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JAMMU AND KASHMIR | NEED 24 NEWS · Every Story, Every City | 15 November 2026

Khaas Report: Mr. Nazir Ahmad Sofi, Kashmir, Srinagar



Visited Kyar Dachan in Kishtwar, the site where our brave SPOs, the late Sh. Babi Chand Ji and the late Sh. Rashpal Kumar Ji, made the supreme sacrifice while performing their duties in the service of the nation.

I paid my humble tributes to these brave souls and expressed heartfelt condolences to their families. Their courage, dedication, and sacrifice will always be remembered.

I stand firmly with the bereaved families during this difficult time. Their sacrifice will never go in vain. May God grant eternal peace to the departed souls and strength to their families. Jai Hind

Om Shanti.

— Nazir Ahmad Sofi

Khaas Report: Mr. Nazir Ahmad Sofi



Mir calls for immediate restoration of Statehood, Panchayat and Municipal elections in J&K

Accuses NC Govt of betraying public trust, neglecting unemployed youth and failing to fulfil election promises; urges Centre to bridge emotional distances with people of J&K

Jammu: Senior Vice President of Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party (JKAP), Ghulam Hassan Mir, on Saturday launched a strong political attack on the National Conference-led government in Jammu and Kashmir, accusing it of failing to fulfil its electoral promises, neglecting pressing public issues and ignoring the aspirations of different sections of society. Addressing a meeting of Jammu Province office bearers at the party headquarters in Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, Mir reiterated that Apni Party had entered the political arena with a clear vision of promoting unity, peace, prosperity and equitable development across Jammu and Kashmir, unlike traditional political parties which, he alleged, had contributed to political divisions and conflicting narratives.

Mir said that the people of Jammu and Kashmir, irrespective of their regional identities and political affiliations, deserve an atmosphere of peace, mutual understanding and equal opportunities. He maintained that lasting peace and development could only be achieved through collective efforts and constructive engagement among all stakeholders. Emphasising the need for meaningful dialogue between the Government of India and the people of Jammu and Kashmir, he referred to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's commitment to bridging emotional distances and said that concrete steps were now required to translate this assurance into reality.

He observed that there were different concerns and aspirations in Jammu and Kashmir, with people in Jammu having certain issues and those in Kashmir facing different challenges. However, both regions deserved equal attention, dignity and opportunities. Mir urged the Government of India to initiate an inclusive political dialogue with the people of Jammu and Kashmir to address their concerns, rebuild public confidence and bridge the widening emotional gap between the people and the Union Government.

Reiterating Apni Party's consistent demand for the restoration of statehood, Mir said that his party had been raising this issue since its inception, much before several other political parties made it a prominent part of their political agenda. He stressed that the restoration of statehood should not be delayed any further and called upon the Government of India to honour its commitment by granting full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir without further delay.

He said that restoration of statehood was essential for strengthening democratic institutions, restoring public confidence and ensuring that the people of Jammu and Kashmir had a government with adequate constitutional and administrative authority to address their aspirations.

Expressing serious concern over the growing unemployment crisis, Mir said that Jammu and Kashmir had a large population of educated and talented young people who were desperately looking for employment opportunities. Unfortunately, he alleged, the present National Conference government had failed to demonstrate the seriousness required to address their concerns.

He said that the youth could become a powerful force in the economic transformation of Jammu and Kashmir if provided with suitable employment opportunities, skill development programmes and an environment conducive to entrepreneurship. Instead of making announcements and offering assurances, the government should come forward with a concrete employment roadmap, ensure transparency in recruitment and create sustainable livelihood opportunities. Mir maintained that the aspirations of educated unemployed youth could not be ignored any longer, adding that their energy and talent must be channelled towards nation-building and the overall development of Jammu and Kashmir.

Taking a dig at both the National Conference and the BJP, Mir alleged that the two parties were indirectly benefiting from the absence of elected grassroots democratic institutions in Jammu and Kashmir. He questioned why Panchayat and Urban Local Body elections had not been conducted despite the importance of these institutions in ensuring public participation in governance. He alleged that the BJP had political dominance in certain areas while the National Conference enjoyed influence in Kashmir, and both parties were comfortable with the existing political arrangement because it suited their respective interests. He said that the BJP, being the principal opposition party, should have actively pressed for the restoration of grassroots democracy instead of remaining a silent spectator.

Mir asserted that Panchayats and Municipal Bodies were the foundation of democratic governance and played a crucial role in addressing local problems relating to roads, sanitation, drinking water, drainage and other civic amenities. He demanded that Panchayat and Municipal elections be conducted immediately so that people could elect their representatives and participate directly in decision-making and development activities.

Launching a direct attack on the National Conference government, Mir said that the party had secured public support by making several attractive promises but had failed to fulfil them after coming to power. He specifically referred to the promise of providing 200 units of free electricity, free LPG gas cylinders and enhancement of old-age pensions up to Rs 3,000. He said that these commitments had raised expectations among ordinary households, economically weaker sections and elderly citizens, but the government had failed to translate its assurances into tangible benefits.

Mir expressed concern that vulnerable sections of society, including senior citizens and persons with disabilities, were facing difficulties and deserved greater attention from the government. He said that election promises should not be treated merel

— Nazir Ahmad Sofi