

9<sup>th</sup> April 2020

## FIRST SIKH MPs APPOINTED TO SHADOW CABINET

*Waheguru ji ka Khalsa, Waheguru ji ki Fateh*

Sikh Assembly extend their congratulations and support to Preet Kaur Gill MP and Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi MP who were both recently appointed to the new Labour Party Shadow Cabinet.

Preet Kaur Gill MP has achieved significant milestones for the Sikh community. She was elected in 2017 as the first female British Sikh MP for Birmingham Edgbaston and has recently been appointed as the Shadow Secretary of State for International Development.

Equally, Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi was elected as Britain's first turbaned Sikh MP for Slough in 2017. He has had prominent positions in the past including serving on the Defence Committee and Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Leader of the Opposition Jeremy Corbyn in January 2020. He has recently been appointed as the new Shadow Railways Minister.

Both are prominent and active members within the Sikh community as hard-working and approachable Members of Parliament. We are delighted that their talents have been recognised. Tanmanjeet and Preet have worked hard to encourage the Labour Party to listen and appreciate concerns of Sikhs living in the United Kingdom.

Following his victory as the new Leader of the Labour Party, Sir Keir Starmer has appointed his new Shadow Cabinet on ability and trust. We are excited that he has shown his confidence in these two premier Sikh politicians and wish them a prosperous future. Sikh Assembly wishes Preet and Tanmanjeet every success in their new appointments and look forward to seeing Sikh Cabinet Ministers soon.

**Paramjit Kaur Matharu, CEO of Sikh Assembly**, was very encouraged by the latest news,

*"This platform is novel for Sikhs in the UK, and Sikh Assembly offer their sincere congratulations and trust that Preet and Tanmanjeet will represent the interests of Sikhs and indeed all minority groups with a fair and non-partisan approach.*

*We wish them both every success in this new and essential role."*

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