



## Call to Action Concerning Human Rights Violations in India

**We request the following actions concerning India:**

- 1) Petition US State Department to declare India a “Country of Particular Concern” for its multiple human rights violations.**
- 2) Publicly acknowledge the plight of the Adivasi woman, Jarnail Kaur.**
- 3) Investigate Texas Governor Gregory Abbott for complicity in Transnational Repression.**

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## Country of Particular Concern

The 1998 International Religious Freedom Act (H.R. 2431) grants the State Department the ability to designate a Nation a “Country of Particular Concern” for “particularly severe violations of religious freedom” which can include the following:

- Torture; inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
- Prolonged detention without charges or due process.
- Making people “disappear” through abduction, death, or clandestine detention.
- Blatant denial of right to life, liberty, and personal security.

## President Biden Statement

“...For far too many people within our borders and beyond, practicing their faith still means facing fear and persecution. Today, let us recommit ourselves to ending this hate. And let us work together to ensure that people of all religions — and no religion — are treated with equal dignity and respect.”

[https://www.state.gov/international-religious-freedom-reports/#release\\_2022](https://www.state.gov/international-religious-freedom-reports/#release_2022)

## Concerned Organizations

The following organizations have recognized and documented recent human rights violations in India that contravene every single category given by the above mentioned IRFA. Please note this list is NOT exhaustive. For our purposes, we will provide documentation of one such violation in the next pages.

American Bar Association Center for Human Rights  
Amnesty International  
Anglican Persecuted Church Network  
Assembly for Human Rights  
Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative  
Federation of Indian American Christian Organizations  
Freedom House  
Global Christian Relief  
Human Rights Watch  
Indian American Muslim Council  
International Christian Concern  
Justice for All  
North American Manipur Tribal Association  
North East Catholic Research Forum  
Open Doors USA

Organization for Minorities in India  
Physicians for Human Rights  
Reporters without Borders (France)  
Sikh Assembly of America  
The Sikh American Legal Defense & Education Fund  
The Sikh Coalition  
The Sikh Information Centre  
U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom  
United Christian Forum  
United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner  
US Holocaust Memorial Museum  
US State Department (2022 International Religious Freedom Report, 2022 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices)  
Varieties of Democracies Project (Sweden)

### Action Request:

**Petition US State Department to declare India a “Country of Particular Concern” for its multiple human rights violations.**

## Introducing Jarnail Kaur

Jarnail Kaur, an Adivasi woman from Chhattisgarh, India, can trace her tribal Indian ancestry back 30,000 years. Tribal land rights, though protected by Indian law, have been exploited by corporate Industrialists who have forcibly stolen and occupied indigenous land. Much of her land was stolen from her family by Industrialist Naveen Jindal, a former MP in Haryana State, and the President of Jindal Steel & Power. He used his power and



Jarnail Kaur (Center) With Other Adivasi on Her Farmland [Photo: Assembly for Human Rights]

influence to eliminate due process and take what he wanted from Jarnail's family. Her family has been fighting him in court for the past twenty years. Jindal has responded by having her assaulted, threatened, and raped. Other members of her tribal community, including her brother, have been unduly detained and even murdered for voicing their dissent. Last year, a popular wrestler names Sumer Pelhawan Singh, came forward and publicly testified that Naveen Jindal had hired him to rape Jarnail, and when he refused, Jindal's men beat him within an inch of his life. Jarnail's son, Henry, a law student, currently spends his days in law school and in Delhi, monitoring the eleven law suits their family has filed against Jindal. The courts, the police, and even the government have all been pawns used and manipulated by Jindal to accomplish his ill will. Many who have tried to speak out have been tortured, detained without charges or due process, and made to "disappear". This represents a blatant denial of right to life, liberty, and personal security for Jarnail Kaur, and other Adivasi who have been victims of Naveen Jindal.

### Why She Matters to the United States

- 1) If our President's comments on **human rights** are to be taken seriously on the world stage, then the United States needs to make sure that we stand up for people like Jarnail Kaur. Otherwise, the Indian Government will think they can get away with one human rights violation after another, since the United States has allowed them to continue without reprimand.
- 2) If the United States truly cares about **Indigenous People's rights**, in our country and around the world, we need to stand up for those whose rights are actively being stolen in other countries. We can not allow our negotiations of trade agreements with foreign countries to turn in to an acceptance of blood money. Other nations will see our hypocrisy, and view us as tyrants rather than potential allies.
- 3) Jarnail's abuser, **Naveen Jindal**, has strong influence over American political leaders, especially Texas Governor Gregory Abbott. We must take transnational repression seriously, and we can not allow powerful Indian officials to influence American elections nor give them the ability to prevent India from being added to the State Department's list of Countries of Particular Concern.

**Action Request:**  
**Publicly acknowledge the plight of the Adivasi woman,**  
**Jarnail Kaur.**

## Introducing Naveen Jindal

Naveen Jindal, the President of Jindal Steel & Power, is one of the wealthiest men in India. He served as a Member of Parliament for ten years, and used his position of power to manipulate local authorities and steal tribal land from many Adivasi families. He then built industrial plants on those lands, and forcibly ejected anyone who tried to claim the land as their own. He has been accused of hiring thugs to rape and intimidate those who speak out against him, including Jarnail Kaur. Many who have publicly challenged him have been imprisoned without due process and forced to sign over their land to him in exchange for their freedom. Some have even met untimely deaths at the hands of his workers. This “corporate mafia” approach to profiteering has been well documented throughout India. In March, 2024, Jindal switched political parties and joined the BJP, while simultaneously announcing his candidacy for a return as MP. He did this with the backing of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The BJP is the official political party of the RSS, the world’s largest paramilitary organization, whose Hindu Nationalist (Hindutva) agenda has cultivated massive human rights violations throughout India.



Texas Governor Gregory Abbott (Left) and Indian Industrialist Naveen Jindal (Right) in New Delhi in January, 2024 [Photo: LinkedIn]

## Texas Governor Gregory Abbott and Transnational Repression

**Texas Governor Gregory Abbott considers Naveen Jindal a close friend.** Jindal recently hosted Abbott at his home in New Delhi while negotiating a new trade deal and celebrating the 1.4 Billion Dollars Indian companies have invested in Texas over the past ten years. If India were a Country of Particular Concern, none of this would have happened. In 2011 **Jindal donated 10 Million Dollars** to the University he attended in Texas, and they honored him by naming the school after him. He subsequently used his influence at the school to establish the *Naveen Jindal Institute for Indo-American Business Studies*. Ultimate over-site for the Texas University School System, which includes the *Naveen Jindal School of Management*, belongs to the Governor. Texas also hosts the headquarters for several US branches of RSS organizations. Jindal’s affiliation with the BJP, his ability funnel large amounts of money into Texas, and his close relationship with Governor Abbott should sound the alarms for transnational repression. **The United States can not afford to have foreign powers influencing our elections, elected officials, or our policies.**

Additional documentation concerning Jarnail Kaur, Naveen Jindal, and Texas Governor Gregory Abbot can be found on our website, [Www.AssemblyForHumanRights.Org](http://Www.AssemblyForHumanRights.Org).

**Action Request:**  
**Investigate Texas Governor Gregory Abbott for complicity in  
Transnational Repression.**