

# Iltija Mufti demands judicial inquiry into Kathua, Baramulla incidents

PTI, JAMMU: People's Democratic Party (PDP) leader Iltija Mufti on Sunday demanded a judicial inquiry

into two alleged incidents of human rights violations in Kathua and Baramulla districts of Jammu

and Kashmir.

Iltija, daughter of PDP president and former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti, visited the family of a youth who recently committed suicide in Kathua following alleged torture by police over his suspected links with terrorists.

She was scheduled to address a press conference at party headquarters in Jammu but claimed that she was not allowed to move out of the Circuit house by police personnel who were deployed in strength.

Iltija's visit to Kathua comes a day after she claimed that she and her mother had been placed under house arrest in Srinagar.

Makhan Din (25), a Gujjar youth from Billawar area of Kathua, ended his life by consuming insecticide at his home on Tuesday evening and recorded the act on a video claiming innocence. He denied any



PDP leader Iltija Mufti speaks to the media, in Jammu, on Sunday

connection with terrorists, prompting separate probes by the police and the local administration.

"I demand judicial inquiry into both the incidents of human rights violations which have taken place in Kathua and Baramulla (where a truck driver was shot dead by the Army after he jumped a check-post on Wednesday)." "As far as the Kathua case is concerned, there

are grave allegations of corruption against the local SHO (Station House Officer) Jitender Singh. The families claimed that their wards are being picked up to extort money from them. The whole area is under terror which is not the handwork of any militant but by a police officer," Iltija told waiting reporters from inside the gate of the circuit house after she was denied permission to move out by police.

Questioning no action against the accused officer so far, she said "I am a harmless girl... had I come here to break any law? I came from Srinagar to Jammu during the night hours like a thief and reached Kathua at 6 am. On returning to Jammu, I was detained."

"What wrong have I done? If there is any human rights violation, there should be accountability and we need to know why a youth ended his life like this?" she said.

Criticising the National Conference Government, Iltija said the chief minister instead of consoling the widow of the deceased youth is hosting 'Al fresco' lunch in Delhi. The youth's widow had not taken her meals for the last five days.

"This government wants to absolve itself by saying that it (law and order) is the responsibility of the LG," she said.

## Kumbh crowd triggers traffic jam in Prayagraj

PTI, PRAYAGRAJ (UP): A severe traffic congestion extending for kilometers was witnessed on the routes to the Maha Kumbh Mela here on Sunday with Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav asking the government to make emergency arrangements for the stranded devotees.

Prayagraj Sangam railway station was closed due to excessive crowd outside the station.

More than 1.42 crore devotees took bath in Ganga and Sangam till 6 pm on Sunday, according to the data released by the fair

administration. More than 42 crore devotees have so far taken a dip in Ganga and Sangam.

Regarding the traffic jam, Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav in a post on X said, "Emergency arrangements should be made immediately for the crores of devotees stranded in Prayagraj Maha Kumbh. The hungry, thirsty, distressed and tired pilgrims in the traffic jam everywhere should be looked at with a humane perspective. Is the common devotee not a human being?"

**SAD DEMISE**  
**LEELA P. KESARKAR**  
(Ex Govt. Primary Teacher)  
(DIVAR - GOA)  
BORN - 10/03/1938  
DIED - 09/02/2025  
Wife of Late Premanand Kesarkar | Mother of Miss. Shilpa P. Kesarkar  
Aunt of Late Kanand, Vallabh, Milind, Sandhya N. Shirodkar  
and entire Kesarkar family Divar / Panjim/ Porvorim.  
Died peacefully, Her final rites will be performed  
on 10th Feb 2025 (TODAY) at 11.00am  
magnum, vasco 9765663264

**RETURNED TO THE LORD**  
**RITA (RITIN) FERNANDES**  
Pomburpa - Ecocim near Chapel  
Born: 9.4.1933 - Died: 9.2.2025  
Loving wife of late Jasso, mother/mother-in-law of Menin/Maggie. Grandmother of Mevan & Joywin Fernandes.  
Funeral cortege will leave her residence at 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at Mother of God Church, Pomburpa for mass & burial.  
RELATIVES AND FRIENDS KINDLY ACCEPT THIS AS THE ONLY INTIMATION.

**RETURNED TO THE LORD**  
**ANGELINA FERNANDES**  
:- Chinchinim :-  
Born: 9.8.1940 - Died: 8.2.2025  
Wife of late Mariano Amalio Fernandes. Loving mother/mother-in-law of Zita/ Albert Braganza, Mabel/ Peter Fernandes, Susan/ late Roshan Pereira, Jerome Fernandes. Dearest grandmother of Ashryl, Zenia, Dwyane, Rhea, Glenn, Rishon.  
Passed away peacefully.  
Funeral cortege will leave her residence at 3.30 p.m. on Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at Our Lady of Hope Church, Chinchinim for mass & burial.  
RELATIVES AND FRIENDS KINDLY ACCEPT THIS AS THE ONLY INTIMATION.  
Confidant Advtg. & Funeral Services, Margao. Ph. 9823022194

**DEATH**  
**BARNABE JOAO VINCENTE D'SA**  
BORN: 12.05.1954  
DIED: 09.02.2025  
(ZORIBHATT, CHINCHINIM)  
Son of late Rosario D'Sa and late Matilda Rego.  
Beloved Husband of Joanita D'Sa.  
Father/Father-in-law of Anezia Runa/Joseph Fernandes & Rechie/Godriya D'Sa.  
Brother/Brother-in-law of Celcia/late Santan Cardinho, Aurelio/Late Luiza & Zemira/late Manuel Ferrao.  
Doting Grandfather of Avigal, Annaya and Raizel.  
Passed away on 09/02/2025.  
Funeral will leave his residence on 11/02/2025 (TOMORROW) at 9:15 a.m. to Our Lady of Hope Church, Chinchinim for the Eucharistic Celebration followed by burial.  
Relatives and friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.  
Galaxy Advt. 9823244657

**RETURNED TO THE LORD**  
**MARIA SARA VENEZIANA IMACULADA CONCEICAO CARDOZO**  
:- P. Band, Sarzora :-  
BORN: 07 Dec 1945 DIED: 08 Feb 2025  
Wife of late Aleixinho (Alex) Cardozo.  
Loving mother/mother-in-law of Caetano (Caji) Joseph Cardozo/Livia Cardozo.  
Dearest grandmother of Hayden and Hayley.  
Passed away peacefully  
Funeral cortege will leave her residence at 9.45 a.m. on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025 to Our Lady of Assumption Church, Sarzora for mass & burial.  
RELATIVES AND FRIENDS KINDLY ACCEPT THIS AS THE ONLY INTIMATION.  
Confidant Advtg. & Funeral Services, Margao. Ph. 9823022194

## Priyanka urges for more funds to tackle human-animal conflict in Wayanad

PTI, WAYANAD (KERALA): Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Sunday vowed to pressure both the central and state governments to increase funding for mitigating human-animal conflict in this hill constituency while also raising Corporate Social Responsibility funds for the cause.

Addressing the party's booth-level leaders in the Thiruvambadi Assembly constituency, the Wayanad MP said that she will try her best to minimise the instances of human-animal conflict.

She said that while holding a discussion with the authorities including the District Magistrate and forest officials following the death of a woman due to the attack of a tiger in Mananthavady, they cited the issue of shortage of funds.

"I told them I will pressurise both the Centre and state governments to increase the funding to mitigate the problem and at the same time we will raise the CSR funds wherever we can help with it," Priyanka added.

She stated that since January four deaths have occurred in Wayanad due to wild animal attacks.

On the second day of her three-day visit to Wayanad, Priyanka addressed the issue of human-animal conflicts in her first meeting at Erannad Assembly constituency, stating

"I told them (authorities) I will pressurise both the Centre and state governments to increase the funding to mitigate the problem and at the same time we will raise the CSR funds wherever we can help with it

— Priyanka Gandhi, Congress leader

that she would write to both the central and state governments asking to allocate more funds, as adequate funding is essential for effective protection measures.

Later, speaking to reporters after the meeting on the human-animal conflict issue, she said she has already raised it once and will continue to raise it.

"It's something we need to look into, it's a complex issue as there is no easy solution. Definitely, I will put as much pressure and raise as much as I can," she added.

Priyanka stated that there is difficulty in securing funds from both the Centre and the state government.

"I will take up this issue and ensure it is resolved," she said, adding that increased funding is crucial for better monitoring, improved safety measures, and enhanced protection for forest guards, watchers, and others involved.

Earlier on the day, continuing her

criticism of the BJP-led NDA government at the Centre, the Congress general secretary alleged that, for the first time in history, a government is working to weaken both the Constitution and democracy of the country.

Addressing the party's booth-level leaders in Erannad Assembly constituency, Priyanka said, "It's probably for the first time in our country's history, we have a government that is working to weaken the Constitution and the democracy."

"You must understand that today the fight we are fighting is not just a fight for our own politics and ideology but a fight for protecting the essence of India, everything that makes our nation what it is today," she added.

Encouraging party workers, she stated, "You worked with deepest dedication for me in the election and I am truly grateful for that." The Congress MP also met and congratulated the men and women players from Wayanad who won gold and silver medals for Kerala in volleyball at the ongoing 38th National Games at Uttarakhand.

On Monday, she will hold meetings with booth-level leaders at Wandoor and Nilambur Assembly constituencies and will also visit families of a few victims of wild animal attacks, Congress sources said.

## MP dam could submerge tiger corridor: NTCA

*The region is home to endangered species such as leopards, wolves, wild dogs, hyenas, and several herbivores. The habitat loss could have severe ecological consequences, the FAC noted*

Madhya Pradesh could submerge forested areas used by tigers to move between reserves and has strongly recommended exploring alternative sites, government records show.

The Environment Ministry's Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) discussed a proposal to divert 2,250.05 hectares of forest land for the project in a meeting on January 27.

The project involves building two dams on the Morand and Ganjal rivers to improve irrigation in Hoshangabad, Betul, Harda, and Khandwa districts of the state.

According to the project proposal, the construction of the dams and related infrastructure will displace 644 families, including 604 tribal families, who rely on the forest for their livelihood. Over seven lakh trees will be affected at full reservoir level, with 5.75 lakh trees marked for felling.

The region is home to endangered species such as leopards, wolves, wild dogs, hyenas, and several herbivores. The habitat loss could have severe ecological consequences,

the FAC noted.

It has recommended that a sub-committee conduct a site inspection before making a decision. The sub-committee will include representatives from the environment ministry, NTCA, and soil conservation experts.

According to the minutes of the meeting, the NTCA has warned that the project could destroy a crucial tiger corridor between the Satpura and Melghat Tiger Reserves and pose a threat to other wildlife and biodiversity.

The NTCA's analysis, based on the National Tiger Estimation 2022, shows that the project site is part of a critical tiger-occupied habitat. It said that the dams would submerge forested areas essential for tiger movement between reserves, affecting "genetic exchange and population stability".

"Any disruption to this ecological connectivity will likely have long-term detrimental impacts on the viability of tiger populations and the broader wildlife community within this landscape," the NTCA said.

**LORD IM COMING HOME**  
**INACINHA SACRAMENTA MENEZES**  
(Bogmalo)  
Born: 22/12/1937 Died: 09/02/2025  
"In Gods arms you will rest forever  
In our hearts you will stay forever"  
Mother/Mother-in-law of: Sister Candida (Cloistered Carmel, Chicalim), Late Santana/Joao, Josephine/Manuel, Fedelis/Preciosa, Merciana/Late Krishna, Agostinho/Joanita. Sister/sister-in-law of: Late Padrinho, Late Salvador, Piedade, Joaquim. Grandmother/mother-in-law of: Angela (Dubai), Alleluia/Dominic, Mario/Favia, Stephen, Anita/Craslo, Late Johnny/Bonita, Richard, Nelisha (UK) and Queenie/Clive (Ireland). Great grand mother of: Marissa, Threza, Shawn, Karen, Kiara, Kaden, Ian and Ezme.  
Funeral cortege will leave her residence on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025 (Monday) at 3:30 PM, followed by Eucharistic celebration and burial at St. Cosme and Damiao Church, Bogmalo.  
(RELATIVES, FRIENDS AND WELL WISHERS ACCEPT THIS AS THE ONLY INTIMATION)

**FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**Hermogenes Caldeira**  
(Hermie / Babush)  
Ex-Kuwait / Cavelessim / Alto-Porvorim  
12 AUG 1941 - 09 FEB 2025  
Beloved Husband of Martha Caldeira.  
Cherished Father/Father-in-law of Beverly/Noel, Blossom & Melford. Devoted Grandfather of Nylah.  
Loving Brother/Brother-in-law of Sunita/Sunder.  
Dear Uncle to Dinesh and Rishi.  
Brother-in-law to Lolita and Joe.  
Funeral cortege will leave his residence at Porvorim on 10 Feb 2025 at 3:45pm, for Eucharistic celebration and burial at the Holy Family Church, Porvorim.  
Relatives & friends, kindly accept this as the only intimation

**MONTH'S MIND**  
**IGNATIUS ANDREW DO ROSARIO**  
KERANT - CARANZALEM  
There will be a Eucharistic Celebration on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025 at 7:30 am at St Michael's Church, Taleigao followed by prayers at the grave offered by his wife Hazel and children Ethan & Eliana.  
Relatives & friends kindly accept this as the only intimation  
GOANRITES 9823163697

**FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY**  
*In Everloving Memory Of*  
**MARIA SARITA GOMES**  
GUIRIM - NUVEM  
"Today marks a year since you left us, but your spirit continues to light our way, you are fondly remembered and deeply missed."  
There will be Eucharistic Celebration for the soul of our beloved SARITA, on Tuesday (Tomorrow) 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7:30am at Holy Family Church Nuvem, followed by prayers & blessings at the grave, offered by her Sorrowful Family.  
Relatives, Neighbours and Friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.

**FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY**  
*In Everloving Memory of*  
**REMEDIOS THOMAS PEREIRA (Remy)**  
BETALBATIM / MAJORDA  
Dec 29, 1955 - Feb 11, 2024  
"You will always be in our hearts... Because in there you're still alive."  
There will be an Eucharistic Celebration for the soul of our beloved REMY, on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025, (Tomorrow), at 8:30 am, at Our Lady of Remedios Church, Betalbatim, followed by prayers at the grave.  
Offered by his sorrowful wife: Maria Pereira; Children: Rawlins/Blossom, Reon, Rowen/Barbara, and Grandchildren: Rylan, Reeve & Benett.  
Relatives, Friends and Neighbours kindly accept this as the only intimation.

**2ND DEATH ANNIVERSARY**  
*Of our loving Mai,*  
**LUIZA MARIA CONCEICAO NORONHA**  
FIRGOZWADDO - CARANZALEM  
Mai, you are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.  
There will be Eucharistic Celebration for the soul of our beloved Mai, on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 6:45 am at Our Lady of Rosary Church, Caranzalem, followed by prayers & blessings at the grave, offered by her Sons, Daughters, Daughters-in-law, Sons-in-law, and all grand-children and great grand-children.  
Relatives, neighbours, friends and wellwishers kindly accept this as the only intimation

*In loving memory*  
**NICOLAU ANTONIO ANICETO DIAS**  
17 April 1933  
31 January 2025  
(Valetembi - Quepem)  
To live in the hearts of those we love is never to die  
An Eucharistic Celebration will be held on TUESDAY, 11 February 2025 at 8.00am at Holy Cross Church, Quepem, followed by prayers and blessing at the grave.  
Relatives, friends & neighbours kindly accept this as the only intimation  
Cosry's Ads, Chinchinim, Navelim, 9850473904

**THREE YEARS WITH THE LORD**  
*In Everloving Memory of*  
**MIGUEL FRANCISCO DIAS**  
Villa Formosa / New Township Guirdolim.  
Born 02.12.1946 Died 11.2.2022  
There will be an Eucharistic celebration for the soul of our beloved father Miguel Dias on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7.30 am at Nossa Senhora De Belem Church Chandor, followed by prayers at the grave.  
Offered by his sorrowful children Micky / Milita, Ivo / Ivette, Monalisa / Lloyd.  
Grandchildren : Merissa, Meghan, Maxwell, Inoshca, Ivica, Keira, Janelle, Tamara.  
Relatives and friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.