



KHALISTAN EXTREMISM MONITOR

NEWSLETTER



Spotlight

Punjab Police continued to implement proactive measures aimed at mitigating the growing criminal networks intertwined with gangsterism, terrorism, and drug trafficking within the state. During March 2024, the Khalistan Extremism Monitor (KEM) collected data indicating that 63 individuals were apprehended due to their affiliations with Khalistani terrorist organizations or organized criminal networks in Punjab. An additional 80 individuals were arrested in relation to drug-recovery related incidents during the month. Security forces also confiscated eight drones that were utilized for the illicit smuggling of arms and narcotics across the Pakistan-India border in Punjab.

The month in review

Amidst the preparations for the 2024 General Elections in India, pro-Khalistani elements abroad, particularly Sikhs For Justice (SFJ) and its chief Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, made significant efforts to interfere in India's internal politics, exploiting differences among various political factions and parties, particularly in the state of Punjab.

In a video message on March 25, Gurpatwant Singh Pannun alleged that the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) had purportedly received USD 16 million from Khalistani groups between 2014 and 2022. Pannun further contended that, during a 2014 meeting in New York, Delhi Chief Minister (CM) Arvind Kejriwal allegedly offered to facilitate the release of imprisoned Khalistani terrorist Devinder Pal Singh Bhullar in exchange for financial support. These claims extend Pannun's earlier assertion in January 2024 that Kejriwal and Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann accepted USD 6 million from Khalistan sympathizers. AAP, however, has denied all these allegations.

Further, Pannun issued a warning to Kejriwal, who is currently incarcerated in Tihar Jail, stating that Khalistani inmates in Tihar Jail would 'hold him responsible' for failing to fulfil his promises.





Earlier, on March 20, Pannun, issued a public threat to former Indian Ambassador to the US Taranjit Singh Sandhu, who had recently joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to contest the forthcoming election from the Amritsar Lok Sabha constituency. Pannun offered INR 25 lakh to anyone targeting Sandhu, accusing him of involvement in the assassination of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar.

On March 1, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma received a threatening call from a SFJ supporter regarding the alleged mistreatment of Khalistani activist Amritpal Singh, the self-proclaimed leader of Waris Punjab De (WPD), and his associates in Dibrugarh Jail, Assam. The caller, claiming to represent SFJ leader Pannun, demanded the transfer of Amritpal Singh and his associates to Amritsar Jail, and warned of 'consequences' for Chief Minister Sarma. Sarma downplayed the threat, stating that he did not fear Khalistanis.

Khalistani elements abroad continued to target Indian leaders and officials in Western countries. During his visit to the United Kingdom (UK) on March 1 to deliver a lecture at the Judge Business School, University of Cambridge, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi faced protests by Khalistani supporters. The demonstrators, led by Paramjit Singh Pamma, coordinator of the Khalistani SFJ in Europe, accused Gandhi of involvement in the 1984 anti-Sikh riots and the Amritsar killings. Despite efforts by the Cambridge University Police to block access to the protesters, Gandhi required a security escort from the UK Police to safely leave the premises.

India's High Commissioner to Ottawa, Canada, Sanjay Kumar Verma, faced challenging situations during his public events in Canada during March 2024, as pro-Khalistani protesters led by SFJ attempted to disrupt these events. During one such event on March 16 in Calgary, Alberta, where Verma was participating in a community gathering, Khalistanis used daggers and swords to vandalize the Indian flag, resulting in heightened tensions. Approximately two dozen pro-Khalistani elements, some wielding weapons, gathered across the street, while Verma's security was ensured by Global Affairs Canada and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

Interestingly, on March 13, Gurpatwant Singh Pannun issued threats against New Zealand's Deputy Prime Minister, Winston Peters, in response to Peters' questioning of claims linking India to the killing of Khalistan terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada. Although Winston Peters' remarks initially raised concerns, they were later clarified as being misinterpreted or taken out of context.

Although the jailed Khalistani preacher Amritpal Singh and his associates terminated their hunger strike in Dibrugarh Jail, Assam, on March 21, pro-Khalistani fringe groups in Punjab, particularly including Dal Khalsa and Shiromani Akali Dal-Amritsar (SAD-A), made efforts to exploit the issue against the backdrop of the impending general elections. Earlier, on March 6, Giani Raghbir Singh, the Jathedar of the Akal Takht, issued a warning to the government and administration, emphasizing potentially serious consequences if any harm were to come to Amritpal Singh and his family during their hunger strike.

However, the Punjab Government has decided to re-invoke the National Security Act (NSA) against Amritpal Singh and his nine associates as their one-year detention period under the NSA, initially applied by the Punjab Police, neared completion.

Meanwhile, gang activities and gang wars persisted in the state. In a shocking incident on March 17, a senior constable of Punjab Police's Crime Investigation Agency (CIA), Amritpal Singh, was shot dead by gangster Sukhwinder Singh aka Rana Mansoorpuria, during a raid in Hoshiarpur District. Earlier, the Police had offered a reward of INR 25,000 for information leading to Rana's capture. Subsequently, on March 18, Rana Mansoorpuria was fatally shot in an encounter with the Police near Purana Bhangala village in Hoshiarpur District, when he refused to surrender.

On March 4, a Jammu-based gangster, Rajesh Dogra aka Mohan Chir, was fatally shot by four individuals outside a shopping mall in Sector 67, Mohali, Sahibzada Ajit Singh (SAS) Nagar District, in what is suspected to be a fallout from an ongoing gang war. Police subsequently arrested five of the eight suspects, including two tainted cops, involved in the daylight shooting.





TOP NEWS



**Rahul Gandhi Targeted by
Khalistani Protesters at
University of Cambridge, UK**

Rahul Gandhi Targeted by Khalistani Protesters at University of Cambridge, UK

On March 1, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi faced protests by Khalistani supporters during his visit to the United Kingdom (UK) to deliver lectures at the Judge Business School, University of Cambridge, in Cambridge, UK. Protesters, led by Paramjit Singh Pamma, coordinator of the Khalistani outfit Sikhs For Justice (SFJ) in Europe, blamed Gandhi for the 1984 anti-Sikh riots and Amritsar killings. Despite Cambridge University Police preventing entry to the protestors, Gandhi required a security escort by UK Police to leave safely.

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US-based pro-Khalistani group issues fresh threat to Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma

On March 1, the Assam Police increased security for Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma following a phone threat issued by a member and supporter of the banned Khalistani outfit Sikhs For Justice (SFJ), regarding the alleged mistreatment of Amritpal Singh and his associates in Dibrugarh Jail in Assam. The caller demanded the transfer of jailed Amritpal Singh and his associates to Amritsar Jail, threatening consequences for the CM. The caller claimed that the message was being delivered at the behest of SFJ's Gurpatwant Singh Pannun.

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**Assam CM Himanta Biswa
Sarma**

SFJ protests disrupt event attended by Indian envoy to Canada

On March 1, India's High Commissioner to Ottawa, Sanjay Kumar Verma, faced tense circumstances during his meeting with a local trade board, as Khalistani protestors surrounded the venue in a protest organised by Sikhs For Justice (SFJ) in Surrey in the British Columbia province of Canada. The protestors, numbering close to 500, blocked entrances and raised separatist slogans, prompting a heavy police presence. Despite the disruptions, Verma described the event as successful.

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**SFJ protests disrupt event
attended by Indian envoy to
Canada**





**Khalistan terrorist
Gurpatwant Singh Pannun**

Khalistan terrorist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun hatches a conspiracy to incite farmers' protest

According to sources, Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, a Khalistani terrorist and the chief of the banned Khalistani outfit Sikhs for Justice (SFJ), is reportedly orchestrating a plan to incite violence within the farmer's movement in India. He allegedly encouraged supporters through text messages to take up arms against Indian security forces and revealed plans to smuggle weapons from Pakistan via Kartarpur and across the Rajasthan border. Pannun's scheme includes using social networks in the United States (US), Canada, Australia, and Pakistan to spread propaganda and destabilize the movement.

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'Rail roko' stir: SAD (A) Sangrur MP Simranjit Singh Mann under house arrest

On March 4, Shiromani Akali Dal - Amritsar (SAD-A) president and Sangrur Member of Parliament (MP), Simranjit Singh Mann, was confined to his residence at Baguana Enclave, in Sangrur, by the Police, amid the 'rail roko' agitation. The protest revolves around the demand for the release of 'Bandi Singhs' (Khalistani convicts in jail) and alleged atrocities against farmers.

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**'Rail roko' stir: SAD (A) Sangrur
MP Simranjit Singh Mann**

Akal Takht Jathedar warns of serious consequences in case of any loss of life to Amritpal Singh or his family members

Giani Raghbir Singh, Jathedar of Akal Takht in Amritsar, issued a warning to the government and administration on March 6, warning of 'serious consequences' if any harm befell Amritpal Singh and his family, who were on a hunger strike. Singh emphasized the lack of government response to the hunger strike, expressing concern about biased treatment and growing alienation among Sikhs. He also demanded the immediate transfer of Sikh detainees from Dibrugarh Jail in Assam to Punjab, citing deteriorating health due to the hunger strike.

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Akal Takht Jathedar warns of serious consequences in case of any loss of life to Amritpal Singh or his family members





**Sikh separatist leader
Gurpatwant Singh Pannun**

Sikh separatist leader Gurpatwant Singh Pannun puts out poster threatening Indian High Commissioner to Canada

Chief of the banned Sikhs For Justice (SFJ), Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, put out a poster on social media on March 6, calling for violence against the Indian High Commissioner to Canada, Sanjay Kumar Verma. This came after the India-Canada Chamber of Commerce announced Verma's participation in a networking event scheduled in Edmonton, Canada, on March 11.

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Two Babbar Khalsa International (BKI) operatives nabbed, planned targeted killings

On March 7, Police averted targeted killings with the arrest of two operatives of the banned Khalistani terrorist Babbar Khalsa International (BKI), identified as Kuldeep Singh *aka* Ghugg and Avtar Singh *aka* Ladi, and seized a .32 bore pistol along with four magazines and 30 rounds from them, along with a motorcycle (PB08-FI 3940), at Mehatpur village in Jalandhar District. The module, led by United States (US)-based Harpreet Singh *aka* Happy Pasia and Pakistan-based Khalistani terrorist Harvinder Singh Rinda, aimed to involve youngsters in anti-national activities.

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**Two Babbar Khalsa
International (BKI) operatives
nabbed, planned targeted
killings**



**Assam Jail Superintendent
Nipen Das**

Gadgets found with Sikh extremists: Assam jail superintendent arrested

On March 8, Police arrested Nipen Das, Superintendent of Dibrugarh Central Jail, for alleged collusion with detainees associated with Khalistani preacher and the chief of Waris Punjab De (WPD), Amritpal Singh, and his associates, following the discovery of electronic gadgets, including a smartphone, in their possession, in Dibrugarh, Assam. Subsequent investigations exposed evidence of unauthorized activities, prompting additional CCTV installations and preventive measures.

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CCTV footage of pro-Khalistan figure Hardeep Nijjar's killing made public in Canada

CCTV footage of pro-Khalistan figure Hardeep Nijjar's killing made public in Canada

On March 8, the Canadian government-funded outlet *CBC News* released footage of the killing of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada. The video, captured by a surveillance camera overlooking the parking lot of the Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara Sahib on the evening of June 18, 2023, shows a white sedan blocking the path of the Dodge Ram pickup truck driven by Nijjar. Two assailants then run towards the vehicle, fatally shooting him, before making their getaway in a waiting Toyota Camry.

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Narendra Modi Directly Involved in Murder Plots of Sikh Activists Abroad: Canadian Documentary

A documentary titled 'The Fifth Estate' aired on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) on March 8, alleging the direct involvement of Indian Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi in planning the killing of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar and attempt to kill another Khalistani, Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, abroad. Pannun also claimed that PM Modi, advised by National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval, sanctioned the plots, involving India's Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) and its then chief, Samant Goel.

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Narendra Modi Directly Involved in Murder Plots of Sikh Activists Abroad: Canadian Documentary



Khalistani leader Gupatwant Singh Pannuh

BSE employees receive threats from 'Khalistani leader'

On March 12, employees of the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) received threatening audio messages warning of economic destruction from March 12 to April 30, purportedly from Khalistani terrorist and the chief of the banned outfit Sikhs For Justice (SFJ) Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, coinciding with the anniversary of the 1993 serial bombings in Mumbai, Maharashtra. The complainant stated that the audio clip advised caution from March 12 to April 30, with Pannun allegedly recommending the selling of Indian stocks and the purchase of American ones. Several employees' mobile numbers, listed on the website's Contact Us section, received these audio clips.

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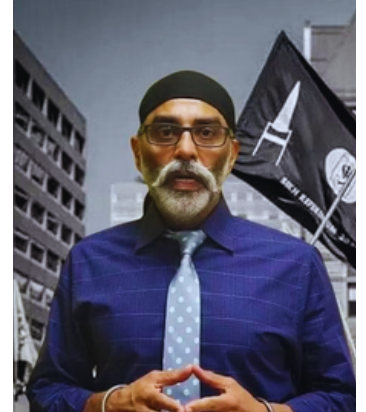




Khalistan terrorist Pannun threatens New Zealand Deputy PM over comments on Nijjar Killing

On March 13, the chief of Sikhs For Justice (SFJ), Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, issued threats against New Zealand's Deputy Prime Minister, Winston Peters, following Peters' challenge to claims linking India to the killing of Khalistan terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada. Peters' remarks questioning the "Indian link" to Nijjar's killing marked a departure from Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's narrative. This incident represents the first open contestation of Canada's assertions by a Five-Eyes partner.

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Gurpatwant Singh Pannun



Police Constable Amritpal Singh

Cop killed as gangster attacks raiding CIA team in Mukerian

On March 17, a senior constable of the Punjab Police's Crime Investigation Agency (CIA) staff, identified as Amritpal Singh, was shot dead by gangster Sukhwinder Rana during a raid at Mansoorpur village in the Hoshiarpur district of Punjab. The raid was conducted after receiving information about Rana's presence and illegal weapons. Police deployed a large force to search for Rana, announcing a reward of INR 25,000 for information on his whereabouts.

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Terror-mafia nexus: Incarcerated terrorists & gangsters united behind bars, shows NIA probe

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has uncovered the continued operation of a terrorist-gangster syndicate within Indian jails, with ties to pro-Khalistan elements. Gangs such as the Bambiha group, along with affiliates like Neeraj Bawana and Kaushal Chaudhary, have expanded their influence through extortion and killings across states. Rivalry between factions like the Lawrence Bishnoi and Chaudhary gangs has led to targeted violence, including murders orchestrated from within prison walls. Key figures like Arshdeep Singh *aka* Arsh Dalla, in collaboration with Naveen Dabas, have conspired for cross-border weapon deliveries, aiming to terrorise and target specific political and social groups. These activities involve threats, extortion, and international networks spanning Canada, the United States (US), Europe, and Asia, as uncovered by the NIA's investigations.

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The National Investigation Agency (NIA)





Khalistani terrorist Arshdeep Dalla

India shares Khalistani terrorist Arshdeep Dalla's coordinates with Canada, seeks his provisional arrest

According to sources, the Indian government has provided the latest coordinates of Canada-based designated terrorist Arshdeep Singh Gill aka Arsh Dala of Khalistan Tiger Force (KTF), to the Canadian government, urging them to make a provisional arrest. Dala, previously associated with Punjab-based gangsters, shifted to Canada to work with the erstwhile KTF chief Hardeep Singh Nijjar. After Nijjar's death, Dala took over KTF operations, orchestrating targeted killings in India. The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (UMHA) declared Dala a designated terrorist on January 9, 2023, due to his involvement in heinous crimes and terrorist activities. Despite India's requests, the Canadian government has not taken any action against Dala.

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Pannun's 'warning' to Kejriwal: 'Khalistanis in Tihar Jail will hold you accountable'

On March 25, the leader of the banned Khalistani outfit Sikhs For Justice (SFJ), Gurbatwant Singh Pannun, issued a threat to Delhi Chief Minister (CM) Arvind Kejriwal, claiming Khalistanis in Tihar Jail would hold him accountable for not fulfilling promises. Via a video message, Pannun accused Arvind Kejriwal of accepting USD 16 million from Khalistani groups between 2014 and 2022, alleging that Kejriwal promised to secure the release of Sikh extremist Devinder Pal Singh Bhullar in exchange for funds. However, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) denied the allegations.

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Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal



Khalistan Referendum event in California, US

Jathedar Kaunke, 'extra-judicially' killed in India, honoured in Khalistan Referendum event in California, US

On March 31, approximately 5,000 people gathered at the California State Capitol in Sacramento, California, United States (US), to participate in the Khalistan referendum organized by the Khalistani outfit Sikhs For Justice (SFJ), aimed at seeking independence from India. During the event, Jathedar Gurdev Singh Kaunke was honoured as a martyr. Additionally, the Punjab Referendum Commission announced a new voting date scheduled for July 28, 2024, in Calgary, Canada.

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HATE SPEECH TRACKER

Date	Incidents
01 March 2024	Sikhs For Justice supporter threatens Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma
06 March 2024	Gurpatwant Singh Pannun puts out poster threatening Indian High Commissioner to Canada
12 March 2024	BSE employees receive threats from Khalistani leader Gurpatwant Singh Pannun
13 March 2024	Gurpatwant Singh Pannun threatens New Zealand Deputy PM over comments on Nijjar killing
20 March 2024	SFJ chief Pannun threatens former ambassador to US and BJP leader Taranjit Singh Sandhu
25 March 2024	Gurpatwant Singh Pannun warns Kejriwal that Khalistanis in Tihar Jail will hold him 'accountable'

Click here to access the full list at www.khalistanextremismmonitor.org

COMPOSITE SEIZURES IN PUNJAB

Date	No. of Incidents	No. of Arrests	Items
09 March 2024	1	1	270 grams of heroin, one pistol, five cartridges, and INR 7,97,000 in drug money
15 March 2024	1	0	A pistol, two magazines, and 3.38 kilograms of heroin
30 March 2024	1	5	3 kilograms of heroin, a pistol with three cartridges, and INR 50,000 in drug money
Total	3	6	Pistols – 3, Cartridges/Bullets – 10, Heroin – 6.65 kilograms, Drug Money – INR 8,47,000





ARMS & AMMUNITION SEIZURES IN PUNJAB

Date	No. of Incidents	No. of Arrests	Items
05 March 2024	1	3	Seven pistols and 35 live cartridges
06 March 2024	1	2	Twelve weapons and 21 cartridges
07 March 2024	1	2	One .32 bore pistol along with four magazines and 30 rounds
08 March 2024	1	5	Three pistols, two revolvers, a .12 bore gun and 71 live rounds
12 March 2024	1	1	Two pistols, including a .32 bore and a .30 bore, three live cartridges
15 March 2024	3	6	Two pistols and ten live cartridges; 12 pistols and 48 cartridges; one pistol, nine live cartridges, INR 980,000 in cash, and two passports
16 March 2024	1	3	Two .32 caliber pistols, 11 live cartridges
17 March 2024	1	2	One country-made pistol of .12 calibre and two live cartridges
19 March 2024	3	7	Five pistols and seven bullets; One pistol and two cartridges; One 0.32 bore pistol
24 March 2024	1	4	Eight pistols, 14 cartridges and 11 magazines
26 March 2024	1	4	A rifle and sharp-edged weapon
29 March 2024	1	3	One pistol, 15 cartridges.
31 March 2024	1	4	Nine .32 bore country-made pistols and eight live cartridges
Total	17	46	Pistols – 56, Rifle – 1, Gun – 1, Cartridges/Bullets – 182, Magazines – 15, Rounds of Ammunition – 104, Other Weapons – 1





DRUG SEIZURES IN PUNJAB

Date	No. of Incidents	No. of Arrests	Items
03 March 2024	3	7	5 kilograms of opium; 15 grams of heroin; 2 kilograms of poppy husk
04 March 2024	1	1	70 grams of heroin
07 March 2024	3	4	5 kilograms of heroin; 9 kilograms of charas; 565 grams of heroin
09 March 2024	2	1	470 grams of heroin; 2.8 kilograms of heroin and INR 2.5 lakh in drug money
10 March 2024	1	9	22 kilograms of opium
13 March 2024	2	0	600 grams of opium; 3.236 kilograms of heroin
17 March 2024	1	0	600 grams of heroin
18 March 2024	2	5	3.306 kilograms of heroin
19 March 2024	1	1	14.50 kilograms of opium plants
20 March 2024	2	2	500 grams of opium; 533 grams of heroin
23 March 2024	3	4	2 kilograms of heroin; 1.8 kilograms of poppy husk and INR 35,000 in drug money; 22 grams of heroin
24 March 2024	2	3	2 kilograms of opium; 12 grams of heroin, two syringes
25 March 2024	2	13	4 kilograms of heroin and INR 3 lakh in drug money; 220 kilograms of poppy husk
26 March 2024	3	6	400 grams of heroin; 705 grams of heroin, INR 29,500; 22 grams of heroin
27 March 2024	1	0	530 grams of heroin
28 March 2024	1	0	1.140 kilograms of heroin
29 March 2024	5	7	170 grams of heroin; 40 grams of heroin; 3 kilograms of poppy husk; 100 intoxicating tablets; 9.5 kilograms of heroin
30 March 2024	1	4	120 banned pills
Total	36	67	Heroin – 35.136 kilograms, Poppy husk – 226.8 kilograms, Opium – 39.6 kilograms, Charas – 9 kilograms, Intoxicant Pills/Tablets – 220

