



19<sup>th</sup> December 2014

# Sikh Council expresses concerns on SIT report in Jodhpur case

The Sikh Council has today expressed concerns with the report into the burning of Saroop of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji in Jodhpur In Punjab India produced by the Special Investigation Team which has concluded that the fire started due to an electric short-circuit in the Gurdwara.

The Sikh Council UKs Chair of Indian-subcontinent Affairs Committee Gurdial Singh Atwal said "The SIT report is contradictory with the previous reported comments made by local police officials that the incident was the result of a deliberate and targeted act of desecration and arson by a group of individuals in relation to whom all efforts would be made to apprehend them".

Vice Chair of the Indian Sub-Continent Affairs Committee Jarnail Singh Dhaliwal added "This is not the first time a suspicious fire inside of a Gurdwara and burning of Saroop of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji in Punjab in recent times has sought to be explained by the occurrence of an electrical fault. We call for a detailed and independent investigation to be conducted into the matter and for all the relevant evidence to be preserved in the interim".

**END**

## Notes for Editors

The Sikh Council UK is the largest representative body of Sikhs in the UK. We are recognised as the national advocate for British Sikhs in the United Kingdom and at the European Union.

### **For further information, please contact:**

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