਰਰਾਸ਼ਟਰੀ ਸਿੱਖ ਸੰਗਠਨ

Ref No. ISC/GoPb/Act/24

Date: 18.05.2026

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S Bhagwant Singh Mann
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab
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Subject: Observations on the Jaagat Jot Sri Guru Granth Sahib Satkar (Amendment) Act, 2026

Respected S Bhagwant Mann ji,
Waheguru ji ka Khalsa Waheguru ji ki fateh

We write to place on record certain observations regarding the recently enacted *Jaagat Jot Sri Guru Granth Sahib Satkar (Amendment) Act, 2026*. While the intent of the legislation is understandable, but there are important procedural and substantive concerns that merit your kind attention:

- The Bill appears to have been passed without prior consultations with a number of prominent institutions, Sikh scholars, intellectuals, and the wider public. It was also not placed in the public domain for comments before introducing it in the Assembly. As a result, the Act lacks the benefit of collective wisdom and community consensus, which is essential for legislation of such profound religious and social significance.
- The original Act of 2008 was concerned with regulating the printing and publication of Sri Guru Granth Sahib *ji*. The present amendment, however, will now also involve police investigations, court hearings, etc., the procedures of which may lead to issues of *maryada*.
- The lack of precise definitions of key words is likely to lead to confusion and wrong interpretation(s).

We, therefore, respectfully suggest that before any 'rules to carry out the purposes of this Act' are framed under Section 6A of the Amended Act, the Draft Rules be placed in the public domain for views, and wide consultations be held with all the Stakeholders.

To ensure confidence of the entire Sikh community, it is strongly recommended that special courts be constituted, where *maryada* may be ensured for such trials, and strict timelines be defined for a time-bound delivery of justice.

With regards,

Dr Birendra Kaur
Secretary General