

# Tree felling: SC says no activity till further orders, asks Telangana to explain compelling urgency

NEW DELHI, APR 03

The Supreme Court on Thursday asked the Telangana government to explain the "compelling urgency" for clearing a large tree cover on a land parcel next to University of Hyderabad, and stayed any future activity till further orders.

A bench of Justices B R Gavai and Augustine George Masih, which took suo motu cognisance of the state's tree felling drive in Kancha Gachibowli Forest, called it a "very serious" matter.

It said the interim report placed before it by the registrar (judicial) of the Telangana High Court depicted an "alarming picture" as a huge number of trees were being felled aside from the deployment of huge machineries. "We direct that until further orders, no activities of any sorts, except the protection of the trees already existing, shall be undertaken by the state," the bench said.

The state chief secretary was ordered to answer several of its questions, including, the "compelling urgency" in clearing the green cover for developmental activities from a purported forest area.

The top court cautioned if it found lapses on the part of the state, it would take action against the chief secretary.

"He will go to temporary prison constructed at the same spot near the lake," the bench said, "if your chief secretary wants to enjoy the state hospitality, one can't help it." The chief secretary was directed to explain whether the state had obtained the environmental impact assessment certificate for the development activities.

The bench asked whether for felling the trees, requisite permission from the forest authority or any other local



statutes was obtained.

In case the state authorities were found in the violation of any of its directions in true letter and spirit, the onus would fall on the state's chief secretary, it added.

The court enquired about the status of the felled trees.

A central empowered committee was directed to visit the place in question and submit its report prior to April 16, when the matter would be heard again.

The committee was formed in 2002 after a top court order for monitoring and ensuring compliance of the directions of the apex court on preservation of forests and wildlife.

The apex court referred to its March 4 order in a separate matter in which it had directed the states and union territories to constitute within a month an expert committee for preparing a consolidated record of lands, including forest like areas, unclassified and community forest lands.

The bench said it had also directed that the expert committee to complete within six months the exercise as required under Rule 16 (1) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023.

On March 4, the court said it had reiterated the Centre's previous stand of taking no steps,

spot and filed his interim report.

"We would only like to remind... howsoever high one may be, not above the law," Justice Gavai observed. The court was only interested in protecting the trees, he added.

The matter was mentioned before the bench earlier in the day by Parameshwar, who referred to the news reports on tree felling.

"From the newspapers, it depicts that a vast deforestation is being carried out in the Kancha Gachibowli forest. It shows that large number of trees are being felled," the bench noted.

The news items, it said, showed that the authorities "taking advantage of long holidays over the weekend" have rushed to fell trees. "Additionally, the forest is said to be home to eight species of scheduled animals," the bench said.

The bench was informed that the Telangana High Court was also seized of the same issue.

"We clarify that we are not staying the proceedings before the High Court of Telangana," it said.

Students of the University of Hyderabad are protesting against the state government's plans to develop the 400-acre land parcel bordering the university.

The Telangana High Court on Thursday posted the hearing in the matter on April 7.

On March 2, the high court directed the state government to halt all work on the land parcel for a day till Thursday.

The University of Hyderabad Students' Union and other unions and associated parties have launched an indefinite protest and announced a boycott of classes from April 1, demanding withdrawal of the police personnel from the campus and removal of earth-moving machinery.

# No violence reported in Manipur in past four months, situation under control: Amit Shah

NEW DELHI, APR 3

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday said the situation in Manipur is largely under control as there has been no death in the last four months but it can't be considered satisfactory as the displaced people are still living in relief camps.

Replying to a short debate in Lok Sabha, which adopted a Statutory Resolution confirming the imposition of President's rule in Manipur, Shah also said that after the imposition of President's rule in Manipur, discussions were held with the Meiteis and the Kukis and separate meetings were conducted with different organisations from both the communities.

The Ministry of Home Affairs will soon convene a joint meeting, he said, adding while the government is working to find a path to end the violence, the top priority is to establish peace.

President's rule in Manipur was imposed on February 13 after the then chief minister N Biren Singh resigned on February 9 following months of ethnic violence which started in May 2023.

Shah said the opposition has been trying to portray a picture that the ethnic clashes between the Meitei and Kuki communities was the first violence in Manipur and the BJP-led government failed to maintain law and order.

"Three major instances

of violence spanning 10 years, 3 years, and 6 months had occurred during the rule of the earlier governments. After those incidents, neither the prime minister nor the Union home minister visited the state," he said, replying to the debate, which was held in the wee hours. The home minister noted that there have been no deaths in Manipur in the past four months, with only two people injured, and the situation is largely under control. However, he said, the situation would not be considered satisfactory until the displaced people are living in camps.

Discussions are ongoing regarding a rehabilitation package for the displaced people, he said. The home minister said ethnic violence between two communities in Manipur had started due to a decision by the Manipur High Court regarding a reservation-related dispute.

"These were neither riots nor terrorism-related violence, but ethnic violence between two communities which have taken place due to the interpretation of the high court's decision," he said, adding there should not be any violence and ethnic

violence should not be linked to any political party. He said so far 260 people lost their lives in Manipur and 80 per cent of these incident have taken place in the first month itself and appealed to all MPs not to politicise the issue as the government is making every possible effort to restore peace in Manipur.

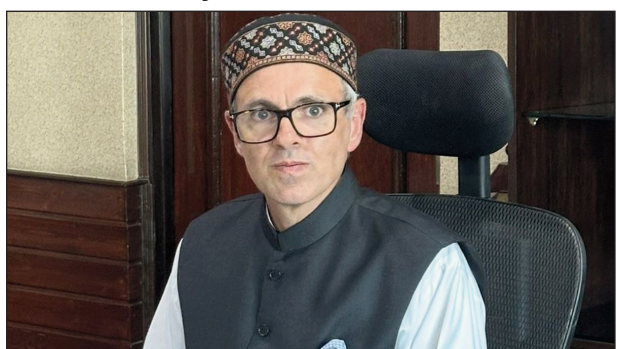
The home minister said between 1993 and 1998, there was a Naga-Kuki conflict in Manipur and that continued for five years in which 750 died and sporadic incidents continued for a decade.

In the 1997-98 Kuki-Paite conflict, more than 50 villages were destroyed, 40,000 people were displaced, 352 people were killed and 5,000 homes were burned, he said, adding during the six-month-long Meitei-Pangal in 1993, over 100 people were killed.

Shah said in a specific situation, when both the communities interpreted a high court decision as being against them, violence erupted within just two days. On the very day of the high court's, security forces' companies were dispatched to Manipur via air, he said.

# J&K Govt enhances social pensions, fulfilling CM's another Budget Promise

Not just assistance—our commitment to an inclusive and caring welfare state: CM Omar Abdullah



29XNEWS SRINAGAR, APR 3

In a significant step towards social welfare, the Jammu and Kashmir Government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, has ordered the enhancement of pensions under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) and Integrated Social Security Scheme (ISSS). This move marks the fulfillment of a key commitment made by the Chief Minister in the J&K Legislative Assembly on March 7.

As per the revised structure, effective from April 1, 2025, pension beneficiaries will receive increased financial assistance.

"This is not just assistance—it's our commitment to an inclusive and caring welfare state," Chief Minister Omar Abdullah stated.

Individuals below 60 years of age will now receive ₹1,250 per month, while those aged between 60 and 79 years will be entitled to ₹1,500

per month. Senior citizens 80 years and above will receive a monthly pension of ₹2,000, ensuring better support for the elderly.

As per the order, the government has announced significant enhancements in social pensions under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) and Integrated Social Security Scheme (ISSS) to provide better financial support to vulnerable sections of society.

Under the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS), the pension for individuals aged 60-79 years has been increased from ₹1,000 to ₹1,500, while those aged 80 years and above will now receive ₹2,000 instead of ₹1,000.

Similarly, under the Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS), widows aged 40-59 years will receive ₹1,250 (earlier ₹1,000), those aged 60-79 years will receive ₹1,500 (earlier ₹1,000),

and widows 80 years and above will now receive ₹2,000. Furthermore, under the Integrated Social Security Scheme (ISSS), which is UT-funded, pension rates have been revised across multiple beneficiary groups. Old Age Pensions have been increased to ₹1,250 for females aged 55-60 years, ₹1,500 for those 60-79 years, and ₹2,000 for those aged 80 years and above.

**Government of Jammu & Kashmir**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE CHASSANA**  
Email Id- tehsildarchassana20@gmail.com

Dewan Singh S/o Soba Ram R/o Thalkote	V/s 1. BDO Chassana 2. SHO Chassana 3. Chowkidar concerned (Non-Applicants)
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**IN THE MATTER:-** An application for registration of date of death certificate u/s 13 (3) Registration of Birth and Death Act, 1969.

**NOTICE TO GENERAL PUBLIC**  
Whereas the above titled applicant has filed this application for seeking direction to non-applicant for registration of birth/death of applicant's family members.

S.No	Name	Date of Birth
01	Santosh Devi	09-01-2020
02	Priyanka Devi	03-06-2018
03	Ajesh Thakur	03-01-2021
04	Priya Thakur	10-01-2015
05	Rajesh Thakur	05-04-2016

Whereas through the medium of this publication, the public at large is informed that in case anyone having any objection in issuance of direction with respect to registration of birth/death particulars of applicants mentioned above to the non-applicant, then he/she/they shall file the same before the court in person or through counsel or any recognized agent and contest the claim within 10 days from the date of publication of this notice, falling which appropriate orders shall be passed in this publication. If the date fixed turns to be a holiday, then the matter shall be taken up on the next following working day.

Issued today on 29-03-2025 under my signature and seal of this court.  
Sd/-  
Executive Magistrate  
1st Class Chassana  
No:- 15-92/TL  
Dated:- 29-03-2025

Similarly, has been revised to ₹1,250 for those below 60 years, ₹1,500 for those 60-79 years, and ₹2,000 for those 80 years and above. A similar structure applies to the Transgender Pension, ensuring increased financial assistance across all age categories.

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Email Id- tehsildarchassana20@gmail.com

Jaspal Singh S/o Janak Singh R/o Thalkote	V/s 1. BDO Chassana 2. SHO Chassana 3. Chowkidar concerned (Non-Applicants)
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S.No	Name	Date of Birth
01	Babita Devi	06-05-2000
02	Natter Natter	06-03-2001
03	Meena Devi	01-01-2004
04	Balbeer Singh	21-12-2008
05	Puneha Devi	02-01-2012
06	Kulveer Singh	01-10-2016
07	Lakashmi Devi	04-01-2014
08	Gita Devi	04-01-2014

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Executive Magistrate  
1st Class Chassana  
No:- 04/TL  
Dated:- 03-04-2025

**Government of Jammu & Kashmir**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE CHASSANA**  
Email Id- tehsildarchassana20@gmail.com

Gulchain Singh S/o Tirth Ram R/o Sassota	V/s 1. BDO Chassana 2. SHO Chassana 3. Chowkidar concerned (Non-Applicants)
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S.No	Name	Date of Birth
01	Prinka Devi	09-04-2015
02	Sandeep Singh	01-01-2017

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Sudesh Singh S/o Kirpal Singh R/o Thalkote	V/s 1. BDO Chassana 2. SHO Chassana 3. Chowkidar concerned (Non-Applicants)
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S.No	Name	Date of Birth
01	Sudesh Singh	03-04-2003

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