



*The Ambassador of Italy*  
*New Delhi*

1897  
New Delhi, 20 AUG 2013

*Dear Dr. Singh,*

This is in reference to your letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> of August regarding the incident involving Shri Manjeet Singh GK, President of the Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee.

I wish to inform you that as soon as I was informed of the issue, I immediately alerted the competent Italian Authorities in order to ascertain the facts. We learnt that the security official had followed the standard EU non discriminatory procedures foreseen for security checks at the airports with all due attention to the sensibility of foreigners of Sikh religion. Said procedures were approved in 2011 by Italian competent Authorities following meetings with Association of the Sikh community in Italy in order to avoid incidents which could arise on the occasion of security checks on the Sikh turbans.

In any case, the Italian Authorities facilitated - in coordination with the Indian Embassy in Rome - the departure of the delegation headed by Shri Manjit Singh without further delays. The delegation left through the Protocol Lounge of the Fiumicino Airport and was satisfied by the courtesy treatment given by the Italian Authorities.

The matter was also discussed during a meeting I had at the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, where I reiterated that we are well aware of the strong sensitivity of the issue of the security check on turbans of the Sikh Community. In this regard, I would like to inform you that I seized the occasion for once more sensitizing the competent Italian Authorities to strictly adhere to the International agreed procedures.

In the last years, the issue has been constantly followed by the Italian Authorities in strict coordination with the representatives of the Sikh Community in Italy and the Indian Embassy in Rome.

Hope you find the above in order. With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Daniele Mancini

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