



VIKRAMJIT SINGH SAHNEY
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(RAJYA SABHA)

August 11, 2023

Respected Narendra Modi Jee,

I am writing this letter to seek attention of your goodself on a very important issue pertaining to Sikhs and the state of Jammu & Kashmir. The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2023 was introduced by the Union government in the Lok Sabha on July 26th, 2023. The bill seeks to amend the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act 2019 and reserve two seats for Kashmiri migrants and one seat for displaced people from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) in the Union territory's legislative assembly. These members will be nominated by the L-G, according to the provisions of the bill.

At the onset I would like to express my gratitude to your goodself for taking the historical decision of abrogation of Article 370 and make Kashmir a more inclusive and eternal part of India, along with it this proposal of reserving three seats for Kashmiri Migrants and one for displaced people from POK is also very constructive and positive.

But I would like to make a humble appeal to your goodself that Sikhs have been living in the Valley for hundreds of years now and they have equally suffered the pain and grief as any other minority community in the Vally. As of today there are more than 3 lakh Sikhs residing in Jammu & Kashmir.

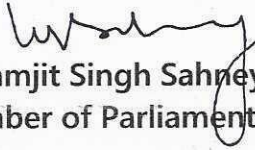
In fact history tells us that post-Independence in 1947 when Kashmir was first attacked by Kabailis, the first vanguard to face that brutal attack were Sikhs, the biggest number of sacrifices given by a community then was Sikhs only.

As a matter of fact, Sikhs did not left Kashmir valley during the haunting exodus of 1990s notwithstanding that Sikhs are the only community in world who can be identified by their external appearance itself. It was because of Sikhs that plurality was remaining their in the Kashmir Valley.

Now, when government is coming up with a proposal for reserving three seats, we should not forget the valour and contribution of Sikh community in making and safeguarding of the state of Jammu & Kashmir. We as a nation are obliged to provide fair share and representation to the Sikh Population of Jammu and Kashmir.

Hence, I would like to make this humble submission to your goodself that we should include reservation of two seats for Sikh community as well along with the proposed three reserved seats to provide Social Justice to Sikhs

With Warmest Regards



Vikramjit Singh Sahney, Padma Shri
Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha

Sh. Narendra Modi Ji
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India