



Case profile: Jagtar Singh Johal (Jaggi)

From our new report: [Beyond Discretion: the protection of British nationals abroad](#)

Jaggi is a 30-year-old British citizen from Dumbarton, Scotland, who travelled to India to marry his fiancée in October 2017. On 4 November, while out shopping, Jaggi was seized by plain-clothes officers, hooded and abducted. Following a brief court hearing the subsequent day he was held incommunicado by Indian Police for nine days in an undisclosed location. He remains detained without charge.

Jaggi states that between 5 to 9 November, Indian Police tortured him by the means of electric shock to his ears, nipples and genitals, forcing his limbs into opposite directions and forced sleep deprivation. In a secret hearing on 10 November, witnesses reported that Jaggi had great difficulty in standing or walking and had to be assisted by the police officers escorting him in and out of the courtroom.

During his detention, Indian Police denied him of all private contact with his lawyers, British consular staff and his family in Scotland. He has also been denied an independent medical examination, repeatedly requested by his lawyers.

The British High Commission was only able to meet Jaggi for the first time on 16 November, nearly two weeks after his initial arrest. This meeting was supervised by Indian police. Requests for private consular meetings from Jaggi and the British High Commission have been repeatedly denied. On 21 November, the then-Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development, Rory Stewart, told UK members of parliament that the UK Government was taking Jaggi's case seriously and would "take extreme action if a British citizen is being tortured."

Jaggi has been brought before multiple court hearings over the past three months, and has been taken in and out of judicial and police custody.

On 18 December 2017, ENSAAF and REDRESS submitted an urgent appeal to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture to call on the Indian Government to ensure Jaggi is protected from further torture and to be provided an immediate independent medical examination.

At the time of writing, Jaggi remains detained without charge or any evidence brought against him, with no access to private consular assistance, limited access to his lawyer, and has not been granted an independent medical examination.

