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For Immediate Release

Statement of Support In Solidarity with Protesting Farmers in India

We, at the Scarborough Campus Students' Union, stand in solidarity with the protesting farmers of India.

For the past three months, protesters from different Indian states, mainly Sikh farmers from Punjab, Haranya and other places, travelled to the outskirts of Delhi, while the diasporic community has also been proactively taking action globally to voice their concerns.

The protests are in the wake of three newly introduced farm laws, which will only worsen the already harsh conditions that exist for farmers. It will leave the farmers even more vulnerable and under threat from big corporations.

The farmers and in particular members of the Sikh community have been taking action against these laws and the continuous injustices that they have been met with for decades. Since November, there have been major human rights' violations, over 100 farmers have died or have been reported missing, and the internet has been shut down for extended periods of time. There is a history of disappearance, genocidal violence and police brutality towards Sikhs, Dalits and minority communities in India. Dalit farmers, especially women from Punjab and other states already face extreme inequality and violence, hence the Dalit and women farmers and women labourers will be impacted the worst by this injustice.

Recognizing Indian government's role in imposing imperialism along with Hindu nationalism and superiority, we call on the International community to place pressure on the injustices taking place. We support the farmers of India, Sikh and the minority communities and all else, to denounce any acts of injustice placed by the current government of India. In particular, we stand in solidarity with Dalit, marginal and landless farmers and uplift their right to exist and to have autonomy over their lands and produce.

Farmers deserve dignity, justice, and their rights to be met and addressed. Farmers globally are integral to the survival of people and communities, and their livelihoods must be defended and honoured.

We also recognize that these events impact the lives of the diasporic community and we send our love.

For more information visit:

https://www.khalsaaid.org/news/farmers-protest-2020

To sign the petition visit:

https://www.change.org/p/the-indian-government-puniab-govt-save-the-sikh-farmers-in-india-save-their-land-and-save-their-li

The Blueprint, a new site founded by Feminist Dalit Women

https://theblueprint.news/news/2020/07/how-dalit-people-are-reclaiming-land-in-puniab/

In solidarity,

The Scarborough Campus Students' Union