GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4143

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH AUGUST, 2025/ SRAVANA 28, 1947 (SAKA)

SGPC ELECTION

4143. SHRI SUKHJINDER SINGH RANDHAWA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has fixed any timeline for the conduct of elections to the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) in the State of Punjab;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the date of notification;
- (c) the designated authority responsible for conducting the elections and the proposed schedule for completion of the electoral process;
- (d) whether any date has been fixed and the reasons for the inordinate delay in holding SGPC elections, particularly in light of the fact that the last such elections were held in 2011; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes any legislative or administrative measures to ensure regular and timely elections to the SGPC, in keeping with democratic principles and the religious rights of the Sikh community and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

(a) to (e): The Sikh Gurdwaras Board Election Rules, 1959, provides that the Chief Commissioner, Gurdwara Elections shall by notification fix the date or dates for the various stages of elections to the SGPC Board, including the date on which polling shall be held. The Gurdwara Election

Commission headed by Chief Commissioner Gurdwara Elections is the designated authority for the conduct of elections.

The Government has commenced the election process. This was done after notification of Rules for appointment of Chief Commissioner Gurdwara Elections, and resolution in related matters in several court cases filed by different petitioners.

Accordingly, the Government appointed a Chief Commissioner of Gurdwara Elections who issued notification to State Governments of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Administrator of Union Territory of Chandigarh and Commissioner, Gurdwara Elections, Chandigarh Administration to start preparation of electoral rolls for SGPC elections for the constitution of new Board of SGPC in accordance with Section 48 of the Sikh Gurdwaras Act, 1925.

In the meanwhile, several cases have been filed in the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana challenging the preparation of electoral rolls and other related issues. The Hon'ble High Court has ordered a stay in the matter.
