

Chittisinghpora Sikhs' Massacre: CBI Probe demanded

Former Chief Election Commissioner and MP, M.S Gill has called for a 'complete and comprehensive' investigation into the massacre of Sikhs in Chittisinghpora.

"The massacre was one of the most gruesome incidents in our country's history. Now that it has been proved that the five Kashmiris killed by the Army were not responsible for the act, the question arises as to who was behind the massacre?" Why has there been no CBI inquiry into the massacre, timed to coincide with US President Bill Clinton's visit to India?" asked Gill.

He asked as to why, if the state government could call for a CBI probe into the deaths of five youths who are held responsible for the killings, a similar probe could not be ordered into the massacre itself? "Did the death of five people outweigh that of 40 others that no need for a CBI inquiry was felt?" "It is strange that the Sikh minority in the state of J&K was targeted for the first time when it had remained largely untouched by militancy over decades. How did the Sikhs get on the wrong side of the militants all of a sudden? Why has the role of the army and the state police not been examined in the case?"

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Eminent Scholar Prof. Shamsheer Singh Honoured

Dr. Shamsheer Singh, formerly of the Deptt. of Sri Guru Granth Sahib, Punjabi University, has been conferred the honorific of "Bharat Jyoti Award" by India International Friendship Society, New Delhi, for his contribution to scholastic and research inputs as a long time teacher and writer.

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Veteran Sikh Athlete on a winning spree in USA

Dr. Jaswant Singh Sachdev, MD reports from Phoenix, Arizona (USA):

With a splendid grey beard and turban, the veteran Sikh athlete from Chandigarh S. Gurdev Singh, became the talk of the sports event last June at Mesa, Arizona. He was awarded one Gold and four Silver Medals in the GRAND CANYON STATE ATHLETIC GAMES at the track and field of Mesa Community College in Mesa, Arizona. He arrived in Arizona along with senior sportsman S. Surinderpal Singh of Corona, (California) to take part in this event. By proudly displays his collection of fourteen medals in his both hands and around his neck that he had won at different meets all over the world, Mr. Gurdev Singh proved his point of nurturing a young heart despite his chronological age. There were only two Sikhs and no other Indian in these events and both of them turned out to be the winners. To win was nothing unusual for this 68 years old Sikh, a life time sprinter, because athletics has been in his blood. The other Sikh Surinderpal Singh also ended up winning a medal.

About two years ago, S. Gurdev Singh took part in several events in Hartford (Connecticut) winning one Gold and three silver medals. In the Annual Can-Sikh Event in Toronto, he earned one gold and two Silver medals. In the world Master Games of 2005 in Edmonton Canada, an event held once in four years, 21,000 athletes from 82 countries participated where again at the age of 67 he won Laurels. In the present event in Arizona, Gurdev Singh was awarded Gold Medal for achieving the first position in 3K for the senior group of 65-70 years old. Additional four Silver Medals came his way for second positions in 100 M, 200 M, Long Jump and High Jump. It sounded as if the day and event belonged to this lone Sikh

amongst all the other Americans.

Through his sporting achievements, medals, Mr. Singh carried a strong message for the Diaspora. In an interview with the writer, he stated, 'We, a group of senior Sikh athletes from India, are planning to establish a Sikh Sport Complex in Anandpur Sahib, India on a piece of land of Khalsa School presently under Chief Khalsa Diwan. This training facility of track and field will meet modern international standards. We will be seeking admission from 500 talented "Saabat Surat" Gursikh athletes desirous of living a Gursikh way of life as ordained by Guru Gobind Singh Ji in accordance with the concept of SANT SIPAI. The registered students will be exposed to the true Sikh principles through seminars and discussions.

The facilities will be available to others interested in Sports. S. Gurdev Singh was not asking for any cash, rather he sought donors who could directly pay to the company in Canada supplying equipment worth \$ 135,000 to this upcoming facility. He made a sincere appeal to the Diaspora youth to transform themselves into world class athletes by availing the abundant facilities of the western countries. By such efforts, they could also fulfill Guru Gobind Singh Ji's legacy in bringing a good name to Sikh faith and Indian heritage'. What a lofty message! Contact Gurdev: seniorgames2005@yahoo.com

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