Sikh Federation (UK)

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Pressure on UK Government to bring tortured British national home following his release from prison after 9 years of arbitrary detention

London – 1 October 2026

Jagtar Singh Johal was released earlier today from prison on bail after spending nearly 9 years in arbitrary detention in an Indian jail.

The UK government is under pressure to use diplomatic efforts to reunite Jagtar with his wife and family in Scotland.

Indian prosecutors in the last 9 years have been unable to produce any evidence to convict Jagtar. He was granted bail by the Delhi High Court on 18 September, but his release was delayed due to administrative issues and an audacious last minute attempt by the Indian government to interfere and override the court decision.

Dabinderjit Singh OBE, the Chief Executive for political engagement at the Sikh Federation (UK) said:

"We have been in regular communications with the UK government since the Delhi High Court decision to grant Jagtar bail.

"Given the high-profile, international nature of Jagtar's case we are disappointed British High Commission officials were absent today when Jagtar was released to provide on-the-ground support and protection from media scrutiny given the bail conditions.

"The first priority for the British High Commission must be to ensure Jagtar's safety and security after being released. We have therefore pushed for this to be addressed as a matter of urgency."

"There are clear grounds for diplomatic intervention by the UK government to push for charges against Jagtar to be dropped so he can return to the UK.

"We have shared confidential information the UK government can use to negotiate Jagtar's speedy return to be reunited with his wife and family in Scotland."

ENDS

Kuldeep Singh
Chief Executive (Administration)
Sikh Federation (UK)