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# FIRING IN AIR, TEAR GASSING AT SONAMARG, KULGAM

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SRINAGAR, May 15: Police fired in air and burst smoke shells to disperse protesting passengers and drivers at Sonamarg who were demanding that they be allowed to travel on Srinagar-Leh road. Cops also resorted to tear-gassing at Kulgam to disperse demonstrators, who were protesting against the alleged murder of a pregnant woman. Dozens of persons were injured in the clashes.

Protests erupted at Mir Bazar Kulgam today after the body of a missing pregnant woman was found by locals near Bus stop in the town. Protestors stopped rail service and blocked the traffic for hours.

Reports said Sumaira Jan, daughter of Ghulam Muhammad Mir resident of Sadoora Qazigund was married to Mehboob Mir of Babdar Fathepora Larkipora Anantnag some eight months ago.

Sumaira, according to police, went missing on April 28, when she ventured out of her house of in-laws while her husband lodged a missing report about her on May 10.

Today her body with half burnt face and torture marks on body was located by locals at the Bus Stop area in Kulgam. As the news spread, people in her native village Sadoora and Mir Bazar staged a protest demanding immediate arrest of the culprits. The protestors blocked rail service and traffic while the police assured them that culprits would be brought to book after speedy investigation. However, agitated protestors resorted to stone-pelting while police used tear smoke shells to disperse them. The clashes between police and protestors continued for hours.

A police official said that some miscreants pelted stones at a vehicle at the spot at Mir Bazar breaking few window panes of the vehicle. However, police chased them away and carried on with their investigations.

The father of the deceased pregnant woman told media that he does not know why his innocent daughter was murdered. A police official said that they have registered a formal case and investigation has been taken up in this regard.

Meanwhile, in another incident clashes erupted between stranded passengers and police in Sonamarg today after passengers and drivers staged a protest against the traffic authorities alleging that despite clear road, they are not being allowed to cross Zojilla pass to reach to Kargil. The protestors, mostly truck drivers, said that their trucks are loaded with perishable goods which could spoil within days.

Reports said scores of truck drivers and passengers took to roads in Sonamarg and amid anti-government slogans pelted stones on the police. Police burst tear-smoke shells that resulted in the injury of one protestor who was identified as Mushtaq Ahmed Khosa from Safapora Ganderbal. Reports said that when protestors did not budge and continued to pelt stones, the policemen resorted to firing in air that created panic in the tourist resort.

During the violent clashes at least 10 policemen were injured. Station House Officer Sonamarg, Irfan Ahmed said protestors resorted to heavy stone-pelting while police used tear-smoke shells to disperse them. “The

protestors wanted that their vehicles be allowed to cross Zojilla pass while the authorities have already declared road unsafe for travelling due to inclement weather," he said. Police arrested at least 8 protestors for resorting to violence and registered a formal case against them.

At least 500 vehicles are stranded in Sonamarg from past many days. The road was thrown open for a single day, however it was immediately closed down for traffic after fresh snowfall. "If road is unsafe then how come authorities allow Army convoy's to ply on the road," a truck driver said adding that they will incur huge losses if no allowed to ply on the road.

Passengers alleged that police thrashed even women passengers and smashed the windowpanes of scores of stranded vehicles, a charge refuted by police.

Inspector General of Police Traffic, Muneer Ahmed Khan said that all the protestors arrived in Sonamarg after 8 am while they allow traffic from 5 to 8 am only. "The road is unsafe for travelling. We allow traffic during wee hours only. As the day progresses there is always an increase in the temperature, which creates avalanche threat. We appeal all the passengers to report at Sonamarg till 8 in the morning and they will be allowed to pass through the road," he said.

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## VIDEO

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## FACEBOOK

## DAILY HOROSCOPE

## Daily Horoscopes

| | |
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| Aries<br>3/21-4/19 | Libra<br>9/23-10/22 |
| Taurus<br>4/20-5/20 | Scorpio<br>10/23-11/21 |
| Gemini<br>5/21-6/21 | Sagittarius<br>11/22-12/21 |
| Cancer<br>6/22-7/22 | Capricorn<br>12/22-1/19 |

## WEATHER

JAMMU, IN

32°

10:45 am IST

Mostly sunny

(https://www.accuweather.com/en/in/jammu/361708/weather-forecast/361708?utm_source=kashmirtimes-com&utm_medium=oap_weather_widget&utm_term=link_current&utm_content=accuweather&utm_campaign=current)

(https://www.accuweather.com/en/in/ com&utm_medium=oap_weather_wid

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## J&K RELATED WEBSITES

- J&K Govt. Official website (http://jkgad.nic.in/)
- Jammu Kashmir Tourism (http://www.jktourism.org/)
- JKTDC (http://www.jktdc.co.in/)
- Mata Vaishnodevi Shrine Board (http://www.maavaishnodevi.org/)
- Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board (http://www.shriamarnathjishrine.com/)
- Shri Shiv Khori Shrine Board (http://www.shivkhori.org/)

## UTILITY

- Train Enquiry (http://www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in/ntes/)
- IRCTC (http://www.irctc.co.in/)
- Matavaishnodevi (http://www.matavaishnodevi.com/)
- BSNL (http://www.bsnl.in/)
- Jammu Kashmir Bank (http://www.jkbank.net/)

- State Bank of India (http://www.statebankofindia.com/)

## PUBLIC INTEREST

- Passport Department (http://www.passport.gov.in/)
- Income Tax Department (http://www.incometaxindia.gov.in/Pages/default.aspx)
- JK CAMPA (http://www.jkcampa.com/)
- JK GAD (http://www.jkgad.nic.in/)
- IT Education (http://www.actit.co.in/)
- Web Site Design Services (https://www.ideogram.co.in/)
- Integrated IT Services India (https://hitachi-systems-mc.com/)

## EDUCATION

- Jammu University (http://www.jammuuniversity.in/)
- Jammu University Results (http://www.coeju.com/)
- JKBOSE (http://www.jkbose.co.in/)
- Kashmir University (http://www.kashmiruniversity.net/)
- IGNOU Jammu Center (http://www.ignourcjmu.nic.in/)
- SMVDU (http://www.smvdu.ac.in/)