

KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN INDIAN-ADMINISTERED KASHMIR

November 1, 2025 – November 30, 2025

SUMMARY

In November 2025, Indian authorities continued to commit grave human rights violations in Indian-administered Kashmir (IAK). Indian forces killed at least two people. Indian authorities substantially escalated their ongoing systematic campaigns of mass detention, raids and property expropriations, conducting hundreds of raids and cordon-and-search operations (CASOs) and detaining thousands of people, targeting, among others, scholars, physicians, their families and associates as well as people and locations allegedly affiliated with Jamaat-e-Islami Jammu and Kashmir (JelJ&K). Indian authorities further escalated the suppression of press freedom through enhanced surveillance and data gathering on journalists and completed their longstanding crackdown on Kashmir Times.

Numerous Kashmiri journalists, human rights defenders, activists, and dissenters continue to be arbitrarily detained. Emblematic cases include those of human rights defender Khurram Parvez—illegally imprisoned for over four years (1,507 days), journalist Irfan Mehraj—illegally imprisoned for almost three years (1,023 days), human rights lawyer Mian Abdul Qayoom—illegally imprisoned for over a year and a half (561 days) and scholar Shafat Wani—illegally imprisoned for over nine months (272 days).

Note: Due to ongoing repression by Indian authorities, key developments in the human rights situation in IAK have gone unreported. Indian authorities have criminalized independent journalism and human rights work; all reporting from IAK is state-controlled. Indian authorities label pro-human rights and pro-self-determination activity “terrorism” and systematically legitimate violations against people in IAK through unsubstantiated, demonizing labels, including: “terrorist,” “militant,” “secessionist,” “militant,” “overground worker” (or “OGW”), “hybrid militant,” “hybrid terrorist,” “terrorist associate,” “militant associate,” “intruder,” or “infiltrator.”

KILLINGS AND EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE

On November 8, 2025, Indian forces [killed two](#) people in Keran, Kupwara district and labelled them “terrorists.”

VIOLATIONS OF THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, FREEDOM OF PRESS

On November 6, 2025, Indian authorities instituted enhanced [surveillance and data gathering on journalists](#) to curb the purported “menace of fake journalists” and seeking to only permit work by those “duly validated and authenticated” by the state.

On November 18, 2025, Indian authorities [arrested](#) Dr. Umer Farooq Bhat, a doctor at SMHS Hospital in Srinagar, along with his wife Shahzada Akhtar for her online expression labelled “unlawful.”

On November 20, 2025, the State Investigation Agency (SIA) [raided](#) Kashmir Times’ Jammu office, completing its ongoing crackdown on the media organization. Authorities detained a security guard and seized equipment and archives. The raid was [widely condemned](#). [RSF](#) noted that the region “has become a virtual black hole as far as information is concerned” and condemned “the punitive targeting of an independent media outlet and a fabricated case designed to silence one of the few critical voices that continues to cover Kashmir.” [IFJ](#) noted India’s long censorship of

journalists in IAK “continues to stifle press freedom and silence critical voices.” Senior journalist [Iftikhar Gilani](#) described the legacy of the Kashmir Times and significance of another attempt to erase a historic institution and a critical archive in IAK.

On November 27, 2025, Indian authorities [demolished](#) the home of journalist Arfaz Daing’s parents in Narwal, Jammu district. Authorities previously demolished Arfaz’s home in Bathinda, Jammu district.

ARBITRARY DETENTIONS AND RAIDS

On November 6, 2025, Indian authorities [detained](#) Shah Mutaib and Kamran Hasan of Koolipora Khanyar, Srinagar, and Mohd. Nadeem of Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. In addition, arbitrarily detained politician Engineer Rashid was [attacked](#) in Tihar Jail.

On November 7, 2025, Indian authorities [arrested](#) Dr. Adil Ahmad Rather of Qazigund, Anantnag district in Saharanpur, UP for allegedly putting up a banned poster in Srinagar on October 27.

On November 8, 2025, Counter Intelligence Kashmir (CIK) [raided](#) various jails including Central Jail Srinagar and District Jail Kupwara.

On November 9, 2025, Indian authorities [raided](#) various [locations](#) across several districts and [arrested at least nine people](#). Indian authorities also arrested [two doctors](#) from Government Medical College, Anantnag and labelled them “terrorist associates.”

On November 10, 2025, Indian authorities [arrested](#) Dr. Muzammil Shakeel from, a faculty member of Al-Falah University, Faridabad, UP, as well as Arif Nisar Dar, Yasir-ul-Ashraf, Maqsood Ahmad Dar, Maulvi Irfan Ahmed, an *imam* from Shopian, and Zameer Ahmad Ahanger.

On November 10, 2025, Indian authorities [raided](#) properties linked to US-based activist Ghulam Nabi Fai, initiating property expropriation proceedings. Indian authorities also conducted raids and CASOs across multiple districts, [detaining over 100](#) people.

On November 11, 2025, Indian authorities [conducted](#) raids and CASOs across multiple districts and detained at least 1,500 people, including “suspected OGWs, sympathizers and family members of militants.”

On November 12, 2025, Indian authorities [detained Ghulam Nabi Bhat](#) in Pulwama district, as well as [his wife and two sons](#). Indian authorities reported [raiding over 500](#) locations allegedly linked to JelJ&K and detaining over 600 people.

On November 16, 2025, India’s National Investigation Agency (NIA) [arrested](#) Amir Rashid Ali of Pampore, Pulwama district.

On November 17, 2025, Bilal Ahmad Wani of Qazigund, Anantnag district [died](#) from self-immolation protesting the detention of his son and brother.

On November 18, 2025, Counter Intelligence Kashmir (CIK) [conducted](#) predawn raids at multiple locations across Kashmir.

On November 22, 2025, Indian authorities [arrested](#) Tufail Niyaz Bhat of Diyarwani, Batamaloo, Srinagar district, and [Muzaffar Rather](#) of Pulwama district, and labelled them “terrorist associates.”

On November 27, 2025, Indian authorities [raided](#) various locations allegedly linked to JeIJ&K, including the homes and businesses of Umar Sultan Guru of Al Noor Colony, Chanpora, Srinagar, Mohd. Abdullah Wani of Wadwan, Budgam, Gh. Mohd. Bhat of Bemina, Srinagar, Haji Mohammad Ramzan Lone of Sheikh Mohalla, Soura, Srinagar, Shahid Zahgeer of Buchpora, Soura, Srinagar, Mohd. Ramzan Naik of Barhar Lalbazar, Srinagar, Bashir Ahmad Lone of Syedpora, Harwan, Srinagar, Peer Giyas Ud Din of Nowgam, Srinagar, and Manzoor Ahmad of Nowgam Chowk, Srinagar, along with private establishments including Jamiat-ul-Banaat, Kashmir University at Umer Colony, Lal Bazar, Srinagar, Rahat Manzil Orphanage at Bagh-i-Nand Singh Chattabal, Srinagar and Chinar Publication Trust and Al-Kousar Book Shop, both at Maisuma, Srinagar. Authorities also raided various other locations in Awanitipora, Handwara, Anantnag, Budgam, Kulgam, Pulwama and Shopian.

See also the arrests of Dr. Umer Farooq Bhat and Shahzada Akhtar reported above. The November 2025 escalated campaign of raids and detentions impacted thousands of people and mostly went unreported. Activists, scholars, physicians and their families (including the families and associates of activists and scholars working on IAK outside of India’s jurisdiction) were especially targeted.

TAKING AND DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY; ECONOMIC DISEMPOWERMENT

On November 12, 2025, Indian authorities [expropriated](#) the home and land of human rights lawyer Mian Abdul Qayoom.

On November 22, 2025, Indian authorities [expropriated](#) the lands of Mubashir Ahmad of Syedabad Pastoona, Tral, Pulwama district.

Indian authorities are [establishing](#) another Central Reserve Police Force base spanning 1,324 kanals (~165 acres) within the Zabarwan conservation reserve in Nishat, Srinagar, part of Dachigam National Park’s protected catchment area.

On November 23, 2025, India’s governor in IAK [accepted](#) a BJP memorandum seeking to scrap a medical degree admissions list because 42 of 50 merit-selected students were Muslims.

POLITICAL DISEMPOWERMENT, VIOLATION OF POLITICAL RIGHTS, AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE

Official Indian data demonstrate that [631 non-locals](#) purchased land in IAK since 2019, valued at ₹129.97 crore.

COLLECTIVE PUNISHMENT

On November 9, 2025, Indian forces imposed CASOs in [multiple locations](#) across Ramban, Kishtwar, Doda, Reasi, Kathua and Rajouri districts. Indian authorities also [terminated](#) two Special Police Officers, Abdul Latief and Mohammad Abbas of Kathua district, and labelled them “terrorist associates.”

On November 13, 2025, Indian forces [demolished](#) the Koil, Pulwama home of Dr. Umar Nabi, an alleged suspect in a bombing case in Delhi, using explosives. At least eight other families were forced out of their homes, and their homes damaged by the explosions.

On November 19, 2025, Indian forces [imposed](#) a CASO in Tappar Kreeri, Baramulla district.

On November 22, 2025, Indian forces [demolished](#) the house of the brother of an alleged drug smuggler in Bishnah, Jammu district.

On November 28, 2025, Indian forces [imposed](#) a CASO in Chigla-Balotha, Basantgarh, Udhampur district.

The NIA [intensified](#) surveillance and data collection of Kashmiris who obtained medical degrees from Pakistan and Bangladesh over the past two decades. *See also* the CASOs and raids associated with detentions as well as the demolition of journalist Afraz Daing's house reported above.

VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Indian authorities have [intensified](#) surveillance and data gathering at Muslim religious institutions, demanding detailed records of, among other things, students, donations, visiting scholars and service providers.

ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

On November 24, 2025, Indian authorities kicked off a road show for [limestone mining rights](#) on 314 hectares across Anantnag, Rajouri, and Poonch districts. Indian authorities claim such IAK resources as "[essential](#)." In addition to being illegal colonial extraction, such projects involve broad, serious violations of economic, cultural and social rights as well as environmental rights.

Jehangir Ali [documented](#) the consequences of riverbed mining in support of government "development" projects (like a new road which itself results in serious violations of economic, cultural, social and environmental rights) that have resulted in the destruction of freshwater resources, hundreds of livelihoods, critical trout habitat and access to fresh water for thousands. Similarly, industrial units that the government promotes as "development" projects continue to [emit toxic fumes](#) damaging public health and ecology, including in Mohra and Gantamulla areas of Baramulla district.

TARGETING OF KASHMIRIS; DISCRIMINATION

Thousands of Kashmiri [students](#) and professionals in India faced intensified [collective suspicion](#), [harassment](#), denial of basic services and [evictions](#).

DENIAL OF ACCESS TO JUSTICE, LEGALIZED IMPUNITY

Article 14 [reported](#) on Urzeeba Qayoom's ongoing, 15-year struggle for justice for the August 20, 2010 custodial killing of her brother Umer Qayoom Bhat at the age of 17.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND REPORTS

On November 17, 2025, Nasir Qadri [published](#) “A bomb went off in New Delhi, houses were razed in Kashmir – normalisation of war crimes in India.”

On November 20, 2025, Azad Essa [published](#) “In Kashmir, a desperate father set himself on fire. India looked away.”

On November 21, 2015, AFAD, FORUM-ASIA, CIVICUS, Front Line Defenders, FIDH, KLJP, OMCT issued a joint [statement](#) “Arbitrarily Detained Without Trial for Four Years—Khurram Parvez Must be Released.” On November 22, 2025, Suchitra Vijayan [published](#) “Four Years Too Long: Kashmiri Human Rights Defender Khurram Parvez Remains Jailed Without Trial.” [Gina Romero](#), UN Special Rapporteur on Free Assembly and Association, and [Mary Lawlor](#), UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders, publicly called for Khurram Parvez’s immediate release.

On November 24, 2025, UN experts issued a press release [condemning](#) Indian authorities’ last major escalation of repression in IAK in May 2025, including the arbitrary arrest of approximately 2,800 people, mass arbitrary detention, torture, denial of due process and prisoner rights, anti-Kashmiri and anti-Muslim discrimination, collective punishment (including through house demolitions, forced evictions and arbitrary displacement), communication blackouts and restrictions on press freedom, as well as the persistent nature of violations in the region. They also called for the immediate and unconditional release of arbitrarily detained human rights defenders, including [Irfan Mehraj](#) and [Khurram Parvez](#), and for India to bring its laws and practices in line with international human rights obligations.

Jisa Jos [published](#) “The Erosion of Human Rights in Kashmir: An International Law Perspective” on the problem of impunity in IAK.



kashmirlaw@protonmail.com
<https://www.kljp.org/>



kashmirscholarsnetwork@protonmail.com
<https://kashmir-scholars.org/>



legal@projectsouth.org
<https://projectsouth.org/>

Published January 7, 2026