Sikh Disinformation Lab

MISLEADING

OpIndia item on RSS chief's Canada tour assessed as misleading; review inconclusive

An OpIndia article syndicated on DailyHunt asserts that more than 100 Canadian Hindu and civil liberties organisations have asked the federal government to permit a visit by RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat, and describes two named NDP MPs as "pro-Khalistani". The Lab's review records the item as misleading and containing inaccuracies, with the overall assessment inconclusive.

PUBLISHED
15 September 2026

SOURCE POSTED
22 August 2026

NARRATIVES
Portraying Foreign Governments as Safe Havens for Sikh Activists

THE CLAIM

More than 100 organisations extend support to RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat ahead of his US and Canada tour, debunk propaganda targeting him

THE ANALYSIS

What was published, and where

On 22 August 2026, an English-language article carrying the headline "More than 100 organisations extend support to RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat ahead of his US and Canada tour, debunk propaganda targeting him" was published under the OpIndia masthead and distributed through the DailyHunt aggregator platform (m.dailyhunt.in). The item originates in India.

The Lab flagged the article and assigned it to the Portraying Foreign Governments as Safe Havens for Sikh Activists narrative.

What the item claims

As captured, the article asserts that the federal government "led by Prime Minister Mark Carney, has been asked by more than 100 Canadian Hindu and civil liberties outfits" to permit a visit by the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh chief.

The captured text further refers to federal ministers, naming Foreign Affairs Minister Anita Anand, and applies the descriptor "pro-Khalistani" to New Democratic Party members of Parliament, naming Jenny Kwan and Heather McPherson.

The headline additionally asserts that the organisations in question "debunk propaganda targeting him."

These are the publication's assertions, not established facts, and the Lab does not restate them as such.

What the review found

The analyst's review records the item's factual accuracy as "contains inaccuracies" and its character as **misleading**, at severity 4 on a five-point scale. The overall status of the review is recorded as **inconclusive** — meaning the available material did not permit a definitive determination on every element of the article, not that the article was found sound.

Two features of the item are relevant to the misleading classification.

First, the article's central quantitative claim — that "more than 100" Canadian Hindu and civil liberties organisations have made a joint request to the federal government — is presented without identification of the signatories in the captured text. A figure of that kind is not verifiable from the item as published, and the Lab's review did not establish it.

Second, the article attaches the political label "pro-Khalistani" to two sitting Canadian parliamentarians by name. The captured text supplies no evidentiary basis for that characterisation. Applying a contested political

label to named individuals, without supporting material, is a device that shifts an article from reporting into characterisation, and it is a recurring feature of the narrative cluster under which this item was filed.

The headline's framing — that the organisations "debunk propaganda targeting him" — likewise presents a conclusion as settled. The captured material does not show what was examined, by whom, or on what evidence.

Context

The Lab's classification of an item as misleading concerns the construction of the article: what it asserts, what it omits, and whether its claims are supported by material a reader can check. It is not a finding about the underlying question of whether any particular visit should or should not proceed, which is a matter for Canadian authorities and public debate.

Because the review status is inconclusive, the Lab is not asserting that the article's core claim is false. The finding is narrower and should be read narrowly: as published, the item makes an unverified numerical claim about Canadian civil society support, and it labels named Canadian elected officials without evidence. Readers encountering the article — including through aggregator platforms such as DailyHunt, which redistribute content without independent editorial verification — should treat both elements as unsubstantiated.

The Lab will update this finding if further material becomes available.

Verdict: Misleading. Review status: inconclusive. Severity: 4 of 5. Narrative: Portraying Foreign Governments as Safe Havens for Sikh Activists.

SOURCES

01 https://m.dailyhunt.in/news/india/english/opindia+english-epaper-opinden/more+than+100+organisations+extend+support+to+rss+chie

02 The Lab's analyst review record (flagged item, 22 August 2026): status Inconclusive; verdict nuance Misleading; severity 4; factual accuracy "contains inaccuracies"; the Portraying Foreign Governments as Safe Havens for Sikh Activists narrative.

Sikh Disinformation Lab

About Sikh Disinformation Lab

Sikh Disinformation Lab is an independent, evidence-based programme founded and hosted by the World Sikh Organization of Canada. It monitors, analyses and publicly documents disinformation affecting Sikhs.

The Lab examines claims against evidence, publishes assessments with that evidence attached, and tracks coordinated campaigns over time. Every published assessment names what was claimed, where it appeared, what the review found, and what that assessment rests on. Where an item makes several distinct claims, each is assessed separately.

Assessments are made against the methodology framework in force at the time of publication. That framework is public, versioned, and reviewed at each phase gate; a material change produces a new version rather than a silent edit. The full method is published at sikhdisinfolab.ca/method.

Corrections are dated entries, never silent edits. Where a published assessment is found to be wrong or incomplete, the correction is recorded against it and listed at sikhdisinfolab.ca/corrections. If you believe something published here is inaccurate, write to the programme and it will be reviewed.

Assessments are the responsibility of Sikh Disinformation Lab.

This project has been made possible with support from the Government of Canada.

> This document was generated from the published assessment at sikhdisinfolab.ca. The version of record is the one on the site, which carries any corrections issued after this file was made.