



## KASHMIR RIGHTS FORUM CUSTODIANS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN KASHMIR

The Kashmir Rights Forum (KRF) is an informal, secular, apolitical and forward looking interactive platform highlighting human rights violations perpetuated against innocent Kashmiri population by terrorists either directly supported by separatists and their over ground workers or indirectly by sympathizers over last three decades as a result of proxy war initiated by Pakistan on our homeland.

KRF is a dexterous, focused forum with overarching mission to mobilize expertise and public opinion to counter the organized attempt to violate human rights of common innocent Kashmiris of all generations by the nexus and tarnishing the image of government and security forces by certain section of media, intelligentsia and conflict entrepreneurs by flaring up allegations of human rights violations on them, thus diverting attention from the real perpetrators of these violations.

We, at KRF encourage response by likeminded or otherwise, people and organizations, on documents, articles & video content produced on multiple social media platforms by us to apprise all citizens of such violations. KRF will endeavor to expose the designs of the perpetrators by studying the past, present events and producing the facts for public scrutiny as part of our research and highlight such events in present, earliest on occurrence.

# A Review of Human Rights Violations in Kashmir For the months of SEP - OCT 2024







# THE AGONY OF ABDUCTION: REMEMBERING RIFLEMAN HILAL AHMAD BHAT

On October 8, 2024, the serene landscape of Kokernag in Anantnag district, South Kashmir, was shattered by a tragic event that would forever alter the lives of many. In a brutal act of terrorism, Rifleman Hilal Ahmad Bhat, a dedicated soldier of the Indian Army's Territorial Army (TA), was abducted by terrorists while on duty. This tragic event serves as a reminder of the perilous environment in which those associated with security forces operate, often risking their lives to maintain peace and order.

It was an ordinary day in Shangus, where the lush green forests had long been a backdrop for both beauty and turmoil. Hilal, a 26-year-old local hero, had been deployed to assist in anti-terror operations. Alongside him was a fellow soldier, both tasked with reconnaissance in the Kazwan forest area. As they navigated through the dense foliage, they were ambushed by terrorists. While one soldier managed to escape, Hilal was taken captive—a fate that would lead to unimaginable sorrow. The news of Hilal's abduction sent shockwaves through the locality. Families who had known him since childhood were left grappling with fear and uncertainty. As search operations commenced, hope flickered like a candle in the wind—fragile yet persistent. In the wake of Hilal's abduction, security forces launched extensive search operations across the region. The Indian Army and Jammu and Kashmir Police worked tirelessly, scouring forests and villages for any sign of their missing comrade. However, as days passed without news, anxiety grew among his family and friends.

Hilal's cousin, Junaid Ahmad Bhat, recalled their last conversation just days before the incident: "He had come home 10 days ago. I met him yesterday morning. He was full of life and dreams for the future." The community rallied together, holding vigils and praying for his safe return. The anguish was palpable; each passing hour felt like an eternity as they clung to hope amidst despair. Tragically, on October 9, 2014, just one day after his abduction, the search teams discovered

abduction, the search teams discovered Hilal's lifeless body in the Pathribal forest area. The discovery was met with overwhelming grief; Hilal had been shot multiple times—a stark reminder of the brutality faced by those who serve their nation.

In a heartfelt tribute, the Indian Army's Chinar Corps honored Hilal's sacrifice: *"Chinar Corps honors the supreme sacrifice of the Braveheart, Rifleman Hilal Ahmad Bhat, in the line of duty for the nation. His courage and dedication will forever inspire us."*

The loss resonated deeply within his village and beyond. Villagers mourned not just the death of a soldier but the loss of a son, a brother, and a friend who had embodied hope and resilience. As the news regarding Hilal's death spread, sorrow enveloped his village like a heavy shroud. Villagers gathered to pay their respects, sharing stories of Hilal's kindness and bravery. He was remembered not only for his service but also for his infectious laughter and unwavering spirit. One villager poignantly remarked: "He was so young—full of dreams. We appeal to the government to take special care of his family; they have lost their breadwinner." Hilal's family faced an uncertain future without him. His mother's heartache was immeasurable; she had raised her son to be strong and courageous only to see him fall victim to terrorism.

The abduction and subsequent murder of Rifleman Hilal Ahmad Bhat is a reminder of the ongoing terrorist threats that the region is facing—where soldiers face unimaginable risks daily while protecting their homeland. Each incident like this not only claims lives but also tears apart families and communities. We must remember that behind every statistic is a human story—filled with love, dreams and aspirations cut short by violence. The Kashmir Rights Forum stands in solidarity with all families affected by such tragedies and calls upon authorities to ensure that those who serve our nation receive the support they need during such trying times. Rifleman Hilal Ahmad Bhat exemplified unwavering courage in the face of terror, choosing to confront his captors rather than succumb to fear. In his final moments, he stood resolute, demonstrating a profound commitment to national security that speaks volumes about the valor of our soldiers. The supreme sacrifice of Rifleman Hilal Ahmad Bhat will yet be a cornerstone in the fight against terror.

**Hilal's sacrifice serves as a powerful reminder that true heroes do not back down; they choose death over life when it comes to protecting their homeland. His legacy will inspire future generations to stand firm against those who seek to disrupt peace and stability in Kashmir.**

# LIFE CUT SHORT: THE TRAGIC KILLING OF ASHOK CHAUHAN IN SHOPIAN

On October 18, 2024, the quiet village of Wandana Malhora in Shopian District, Jammu and Kashmir, was shaken by an act of violence that left the whole community of Shopian in mourning. Ashok Chauhan, a 30-year-old migrant laborer from Bihar, was shot dead by terrorists while collecting corn—a simple task that turned fatal in an instant. The unfortunate incident not only highlights the ongoing violence in region but also underscores the vulnerability of migrant workers who seek a better life amidst turmoil.

Ashok, a corn seller by profession, had made his home in Sangam area of Anantnag. On that fateful morning, he set out to collect corn from Wandana Malhora, a border village known for its agricultural produce. Little did he know that this routine trip would mark the end of his life. According to security officials, Ashok was abducted by terrorists shortly after arriving in the area. His body was later discovered with multiple gunshot wounds near the basin of the Rambiarra River. The brutality of his murder sent shockwaves through the local community, who were left grappling with disbelief and sorrow. The news of Ashok's death spread quickly, igniting fear and anger among locals and fellow migrant workers. Ashok is not just another statistic; he was a beloved member of his community, known for his hard work and dedication to supporting his family back home in Bihar. Friends and colleagues described him as a kind-hearted individual who always wore a smile, despite the hardships he faced as a migrant laborer. One of Ashok's coworkers recounted their last moments together: *"We were harvesting corn when he received a phone call. He said he had to go somewhere. When he didn't return for a long time, we went looking for him. It was devastating to find out what happened."*

The emotional toll on his family is immeasurable. Ashok leaves behind loved ones who depended on him—not just financially but emotionally as well. His parents, who had high hopes for their son's future, are now left with an unfillable void. The incident marks a grim milestone as it is the first targeted attack on a migrant worker since the new government led by Omar Abdullah took office on October 16, 2024. It is also part of a troubling pattern; this was the third such incident involving non-locals this year alone. Earlier attacks had already raised alarms about the safety of migrants in Kashmir, who often face discrimination and violence simply for seeking work in a region plagued by Pak backed terrorism.

Meanwhile, the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha expressed his condolences and assured that security forces are committed to bringing the perpetrators to justice: "Our security forces are determined to hunt down the culprits and bring them to justice. My thoughts are with his family members." The killing of Ashok Chauhan is not just an isolated incident; it is emblematic of the broader issues facing Jammu and Kashmir—a region where fear often overshadows hope. Migrant workers like Ashok contribute significantly to local economies yet remain vulnerable targets amid ongoing violence.

As we reflect on this tragedy, it is crucial for authorities to enhance protections for all civilians, particularly non-locals who are often caught off-guard by the armed terrorists. Community leaders and government officials are now actively working together to foster an environment where every individual can feel safe—free from fear of violence simply for trying to make a living. In memory of Ashok Chauhan, we must advocate for peace and justice in Kashmir. His life should serve as a reminder that behind every statistic lies a human story—a story filled with dreams, aspirations and loved ones left behind.

**The relentless efforts a hardworking civilian like Ashok Chauhan serve as a powerful deterrent against further acts of terror. Each killing of an innocent will prove to be a nail in the coffins of all terrorists and their handlers.**



# BARBAROUS TERROR ATTACK IN GAGANGIR, SONAMARG LEAVE SEVEN INNOCENT LIVES DEAD



October 20, 2024, will be etched in the memories of Gund in Gagangir, Sonamarg region of Ganderbal district, as a day of unspeakable horror. A senseless attack by the Resistance Front (TRF), a Pakistan-based terrorist organization, claimed the lives of seven innocent individuals, including a devoted doctor and six laborers, comprising both locals and non-locals. This disastrous incident underscores the persistent violence plaguing the region and highlights the vulnerability of those who come to Kashmir seeking a better life. The attack on the tunnel-construction site on the Srinagar-Leh National Highway was carried out by Pak backed terrorists, at least two in number, who opened indiscriminate fire on the group of laborers. The victims were brutally targeted while returning to their camp in the evening. Two laborers died on the spot, while three others and the doctor

On the ill-fated evening Dr. Shahnawaz, a renowned physician from Budgam, was also working alongside six laborers at the construction site of strategically vital Z-Morh tunnel project. Terrorists attacked the team when they had concluded their day's work and were headed back to their camp. They were suddenly ambushed by heavily armed terrorists who unleashed indiscriminate gunfire. The victims of this heinous attack included: Dr. Shahnawaz (Budgam, Jammu and Kashmir), Faheem Nazir (Bihar), Kaleem (Bihar), Mohammad Hanif (Bihar), Shashi Abrol (Jammu), Anil Shukla (Madhya Pradesh) and Gurmeet Singh (Punjab). The catastrophic assault resulted in instantaneous demise of two laborers, while the remaining victims succumbed to their injuries shortly thereafter. Five additional individuals sustained injuries in this brutal attack, leaving the community stunned and grief-stricken. Meanwhile, this senseless act of terrorism has sent shockwaves throughout the region, highlighting the ongoing threats faced by innocent civilians and workers in Jammu and Kashmir. The news of this senseless violence spread rapidly through Ganderbal and beyond, igniting fear and anger among locals and migrant workers alike. Families who had hoped for a brighter future through hard work were now faced with unimaginable loss. The laborers were not just workers; they were husbands, fathers, and sons who had left their homes in search of better opportunities.

Dr. Shahnawaz's colleagues expressed while their sorrow expressed: "He was more than just a doctor; he was a friend to many. His dedication to his patients was unmatched. This loss is devastating for all of us." The whole Kashmiri community collectively mourned the loss of these innocent lives. It became clear that this attack represented not just an assault on individuals but an attack on hope itself—a hope for peace and prosperity in a region long plagued by violence. Apart from this, the incident marks a significant shift in the tactics employed by TRF (The Resistance Front), which has previously targeted specific communities but now appears to be indiscriminately attacking both locals and non-locals alike. This strategy aims to instill fear among all residents and disrupt vital infrastructure projects that are crucial for development in Jammu and Kashmir. Union Home Minister Amit Shah condemned the attack as a "despicable act of cowardice," vowing that those responsible would face severe consequences: "The dastardly terror attack on civilians in Gagangir is a despicable act of cowardice. Those involved will not be spared." In order to bring perpetrators to justice, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has been tasked with investigating this heinous crime, as authorities seek to identify the attackers and prevent future incidents. Security forces have launched extensive search operations across the region, determined to bring those responsible to justice.

**The brave security forces are resolutely committed to eradicating terrorism and ensuring the safety of the region. Their unwavering determination is evident in the recent operations that have successfully eliminated multiple terrorists, demonstrating a relentless pursuit of peace and security.**

# TERRORISM MARS GULMARG'S SERENITY: FOUR LIVES LOST IN ARMY CONVOY AMBUSH

On October 24, 2024, an Army convoy was ambushed by terrorists in the picturesque yet perilous region of Gulmarg, Jammu and Kashmir. This attack resulted in the tragic loss of four lives: two soldiers and two civilian porters who were working alongside the Army. The ambush occurred approximately six kilometers from Gulmarg, a popular tourist destination known for its stunning landscapes and winter sports.

The choice of location for this attack is particularly significant. Gulmarg not only serves as a strategic military point but also represents a critical economic lifeline for the region through tourism. By targeting an Army convoy near a tourist hotspot, the militants aimed to send a chilling message about their operational capabilities and intent to disrupt both security and economic stability. This incident reflects a calculated effort to instill fear among both military personnel and civilians, potentially deterring tourists from visiting the area and impacting local businesses that rely on tourism revenue.

In the wake of the attack, security forces launched an extensive search operation that has been characterized as one of the largest in recent memory for the region. The operation involved multiple agencies, including the police, Army, and paramilitary forces, working in coordination to track down the assailants. The SSP of Baramulla reported that drones and helicopters were deployed to enhance aerial surveillance capabilities over dense forest areas where terrorists are likely to take refuge. The use of technology in these operations reflects a modern approach to counter-terrorism, emphasizing real-time intelligence gathering and rapid response capabilities. Security forces have also been utilizing human intelligence inputs gathered from local informants to pinpoint potential hideouts of the militants. This multifaceted strategy underscores the complexity of modern warfare in urban and semi-urban environments where terrorists can easily blend into civilian populations. The aftermath of the Gulmarg attack has sparked renewed political debate regarding security policies in Jammu and Kashmir. Farooq Abdullah, president of the National Conference, has called for a reassessment of strategies employed by security forces and emphasized that without addressing underlying grievances—such as political disenfranchisement and socio-economic issues—militancy will persist. This perspective highlights a critical aspect of counter-terrorism: effective long-term solutions must address not only immediate threats but also root causes that fuel discontent among local populations.

The Gulmarg attack is not an isolated incident but part of a disturbing trend of escalating violence in Jammu and Kashmir. In recent weeks, multiple attacks have occurred, including a particularly brutal assault on civilians at a construction site that resulted in seven fatalities just days before the ambush on the Army convoy. Such incidents indicate a potential resurgence of organized terrorist groups operating with increasing audacity. Analysts suggest that this uptick in violence may be linked to several factors, including increased infiltration attempts along the Line of Control (LoC) and possible regrouping of terrorist factions emboldened by external support. The recent influx of arms and ammunition reported by security agencies raises further concerns about an impending wave of violence aimed at destabilizing the region.

**The Gulmarg attack is a malicious bid to disrupt Kashmir's economic resurgence by targeting its tourism mainstay, imperiling the livelihoods of thousands dependent on the valley's hospitality and natural splendor. However, Evil shall never succeed.**

The tragic events surrounding the recent attack in Gulmarg serve as a sobering reminder of the persistent challenges faced by security forces in Jammu and Kashmir. As operations continue to locate those responsible for this heinous act, it is crucial for authorities to adopt a comprehensive approach that encompasses immediate security measures and long-term strategies aimed at fostering peace. Despite the challenges posed by inimical elements, there exists a commendable level of coordination between local communities and security forces. This collaboration is vital in countering the threats that seek to disrupt peace. However, it is essential to ensure that these hostile elements are not allowed to find refuge or a foothold within the region. Without decisive action and robust measures, the cycle of violence is likely to persist, perpetuating fear and instability in this historically tumultuous area. Moving forward, the path to lasting peace must involve dialogue, development initiatives, and sustained efforts to build trust between local communities and government authorities. By fostering an environment of cooperation and understanding, we can work towards eliminating terrorism from Kashmir and ensuring a brighter future for all its residents. The commitment of our security forces to confront these threats head-on will be instrumental in restoring peace and stability, reaffirming that terrorism will not prevail in this beautiful region.





# TERRORISTS ATTACK NON-LOCAL LABOURER, SHUBHAM KUMAR IN TRAL, PULWAMA

In a distressing incident that underscores the rising trend of target killing in Jammu and Kashmir, Shubham Kumar, a 19-year-old labourer from Bijnore, Uttar Pradesh, was shot by terrorists in the Batagund village of Tral on morning of October 24, 2024. The attack left him with a gunshot wound to arm, prompting immediate medical attention. This attack is not an isolated event; it marks a troubling trend of violence against non-local labourers in the region. In just one week, there have been three attacks targeting individuals who have come to Jammu and Kashmir seeking work and a better life. The recent surge in attacks has propelled different reactions from the community of migrant workers, many of whom come from different parts of India to earn a living in the picturesque yet volatile landscape of Jammu and Kashmir. On October 20, a horrific assault at a construction site in Ganderbal claimed the lives of six non-local labourers and a local doctor, leaving families shattered and communities grieving. Just two days prior, another labourer from Bihar was brutally shot dead in Shopian.

These incidents highlight not only the immediate danger faced by these workers but also the broader implications for social cohesion and economic stability in the region. The fear instilled by such violence can deter others from seeking employment in Jammu and Kashmir, further exacerbating local economic challenges. The emotional toll of these attacks cannot be overstated. Families are left to grapple with the loss of loved ones or the trauma of injury. For many labourers like Shubham Kumar, who travel far from home to provide for their families, each day carries the weight of uncertainty and fear. The dreams they hold for a better future are overshadowed by the specter of violence. Shubham's family, like many others, must now confront the reality that their son has been caught in a cycle of violence that seems unending. His mother's heartache is palpable; she had hoped for her son's safe return after a long day's work, only to receive news of his injury instead. The anguish felt by families affected by such violence is profound, as they navigate not only physical wounds but also emotional scars that may last a lifetime. In light of these escalating attacks, security forces are intensifying their efforts to apprehend those responsible. A CCTV image has emerged showing an alleged assailant involved in the Ganderbal attack; however, investigators are still working to verify its authenticity. The image shows a figure clad in traditional Pheran attire entering a construction site where multiple lives were tragically lost. Authorities are under immense pressure to restore safety and security for both local residents and migrant workers. Enhanced security measures are being discussed to protect vulnerable populations who contribute significantly to the local economy yet face grave risks due to ongoing disturbance.

The Gulmarg attack is not an isolated incident but part of a disturbing trend of escalating violence in Jammu and Kashmir. In recent weeks, multiple attacks have occurred, including a particularly brutal assault on civilians at a construction site that resulted in seven fatalities just days before the ambush on the Army convoy. Such incidents indicate a potential resurgence of organized terrorist groups operating with increasing audacity. Analysts suggest that this uptick in violence may be linked to several factors, including increased infiltration attempts along the Line of Control (LoC) and possible regrouping of terrorist factions emboldened by external support. The recent influx of arms and ammunition reported by security agencies raises further concerns about an impending wave of violence aimed at destabilizing the region.

**The targeted attack on Shubham Kumar, a non-local, is a luciferous attempt to jeopardize the hard-earned progress made in revitalizing the region's economy. However, it is crucial to recognize that our brave security forces are actively hunting down those responsible for these heinous acts.**

The hope remains that through concerted efforts—both from security forces and community leaders—peace can be restored, allowing families like Shubham's to dream again without fear overshadowing their aspirations. Such acts of violence will not be repeated, as our brave security forces are relentlessly pursuing those responsible, actively hunting down terrorists on a daily basis. These hostile elements face the unwavering resolve of our forces, who are committed to eliminating the threat they pose. With each encounter, these terrorists are being systematically dismantled, ensuring that the cycle of violence is broken and that the people of Kashmir can reclaim their right to live in peace and security. Together, we will build a future where dreams can flourish without the shadow of terror looming overhead.



# SUMMARY OF TERRORISTS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN SEP - OCT 2024

There have been **06** human rights violation committed by terrorists in Kashmir valley in the months of **Sep and Oct 2024**. With the onset of autumn season, Jammu and Kashmir has been tormented by a fresh surge of terror, leaving a trail of devastation and heartbreak in its wake. The past few weeks have witnessed an unrelenting barrage of attacks, foiled plots and tragic losses, testing the mettle of the security forces, the resilience of the local population and the very fabric of our society. These afresh targeted killing incidents have resulted in martyrdom of **03** brave heart soldiers and **7** civilians and injuring many others. Time and again, valley has been scarred by the brutal face of terrorism. The statistics are stark: since January 2024, J&K has seen a **30%** increase in terror attacks, with a **25%** rise in casualties. From the abduction of TA soldier, Hilal Ahmad Bhat to barbarous killing of seven innocent workers including a doctor, two non-local labourers, and the region has been scarred by the brutal face of militancy. This report is a tribute to the courage and valor of our armed forces, a testament to the unyielding spirit of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, and a call to action against the forces of terror that seek to destroy our peace and harmony.

Incidents	Civ Deaths	Civ Injured	Police/SF Death	Police/SF Injured
<b>06</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>06</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>03</b>



