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Prime Minister Justin Trudeau  
Office of the Prime Minister and Privy Council  
80 Wellington St., Ottawa, ON K1P 5K9

March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

**Re: Allegations of Indian government involvement in Jaspal Atwal controversy**

Mr. Prime Minister,

The decision to invite convicted would-be assassin Jaspal Atwal to events during your recent trip to India continues to affect Canada's credibility on the international stage. It has not only damaged Canada's international reputation, but your personal credibility as well. The assertion that you and your national security and intelligence advisor have put forward, that the Atwal affair was somehow the result of meddling by the Indian government, is an extremely serious one. If true, this would represent a serious breach of international protocol and must be addressed.

To date, the two conflicting explanations put forward by your officials have been less than credible. It is hard to see how Liberal backbencher Randeep Sarai was able to put Mr. Atwal's name on the delegate invite list without red flags being raised by national security review and the Canadian High Commission. If our national security apparatus failed us, we need to know. If, on the other hand, Liberal party officials were in the ensured that partisan considerations trumped national security vetting, then Canadians must also know.

This leads us to the explanation that you have advanced without further elaboration in the House of Commons – that the government of India was behind this debacle. New Delhi has stated that your claims are “baseless and inaccurate.” If these claims are false, efforts must be made to reach out to India and repair this breach. If true, it would represent a major question of outside interference in Canadian government affairs. We have only to

look south of the border to the investigation into Russian interference the election of President Trump to recognize the gravity of such a claim.

On behalf of NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh and the NDP, I am calling on you to launch an investigation into the allegations of foreign interference by the state of India, in the interest of Canadian sovereignty, its citizens, and integrity of our democratic institutions. The results of this investigation must be reported to Parliament.

We must be reassured that our Prime Minister understands that issues relating to national security and international diplomacy can never be sacrificed in order to satisfy merely partisan concerns.

Further, given the political valence of this issue, it is of the utmost importance that certain questions are answered as soon as possible. Parliament must know if the theory you have advanced is backed by credible evidence. If the evidence that is brought forward is classified or privileged, representatives of each party must be briefed in confidence. As Parliamentarians, we must all work together to protect Canada's credibility on the international stage and in opposing terrorism.

I look forward to hearing from you in this matter,



Charlie Angus, MP  
Timmins—James Bay