



Dear Ms. Helps,

Thank you for your correspondence of May 7, 2021 sharing the Victoria City Council's concerns regarding the farmer-led protests in India. I am replying on behalf of the Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs. I regret the delay in responding to you.

On 1 December 2021, the Government of India formerly repealed the proposed agricultural reforms which had sparked the protests referred to in your correspondence. In response, the representatives of Indian farmer's unions agreed to end their 14-month long demonstration. Canada welcomes the resolution of this issue between the Government of India and relevant stakeholders.

I also acknowledge the concerns you raised regarding human rights in India. I wish to take this opportunity to assure you that the Government of Canada attaches great importance to protecting and advancing human rights and the values of democracy globally, including diversity, pluralism and the rule of law. These values are reflected in our engagement with all international partners, including the Government of India.

Thank you for taking the time to engage on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Gillian Frost
Executive Director
South Asia Division
Global Affairs Canada