# Indian National Extradited to U.S. in Alleged Assassination Plot Against Sikh Leader



Nikhil Gupta, an Indian national, has been extradited from the Czech Republic to the United States in connection with an alleged plot to assassinate Sikh separatist leader Gurpatwant Singh Pannun. The extradition follows a series of legal proceedings, including the Czech Constitutional Court's recent rejection of Gupta's petition to avoid being sent to the U.S. Gupta is currently detained at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn.

U.S. federal prosecutors have accused Gupta of conspiring with an unnamed Indian government official to hire a hitman for $100,000 to kill Pannun, who is a dual U.S.-Canadian citizen and the general counsel for Sikhs for Justice, an organization advocating for a sovereign Sikh state, Khalistan, in northern India. The alleged hitman turned out to be an undercover federal agent.

Gupta is charged with plotting to kill multiple Sikh separatists in North America and faces up to 20 years in prison if convicted. He is scheduled to appear in federal court in New York. Pannun has welcomed the extradition but claimed that higher-ranking Indian officials are behind the plot. The Indian government has denied involvement and stated that such actions are against its policy.

This case has added strain to international relations, with similar allegations affecting ties between India and Canada. The Indian authorities have announced an investigation into the matter.