

**FAHAD ZAROO DIVERTED CANAL TO MAKE ROAD**

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KZINE.IN

# KASHMIR CENTRAL

A KZINE INITIATIVE



**SUNJWAN LAND SCAM**

**WHO IS LYING?**

**Malik or**

**Mehbooba?**

## Media - Was it ever independent in Kashmir?

**KASHMIRCENTRAL**  
Vol 1 Edition 2,  
5 December 2021

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Bashir Assad

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kashmirkzine@gmail.  
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CENTRAL

Some journalists from Kashmir have unleashed a campaign against the local administration for what they call as attack on the freedom of the media. They are running this campaign consistently and meticulously.

The media is considered the fourth pillar of the Indian democracy. Nobody, howsoever powerful, should interfere in the free functioning of the media. Equally, a question must be asked: Has Kashmir media ever been independent, unbiased and impartial?

The truth is – No. This warped reality has prevailed particularly since the inception of militancy in Kashmir. The media, willingly or fearing the non-state actors, has worked under certain influences. One should have the spine to accept the bitter truth. Since the inception of militancy, our reportage has followed two major streams. Fearing for their lives, a large section of Kashmir media would bring to light only that which suited the non-state actors and their political mentors. Another section, who were and are separatists ideologically, became spin doctors to deepen this narrative in Kashmir. Their job has been to attribute everything wrong to the state and discredit it. They never raised their voice against the non-state actors even when journalists and writers were targeted and killed by the Pakistan-backed militants.

The media has every right to agitate against the state and against those who run the affairs of the state if they unnecessarily and with a design, interfere in the independence of the media. But the right to express comes with certain riders. Challenging the sovereignty and integrity of the nation at the behest of malicious foreign powers, distorting the truth and selectively presenting the facts cannot and should not be acceptable.

Journalists use smokescreens in different ways. Recently, a spin doctor-cum-stooge of foreign agencies took to Twitter to give gyaan on cricket the day militants were on a killing spree in Srinagar and spilled the blood of innocents in the streets. This shameless man did not utter a word on the way the innocents were killed. Instead, he kept tweeting non-stop on the T20 World Cup tournament. It was obnoxious. It almost seemed as if he was enjoying these killings. Soon thereafter, this spineless man took to Twitter when a dreaded militant and his two associates were killed in a brief shootout at Ram-bagh in Srinagar. Without waiting for the identification of the killed militants, this notorious figure started jumping with accusations that innocents were killed.

How strange it is that if the state reprimands him and his clique for spreading misinformation and indulging in distortion campaigns, it is seen as interference in the free functioning of the media. Willy nilly, there are many takers for his brand of journalism. Evidently, those who believe him have no real understanding of the dynamics that drive Kashmir. All those journalists and activists in Kashmir who have boldly taken on the state and mocked it must use some of this audacity to question and mock those who kill innocents. The militants may give them some new understanding of freedom of expression.



**Bashir Assad**

A publication of **Media Analysis Centre** Kashmir | A Lehar Initiative

# Fahad Zaroo **DIVERTED, COVERED** Water Channel To Make Access Road **4**



The stroke across the photograph shows the original flow of water



### Mehbooba's Anger Optics **18**



### SLOW CLAP FOR YOU Syed Areej Zaffar **30**

razor sharp analysis

INCISIVE REPORTING

INVESTIGATE  
THE TERROR  
ECOSYSTEM

EXPOSE  
DECEPTION

RESTORE  
ORDER

MAKE A SPLASH

INCULCATE  
DEMOCRATIC SPIRIT

**Fahad Zaroo  
Diverted  
Water Channel  
To Make  
Access Road**

**Space From  
Water Channel  
Converted Into  
6-Foot Road by  
Zaroo**

This channel used to be the water source for the canal in Kralsangri. It is being investigated whether Zaroo encroached upon the canal upstream and diverted the flow



**by Bisma NAZIR**

**A** land grab or any illegal activity cannot be seen in isolation. It is the result of an enabling eco-system in the state apparatus that allows it to take root and flourish. Some officers in the state apparatus regularize or try to regularize all that is wrong, and deliberately turn a blind eye to all transgressions.

The star of the land grab at Kralsangri area of Nishat

is Fahad Nazir Zaroo. But there is a whole galaxy of officers across diverse departments who have made this audacious act possible. KASHMIR CENTRAL brings to you the extent of this audacity. Read on and be amazed.

Zaroo has converted a water canal running through Kral Sangri into a road for himself. In the 21st digital edition of KZINE, we had highlighted how Zaroo had illegally taken occupation of the precious forest land in Kralsangri. Now we bring to you startling

information on how space for a water canal has been squeezed. The natural route of the canal has been diverted to make space for the road that Zaroo can use to access the forest area. All this has been done by Zaroo with the blessings of the powers that be in the state apparatus.

### **WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT CONTRADICTS IN TWO OFFICIAL NOTICES**

The Wildlife Department of the UT Administration stopped the encroachment work on November 6, 2021. Interestingly, officials of the department did

not lodge an FIR or any complaint against Fahad Zaroo. The First Information Report (FIR) against Zaroo for the land encroachment was registered by the Station House Officer of Police Station Nishat on November 7.

On November 8, Noor Mohd, Range Officer of the Wildlife Division wrote a letter to the Divisional Forest Officer of the Urban Forestry Division. Here is the description of the letter in the official records: SPR/2021/649-51.

Noor Mohd noted in the letter that Fahad Nazir Zaroo has chopped down the trees and erected the angle iron poles in the buffer zone and eco fragile area without any permission from LCMA and NOC from

**The lane seen in the photograph used to be the route of the water channel. It reached the main road and went forward to Karan Mahal. It is being investigated whether encroachment and diversion of water gave it the present look**



**11 feet wide water canal was shrunk to make space for 5-6 feet wide road. It is being investigated whether fencing and construction upstream diverted the flow**



**The water channel in the Kralsangri forest has been blocked because of this gate and fencing**



**The stroke across the photograph shows the original flow of water**

the Wildlife Department. Mohd also wrote that the entire grabbed area belongs to the Wildlife Department, and that the area was given to the Forest Department for plantation and other allied work.

On November 12, the Wildlife Department changed its stand. The Block Office of the Department wrote the following to the SHO of Police Station Nishat: "The area is not under our administrative control, so no report in this regard was due to be submitted by this office. However since the area is not demarcated yet, so any such activity is intervened by staff in good faith, but has apprised our division. Activities taking place outside the wildlife area not recorded in the guard book unless related to wildlife offence". The information was provided by the District Range Officer of the Wildlife Division in Letter Number 314-16/BB.

The question that arises is this: What happened between November 8 and November 12 that the Wildlife Division significantly softened its stand regarding the blatant, illegal occupation of forest land? We concede that there may be a completely bona fide reason that the Wildlife Division changed its stand on the subject. Equally, the possibility of some murky deal here cannot be ruled out.

For the sake of argument, we may agree with the plea given that the land does not come under the jurisdiction of the Wildlife Department. Then what prompted the Range Officer of the Department to initiate action against the encroachment and also write an official letter in this regard? These are other questions regarding this murky case that need thorough investigation.

# THE STATE WAS AWARE OF THE WRONDOING, NO CONCRETE ACTION TAKEN

## Range Officer, Wildlife Department to Divisional Forest Officer, Urban Forestry Division, Srinagar

OFFICE OF THE RANGE OFFICER S-PARK RANGE, TANGBAGH SRINAGAR

The Divisional Forest Officer,  
Urban Forestry Division, Srinagar.

No. SPR/2021/649-51

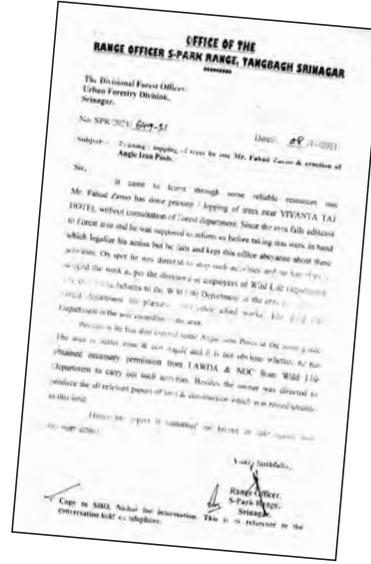
Dated: 08/11/2021

Subject: Pruning / lopping of trees by one Mr. Fahad Zaroo & erection of Angle Iron Posts.

Sir, It came to learnt through some reliable resources one came Mr. Fahad Zaroo has done pruning / lopping of trees near VIVANTA TAJ HOTEL without consultation of forest department. Since the area falls adjacent to Forest area and he was supposed to inform us before taking this work in hand which legalize his action but he fails and kept this office abeyance about these activities. On spot he was directed to stop such activities and he has already stopped the work as per the directions of employees of Wild Life Department. The entire area belongs to the wildlife Department & the area was given to Forest Department for plantation and other allied works. The Wild Life Department is the sole custodian of the area. Besides it he has also created some Angle Iron Posts at the same place. The area is buffer zone & eco fragile and it is not obvious whether he has obtained necessary permission from LAWDA & NOC from Wild Life Department to carry out such activities. Besides the owner was directed to produce the all relevant papers of land & construction which was raised already in this land.

Hence the report is submitted for favour of information and necessary action.

Your faithfully,  
Range officer,  
S-Park Range, Srinagar



## Executive Engineer, Water Work Division to The Station House Officer, Police Station, Nishat

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office of the Executive Engineer, Water Works Division Srinagar

"Tele: 0194-2452047, 2477207 Fax 2484782"

No: WWD/CC/6029-31

Dated: 26-11-2021

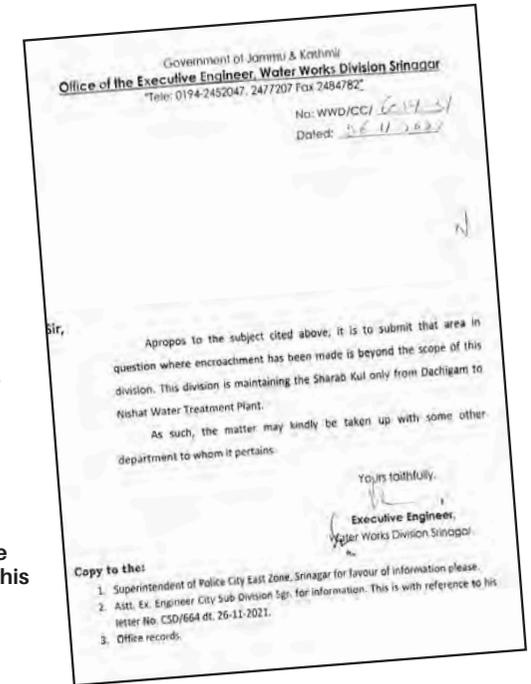
Sir,

Apropos to the subject cited above, it is to submit that area in question where encroachment has been made is beyond the scope of this division. This division is maintaining the Sharab Kul only from Dachigam to Nishat Water Treatment Plant. As such, the matter may kindly be taken up with some other department to whom it pertains.

Yours faithfully,  
Executive Engineer,  
Water Works Division Srinagar.

Copy to the:

1. Superintendent of Police City East Zone, Srinagar for favour of information please
2. Assistant Ex. Engineer City Sub Division for information. This is with reference to his letter No. CSD/664 dt. 26-11-2021
3. Office Records



## Block Officer, Wildlife Department to Station House Officer, Police Station Nishat

Office Of The Block Officer  
Department Of Wildlife Protection  
Block Brane/Nishat CR  
The Station House,  
Officer Police Station  
Nishat

No:-314-16/BB

Dt: 12-11-2021

Sub. Investigation of case FIR No. 113/2021/U/S 188 447/ IPC of Police Station Nishat.

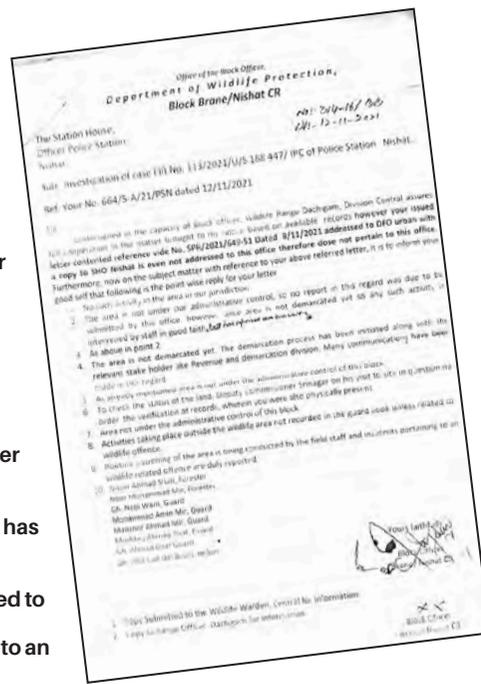
Ref. Your No. 664/5-A/21/PSN dated 12/11/2021

Sir,  
Undersigned in the capacity of Block officer, Wildlife Range Dachigam, Division Central assures full cooperation in the matter brought to my notice based on available records however your issued letter contented reference vide No. SPR/2021/649-51 Dated 8/11/2021 addressed to DFO urban with a copy to SHO Nishat is even not addressed to this office therefore dose not pertain to this office. Furthermore, now on the subject matter with reference to your above referred letter, it is to inform your good self that following is the point wise reply for your letter.

1. No such activity in the area in our jurisdiction
2. The area is not under our administrative control, so no report in this regard was due to be submitted by this office, however since area is not demarcated yet so any such activity is intervened by staff in good faith, but has apprised our Division.
3. As above in point 2.
4. The area is not demarcated yet. The demarcation process has been initiated along with the relevant stake holder like Revenue and demarcation division. Many communications have been made in this regard.
5. As already mentioned area is not under the administrative control of this block.
6. To check the status of the land, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar on his visit to sit in question has order the verification of records, wherein you were also physically present.
7. Area not under the administrative control of this block.
8. Activities taking place outside the wildlife area not recorded in the guard book unless related to wildlife offence.
9. Routine patrolling of the area is being conducted by the field staff and incidents pertaining to an wildlife related offence are duly reported.
- 10 Nissar Ahmad Shah, Forester

Noor Mohammad Mir, Forester  
Gh. Nabi Wani, Guard  
Manzoor Ahmad Mir, Guard  
Mohammad Amin Mir, Guard  
Mushtaq Ahmad Shat, Guard  
Gh. Ahmad Bhat Guard  
Gh Mohd-ud-din Beigh, Helper

Yours faithfully,  
Block Officer,  
Brane/ Nishat CR



## Assistant Executive Engineer, Irrigation and Flood Control to Station House Officer, Police Station Nishat

Office of the Assistant Executive Engineer Irrigation and Flood Control  
Sub-Division Harwan.

Executive Engineer

I&FC Division Srinagar

No: I&FC/SDH/515-516

Date:26/11/21

SUBJECT: Investigation of case FIR No: 113/2021 u/s 188, 447 IPC of Police Station Nishat Srinagar

REFERENCE: 671/5-A/21/PSN Dated: 13/11/2021

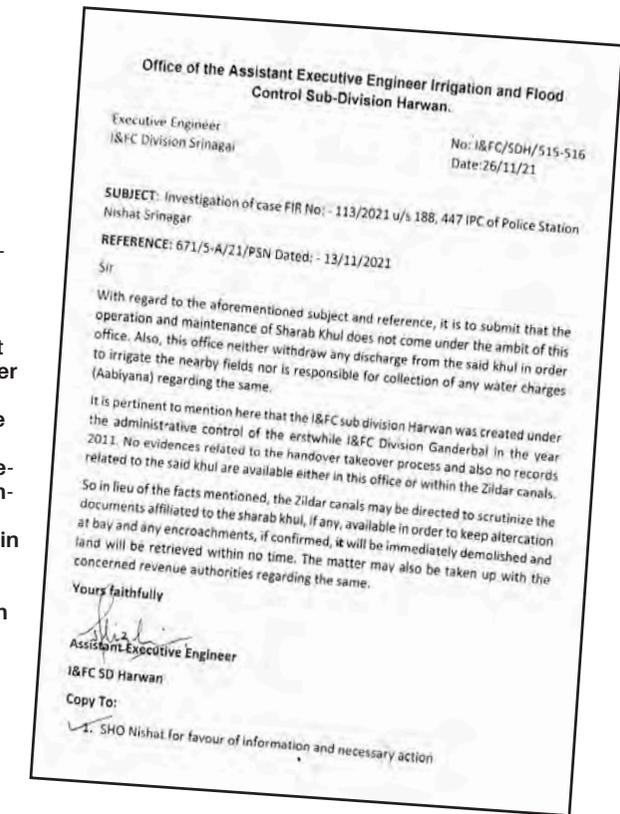
Sir

With regard to the aforementioned subject and reference, it is to submit that the operation and maintenance of Sharab Khul does not come under the ambit of this office. Also, this office neither withdraw any discharge from the said khul in order to irrigate the nearby fields nor is responsible for collection of any water charges (Aabiyaana) regarding the same.

It is pertinent to mention here that the I&FC sub division Harwan was created under the administrative control of the erstwhile I&FC Division Ganderbal in the year 2011. No evidences related to the handover takeover process and also no records related to the said khul are available either in this office or within the Zildar canals.

So in lieu of the facts mentioned, the Zildar canals may be directed to scrutinize the documents affiliated to the sharab khul, if any, available in order to keep altercation at bay and any encroachments, if confirmed, it will be immediately demolished and land will be retrieved within no time. The matter may also be taken up with the concerned revenue authorities regarding the same.

Yours faithfully  
Assistant Executive Engineer  
I&FC SD Harwan



# FOREST ENCROACHMENT ZAROO STYLE

## BLOCK WATER

## DRY CANAL PATH

## MAKE ROAD



Water used to flow from right side of front gate, Sources say the water flow seems to have been diverted

In the first half of November, Regional Wildlife Warden directed Wildlife Warden Dachigam: “You may visit the spot personally along with the concerned staff of Forest Department, Revenue and Demarcation Division and ascertain in physical terms the parameters, observations of concerned SHO Police Station and make a factual report along with your recommendation for further necessary action.”

It is pertinent to mention that no report has been submitted by the Wildlife Department yet. As per the preliminary reports, the Forest Department has conducted a survey regarding the matter. The survey has indicated that some forest land, whether under the jurisdiction of the Wildlife Department, Urban or Forest has been encroached. The report has not been submitted yet.

### WILL THE DEMARICATION TEAM GIVE A FAIR REPORT?

This question can perhaps be answered only by posing another question. Who are the members of

the demarcation team?

When KASHMIR CENTRAL investigated about these officials, we came to know that a number of civil complaints have been lodged against the Revenue officials who are currently in the demarcation team from time to time for frauds, for transferring the land illegally to politicians, bureaucrats, billionaire businessman and other influential persons. What is the reason for this largesse of the Revenue officials? The question is easily answered.

These civil complaints have been submitted to the Divisional Commissioner, Vigilance Commissioner, Governor and Anti-Corruption Bureau.

### SETTLEMENT COMMISSION ORDERED BY DEPUTY COMMISSIONER AIJAZ ASAD

On November 12, after visiting the spot, Deputy Commissioner Aijaz Asad directed a commission to investigate the matter. The commission had been mandated to submit its report within 15 days. The report has not been submitted yet.

# SHARAB KOL, THE 11-FOOT WIDE WATER CHANNEL, SQUEEZED AND DIVERTED



The stroke across the photograph shows the original flow of water. A 15 feet high flume was placed under the stretch where the road is seen wet. A road was constructed over it, allegedly at Zaroo's behest. This was done to provide access to the forest



**This used to be the route of the water channel which reached Karan Mahal ahead. It is dry now because of the diversion of water**



**Part of the flume used to construct the road is visible here**

**CENTRAL:** The water in this canal comes from Sharab Khan. that's why it is called sharab kol. Some influential people started building roads on their own and the canal got blocked. Its water is flowing through Nishat but not from this side.  
 Another group of locals requested the government to restore the water canal as soon as possible as it used to be pure water, used for irrigation purposes.

**NO DEPARTMENT READY TO ACCEPT THAT SHARAB KOL COMES UNDER THEIR JURISDICTION**

When Water Works Division Srinagar was asked officially by SHO Police Station Nishat in a letter if the Sharab kol comes under their jurisdiction, the Executive Engineer, Water Works Division Srinagar, in the letter number WWD/CC/6029-331 wrote back, "The area in question where encroachment has been made is beyond the scope of this division. This division is maintaining the Sharab Kol only from Dachigam to Nishat water treatment plant. As such, the matter may kindly be taken up with some other department to whom it pertains."

the road was provided.  
 When the road was constructed, two gates and fencing was constructed on the canal. This construction blocked the water and dried part of the canal area. In this way, six feet of water were claimed from the canal and turned into a road.  
 According to sources, when the canal was encroached upon and the road was constructed, an enquiry was initiated. Sources reveal that some deal took place between some officers of the state apparatus and Fahad Zaroo.  
 Water from Sharab Kol used to irrigate the fields in Kral Sangri and the adjacent areas. It also used to be the source of water for Karan Mahal. Zaroo conveniently squeezed the space of the water canal and diverted the water in connivance with some officials. Why isn't any department looking into this gross violation?  
 A resident of Kral Sangri told KASHMIR

When the same question was posed to Irrigation and Flood Control Sub-division Harwan officially, the Assistant Executive Engineer replied in letter number I&FC/SDH/515-516: The operation and maintenance of Sharab Kol doesn't come under the ambit of this office. Also, this office neither withdraws any discharge from the said Kol in order to irrigate the nearby fields nor is responsible for collection of any water charges (Aabiyana) regarding the same. No records of said Kol are available in this office or within the Zildar canals.  
 Is Fahad Nazir Zaroo so influential that he grabbed land, chopped trees, encroached the water canal and turned it into a road – and the departments are acting as mute spectators, with no one ready to speak the truth? Are the officers failing their departments for financial gains? A thorough investigation into the matter shall answer these questions.

If you are claiming that you are the owner of 500 kanals of land, then you should have some way/road to reach there. Without a connecting road, the whole purpose of occupying valuable forest land is lost.  
 Fahad Nazir Zaroo had no road to reach the forest land occupied by him. Then how did he gain access to it? How were huts, washrooms etc constructed on this priceless forest land?  
 Did he request the government to build a road for him?  
 No.  
 Did he seek permission from any department to

construct the road?  
 No.  
 Then how did the access road to the forest come up?  
 The road was provided by Zaroo using his power and influence in the state apparatus of J&K UT.  
 The 11 feet wide water canal known as Sharab Kol flows from Dachigam between the main road and Zaroo's claimed land. Earlier, one had to jump/pass through the water canal to reach this forest area.  
 Without seeking permission from any department, Sharab Kol was encroached near the main road by installing 14-feet high flumes. Above them,

**Who All Have Encroached upon Sharab Kol? Who All Have Constructed Houses There? Watch Out For The Next Edition Of KASHMIR CENTRAL**

# MUFTI ENRAGED WITH EX GOVERNOR

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Mehbooba's Half Truth Doesn't Reveal That Party Leader **Rashid Malik's** Palatial House in Sunjwan Was De Facto PDP Office

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**Giant Hoardings Of Mufti, Daughter Were Removed** After UT Admn Gave Info That PDP Office In Sunjwan Was Over 3 Kanals of Illegally Occupied Land



by Iqbal AHMAD

**F**ormer Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Satya Pal Malik recently dropped a bombshell when he stated that Mehbooba Mufti was illegally occupying state land in Sunjwan area of Jammu district. In a recent interview, the former Governor said that Mehbooba Mufti had taken benefit of the Jammu and Kashmir State Land (Vesting of Ownership to the Occupants) Act, 2001, popularly known as the Roshni Act.

Mr Malik, known for making controversial and inconvenient statements, stated that Mehbooba Mufti had grabbed state land in Jammu. Mehbooba Mufti reacted strongly to the former Governor's statement and served a legal notice upon him. The legal notice stated that the former Governor's statement was false and defamatory, made with the "sole objective of tarnishing her otherwise politically neat and clean image."

Mehbooba stated that her office in Jammu is functioning in a government house at Gandhi Nagar, which has been rented out by the government in her name.

### **PDP OFFICE IN GANDHI NAGAR: MEHBOOBA MUFTI HIDES BEHIND HALF TRUTH**

Why is Mehbooba's statement a half-truth? Because there is a de facto PDP office in Sunjwan which has been more popular than the party office at Gandhi Nagar.

Till the last week of November 2020, the PDP flag used to fly high on this palatial house in Sunjwan, constructed on a plot measuring three kanals, which is roughly 1500 square meters. Gigantic hoardings of late Mufti Mohammad Sayeed and Mehbooba Mufti could be seen on the boundary walls of the house. The office is actually the residence of PDP leader Rashid Malik alias Sheeda Sarpanch.

The entire plot comprises encroached state land, which has been grabbed by Rashid Malik. The house is constructed affluently, and the flooring of the house is in costly marble from Rajasthan.

### **WHO IS RASHID MALIK**

Rashid Malik was state secretary of PDP and one of the prominent faces of PDP in Jammu region.

According to Revenue officials, Rashid Malik alone has grabbed more than 1300 kanals of state and forest land in Sunjwan and adjoining areas. Sources reveal that Malik would offer more than what the officials of the Forest and the Revenue Department demanded for making false entries in the records and changing the title of the land.

Malik used to often mention that a few years ago, he was a poor construction labourer, carrying boulders on his shoulders. Rashid Malik hails from Chatta village of Jammu. He moved to Sunjwan village in the early 90s when militancy was at its peak in Kashmir. Malik was also elected as Sarpanch of Chatta village.

Thanks to land grabbing, Malik's personal wealth now runs into hundreds of crores.

PDP leaders from Jammu and Kashmir would

# Was Former Governor Satya Pal Malik referring to Rashid Malik in the viral video?

**I**n the now-viral video, former Governor Satya Pal Malik talks about the land-grabbing enabled by the Roshni Act. During this speech, the former Governor said, "Mehbooba ke aadmi ko to der hi nahin lagti kabza karne mein. Vo to ek khoonta gaad ke bhains baandh deta hai aur kehta hai meri zameen hai."

Mr Malik did not name Rashid Malik. But it was widely understood by people that he was referring to Rashid Malik. Even those in the PDP admitted that the Ex-Governor was seemingly referring to Rashid Malik. Some PDP leaders remarked that Malik has kept



cows and buffaloes at a plot in Sunjwan, so perhaps the Governor was referring to this practice.

**Land grab galore: Forest land under possession of Rashid Malik in Sunjwan village**



**ACCORDING TO REVENUE OFFICIALS, RASHID MALIK ALONE HAS GRABBED MORE THAN 1300 KANALS OF STATE AND FOREST LAND IN SUNJWAN AND ADJOINING AREAS. THANKS TO LAND GRABBING, MALIK'S PERSONAL WEALTH NOW RUNS INTO HUNDREDS OF CRORES. THEREAFTER HE ENTERED POLITICS AND BECAME A PDP LEADER. PARTY LEADERS FROM JAMMU AND KASHMIR WOULD VISIT MALIK EITHER FOR SECURING A RESIDENTIAL PLOT AS A GIFT OR FOR OTHER MONETARY CONSIDERATIONS**





Construction or demarcation of forest land under Rashid Malik's possession in Sunjwan village, Jammu

**SUNJWAN, NOWABAD AND BATHINDI AREAS IN JAMMU BECAME THE FAVOURITE DESTINATION FOR THE AVERAGE MIDDLE CLASS COMMON KASHMIRIS. THEY FLOCKED HERE TO BUY LAND AND HAVE A HOUSE IN JAMMU IN ADDITION TO THEIR RESIDENCE IN THE VALLEY**

visit Malik either for securing a residential plot as a gift or for other monetary considerations. This is because Rashid Malik was known in PDP for his ultra-generous hefty donations.

**SENIOR PDP LEADERS WOULD QUEUE UP AT PDP OFFICE IN SUNJWAN FOR MALIK'S FAVOURS**

PDP leaders would queue up at the party's Sunjwan office for favours. Those who were given residential plots by Rashid Malik include senior PDP leaders

Abdul Rehman veeri, Abdul Gaffar Sofi and others.

The PDP office in Sunjwan is on the main road. It is at a distance of about 600 meters from the old Sunjwan village.

Many Kashmiri militants who had surrendered had moved to Jammu to save their lives from being killed from other dreaded militants who were active. They were desperate to leave Kashmir because at that time, many surrendered militants had been killed by active militants.

These surrendered militants wanted to build their house in Jammu. Many others from Kashmir wanted

to have a house in Jammu too, in addition to the house in Kashmir.

The exodus of the Kashmiri Pandits happened around the same time. The Administration was busy in relocating and resettling the displaced Pandits in Jammu. Kashmiri surrendered militants who had shifted to Jammu were searching those places in Jammu where the local demographic profile was Muslim majority. Sunjwan was perfect for them.

**MALIK BUILT THREE HOUSES ON ENCROACHED LAND, MANY MULTI STOREY COMPLEXES**

Sunjwan's barren land was owned by the state. Slowly, locals began to encroach upon the land. They sold it to Kashmiri surrendered militants. Within a decade, Muslims from Kashmir purchased the encroached state land and built houses here.

Over the next ten years, Sunjwan, Nowabad and Bathindi areas in Jammu became the favourite des-

tinuation for the average middle class common Kashmiris. They flocked here to buy land and build a house in Jammu in addition to their residence in the Valley.

Rashid Malik was a powerful man in the area. He wielded authority because he was the Sarpanch. Malik also assisted the locals in encroachment. Malik first encroached upon several hundred kanals of land in the Sunjwan area. Thereafter he became a land broker and sold the illegally occupied land.

Malik joined PDP in 2004. Before that he was in National Conference. Malik was the PDP candidate from Nagrota constituency in 2008. He lost the Assembly elections held the same year.

Malik was part of the power coterie of Mufti Mohammed Sayeed and Mehbooba Mufti. He grabbed land in Sunjwan and also built his own house there, which was used as the PDP office.

The land was originally a nallah. With the banner of PDP and in the garb of party office, Malik constructed a palatial house on the occupied land. Malik had lost the election. But since he was a rich man, he was given a good position in PDP.

# MAJOR LAND GRABS BY RASHID MALIK

## Malik Went Ballistic With Encroachment After PDP Formed Government In J&K



**A**fter PDP formed the government in J&K, Malik went ballistic with encroachment in Jammu's outskirts. He encroached upon thousands of kanals in Sunjwan. He also encroached upon a whole nallah, which is approximately 150 to 200 kanals along Sunjwan Burmani road, and a drive of about ten minutes from patwari halqa Sunjwan.

Malik encroached upon approximately 100 kanals of state land near International Delhi Public School, Sunjwan. In addition, Malik encroached upon approximately 85 kanals of land near International Daily Rising School in the same area.

Malik grabbed 95 kanals of forest land in upper Chawadhi belt of Chawadhi

village. He has been listed among the major forest land encroachers of Jammu. Official figures reveal that Malik and his son Zulfkar Malik have encroached about 36 kanals and one marla of forest land.

After encroaching upon the land here, Malik further sold this illegally occupied land for crores of rupees. Malik is a multi-billionaire now. He still holds encroached land. Malik built three houses on the encroached land and some multi-storey commercial complexes. Flush with funds, Malik purchased many commercial spaces in the area.

Till the time PDP was in power, nobody asked Malik about his encroach-

ment and wrongful possession of land. Malik was later booked under Public Safety Act in August 2019 for illegal land grabbing, threatening people and in a case of attempt to murder.

Many FIRs have been registered against Rashid Malik in Trikuta Nagar Police Station. These include 313/97 u/s 447/353/147/336 RPC which is punishable for criminal trespassing; 185/2000/u/s 384/147 RPC; 114/2001 u/s 341/323/336/147/148 RPC; 255/2002 u/s 341/353 RPC; 182/2008 u/s 447. A, RPC; 45/2015 U/S 447/323 rpc; 204/2015 U/S 307/341/427/323/147/148 RPC; 110/18 u/s 447. A. RPC 6/39 F Act; 25/19 U/S 341/336/323/147/148 RPC.

**MALIK SOLD THE ILLEGALLY OCCUPIED LAND FOR CRORES OF RUPEES. HE IS A MULTI-BILLIONAIRE NOW AND STILL HOLDS THE ENCROACHED LAND. MALIK BUILT THREE HOUSES ON THE ENCROACHED LAND AND SOME MULTI-STOREY COMMERCIAL COMPLEXES. FLUSH WITH FUNDS, MALIK PURCHASED MANY COMMERCIAL SPACES IN THE AREA. TILL THE TIME PDP WAS IN POWER, NOBODY ASKED MALIK ABOUT HIS ENCROACHMENT AND WRONGFUL POSSESSION OF LAND**





# PDP Office In Sunjwan Was Inaugurated by Late Mufti Mohammad Sayeed. Prominent Party Leaders Were Present At The Inaugural Function

**M**ehbooba Mufti can now claim that the palatial house belonging to PDP leader Rashid Malik in Sunjwan was not the party office. She can take the stand that being a PDP leader, Rashid Malik had voluntarily put up the giant hoardings. She can state that the premises continue to be Rashid Malik's house, and the party had nothing to do with whether the house was made on illegally occupied land or not. All this may be factually correct.

But it was a known fact in the area and also in the PDP that Rashid Malik's house in Sunjwan was the de facto PDP office. This house, popularly called as the PDP office, was inaugurated by late Mufti Mohammad Sayeed. Prominent leaders of the party were present at the inaugural function.

Party workers say that the giant hoardings Of Mufti Sayeed and Mehbooba on the "Sunjwan PDP Office" were removed after the list of illegal occupation of land was released by the J&K Administration in the last week of November 2020.



## PDP'S OFFICE SITS ON ENCROACHED LAND: J&K ADMINISTRATION IN NOVEMBER 2020

On November 25, 2020, the divisional commissioner of Jammu issued a list of seven beneficiaries who had encroached upon the land physically but didn't show it in the revenue records. The list released by the J&K Administration revealed that office of People's Democratic Party (PDP) was located on illegally occupied three kanals of land in Jammu's Sunjwan area. At that time too, PDP president Mehbooba Mufti had vehemently denied the information. She had claimed that the premises had been rented.

**MALIK ALSO ENCROACHED UPON THE LAND THAT WAS ORIGINALLY A NALLAH. WITH THE BANNER OF PDP AND IN THE GARB OF PARTY OFFICE, MALIK CONSTRUCTED A PALATIAL HOUSE ON THE OCCUPIED LAND. MALIK HAD LOST THE ELECTION. BUT SINCE HE WAS A RICH MAN, HE WAS GIVEN A GOOD POSITION IN THE PARTY**



PDP office-cum-Rashid Malik's residence

# MUNEER WAZA RASHID MALIK'S TOUT IN SUNJWAN

Was introduced to the police and civil administration in Jammu region by Mufti family as the son of Mufti Mohd Sayeed

**M**uneer Waza, today a rich landlord of Jammu, was a poor youth from Mehbooba Mufti's hometown Bijbehara. He was close to the Mufti family. Even in his youth years, Muneer was known in the PDP circles as a thorough schemer.

In 2008, Muneer Waza was introduced to the police and civil administration in Jammu region by the Mufti family as the son of Mufti Mohd Sayeed.

Muneer was later adopted by Rashid Malik. By this time, Malik had gained the notoriety of being a major land grabber in Jammu. Rashid Malik had given crores of rupees to Mufti Sayeed as party fund.

Muneer Waza and Rashid Malik together grabbed more than 2500 kanals of forest land in Sunjwan and Bhatindi, and later facilitated the colonization of this land.

Waza was introduced to Malik by Mufti Mohammad Sayeed's private secretary MK Dhar. Muneer duped hundreds of Kashmiris who purchased state and forest land in the name of proprietary land. Muneer would threaten people that he was connected to the police and civil administration, and to the political elites of Jammu.

Muneer later established a residential colony on state land in his own name and called it Muneer-



Muneeraabad lane and house of Muneer Waza

**MUNEER ESTABLISHED A RESIDENTIAL COLONY ON STATE LAND IN HIS OWN NAME AND CALLED IT MUNEERABAD. HE HAS A PALATIAL HOUSE IN THE COLONY. MUNEER WAS ARRESTED BY THE POLICE EARLY THIS YEAR. SOURCES SAID THAT SOME SENIOR BJP LEADERS FROM JAMMU REGIONA ALLEGEDLY BUILT PRESSURE ON POLICE IN MUNEER'S FAVOUR**

abad. He has a palatial house in the colony. Muneer was arrested by the police early this year. Sources said that some senior BJP leaders from Jammu regiona allegedly built pressure on police in Muneer's favour.

He was later released. This suggests that some senior BJP leaders too had allegedly taken favours from Muneer, and they may be beneficiaries of land grabbing at Sunjwan.

# SLOW CLAP FOR YOU SYED AREEJ ZAFFAR

# MISPLACED BRAVADO, AREEJ



I  
come from  
the land  
where  
autumn  
sheds more  
dead bodies  
than the  
leaves!

I  
COME  
FROM  
KASHMIR

WITH YOUR CONSTANT  
RANT AGAINST THE  
STATE, YOU ARE SAFE



Surely a woman of your intelligence  
cannot approve of the way militants are  
killing innocent civilians

TRY SOME OF YOUR BOLDNESS AND  
FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION TO  
QUESTION THE **TERROR ECOSYSTEM**

**PERHAPS YOU MAY GET SOME NEW  
LEARNING INTO HOW MUCH  
FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION THEY  
GRANT TO YOU**

**S**low clap for you, Syed Areej Zafar. You are a performer, I am not. You can post on your hugely popular Instagram handle this verse with seething rage: *Mera mujhse sab chheena, zabano ko bhi katwaya...*

And you can post with the hashtag #RambaghFakeEncounter: *Ae shaheedo tumhare khoon as inquilaab ayega!* And again you can post this image of you wearing the pheran and holding the kangri with red blood-like dots on your face. The dots are supposed to look like pellet marks. **The words with the image: I come from the land where autumn sheds more dead bodies than the leaves. I COME FROM KASHMIR.**

For a terrorist like Mehran, you write *shaheedo tumhare khoon as inquilaab ayega*. Does it matter to you that Mehran and other militants killed Dr Makhan Lal Bindroo, such a popular and helpful chemist? Does it matter to you that Mehran and other militants picked out a Sikh woman principal and a Hindu teacher from among a crowd of teachers and pumped bullets into them? Does

it matter to you that these militants killed a Muslim salesman thinking that he was the Pandit owner of the store? Does such perverted thinking not matter to you? On the death of Syed Ali Geelani, you post *Shaheed kabhi marta nahin, Har ghar mein zinda Geelani*.

Serious, Areej, slow clap for you. You can post this all because you know that with this pro-terror political positioning, you are safe in Kashmir. You are the heroine for the terror ecosystem. You whitewash their terror reign. Now you are protected.



## I WANT TO SPEAK OUT AGAINST THE TERROR ECOSYSTEM. I HAVE TO HIDE

I want to speak out against terror. I want to end this charade of conflict around us. But I have to hide. I cannot reveal my name. Why am I scared of revealing my identity? Because more young men like the terrorist Mehran you glorify and romanticize shall come along, and they shall pump bullets into me.

This image with red dots supposed to look like pellet marks. The absurd messaging: *I come from the land where autumn sheds more dead bodies than the leaves. I COME FROM KASHMIR.*

Which Kashmir do you come from, Areej? A glance through your other posts on Insta, and your laments don't seem to stick. There are posts of you cycling on the picturesque Zero Bridge. A soft romantic song is playing in the background. *Awaz do humko, hum kho gaye. Kab neend se jaage, kab so gaye.*

**YOU ALSO SWING BOTH WAYS, AREEJ**  
**You participated in the Army event at Awantipore last year with your Ladishah act. Thereafter, you seem to have changed your mind. You are again posting posts of rage against the state**

**FACT IS, AREEJ, THAT SOME 200 MILITANTS AND THEIR OVER-GROUND NETWORK WANT TO KEEP UP THIS CHARADE OF CONFLICT. Youngsters of our age are studying where they like, if they can afford to. We are pursuing what we like. We are creating our own freedoms. AND YET YOU INSIST THAT WE MUST ALWAYS BEAT THESE DRUMS OF HOW TORMENTED WE ARE IN KASHMIR**



**THIS TOO IS KASHMIR  
 THIS TOO IS YOU**

There are posts of you doing good, healthy comedy. There are posts of you doing the rocking Ladishah act – our traditional folk ballad with humour and satire. There's a post of you in which the Sri Lankan mega hit Manike Mage Hithe playing in the background. What did you say? *Autumn sheds more dead bodies...?*

Look at the lies you post! *Mera mujhse sab chheena, zabano ko bhi katwaya... Mind you, far from chheena or snatch, you live in the Kashmir that has given you*

*everything. Zabano ko bhi katwaya ... Seriously, Areej? You are a star performer and social media influencer and Ladishah sbecause of your zabaan. And you are accusing the state: Zabano ko bhi katwaya. Wow!*

A friend just shared a post with me. It was published on The Kashmir Monitor on November 27. The headline catches the eye. Why do Kashmiris share their private lives on public platforms? Here is what the write-up says:

These days many brides and

grooms have made it a point to upload their pictures on social media platforms like Instagram right when they are in the middle of or soon after the ceremony. Instagram has become a repository of all such moments that used to be private until recently but are now viewed and commented upon by anyone out there."

We all are familiar with these beautiful photographs of Kashmiri brides, grooms and weddings on Instagram. We don't mind this show off. We know we are like

**Yes, our Kashmir isn't perfect. We have our problems. We are dealing with them, somehow, so that we and our children can live in a peaceful and harmonious environment**



**ARE PEOPLE LIKE YOU PART OF THE PROBLEM?**  
**You won't drop the conflict façade. You romanticize and make heroes of terrorists like Mehran, who are the total antithesis of our gentle and glorious civilization of coexistence**

that only, and we love it. When I look at the hundreds of photographs of young Kashmiris on social media organizing lavish weddings and looking so affluent and chaming, your lie comes across so hollow.

This is your message: I come from the land where autumn sheds more dead bodies than the leaves. I COME FROM KASHMIR.

Fact is, Areej, that some 200 militants and their over-ground network want to keep up this charade of conflict. Youngsters of our age are studying where they like, if they can afford to. We are pursuing what we like. We are creating

our own freedoms. And yet we must always beat these drums of how tormented we are in Kashmir. Your autumn sheds dead bodies bumkum...

But you also swing both ways, Areej. You participated in the Army event at Awantipore last year with your Ladishah act. Thereafter, you seem to have changed your mind. You are again posting posts of rage against the state.

Yes, our Kashmir isn't perfect. We have our problems. We are dealing with them, somehow, so that at least our children can live in a peaceful and harmonious environment.

It is clear from your comedy and

your posts that you have a brilliant mind. Are people like you part of the problem? You won't drop the conflict façade. And you romanticize and make heroes of terrorists like Mehran, who are the total antithesis of what our gentle and glorious civilization of coexistence is.

I guess you choose the Kashmir you want to showcase to the world. Either it is the Kashmir which allows you to prosper and be a comic and a star with your Ladishah act. Or it is the Kashmir where you put on fake marks like pellet injury and create perverted perceptions on Kashmir for all who care to see.

Dishonest, Areej.

LOG INTO KASHMIR @

kzine.in



PICTURE CREDIT:-@CAPTIVATING KASHMIR

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