

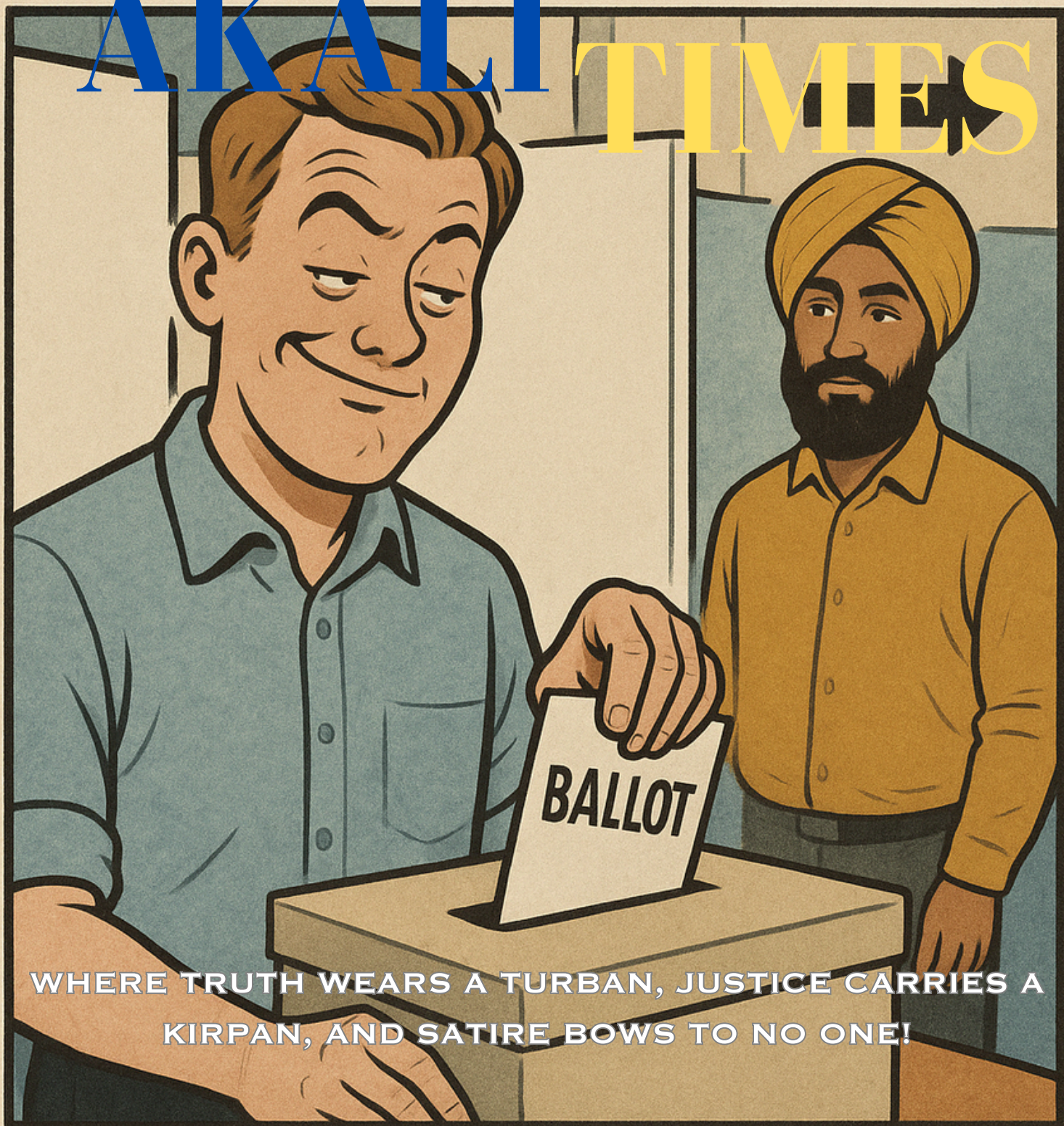
THE AUSTRALIAN ELECTIONS 2025

APRIL 2025

SOVEREIGN SIKHS

ISSUE 3

AKALI TIMES



WHERE TRUTH WEARS A TURBAN, JUSTICE CARRIES A
KIRPAN, AND SATIRE BOWS TO NO ONE!

OH GREAT, ANOTHER ELECTION

EDITORIAL BRIEF

**AKALI TIMES IS MORE THAN A MAGAZINE IT'S A FRONTLINE JOURNAL
FOR AN UNAPOLOGETIC PEOPLE.**

**IN EVERY ISSUE, WE DIVE DEEP INTO THE TRUTHS
THE MAINSTREAM AVOIDS
FROM FOREIGN INTERFERENCE AND TRANSNATIONAL REPRESSION,
TO THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF SIKH AUSTRALIANS NAVIGATING
FAITH, POLITICS, AND IDENTITY. WE ARE HERE TO CONFRONT THE
UNCOMFORTABLE, PROTECT THE SACRED,
AND AMPLIFY THE SILENCED.**

**WE HONOUR THE GURUS NOT JUST THROUGH SCRIPTURE, BUT
THROUGH COURAGE**

**THE KIND THAT SPEAKS UP WHEN IT'S EASIER TO STAY QUIET. OUR
PAGES CARRY THE WEIGHT OF HISTORY, THE FIRE OF ACTIVISM, THE
WISDOM OF SIKHI, AND YES THE REBELLIOUS HUMOUR THAT HAS
ALWAYS BEEN PART OF OUR SPIRIT. BECAUSE WHEN THE WORLD
PUSHES CARICATURES, WE PUSH CLARITY AND COMEDY, WHEN
NECESSARY.**

**THIS MAGAZINE IS FOR THE SOVEREIGN-MINDED: THE YOUTH SEEKING
TRUTH, THE ELDERS GUARDING LEGACY, THE ACTIVISTS RAISING
FLAGS, AND THE THINKERS QUESTIONING EVERYTHING.**

**WE DON'T BELONG TO A PARTY, A GOVERNMENT, OR A STATE.
WE BELONG TO THE PANTH.
READ WITH INTENT. REFLECT WITH DEPTH. RESPOND WITH POWER.
IN CHARDI KALA,**

**SAMAR SINGH KOHLI
EDITOR, AKALI TIMES**

WELCOME TO GREENWAY WHERE PROMISES COME TO DIE

Welcome to Greenway, the political Bermuda Triangle of Western Sydney. A magical electorate where campaign signs bloom like spring weeds and candidates sprout from every political bush each claiming to be the chosen one, armed with slogans, flyers, and a deep, almost spiritual detachment from reality.

Here, the “left,” “right,” “centre,” and “totally lost” compete in a gladiator-style battle of who can ignore constituents more creatively. The prize? A seat in Parliament where they can pretend to fix things while blaming everyone else.

The Real Issues? Nah.

Greenway’s got real problems: cost of living, housing, healthcare access, and infrastructure that was designed in the Jurassic era. But who cares? It’s not like voters want solutions. What we want is glossy selfies, over-rehearsed speeches, and sausage sizzles from politicians who wouldn’t recognize a working-class suburb if it hit them with a Centrelink envelope.

But fear not, dear voter. Because this year, we have a dazzling lineup of candidates, each more deluded than the last, ready to convince you they “care deeply” while their actions scream “I just want the perks.”

Let’s meet them, shall we?



LABOR & LIBERAL COPY-PASTE CANDIDATES WITH DIFFERENT LOGOS

Welcome to the Great Greenway Games where democracy is just another brand campaign and political candidates come in two convenient flavours: Labor Red and Liberal Blue, both sporting the same ingredients, just in different packaging.

This year's contenders for Greenway seat have been handpicked from the Copy-Paste Political Factory, with a strict checklist:

- Zero originality
- Maximum obedience
- Strong social media filter usage
- A proven ability to smile while saying absolutely nothing

Labor Candidate: “Hope 2.0” Liberal Candidate: “Strong & Sensible” (Also Known as “Labor in Blue”)

Labor's offering is a polished, PR-groomed figure whose job is to tell you that change is coming despite representing the same party that's been power-walking in circles for decades.

Their greatest talent? Posing with diverse locals they've never met, tweeting “I'm listening” while wearing noise-cancelling headphones made of lobbyist cash. Their slogan? “Fair Go, Maaaate” approved by three focus groups and one Sydney PR intern named “Clueless”.

Key Policies Include:

- Rent Relief (by tweeting about it)
- Cost of Living Help (via hashtags)
- Climate Action (just not this term, or the next... but we feel bad about it)

On the right side of the photocopier is the Liberal candidate, offering “fresh ideas” like tax cuts for the rich, blaming the Greens for floods, and taking selfies at Bunnings to prove they understand the working class.

Their motto is “Back to Basics”, which apparently means deregulating everything and then blaming young people for having no houses. Their greatest political skill? Evading responsibility like it's an Olympic sport.

Key Policies Include:

- “Supporting Families” (unless you're renting, queer, or on Centrelink)
- Fighting Inflation (by firing public servants)
- Standing with Small Business (mainly fossil fuel execs with offshore accounts)

TWO BRANDS, ONE MASTERPLAN: MEH

Both candidates share a few deeply held beliefs:

- A deep respect for photo ops
- A complete allergy to community-led ideas
- The sacred art of saying nothing clearly for 3 minutes straight

The difference? One puts a sausage in your hand on voting day, the other gives you a cold stare for asking about corruption.

Voters in Greenway are advised to bring:

1. A pen
2. Low expectations
3. A bingo card with terms like “local jobs,” “resilient communities,” and “common sense values”

CHOOSE YOUR FIGHTER (OF DEMOCRACY)

Will it be Red Clone or Blue Clone? The choice is yours, Greenway just don't expect anything to actually change. Because no matter who wins, the Copy-Paste Parade marches on, powered by corporate donors, media consultants, and the tears of idealists.

But hey, at least we get a democracy sausage, right?

LOOKING FOR REAL LEADERSHIP?

YOU WON'T FIND IT IN A COPY PASTE CANDIDATE.

VOTE SMART. THINK DIFFERENT. DEMAND BETTER.

THE GREENS: SAVING TREES, DODGING QUESTIONS ONE PRESS CONFERENCE AT A TIME

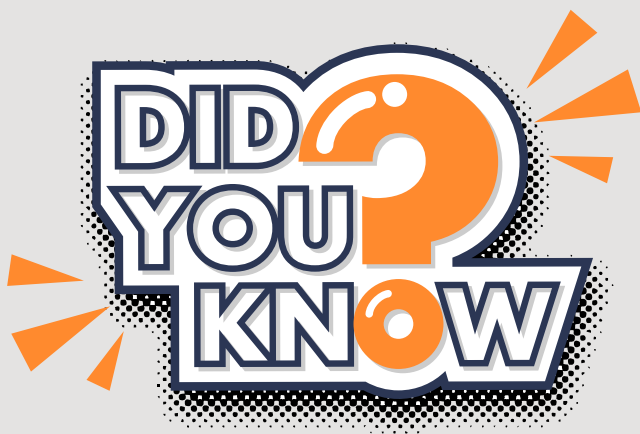
While other parties fumble with policies and scandals, The Greens have perfected their niche: hugging trees tighter than their grip on reality, and dodging tough questions with more agility than a squirrel in a eucalyptus forest.

Key achievements:

- Saved a tree in 2015. It's now their candidate for the next election. Polling shows the tree has more consistent views than the rest of the party.
- Climate Crisis Plans: "Ban coal." "Tax billionaires." "Declare emergency." But ask them how to implement it? Cue the interpretive dance and wind chimes.
- Affordable Housing Plan: Build treehouses! Sustainably grown, of course. Rent capped at one acorn a week (terms and conditions apply).
- Foreign Policy: "We believe in peace." When pressed on China, the US, or Israel? "We're still consulting the spirits of the forest."

Party Line Highlights:

We don't dodge questions... we recycle them into talking points about sustainability.



EVERY TIME A GREENS CANDIDATE AVOIDS A DIRECT QUESTION, A NATIVE BIRD GETS ITS WINGS.

MICRO-PARTY MADNESS BECAUSE DEMOCRACY NEEDS CLOWNS

Ah, democracy! That noble system where every voice matters and any bloke with a spare weekend, a catchy slogan, and a cousin with a printer can start a political party. Welcome to the chaotic circus of Micro-Party Madness, where the stakes are high, the ideologies are suspiciously vague, and the candidates are one awkward barbecue away from being your weird uncle.

The Power of 57 Votes

Nothing screams “people’s mandate” like a party securing 0.003% of the national vote and still demanding a seat at the table. With a Facebook page, a QR code, and a suspicious number of followers with anime profile pics, these micro-parties claim to speak for the real people mostly themselves and their group chat.

Policies? We’ve Got Memes

Manifestos? Please. Why waste trees when you can just repost spicy memes with Comic Sans captions? If your political campaign doesn’t look like a chaotic PowerPoint from Year 9 Social Studies, are you even serious about leadership?

Policies? We’ve Got Memes

The best part? The government foots the bill! That’s right taxpayers unknowingly bankroll parties that couldn’t organise a two-person Zoom call. It’s democracy’s version of a participation trophy you showed up, shouted a bit, wore a silly hat. Here’s \$17,000 and a sandwich.

The Clown Kings of Canberra

Somehow, one of these micro-party clowns will get elected on a technicality involving preference deals, bingo logic, and a mysterious system no one actually understands. They’ll spend four years posting selfies from Parliament House and voting “present” on every bill. Democracy in action!

THE INDEPENDENTS REBELS WITHOUT RESEARCH

Independent candidates mean well. Some are local heroes. Most are folks who got ghosted by major parties and decided, “Stuff it—I’ll run myself!”

Campaign strategy? Pop-up marquee, a dog, and a Facebook Live rant filmed in portrait mode.

Ask for a policy plan and you’ll get a handwritten note from 2018 and a strong opinion on “corruption in Canberra” backed by... vibes.

During election time, every candidate suddenly discovers Greenway has brown people. They wear saris, turbans, hijabs, and call it “community engagement.”

They’ll butcher a Punjabi word at the Gurdwara, mispronounce “Ramadan” at the mosque, and finish the day at a Tongan church with the cultural depth of a kiddie pool.

It’s the Cultural Costume Olympics, and everyone’s gold-medalling in fake concern.

MULTICULTURAL OUTREACH SMILE WITH A SAMOSA

“AUSTRALIAN VALUES” PLEASE DEFINE

Every candidate, no matter the party, clutches “Australian values” like it’s a sacred relic.

But ask them to define those values and they’ll panic like you just asked them to spell “Ngunnawal.”

Is it honesty? Fair go? Looking after your mates? Because none of those show up in Parliament unless there’s a camera involved.

RATTAN VIRK: STRAIGHT OUTTA CHANDIGARH (INTO CANBERRA... VIA NEW DELHI)

Ah, Rattan Virk. The name on every chai-loving politician's lips from Chandigarh to Canberra (with a quick detour through Modi's darbaar, of course). If politics were a Netflix series, Rattan would be the character you can't stop watching not because she's compelling, but because you're trying to figure out what on earth she's actually doing.

Nominated? Off to See Modi!

Little Bird told us, that While most candidates prepare policy statements or thank their local communities after nomination, our very own Rattan took the logical next step: a VIP pilgrimage to India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Nothing says "serving Australians" like a meet-and-greet with the leader of a foreign nation known for its increasingly questionable democratic practices. Priorities, people.



THE GREAT ESCAPE: GREENWAY CANDIDATE SPRINTS FASTER THAN ATHLETES AWAY FROM SIKH QUESTIONS!

The Greenway candidate pulled off a record-breaking sprint not on the field, but away from Sikh community questions.

When asked about:

- Indian interference in Australian democracy
- Australian surveillance by India within Australia
- Her connection with Indian State
- And her eerie silence on Sikh rights...

She smiled, blinked twice like she'd seen a ghost... and vanished faster than your langar plate at the end of the line.

Exit left. No answers. No accountability. Just the wind and her press advisor.

**LIVE FROM SIKH GAMES 2025:
ONE POLITICIAN. ZERO ANSWERS.
MAXIMUM DODGING.**

Virk's real motto?

TBH We are not sure what she is about

We're not saying she's on a WhatsApp group with Modi's media team...

...but she did say "Namaste" more times than "Sat Sri Akal."

Then there's the minor hiccup allegedly fiddling with GST. Just your standard whoopsie when public funds and transparency are at stake.

THAT AWKWARD GST ACCUSATION...

The Australian media raised it, and Rattan? She raised... silence. (Or maybe another flight ticket to India?)

GLENWOOD GURDWARA SAHIB: GHOSTED.

Let's not forget that awkward moment when Rattan was reportedly sidelined in an internal meeting at Glenwood Gurdwara. Apparently, even community leaders can spot a political mirage when they see one. Being invisible might work in spy movies, but not so much in grassroots politics.



Let's talk about that doctorate. It was there, and then—like a ghost during election season—poof. Disappeared. Maybe it went the same route as her political clarity?

THE CURIOUS CASE OF THE MISSING DEGREE

INDIA OR AUSTRALIA? FLIP A COIN.

In an era where Australian intelligence agencies are openly discussing India's political interference, one can't help but wonder: who will Rattan really serve when push comes to shove? The Australian people or the Indian establishment she seems so fond of?

Rattan's resume might look shiny from a distance, but scratch the surface and it's more confusion than clarity, more connections than community. Maybe it's time voters ask not where she comes from, but who she really stands with—because at this rate, she's not standing for much at all.

As discussions heat up about foreign interference in Australian politics, voters deserve to know: are we electing leaders for Australia or for international photo ops?

Because from where we're standing, it looks like Rattan is fluent in two things: vanishing acts and loyalty gymnastics.

THE GREAT AUSSIE ELECTION SINGH VS SPIN!

A SARCASTIC LOOK AT RATTAN'S POLITICAL FAQ:

Q1: What do you stand for?

“Standing ovations in New Delhi mostly.”

Q2: Who are you loyal to—Australia or India?

“Depends on which flag is flying higher that day.”

Q3: Why didn't you answer the 11 questions from Akali Times?

“I don't do math, let alone journalism.”

Q4: Why did you run away from the Sikh Games crowd?

“Fitness is important. Also, community questions scare me.”

Q5: Can you clear up the GST accusation?

“Clear? No, but I can confuse you further.”

Q6: What happened to your doctorate?

“It's a quantum degree. It exists and doesn't exist at the same time.”

Q7: Will you address community concerns?

“Only if they're approved by New Delhi.”

Q8: What's your strategy to deal with India's political interference in Australia?

“Deny. Deflect. Distract. Dance (preferably Bollywood).”

**PRETTY MUCH COVERS THEIR
WHOLE ELECTION CAMPAIGN THUS
FAR.**



ATLEAST THE HELPLINE IS AUSTRALIAN

PALANIAPPAN SUBRAMANIAN: THE CANDIDATE YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF (AND STILL MIGHT NOT WANT TO)

Who is Palaniappan? Great question. Voters have been asking the same thing, while frantically Googling his name, only to find LinkedIn endorsements from uncles and ex-colleagues who spell “policy” as “policey.”

Is he for climate action? Is he for public housing? Is he for... anything?

We'd love to tell you but he hasn't exactly shown up to answer.

Palaniappan is trying to represent Greenway. But we're pretty sure Google Maps couldn't find him in Toongabbie, Seven Hills or Blacktown on a good day. Zero engagement, zero recognition, zero effort.

In fact, if invisibility was a political strategy, he'd be a genius.

Greenway, brace yourselves. Palaniappan Subramanian has entered the chat—and nobody's quite sure why.

He's the candidate who popped up like a political push notification nobody subscribed to. No grassroots connection, no solid platform, no visible presence... but hey, he's here to serve you with vague slogans, recycled lines, and a resumé full of meh.

**DONT TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT,
EVEN THE GREENS DID NOT
INVITE PALANI THEIR OWN
GREENWAY CANDIDATE TO
SPEAK AT GLENWOOD
GURUDAWARA SAHIB IN FRONT
OF 15,000 DEVOTEES WHERE
SENATOR SHOEBRIDGE FACE OF
GREENS WAS PRESENT AND SO
WAS ANOTHER MINORITY
PLEASING CANDIDATE FROM
ANOTHER SEAT WHO THE LABOR
AND HIS OWN MINORITY HAS
REJECTED, AND ALSO HAD TO
RESIGN AS A LEADER OF
BLACKTOWN GREENS**

MICHELLE ROWLAND: MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS, MASTER OF SELECTIVE LISTENING

Greenway's long-time MP, Michelle Rowland, says she's here to "represent the community." But let's be real only if you're the right kind of community member, preferably one who claps politely, poses for pics, and doesn't ask too many questions.

Her campaign style? Tokenism with a Teleprompter.

SIKH VOTES? YES PLEASE. SIKH QUESTIONS? ABSOLUTELY NOT.

Michelle and her team love to show up for Sikh New Year, hold a plate of samosas, and pose under a Khanda flag but when serious Sikh organizations ask policy questions, or raise human rights concerns. or request a meeting?

Radio. Silence.

You could blast a dhol in her inbox, and she'd still find a way to "not see it."

THE ART OF SELECTIVENESS.

Michelle's engagement with Sikhs is carefully curated like a political Instagram feed:

- ✓ A selfie at the Gurdwara
- ✓ Token community visit during Vaisakhi
- ✓ A quick quote about "diversity"
- ✗ No meetings with Panthic orgs
- ✗ No comments on Indian interference
- ✗ No response to detailed letters or community statements

It's minority appeasement but make it minimalist.

TICKING BOXES WITH MICHELLE & CO.

Her team's diversity strategy is straight from the 1990s political playbook:

- Step 1: Visit a few brown folks.
- Step 2: Post a photo.
- Step 3: Tag #MulticulturalAustralia
- Step 4: Never follow up.
- Step 5: Repeat every election.

It's like a game of Pokémon, but instead of catching 'em all, she's just trying to collect ethnic endorsements without actual accountability.

TRANSNATIONAL REPRESSION? THAT'S A BIT... INCONVENIENT.

Let's not forget when it comes to Indian state repression, or freedom of belief, Michelle's responses are more elusive than budget transparency during campaign season.

She's got Wi-Fi strong enough for selfies but not for reading reports from any serious human rights group.

But we understand .

AFTER ALL ALBO SAID " MODI IS THE BOSS"

Greenway deserves an MP who sees multicultural communities as more than campaign props. One who stands for ALL of us, not just the quiet, smiling ones who fit into a "diversity day" calendar slot.

Because here's the truth: real representation isn't convenient. It's consistent.

WE BELIEVE IN AUSTRALIA FIRST NOT MINORITY APPEASEMENT

CONCERNS OVER FOREIGN INFLUENCE

There have been reports and investigations into foreign interference in Australian politics, including activities linked to Indian intelligence operations. In 2020, Australia expelled two Indian intelligence officers over espionage concerns. Such incidents have raised questions about the extent and nature of foreign influence in domestic affairs

A 2024 ABC Four Corners investigation titled "Infiltrating Australia India's Secret War" further detailed these activities, revealing patterns of threats against Australian Sikh activists. Some individuals reported that their families in India were visited and threatened due to their activism in Australia. Others claimed to have received direct threats while in Australia or faced legal challenges in India as a consequence of their advocacy.

The Australian government has taken these allegations seriously. ASIO's actions in expelling the implicated individuals underscore Australia's commitment to safeguarding its national security and the integrity of its democratic institutions. While the government has not publicly detailed every aspect of these operations, it has affirmed its stance against foreign interference

**A MESSAGE TO EVERY AUSTRALIAN VOTER:
VOTE WISELY. YOUR FUTURE DEPENDS ON IT.
THIS ELECTION, DON'T FALL FOR SHINY
CAMPAIGNS OR STAGED DIVERSITY. VOTE WITH
YOUR CONSCIENCE. VOTE WITH AWARENESS.
VOTE WISELY.**

SOVEREIGN SIKHS: FEDERAL ELECTION CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

As we approach the upcoming federal election in New South Wales, it is vital that the Sikh Australian community is heard and represented. We believe that the issues impacting Sikh Australians, including the right to religious freedom, political representation, and protection from foreign interference, must be addressed by all candidates. With increasing concerns about India's influence and transnational repression, it is essential to hold our political leaders accountable for their views and stances. The following questions are designed to help guide conversations with candidates, providing an opportunity for them to outline their vision and commitment to the Sikh community in Australia.

10 QUESTIONS FOR ALL FEDERAL CANDIDATES IN NSW

- **Representation & Inclusion:** What is your vision for greater inclusion of Sikh Australians in federal policymaking, public service, and national conversations on multiculturalism?
- **Religious Freedom & Identity:** What steps will you take to protect the religious freedoms of Sikh Australians, including issues like wearing kirpans, turbans, and the right to organize around Sikh identity?
- **Addressing Indian Interference:** Do you acknowledge concerns about foreign interference by the Indian government in Australian politics? What will you do to address this?
- **Transnational Repression:** What is your stance on India's reported surveillance, harassment, and intimidation of Sikh activists and community members in Australia?
- **Community Safety:** How will you ensure the safety and security of Sikh Australians who have expressed dissenting views against the Indian government?
- **Diaspora Advocacy:** Will you support the right of Sikh Australians to advocate for issues affecting Punjab and the Sikh community globally, without being labeled extremists?
- **Visa & Asylum Issues:** Many Sikhs fleeing religious persecution in India face visa issues. What will you do to streamline fair refugee and asylum processing for Sikhs?
- **Parliamentary Inquiry Support:** Would you support a parliamentary inquiry into foreign interference and transnational repression by India in Australia?
- **Australia-India Relations:** Should human rights issues, including the treatment of Sikhs and farmers in India, be part of Australia's diplomatic discussions with India?
- **Community Funding & Empowerment:** How will you ensure equitable access to federal funding, grants, and programs for Sikh-led schools, media, and organizations?

11 EXTRA QUESTIONS FOR THE LIBERAL PARTY CANDIDATE FROM GREENWAY

- Could you elaborate on your family's connections with the Indian state and how this might shape your perspective on political issues impacting both Australia and India?
- What is your stance on the Khalistan referendum being held peacefully in Australia? Do you support Sikh Australians' right to vote in such initiatives?
- The Liberal Party under Scott Morrison was accused of overlooking Sikh concerns and ignoring Indian government interference. How will you restore trust with the Sikh community in Greenway?
- Will you disclose if your campaign or party is receiving any support, direct or indirect, from Indian government-aligned diaspora groups or foreign-linked influencers?
- As someone seeking votes from the Australian Sikh community, how do you plan to ensure that their interests and concerns are adequately addressed in your policies?
- If elected, will you establish a regular community forum with Sikh leaders in Greenway to stay accountable and informed on emerging issues?
- There is a strong desire among the Australian Sikh community for more political representation and support. How do you plan to give a voice to their issues at the federal level?
- Given your connection to India, how will you ensure that you are representing all Australians, including the Sikh community, without any bias toward India?
- How do you plan to address the specific challenges faced by the Australian Sikh community, including issues related to religious freedoms, cultural representation, and community integration?
- With your ties to the Indian state and leadership, what is your stance on the contentious issues that impact both Sikh diaspora, and how do you plan to manage any potential conflict of interest?
- How do you reconcile your familial ties with India and your role as a representative of the Australian people, ensuring that your work remains aligned with the interests of the diverse constituents and country you serve?

AKALI TIMES | NEXT EDITION TEASER

In the next explosive edition of AKALI TIMES, we go NATIONAL because the manipulation doesn't stop at borders, and neither do our questions.

Who's Really Leading Us?

Behind every 'Panthic' press release and pious Instagram post lies a calculated PR machine. We peel back the layers of the Self-Appointed Sikhocracy from Gurudwara boardroom brawls to charity checkbooks funding egos instead of langar.

Motorcycle Clubs or Ego Processions?

When did seva turn into stunt shows and leather jackets with logos louder than their values?

"Panthic" Media Houses or Paid Propaganda Machines?

Meet the influencers who claim to be journalists, but wouldn't know truth if it hit them like a wet jutti.

Glenwood Gurudwara Sahib meets... Scientology?

What do a sacred Sikh space and a cult-like corporate religion have in common?


Is it politics, greed, or something much more sinister brewing in the backrooms?

This edition asks the questions no one else dares to whisper in the langar hall.

If you're tired of being manipulated by the very people claiming to 'save' the Panth

Read AKALI TIMES.

We don't take sides. We take the mask off.

 Coming Soon. Truth has never been this entertaining.

and HOLD YOUR BREATH We look at

SFJ – Justice or Just Another Agenda? Is it pure love for Panjab and justice for Sikhs or is there something more strategic happening behind the scenes? We dive deep

Not taking anyone at face value—not SFJ, not the Indian state, not anyone.

Because in Panjab, truth has always been the first casualty.

 Think. Ask. Question.

And then decide where your loyalty and energy truly belong.