RASHTRA JYOTI

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Why Talhan Gurudwara Reversed Its Toy Airplane Ban

Original reporting by **Swati Goel Sharma**

Talhan's aeroplane gurudwara reversed a ban on toy offerings after yielding to public sentiment, its manager said. This November 2023 report follows the clash between Sikh maryada, migration hopes and shopkeepers' incomes, alongside the shrine's history of caste exclusion and contested management.



A shopkeeper sells toy airplanes outside the Talhan gurudwara.

THE ESSENTIAL POINTS

- The shrine initially prohibited toy airplanes after an Akal Takht directive described the offering practice as inconsistent with Sikh religious tradition.
- Although the ban had been lifted, Rajvinder said sales had not recovered because visitors remained unaware; she had sold no toys that day.
- Following the earlier management conflict, the state government took control of the gurudwara and included two Ramdasia members; the report describes subsequent peace.
- The prohibition banner remained, but toy offerings were accepted in a separate hall, away from the Guru Granth Sahib, and children could take them home.

THE TAKEAWAY

The Talhan gurudwara lifted the ban in response to public sentiment and moved toy airplane offerings to a separate hall.

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Updated from an original written by Swati Goel Sharma in November 2023. Summary prepared by Rashtra Jyoti Staff. Facts refer to the original reporting date.