

**Shadow Report on India's Compliance with the International Convention on the
Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) in Indian-Administered
Kashmir (IAK)**

**Submitted to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination for its Review of
India's Combined Twentieth and Twenty-First Periodic Reports**

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Submitted by a Coalition of Organizations Consisting of:

Kashmir Law and Justice Project (KLJP)

International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)



FIDH INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Introduction

This shadow report is submitted for the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination's (the "Committee") review of India's combined twentieth and twenty-first periodic reports at its 118th Session, held from 10 to 25 August 2026. It concerns India's obligations under ICERD (the "Convention") in Indian-administered Kashmir (IAK), where Kashmiris are, and consider themselves to be, a distinct ethnic or national group with a common and distinct language, history, culture, and homeland, and are therefore protected under the Convention, as the Committee has itself previously recognized.¹ Indian authorities have denied Kashmiris equal enjoyment of rights protected under ICERD.

Since August 2019, many longstanding patterns of discrimination and repression in IAK have intensified. The violations described in this report should not only be viewed in isolation. Together, they constitute and evidence a discriminatory structure through which Kashmiris are denied equal enjoyment of rights and are deprived of meaningful access to redress, representation, land, livelihood, religious freedom, expression, assembly, and public participation.

The report is organized around specific issues raised by the Committee in the List of Issues Prior to Reporting (LOIPR) and is divided into three sections: 1. Grave Violations by State Forces and Structural Impunity; 2. Post-2019 Discriminatory Disempowerment and Suppression of Dissent; and 3. Hate Speech and Denial of Religious Freedom.

This submission draws on both primary and secondary research. Individual cases are included only where information is publicly available or explicit consent has been obtained from the victims or their families.

¹ United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, "Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination: India," CERD/C/304/Add.13, September 17, 1996, 3, <https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/gen/g96/183/45/pdf/g9618345.pdf>

Section 1.) Grave Violations by State Forces and Structural Impunity (Arts. 2, 5, 6)

This section addresses issues raised in the Committee’s LOIPR under Article 5 concerning steps taken to prevent and investigate arbitrary arrests, enforced disappearances, torture, extrajudicial killings, including “fake encounters,” and sexual and other violence by police, military, and other State forces, as well as to impose disciplinary or criminal measures on law enforcement officers who fail in their duties of protection or investigation. It also responds to the Committee’s LOIPR requests under Article 2 concerning measures taken to repeal the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act and the mandate, resources, and effectiveness of India’s human rights institutions, as well as its requests under Article 6 concerning access to justice, the investigation and prosecution of violations, and victims’ access to effective remedies and compensation.

In IAK, these issues are inseparable: grave violations by Indian forces have persisted for decades within a system that shields State forces from accountability and systematically denies victims access to justice and effective remedies. This section first documents patterns of violations, before addressing the legal, institutional, and practical barriers that have entrenched impunity.

1.1) Arbitrary Arrest, Torture, Extrajudicial Killings and Enforced Disappearances

For decades, Indian forces have committed widespread and grave human rights violations in IAK amounting to atrocity crimes,² which remain ongoing. These include extrajudicial killings,³ torture,⁴ willfully causing great suffering or serious injury,⁵ unlawful confinement,⁶ and enforced disappearances.⁷ Sometimes such killings take place in staged or “fake encounters,”⁸ followed by systematic attempts to conceal these crimes.

² International Peoples’ Tribunal on Human Rights and Justice in Indian-Administered Kashmir (IPTK) and Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons (APDP), *Structures of Violence: The Indian State in Jammu and Kashmir* (Srinagar: IPTK and APDP, September 2015), <https://jkccs.wordpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/structures-of-violence-e28093-main-report.pdf>.

³ IPTK and APDP, *Structures of Violence*.

⁴ Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons (APDP) and Jammu Kashmir Coalition of Civil Society (JKCCS), *Torture: Indian State’s Instrument of Control in Indian-Administered Jammu and Kashmir* (Srinagar: APDP and JKCCS, 2019), <https://jkccs.info/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/TORTURE-Indian-State%E2%80%99s-Instrument-of-Control-in-Indian-administered-Jammu-and-Kashmir.pdf>.

⁵ Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons (APDP), “My World Is Dark”: *State Violence and Pellet-Firing Shotgun Victims from the 2016 Uprising in Kashmir* (Srinagar: APDP, October 2019), <https://apdpkashmir.com/my-world-is-dark-state-violence-and-pellet-firing-shotgun-victims-from-the-2016-uprising-in-kashmir/>

⁶ Amnesty International, *India: Punitive Use of Preventive Detention Legislation in Jammu and Kashmir*, ASA 20/010/2000 (London: Amnesty International, May 15, 2000), <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa20/010/2000/en/>

⁷ Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons (APDP), *Facts Under Ground: A Fact-Finding Mission on Nameless Graves and Mass Graves in Uri Area* (Srinagar: APDP, 2008), <https://jkccs.wordpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/facts-under-ground-first-report-on-mass-graves-in-kashmir.pdf>

⁸ International People’s Tribunal on Human Rights and Justice in Indian-administered Kashmir, *Buried Evidence: Unknown, Unmarked and Mass Graves in Indian-Administered Kashmir* (November 2009), republished by Kashmir Law & Justice Project, November 23, 2023, <https://www.kljip.org/articles/buried-evidence-unknown-unmarked-and-mass-graves-in-indian-administered-kashmir>

Notable recent examples of such violations include:

- In December 2023, the Indian Army's Rashtriya Rifles (48th Battalion) arbitrarily detained and tortured at least [13 civilians](#) and killed [at least three](#) in Poonch and Rajouri districts.
- Following the killings of 26 tourists in Pahalgam in April 2025, Indian authorities arrested and detained [at least 2,800 people](#), some of whom were allegedly tortured and denied access to lawyers and family members, and raided at least [63 homes](#). In response, [UN experts](#) raised alarm over the human rights violations committed by Indian authorities and publicly condemned the “discriminatory treatment of Kashmiri and Muslim communities.”
- In September 2025, the [corpse of Firdous Ahmed Mir](#) of Hajin, Banidpora district was found in a river; he was reportedly [killed in the Indian Army's custody](#).
- In March 2026, Indian authorities [detained at least 17 Kashmiri students](#) at Mewar University in Chittorgarh, Rajasthan over a [protest](#) against the university's failure to achieve accreditation, one of many cases in which Kashmiris in India are subjected to discriminatory treatment.

1.2) Sexual Violence

Although precise data are scarce, sexual violence has been a pervasive issue in IAK, especially since 1990.⁹ Studies have found that women in IAK have experienced one of the highest rates of sexual violence in the world.¹⁰ Due to structural impunity, threats of reprisal, and fear of stigma, sexual violence in IAK has been systematically underreported. Sexual violence in IAK is wielded as a weapon of repression and collective punishment.¹¹

The most widely reported and well-documented examples include:

- The February 1991 mass rape/mass torture event at [Kunan-Poshpora](#). Despite substantial evidence and longstanding efforts by victims' families through all available mechanisms, no perpetrators have ever been held to account. Many victims have now died without remedy.
- The May 2009 rape and murder in [Shopian](#) of 17-year-old Asiya Jan and 22-year-old Neelofar Jan. Again, no perpetrators were held to account. Despite official obstruction, two doctors conducted post-mortems demonstrating rape and murder (contrary to the official narrative). In 2023, those two doctors, [Dr. Bilal Ahmad Dalal and Dr. Nighat](#)

⁹ Asia Watch and Physicians for Human Rights, *Rape in Kashmir: A Crime of War*, vol. 5, issue 9 (New York: Human Rights Watch, 1993), <https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/INDIA935.PDF>.

¹⁰ Kaz de Jong et al., *Kashmir: Violence and Health: A Quantitative Assessment on Violence, the Psychosocial and General Health Status of the Indian Kashmiri Population* (Amsterdam: Médecins Sans Frontières/Artsen Zonder Grenzen, November 2006), <https://www.msf.org/sites/default/files/2018-08/kashmir-violence-and-mental-health.pdf>.

¹¹ Asia Watch and Physicians for Human Rights, *Rape in Kashmir*.

[Shaheen Chilloo](#), were targeted for reprisal and fired for opposing the State's narrative in the case.

1.3) Discriminatory Legislation Enabling Violations and Impunity

Myriad laws that contravene international human rights standards are deployed as tools of repression and discrimination against Kashmiris in IAK. The principal instruments include the *Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978* (PSA),¹² the *Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967* (UAPA),¹³ and the *Armed Forces (Jammu and Kashmir) Special Powers Act, 1990* (AFSPA).¹⁴

The PSA, which authorizes detention without charges or trial for up to two years on vague grounds, is routinely used to pretextually, arbitrarily, and prolongedly detain Kashmiris without access to remedy or recourse.¹⁵

The UAPA, India's principal counter-terrorism law, was amended in 2019 to expand Indian authorities' power to designate individuals as terrorists and impose severe sanctions even before allegations are proven in court. UN human rights experts have repeatedly raised grave concerns about the UAPA and abuses thereunder including in May 2020¹⁶ and October 2023.¹⁷ While the law applies across India, it has had a disproportionate impact on Kashmiris. Although IAK residents constitute only 1.05% of India's population (and Kashmiri Muslims, those specifically targeted, about 0.57%), they accounted for 26.19% of the aggregate number of arrests under the UAPA in 2020.¹⁸

¹² *Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978*, Act No. VI of 1978, Government Gazette, April 8, 1978, India Code, https://www.indiacode.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/16496/1/public_safety_act%2C_1978.pdf.

¹³ *Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967*, Act No. 37 of 1967, December 30, 1967, Ministry of Home Affairs, <https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/A1967-37.pdf>.

¹⁴ *Armed Forces (Jammu and Kashmir) Special Powers Act, 1990*, Act No. 21 of 1990, September 10, 1990, Ministry of Home Affairs, https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/The%20Armed%20Forces%20%28Jammu%20and%20Kashmir%29%20Special%20Powers%20Act%2C%201990_0.pdf.

¹⁵ Amnesty International India, *Tyranny of a "Lawless Law": Detention without Charge or Trial under the J&K Public Safety Act* (Bengaluru: Indians for Amnesty International Trust, 2019), https://www.amnesty.be/IMG/pdf/tyranny_of_a_lawless_law_-_briefing.pdf.

¹⁶ Mandates of the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms While Countering Terrorism et al., communication to the Government of India concerning the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act 2019 and the 1967 Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, OL IND 7/2020, May 6, 2020, <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadPublicCommunicationFile?gId=25219>.

¹⁷ Mandates of the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms While Countering Terrorism et al., communication to the Government of India concerning the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, and related enforcement agencies, OL IND 10/2023, October 31, 2023, <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadPublicCommunicationFile?gId=28593>.

¹⁸ TNN, "Over Half of UAPA-Accused in 18–30 Age Group: MHA Data," *The Times of India*, August 4, 2022, <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/over-half-of-uapa-accused-in-18-30-age-group-mha-data/articleshow/93332598.cms>.

The UAPA in particular is often used as a tool to deny Kashmiris who engage with human rights-related activism, journalism, law, or academic scholarship, the ability to participate fully in political and public life.

In many cases, the PSA and UAPA are used together to ensure that Kashmiris are kept in indefinite detention without proper judicial review: when courts strike down a PSA detention order, detainees are often immediately re-arrested under the UAPA, or vice versa.

AFSPA grants Indian forces extraordinary powers, including to use lethal force and conduct warrantless searches, while shielding them from prosecution unless explicitly authorized by the Indian central government. AFSPA has applied in IAK since January 1990, through decades of grave violations. As noted by the OHCHR, the Government of India has never approved such a prosecution for violations in IAK, resulting in legalized impunity and a climate which promotes violations.¹⁹ In its 2007 concluding observations on India, the Committee urged the State to repeal the AFSPA.²⁰ Nearly two decades later, AFSPA remains in force.

In addition to the PSA, the AFSPA and the UAPA, the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) and other laws have been weaponized to suppress civil society, human rights work and dissent in IAK.²¹ Indian authorities have used FCRA to deny Kashmiri civil society the ability to move funds since the early 1980s. For decades, Kashmiri NGOs have been denied FCRA. The few that maintain legacy FCRA (from prior to 1980) are faced with constant threat and harassment by Indian authorities. As noted by the UN Human Rights Council's Special Procedures, these laws form part of a broader "architecture" that is "ripe for human rights abuse... particularly the obligation to respect, protect, and fulfill the rights to equality and non-discrimination, the rights to freedom of expression and freedom of association, and the right of liberty and security of person."²²

Rather than repeal or reform its architecture for human rights abuse, the Indian State continues to develop and expand it. On February 23, 2026, the Indian authorities unveiled their newest counter-terrorism policy, which is anchored in the violative Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act

¹⁹ Amnesty International, *India: "Denied": Failures in Accountability for Human Rights Violations by Security Force Personnel in Jammu and Kashmir*, ASA 20/1874/2015 (London: Amnesty International, July 1, 2015), <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa20/1874/2015/en/>.

²⁰ Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, *Concluding Observations: India*, CERD/C/IND/CO/19, May 5, 2007, para. 12, <https://docs.un.org/en/CERD/C/IND/CO/19>.

²¹ International Commission of Jurists, "India: Repressive Law on Foreign Contributions Stifles NGOs—Must Be Revised or Scrapped—ICJ Briefing Paper," November 12, 2020, <https://www.icj.org/resource/india-repressive-law-on-foreign-contributions-stifles-ngos-must-be-revised-or-scrapped/>.

²² Mandates of the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms While Countering Terrorism et al., communication to the Government of India concerning the counterterrorism legislative and regulatory framework applicable to Jammu and Kashmir, OL IND 6/2023, August 8, 2023, 2, <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadPublicCommunicationFile?gId=28286>.

(UAPA) and Prevention of Money Laundering Act that emphasizes preemptive measures focused on digital activity and preventative “deradicalization”.²³ Bipin Rawat, then India’s Chief of Defense Staff and considered an expert on Kashmir policy, suggested at a high-level policy conference in 2020 that Kashmiri children should be “taken into some deradicalization camps.”²⁴ Dissent is routinely labelled “radicalization” in IAK and used as a pretext for criminal prosecutions, as the recent November 2025 case of Dr. Shahzada Akhtar²⁵ and the February 2026 case of Altaf Hussain Wagay and Shabir Ahmad Sheikh²⁶ illustrate.

1.4) Denial of Access to Justice

Indian authorities have long legalized impunity²⁷ for human rights violations and atrocity crimes in IAK and denied Kashmiris access to justice.²⁸ As noted by the OHCHR²⁹ and leading international human rights groups,³⁰ impunity for human rights violations and lack of access to justice have long been and remain key human rights challenges in IAK.

Furthermore, victims of human rights violations in IAK are routinely subjected to coercion, threats, and collective punishment, deterring reporting.³¹ Even those who once pursued remedies, despite knowing justice was unlikely, have increasingly withdrawn or disclaimed cases under pressure. One of the few who continues to publicly fight for justice is the father of Tufail Ahmad

²³ Soumya Awasthi, “PRAHAAR: India’s New Counter-Terror Policy in a Hybrid Threat Era,” *Observer Research Foundation*, February 26, 2026, <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/prahaar-india-s-new-counter-terror-policy-in-a-hybrid-threat-era>.

²⁴ “Indian General Talks of ‘Deradicalization Camps’ for Kashmiris,” *N.Y. Times* (Jan. 17, 2020), <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/17/world/asia/india-kashmir-camps.html>; Akash Bisht, “Fear in Kashmir as top general talks of ‘deradicalisation’ camps,” *Al Jazeera* (Jan. 24, 2020), <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/01/fear-kashmir-top-general-talks-deradicalisation-camps-200124081502319.html>.

²⁵ Observer News Service, “Social Media ‘Misuse’: SMHS Doctor, Wife Detained in CIK Raids,” *Kashmir Observer*, November 18, 2025, <https://kashmirobsrver.net/2025/11/18/cik-detains-doctor-his-wife-for-indulging-in-unlawful-activities/>.

²⁶ GK Web Desk, “SIA Chargesheets Two for Spreading Secessionist Content to Radicalize Youth,” *Greater Kashmir*, February 17, 2026, <https://www.greaterkashmir.com/kashmir/sia-chargesheets-two-for-spreading-secessionist-content-to-radicalize-youth/>.

²⁷ Amnesty International, “Denied.”

²⁸ Amnesty International India, *Kashmir: Situation Update and Analysis* (October 18, 2019), archived at Internet Archive, <https://web.archive.org/web/20191226134921/https://amnesty.org.in/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Amnesty-International-India-Kashmir-Situation-Update-Final.pdf>.

²⁹ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, *Report on the Situation of Human Rights in Kashmir: Developments in the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir from June 2016 to April 2018, and General Human Rights Concerns in Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan* (Geneva: OHCHR, June 14, 2018), <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Countries/IN/DevelopmentsInKashmirJune2016ToApril2018.pdf>.

³⁰ Human Rights Watch, “India: Repression Persists in Jammu and Kashmir,” August 2, 2022, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/08/02/india-repression-persists-jammu-and-kashmir>.

³¹ United Nations Human Rights Council, *Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders, Margaret Sekaggya: Addendum: Mission to India (10–21 January 2011)*, UN Doc. A/HRC/19/55/Add.1, February 6, 2012, <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Issues/Defenders/A-HRC-19-55-Add1.pdf>.

Mattoo, who continues to be denied remedy for his son's extrajudicial killing after more than 15 years of struggle through all available mechanisms.³²

Notable recent examples include:

- Several human rights–related commissions (that lacked prosecutorial power but provided a venue to hear victims) in IAK have been [de-operationalized](#) since August 2019, [including](#) the State Human Rights Commission, the State Accountability Commission, the State Commission for Persons with Disabilities, and the State Commission for Protection of Women and Child Rights. India's National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has not provided a meaningful venue for victims in the region, having registered only [one](#) case involving Indian forces in IAK since 2019.
- In May 2023, the Indian government [implemented a new law](#) in IAK that requires the consent of the Indian government to arrest any personnel of India's armed forces or police for "anything done or purported to be done" as part of their "official duties."
- Through repression, Indian authorities have de-operationalized all civil society organizations and individuals working toward accountability in IAK, including lawyers. For example, the primary lawyers' association working towards accountability in IAK, the Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association (JKHCBA), has been [barred](#) from operating for defending human rights – characterized by the State as harboring "[secessionist ideology](#)" and providing [legal aid](#) to "anti-national elements."
- In an extremely rare case of acknowledgement of any kind, it took 28 years of struggle for the family of Abdul Rashid Wani of Bemina, Srinagar to get a court to simply [declare](#) him legally dead – after his enforced disappearance by the 2/8 Gorkha Rifles in 1997.

Section 2.) Post-2019 Discriminatory Disempowerment and Suppression of Dissent (Arts. 2 & 5)

This section responds to the Committee's LOIPR request under Article 2 concerning measures taken to ensure that the decision to end Jammu and Kashmir's special status and enact new laws does not lead to discrimination against minorities on the grounds of race, colour, descent, or national or ethnic origin, including with regard to employment and land ownership. It also responds to the Committee's LOIPR request under Article 5 concerning measures taken to respect and implement collective and individual ownership rights over traditionally occupied lands, including safeguards against land acquisition and guarantees of free, prior, and informed consent in decisions affecting lands, territories, or natural resources. It further responds to the Committee's LOIPR requests under Article 5 concerning the use of reservation policies to ensure the inclusion and adequate representation of marginalized groups and ethnic minorities.

³² Guest Correspondent, "A Father's 15-Year-Long Fight for Justice in Kashmir," *Hostile Homelands*, June 14, 2025, <https://azadessa.substack.com/p/tufail-mattoo-kashmir-india-tear-gas-justice>.

Since August 2019, Indian authorities have implemented laws and policies that have incentivized demographic change in IAK, accelerated the dispossession of Kashmiris from their land, and deepened their political and economic disempowerment. Among others, these measures include the expropriation of real property from Kashmiris through various pretexts, including “development,” “security,” “encroachment” and as a form of collective punishment for various alleged criminal offenses, the destruction of Kashmiri property and livelihoods through “bulldozer justice,” gerrymandering, communications blackouts, physical lockdowns, and the exclusion of Kashmiris from educational, employment and other opportunities through the weaponization of “reservation” (affirmative action) policies.

2.1) Political Disempowerment

India has eliminated historic rights and protections in IAK, gutted the local legal system and local bureaucracy and imposed direct rule by India’s central government.³³ New domicile,³⁴ land,³⁵ and electoral rules³⁶ have incentivized forced demographic change by granting extensive, sometimes preferential rights to non-locals, including Indian military personnel responsible for grave violations and atrocity crimes in IAK.³⁷ The policy intent of such measures are understood from longstanding BJP policy goals as well as by public statements from officials. For example, in January 2026, BJP leader Ashwani Kumar Chhurgoo stated that the “Government of India and all institutional structure(s)” were “working on” changing Kashmir’s demography in favor of non-local Hindus.³⁸ Indian authorities have also constructed thousands of homes to house pro-BJP Hindu migrants in IAK.³⁹

Indian authorities have instituted various policies to further the disempowerment and subjugation of Kashmiri Muslims,⁴⁰ including repeated gerrymandering of electoral constituencies⁴¹ and the

³³ Shrimoyee Nandini Ghosh, “One Nation, One Flag, One Constitution?,” *RAIOT*, September 16, 2019, <https://raiot.in/dismantling-370-in-kashmir-part-1/>

³⁴ ““Demographic Flooding”: India Introduces New Kashmir Domicile Law,” *Al Jazeera*, April 1, 2020, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/4/1/demographic-flooding-india-introduces-new-kashmir-domicile-law>

³⁵ International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), *Your Land Is Our Land: India’s Land Rights Violations in Kashmir*, no. 832a (Paris: FIDH, October 2024), <https://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/kashmir832a.pdf>

³⁶ Al Jazeera Staff, “Uproar in Kashmir as India Allows Voting Rights to Non-Locals,” *Al Jazeera*, August 19, 2022, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/8/19/uproar-in-kashmir-as-india-allows-voting-rights-to-non-locals>.

³⁷ Rupam Jain and Kanupriya Kapoor, “How India’s Ruling Party Is Tightening Its Grip on Kashmir,” *Reuters*, January 12, 2023, republished by *Yahoo News*, <https://uk.news.yahoo.com/indias-ruling-party-tightening-grip-030435734.html>.

³⁸ Muzaffar Raina, “Valley Demography Plan, Hear It from BJP as Chhurgoo Cites Hindu Settlement,” *The Telegraph India*, January 24, 2026, <https://www.telegraphindia.com/india/valley-demography-plan-hear-it-from-bjp-as-ashwani-kumar-chhurgoo-cites-hindu-settlement-prnt/cid/2144122>.

³⁹ KL News Network, “4,128 of 6,000 Transit Flats Completed for Kashmiri Migrants; Remaining to Be Ready by September,” *Kashmir Life*, March 10, 2026, <https://kashmirlife.net/4128-of-6000-transit-flats-completed-for-kashmiri-migrants-remaining-to-be-ready-by-september-427898/>.

⁴⁰ FIDH, *Your Land Is Our Land*, 3–4.

⁴¹ “Jammu and Kashmir to Get Delimitation Commission,” *The Hindu*, February 18, 2020, <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/jammu-and-kashmir-to-get-delimitation-commission/article30846668.ece>

weaponization of “reservation” policies (affirmative action quotas) in favor of pro-BJP groups.⁴² The resulting political landscape reflects a deliberate dilution of Kashmiri Muslims’ political influence.

These measures operate cumulatively. Changes to domicile status and land laws affect who can acquire land, access jobs, and participate politically; gerrymandering affects the weight of Kashmiri votes; changes to administrative authority reduce the power of any locally elected government to act independently; and reservation policies systematically redirect access to education and public employment away from Kashmiri Muslims and toward constituencies favored by the BJP. The result is a political system in which Kashmiris face decreasing control over the institutions that determine their representation, access to public employment, and relationship to land and resources. Rather than ensuring that the end of IAK’s special constitutional status does not result in discrimination, the post-2019 structure has entrenched and furthered the structural disempowerment, lack of agency and lack of opportunity of Kashmiri Muslims, therefore incentivizing their outmigration from their homeland.

2.2) Economic Disempowerment and Discriminatory Reservation Policies

Indian authorities have eliminated historic protections in favor of IAK’s indigenous population regarding ownership of immovable property, access to government employment and access to educational opportunities and dismantled IAK’s land ownership system, the foundation of its economy.⁴³

Since the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, Indian authorities have also escalated their collective punishment of Kashmiris,⁴⁴ including through frequently suspended communications services,⁴⁵ raids,⁴⁶ prolonged curfews and lockdowns,⁴⁷ and the expropriation and destruction of

⁴² “Over 3.2 Lakh Reservation Certificates Issued In J&K In 2 Yrs,” *Kashmir Observer*, April 4, 2026, <https://kashmirobservers.net/2026/04/04/over-3-2-lakh-reservation-certificates-issued-in-jk-in-2-yrs/>.

⁴³ Ghosh, “One Nation, One Flag.”

⁴⁴ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, “UN Rights Experts Urge India to End Communications Shutdown in Kashmir,” press release, August 22, 2019, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2019/08/un-rights-experts-urge-india-end-communications-shutdown-kashmir>.

⁴⁵ Jammu Kashmir Coalition of Civil Society (JKCCS), *Kashmir’s Internet Siege: An Ongoing Assault on Digital Rights* (Srinagar: JKCCS, August 2020), <https://jkccs.info/report-kashmirs-internet-siege/>.

⁴⁶ The Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, “Simultaneous NIA Raids on Human Rights Defenders’ Home, NGOs and Newspaper’s Offices,” World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT), urgent intervention IND 007 / 1020 / OBS 118, October 28, 2020, <https://www.omct.org/en/resources/urgent-interventions/simultaneous-nia-raids-on-human-rights-defenders-home-ngos-and-newspapers-offices>.

⁴⁷ Leoni Connah, “Double Lockdown in Kashmir during the Covid-19 Pandemic,” *Peace Review* 33, no. 1 (2021): 33–38, <https://doi.org/10.1080/10402659.2021.1956128>.

personal property, including homes.⁴⁸ Repeated communications shutdowns⁴⁹ and restrictions on movement⁵⁰ have functioned as tools of economic disempowerment by severing access to employment, education and ordinary livelihoods.

Indian authorities have escalated collective punishment for the alleged beliefs or dissent of relatives or associates, including terminating employment, denying employment opportunities, harassment and canceling travel documents.⁵¹ In many cases, public sector employees in IAK are terminated for purported anti-national sentiment without due process,⁵² even if the disfavored sentiment is allegedly held by their relatives or associates. The government is the largest employer in IAK, so public sector employment is widely sought after as economically rewarding and prestigious.⁵³

The weaponization of “reservation” (affirmative action quotas) in IAK has also substantially shrunk educational and economic opportunity for Kashmiri Muslims⁵⁴ and expanded economic and educational opportunities for groups aligned with the BJP.

2.3) Land Dispossession, Property Destruction, and Forced Demographic Change

Since 2019, Indian authorities have increasingly weaponized land reform⁵⁵ and other laws to dispossess⁵⁶ the indigenous people of IAK and further the systematic expropriation of their land.⁵⁷ These measures have expanded State and non-local control over land and resources while

⁴⁸ Jammu Kashmir Coalition of Civil Society (JKCCS), “Bi-Annual HR Review: 229 Killings, 107 CASO’s, 55 Internet Shutdowns, 48 Properties Destroyed,” July 1, 2020, <https://jkccs.info/bi-annual-hr-review-229-killings-107-casos-55-internet-shutdowns-48-properties-destroyed/>.

⁴⁹ Human Rights Watch and Internet Freedom Foundation, “No Internet Means No Work, No Pay, No Food”: Internet Shutdowns Deny Access to Basic Rights in “Digital India” (New York: Human Rights Watch, June 14, 2023), <https://www.hrw.org/report/2023/06/14/no-internet-means-no-work-no-pay-no-food/internet-shutdowns-deny-access-basic>.

⁵⁰ “In Pictures: How India’s Lockdowns Ruined Kashmir’s Economy,” *Al Jazeera*, August 3, 2020, <https://www.aljazeera.com/gallery/2020/8/3/in-pictures-how-indias-lockdowns-ruined-kashmirs-economy>.

⁵¹ Ravinder Singh Robin, “Long-Term Visas, OCI Cards of Those Indulging in Anti-India Activities Revoked,” *Zee News*, October 26, 2021, <https://zeenews.india.com/india/long-term-visas-oci-cards-of-those-indulging-in-anti-india-activities-revoked-2405769.html>.

⁵² Shakir Mir, “In J&K, the Administration’s Extraordinary Measures Bypass Ordinary Law,” *The Quint*, September 30, 2021, <https://www.thequint.com/opinion/in-jammu-kashmir-the-administrations-extraordinary-measures-bypass-ordinary-law>.

⁵³ “Lockdown on Thoughts’: Kashmiris Slam India’s Free Speech Curbs,” *Al Jazeera*, March 29, 2021, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/3/29/lockdown-on-thoughts-kashmiris-slam-indias-free-speech-curbs>.

⁵⁴ Safwat Zargar, “Are Jammu and Kashmir’s New Reservation Rules Skewed Against the Majority?,” *Scroll.in*, June 9, 2024, <https://scroll.in/article/1067419/are-jammu-and-kashmirs-new-reservation-rules-skewed-against-the-majority>.

⁵⁵ FIDH, *Your Land Is Our Land*.

⁵⁶ Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat, “Issuing Eviction Notices to Forest Dwellers Violates Apex Court Ruling,” *Kashmir Observer*, July 24, 2023, <https://kashmirobsrver.net/2023/07/24/issuing-eviction-notices-to-forest-dwellers-violates-apex-court-ruling/>.

⁵⁷ Mohammad Amin Mir, “How People Lose Land in Kashmir Without Even Knowing It,” *Kashmir Observer*, June 27, 2025, <https://kashmirobsrver.net/2025/06/27/how-people-lose-land-in-kashmir-without-even-knowing-it/>.

weakening Kashmiris' relationship to, and control over, their own territory. The resulting loss of homes, farmland, orchards,⁵⁸ and livelihoods⁵⁹ has deepened economic marginalization and advanced a broader process of demographic and territorial transformation in IAK.

Notable examples of the expropriation and destruction of land/property include:

- The Indian administration in IAK has systematically [evicted](#) local businesses from their commercial enterprises and investments through the implementation of new Land Grant Rules. In April 2023, the Indian administration in IAK [finalized](#) a new policy to expand systematic evictions.
- In the spring of 2025, Indian authorities [demolished](#) dozens of homes throughout IAK and [deported](#) many people, including at least [150 mothers/wives](#), forcibly separating families.
- Official Indian data demonstrate that Indian authorities have [rejected 87% of claims](#) in IAK made under India's Forest Rights Act (imposed in 2019), denying primarily tribal groups of their historic land rights (and related cultural and economic activities).
- Between 2019 and 2025, Indian authorities [expropriated](#) over 140,000 kanals (17,500 acres) of land, creating extreme economic insecurity and destroying families and ways of life.

2.4) Stifling Kashmiri Dissent

Since August 2019, Indian authorities have intensified their targeting of Kashmiri human rights defenders⁶⁰ and dissenters⁶¹, including journalists,⁶² scholars⁶³ and political activists,⁶⁴ through legal restrictions on their work, raids of their homes and places of employment, arbitrary arrests and detentions under counter-terror laws and physical violence. Amnesty International has described these measures as “a system of laws, policies and practices that systematically

⁵⁸ Muzaffar Raina, “Kashmir: Farmers Fear Losing Their Orchards as Railway Ministry Eyes Network Expansion,” *The Telegraph India*, March 14, 2024, <https://www.telegraphindia.com/india/kashmiri-farmers-protest-against-railroading-in-fear-of-losing-their-orchards-in-the-process/cid/2006721>.

⁵⁹ Ishfaq Naseem, “Illegal Riverbed Mining Takes a Toll on Livelihoods in Kashmir,” *Outlook India*, February 19, 2026, <https://www.outlookindia.com/national/illegal-riverbed-mining-takes-a-toll-on-livelihoods-in-kashmir-2>.

⁶⁰ Amnesty International, “India: Counter-Terror Raids on Civil Society Groups Signal Escalating Crackdown on Dissent,” press release, October 29, 2020, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/press-release/2020/10/india-counter-terror-raids-on-civil-society-groups-signal-escalating-crackdown-on-dissent/>.

⁶¹ Ali Hassan, “‘My Phone Haunts Me’: Kashmiris Interrogated and Tortured by Cyber Police for Tweeting,” *The Intercept*, December 6, 2020, <https://theintercept.com/2020/12/06/kashmir-social-media-police/>.

⁶² Sonali Dhawan, “Kashmir Media at a ‘Breaking Point’ amid Rising Number of Journalist Detentions,” Committee to Protect Journalists, May 12, 2022, <https://cpj.org/2022/05/kashmir-media-at-a-breaking-point-amid-rising-number-of-journalist-detentions/>.

⁶³ Scholars at Risk, *Free to Think 2020: Responding to Attacks on Higher Education* (New York: Scholars at Risk, 2020), <https://www.scholarsatrisk.org/resources/free-to-think-2020/>.

⁶⁴ Zac Crellin, “Kashmir Separatist Leader Dies in Custody,” *Deutsche Welle*, October 11, 2022, <https://www.dw.com/en/kashmir-separatist-leader-ataf-ahmad-shah-dies-in-custody/a-63403699>

annihilate critical voices and violate the rights to freedom of expression and opinion of journalists and human rights defenders.”⁶⁵

The consequence of this targeting is the systematic elimination of Kashmiris’ remaining means of defending their human rights, decreasing reporting of human rights violations in IAK, and no credible investigations of allegations of violations. The Committee should specifically take note that Indian authorities have incapacitated well-known Kashmiri human rights organizations, namely the Jammu Kashmir Coalition of Civil Society (JKCCS) and the Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons (APDP), through systematic repression in reprisal for their work, which Indian authorities have criminalized as “terrorism,” “secessionism” and “anti-national activity.” As a result, no independent civil society groups or activists based in IAK are able to continue their human rights work, including by engaging safely and meaningfully with official UN processes such as the present review of India’s obligations under ICERD.

Kashmiris themselves have characterized the effect of such policies and actions as a “lockdown on thoughts” and the creation of a “panoptic society.”⁶⁶

Notable examples of reprisals directly targeting Kashmiri HRDs and dissenters include:

- On 22 November 2021, [Khurram Parvez](#) was arrested by the NIA on politically motivated [charges](#) under the UAPA. Khurram Parvez is the Coordinator of [JKCCS](#) and the Deputy Secretary-General of the [International Federation for Human Rights](#) (FIDH). Khurram has been subjected to prolonged pre-trial detention. In March 2023, he was further implicated in a second case, alongside Kashmiri journalist and former JKCCS researcher [Irfan Mehraj](#). The case [seeks to](#) punish their human rights work as “funding terror activities” and the “propagation of secessionist agenda[s].” Mr. Parvez and Mr. Mehraj remain arbitrarily detained.
 - In June 2023, United Nations experts [expressed serious concerns](#) regarding the charges against and arrest of Mehraj and Parvez, stating that their continued detention is “designed to delegitimize their human rights work and obstruct monitoring of the human rights situation in Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir.” On 7 March 2024, UN experts [sounded the alarm](#) on the “harassment and prolonged detention of human rights defenders and journalists” in the country.
- On March 25, 2026, an NIA court [sentenced](#) Kashmiri pro-self-determination activist Asiya Andrabi to life imprisonment, and her fellow activists Sofi Fahmida and Nahida Nasreen to [thirty years of imprisonment](#), under the UAPA for their [pro-rights political](#)

⁶⁵ Amnesty International, *India: “We Are Being Punished by the Law”: Three Years of Abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu & Kashmir*, ASA 20/5959/2022 (London: Amnesty International, September 2, 2022), <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa20/5959/2022/en/>.

⁶⁶ ““Lockdown on Thoughts,”” *Al Jazeera*.

[expression](#). In punishing these women the court sought to [send a message](#) to all Kashmiris who hold similar pro-rights ideas.

- Mian Abdul Qayoom, the long-persecuted human rights lawyer and former president of JKHCBA, also remains arbitrarily detained and has been [framed with murder charges](#).

Notable examples of recent measures suppressing Kashmiri civil society’s exercise of freedom of expression, thought, assembly, and association include:

- On May 9, 2025, Indian authorities [ordered](#) X (formerly Twitter) to block more than [8,000 accounts](#), including those of media organizations (including Maktoob Media, The Kashmiriyat, BBC Urdu, Free Press Kashmir and The Wire) and journalists (including Anuradha Bhasin and Muzamil Jaleel).
- On July 25, 2025, the Jammu and Kashmir High Court [ruled](#) that calling the situation in IAK an “illegal occupation” or defending the right to self-determination of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, both of which are consistent with international law, constitute “unlawful activity” under the UAPA. This ruling enables India’s continued misuse of counterterrorism legislation to criminalize any and all political dissent. It gives judicial legitimacy to the suppression of political expression and further restricts the ability of journalists, lawyers, human rights defenders, and ordinary Kashmiris to challenge India’s longstanding violations in IAK.
- On March 7, 2026, following protests against attacks on Iran, Indian authorities [arrested](#) at least fifty people, started criminal proceedings against at least seven people (including under the UAPA), and identified over 200 additional protesters using AI-enabled facial recognition drones.
- On April 2, 2026, *The Wire* [reported](#) that Indian authorities flagged seven X accounts reporting on human rights issues in IAK as “anti-India” (including the [#FreeKhurram](#) campaign) and ordered the disclosure of associated data, including subscriber details, IP addresses and GPS location data.

Section 3.) Hate Speech and Denial of Religious Freedom (Arts. 4 & 5)

This section responds to the Committee’s LOIPR request under Article 4 concerning the legal provisions and other measures adopted to give effect to Article 4, including their application to allegations of racist hate speech, incitement to racial discrimination, and racially motivated attacks. In IAK, hate speech against Kashmiris is frequently rooted in Islamophobic and anti-Muslim rhetoric, including the routine labeling of Kashmiris as “terrorists” and “anti-national.” Such rhetoric is promoted, legitimized and weaponized by State actors.

This section also addresses severe and systematic State restrictions on Kashmiri Muslims’ freedom of religion. Although religion is not expressly listed as an independent prohibited ground under ICERD’s definition of racial discrimination, the Committee has addressed religious discrimination where it intersects with race, descent, or national or ethnic origin. In IAK,

restrictions on Kashmiri Muslim religious life are inseparable from discrimination against Kashmiris as a group. These restrictions include interference with religious leadership, repeated closures of mosques and religious sites, restrictions on religious assembly and observance, and the securitization of Muslim religious and political expression. This section therefore addresses both hate speech targeting Kashmiris and incitement to discrimination or violence against them under Article 4, and State practices restricting Kashmiri Muslims' right to freedom of religion under Article 5.

3.1) Hate Speech/Incitement Against Kashmiris

The risk of increasingly serious and frequent human rights violations against Kashmiris is heightened by Indian authorities' appeals to hatred, which normalize discrimination and justify repression and violence against Kashmiris.

Notable examples of hate speech and incitement against Kashmiris include:

- In August 2019, Indian officials encouraged far-right activists to go to IAK, obtain land, and [marry fair-skinned Kashmiri girls](#).
- In November 2019 a former Indian Army general and official of India's ruling party publicly [called for the killing and rape of Kashmiri women](#).
- In October 2021, an Indian lawmaker and official from India's ruling party made various violent, racist anti-Kashmiri statements, including that Kashmiri students' "degrees be cancelled, their citizenship too must be revoked. They should be [beaten up and skinned alive](#)."
- Recent Indian [state-supported propaganda](#) films have promoted hatred and violence targeting Kashmiri Muslims. The most prominent of these was released in March 2022 and called *The Kashmir Files*. Many Indian officials promoted the film, including India's [Prime Minister](#).
- Following the killings of 26 tourists in Pahalgam in April 2025, a surge of hateful and violent Islamophobic messages appeared online, particularly targeting Kashmiri Muslims. Some examples include:
 - Many Hindu, right-wing social media accounts [openly called for](#) rape and sexual assault against Kashmiri Muslim women.
 - A wave of "[Hindutva Pop](#)" songs—at least 20—were released across India. These songs were Islamophobic in nature, explicitly inciting violence against Muslims, labelling them "traitors" and calling for retributive attacks.
 - Right-wing Indian activists widely called for the "[genocide of Muslims](#)," especially calling for the killing of Kashmiris.
 - Multiple BJP leaders and state party accounts contributed to these narratives, including [Nitesh Rane](#), a BJP minister in Maharashtra, who called for an economic boycott of Muslims; [Balmukund Acharya](#), a BJP Member of the Legislative Assembly from Rajasthan, who led a rally outside Jama Masjid in

Jaipur, pasted a poster outside the mosque reading “Pakistan Murdabad” (death to Pakistan), and chanted “Jai Shri Ram” (a chant commonly used by Hindu nationalists to threaten those who challenge Hindu supremacy); and the [Chhattisgarh BJP’s official social media account](#), which shared AI-generated images with inflammatory captions that reinforced anti-Muslim narratives.

3.2) State Restrictions on Religious Freedom

Indian authorities have escalated the repression of Muslim religious life in IAK by targeting the institutions, leaders, practices and communal spaces through which Kashmiri Muslims exercise their faith. This repression has included the use of counter-terror laws to arbitrarily detain and charge religious leaders,⁶⁷ the forced closure and control of major Muslim religious institutions,⁶⁸ restrictions on congregational worship⁶⁹ and the denial Muslim religious expression.⁷⁰ It has also extended into schools, homes and community spaces, reflecting an expanding pattern of State control over Kashmiri Muslim religious life.

Notable examples of State restrictions on religious freedom in IAK include:

- On January 28, 2023, [Mufti Nazir Ahmed Dar](#), a Muslim scholar, was subjected to enforced disappearance.
- Indian authorities have [intensified](#) surveillance and data gathering at Muslim religious institutions over the past year, demanding detailed records of, among other things, students, donations, visiting scholars and service providers.
- On April 4, 2025, India's parliament [passed](#) bills further eroding Muslim agency over Islamic endowments (waqf) and Islamic religious sites and related properties, including approximately [32,500](#) properties in IAK.
- Indian authorities [regularly forcibly close](#) Jamia Masjid, Srinagar, including for major congregational prayers and Eid prayers.
- On April 27, 2026, Indian authorities [declared](#) the Jamia Siraj-ul-Uloom School, a Muslim school and seminary in Shopian district, an unlawful entity under the UAPA, authorizing the expropriation of its assets and the forcible relocation of its students.
- [Mirwaiz Umar Farooq](#), a Kashmiri Muslim religious leader, was arbitrarily detained and held under house arrest from August 4, 2019, to September 22, 2023. Since his release in

⁶⁷ Bashaarat Masood, “Jammu and Kashmir: Two Clerics, 5 Jamaat Activists Held, Booked under PSA,” *The Indian Express*, September 16, 2022, <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/srinagar/jammu-and-kashmir-2-clerics-5-jamaat-activists-held-booked-under-psa-8153956/>.

⁶⁸ “Closure of Mosques on Fridays Hurting Religious Sentiments of People: MMU,” *Kashmir Observer*, August 20, 2021, <https://kashmirobsvr.net/2021/08/20/closure-of-mosques-on-fridays-hurting-religious-sentiments-of-peoplemmu/>.

⁶⁹ Press Trust of India, “No Shab-e-Qadr, Jumat-ul-Vida Prayers at Srinagar’s Jamia Masjid: Kashmir Authorities,” *Hindustan Times*, April 28, 2022, <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/no-shab-e-qadr-jumat-ul-vida-prayers-at-jamia-masjid-kashmir-authorities-101651164959230.html>.

⁷⁰ KL News Network, “Baramulla School for Physically Challenged Asks Staff to Avoid Hijab,” *Kashmir Life*, April 27, 2022, <https://kashmirlife.net/baramulla-school-for-physically-challenged-asks-staff-to-avoid-hijab-291214/>.

September 2023, he has been repeatedly subjected to house arrest, including during [Ramadan](#).

Section 4.) Recommendations

The submitting organisations respectfully request the Committee to consider the following recommendations during the constructive dialogue with India and in its concluding observations:

- Reaffirm that Kashmiris are a distinct ethnic or national group with a common and distinct language, history, culture and homeland, and are thus protected under the Convention as such.
- Urge India to establish independent, impartial and effective investigations into all allegations of human rights violations committed against Kashmiris and/or in IAK; to prosecute those found to be responsible, including persons exercising command or supervisory responsibility; protect victims, witnesses and their families; and provide adequate reparation, including restitution, compensation, rehabilitation and guarantees of non-repetition.
- Call on India to repeal laws that contravene international human rights standards, including the PSA, the UAPA and the AFSPA, and to amend the FCRA; and, pending repeal, to remove the requirement of central government sanction for the prosecution of members of the armed forces under section 7 of the AFSPA, which has never once been granted and which the Committee recommended repealing in its 2007 concluding observations.
- Urge India to ensure the NHRC is fully independent and able to conduct impartial investigations into all allegations of human rights violations, including those committed in IAK.
- Urge India to ensure unhindered access to IAK for United Nations human rights mechanisms and independent observers, including by extending a standing invitation to the special procedures, facilitating access by OHCHR, and permitting free and unfettered access to journalists, diplomats and international non-governmental organisations; and to guarantee that individuals and organisations in IAK may cooperate with the United Nations, including with the present review, without intimidation or reprisal.
- Urge India to recognize and respect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Kashmiris and provide, and permit international organizations to freely provide, humanitarian assistance to Kashmiris.
- Urge India to immediately end its suppression of (and instead recognize and respect) Kashmiris' rights and freedoms, including Kashmiris' rights to rights to freedom of thought and conscience, freedom of opinion and expression, peaceful assembly and association and a free press and information and immediately cease its repression, intimidation, abuse and detention of Kashmiri human rights defenders.

- Urge India to ensure that victims of violations in IAK and Kashmiri human rights defenders do not face reprisals.
- Urge India to immediately and unconditionally release all Kashmiris arbitrarily or illegally imprisoned, all political prisoners or detainees, and all prisoners of conscience, including all detained or imprisoned Kashmiri human rights defenders.
- Note with concern the new domicile, land and electoral rules implemented in IAK, which have incentivized demographic change, and urge India to reverse these policies.
- Urge India to restore protections for indigenous populations in IAK, including with regards to immovable property, access to government employment, and access to educational opportunities.
- Note with concern the changes made to land laws in IAK, and the impacts this has had, including on forced evictions, property destructions and economic marginalization.
- Prevent and combat racist and hate speech against Kashmiris and urge India to ensure that public officials publicly reject such speech; independently investigate and sanction incitement to discrimination or violence and provide accessible reporting and remedy mechanisms for victims.
- Note with concern the restrictions on freedom of religion in IAK, and urge India to halt all measures aimed at control Kashmiri Muslim religious life, including arbitrary closures of places of worship, surveillance of and interference with religious institutions and arbitrary detention of religious leaders, and ensure equal enjoyment of freedom of religion without discrimination based on national or ethnic origin.
- Include the recommendations on independent investigations, on the domicile and land rules, and on access for United Nations human rights mechanisms among those selected for the follow-up procedure under rule 65 of the Committee's rules of procedure, with a request for information within one year.