STRIKE AGAINST DETENTIONS AFFECTS LIFE IN VALLEY

SYED YASIR. Dated: 5/15/2014 11:15:35 PM

SRINAGAR, May 15: Normal life was paralysed in Kashmir valley today in view of a general strike against the arrest of people particularly youth.

The call for the strike was given by Syed Ali Shah Geelani, chairman Hurriyat Conference (G). Shops, business establishments, banks, courts and semi-government institutions remained closed and traffic was off the roads in Srinagar, Baramulla, Bandipora, Kupwara, Ganderbal, Budgam, Anntnag, Pulwama, Kulgam and Shopian districts of the Kashmir valley.

Authorities deployed heavy contingents of police and CRPF in every nook and corner of the city to thwart any protest demonstration.

However, despite restrictions, minor stone pelting incidents occurred in old town Baramulla. A large deployment of police did not allow the youths to assemble and police foiled their attempt by resorting to lathicharge.

The police later sealed all the three bridges connecting old Baramulla with new town and did not allow the protesters to assemble.

Reports from Bandipora said that a complete strike was observed in the township in response to the strike call given by Geelani. The town was observing complete strike for the last five days against the detention of the youths by police allegedly involved in stone pelting incidents.

South Kashmir's Shopian, Pulwama, Anatnag and Kulgam also observed complete strike. Shops and other business establishments remained closed in the area. However, some private vehicles were plying on the district roads.

The Hurriyat Conference (G) chairman Syed Ali Shah Geelani had given a one day strike call today against the detention of the youths by the police. They have also threatened to intensify the agitation incase the youths are not released immediately.
Around 300 youths have been arrested in various parts of the Kashmir valley for the last one month.
Parents of the detained youths have alleged that police are allegedly demanding money in exchange of the release of the youth who are languishing in police stations.
The parents also alleged that police have kept some brokers who are demanding money from them in exchange of release of youths. They said that it has become a business for police officials to first arrest the youths and then demand money from their parents in exchange of the money.
Police today claimed to have released 14 youths allegedly involved in stone-throwing incidents.
They also claimed that parents and detained youth gave written assurance to police and made it clear that they will 'not pelt stones on forces' in the future.
Superintendent of Police Sopore, Abdul Qayoom said that they have counselled these boys and told them not to destroy their careers. They have requested their parents to keep an eye on their children and make them understand.
Police also claimed that six stone pelters who were evading arrests have surrendered at police station Hajin.
A police also claimed that six stone pelters who are involved in recent cases of violence and stone pelting incidents and were evading arrest surrendered today at police station Hajin.

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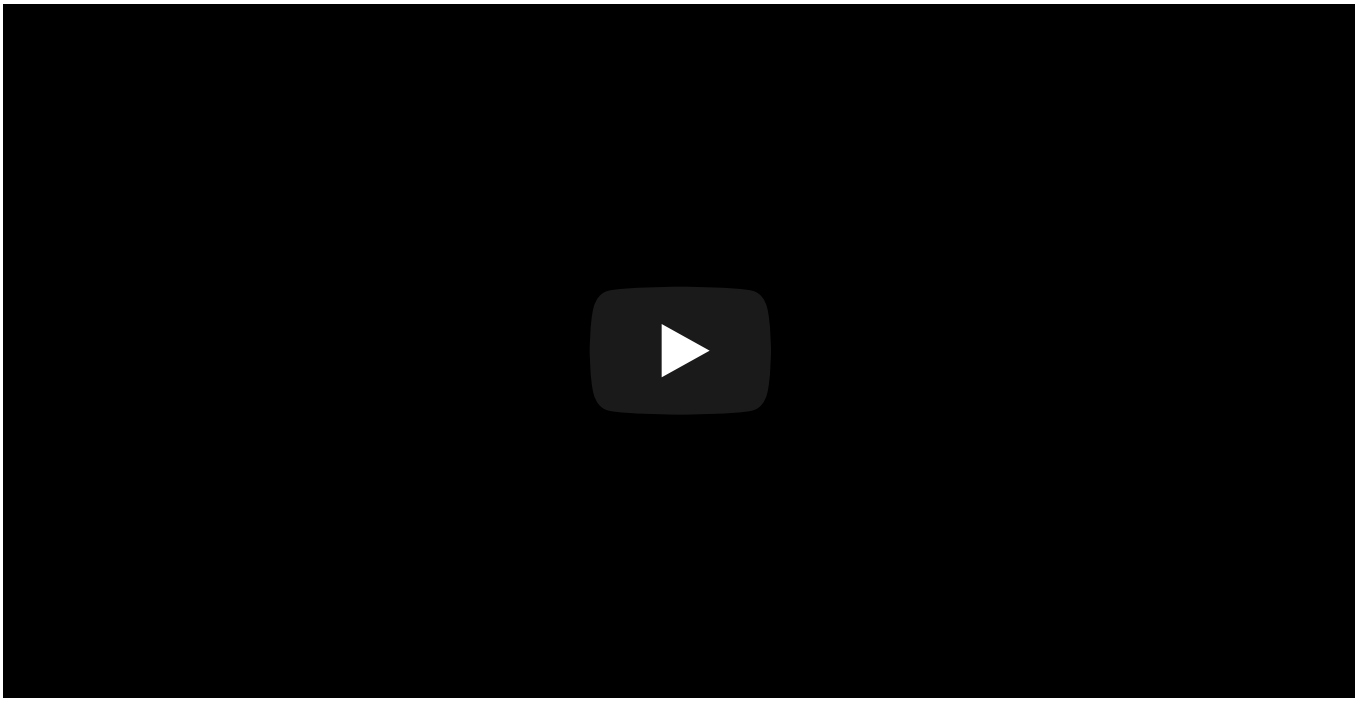

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J&K RELATED WEBSITES

- 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)
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