

Government of India

National Commission for Minorities

Ground & 3rd Floor, Block-3,
CGO Complex, New Delhi-110003

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PRESS RELEASE

The National Commission for Minorities formed under the NCM Act, 1992, has been, inter-alia, entrusted with the responsibility to look into specific complaints regarding deprivation of rights and safeguards of minorities and take up such matters with the appropriate authorities.

The Commission received various representations from the Jain community regarding the conversion of Jain pilgrimage site Shri Sammed Shikharji Hill into an eco-tourism hub by the Government of Jharkhand and Government of India. This decision has hurt the religious sentiments of the Jain community all over India. The representations submitted by the community also raise the issue of encroachment and other problems at Shri Sammed Shikharji. The Commission has received requests from Jains all over the country for declaring Shri Sammed Shikharji a holy place. The National Commission for Minorities has already requested the Government of Jharkhand to consider the demand of Jain community members.

In order to resolve the issue related to the Jain minority community, the National Commission for Minorities has taken cognizance of the representations and has decided to hold a hearing on 17.1.2023. The Commission has summoned the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and Chief Secretary of Jharkhand.

Hon'ble Chairman, NCM, Shri Iqbal Singh Lalpura visited Shree Digambar Jain Mandir, Karkardooma, Delhi on 31.12.2022, where two Jain community

representatives were fasting in protest against the Jharkhand Government's decision, the Chairman heard their problems. On 30.12.2022, the Chairman deputed Joint Secretary, National Commission for Minorities, A. Dhanlakshmi to visit the place.