

# Campaign against apostasy planned

**Kuldeep Mann**

■ kuldeepht@gmail.com

**AMRITSAR:** Guru Ram Das Sikh Mission of America (GRDS-MA), constituted to further the mission of Harbhajan Singh Yogi by his son-in-law Satpal Singh Kohli, is planning to bring some Christian-turned-Sikhs from the United States to Punjab to appeal against apostasy.

Kohli, on a personal India visit, said it was a cause of concern that contrary to the trend in US, a large chunk of people in Punjab was moving away from the religion's mainstream.

"The growing trend of apostasy and drug addiction among Punjab's youth needs to be handled firmly," he said.

Appointed honorary secretary of international affairs by the Akal Takht, Kohli said he would play his part in serving the religion in Punjab.

He said even a fraction of the nearly 40,000 people of foreign origin, who embraced Sikhism under the Yoga and Meditation mantra of Harbhajan Singh Yogi, could make a big difference by coming to Punjab for the religion preaching campaign.

He claimed that in the post-9/11 era, Sikhism had got more recognition worldwide.

"Now, citizens of countries



**The growing trend of apostasy and drug addiction among Punjab's youth needs to be handled firmly**

**SATPAL SINGH KOHLI**

like the US, Canada and UK can easily and clearly differentiate between Sikhs and Arabs, thanks to the efforts made by several pro-religion agencies," he said.

Kohli, however, stated that Sikhs should avoid unnecessary controversies, especially around the apex Sikh body, the Akal Takht, and the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC).