



HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS' ALERT - INDIA

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

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HRDA/NHRC-SM/SOUTH/KL/10/05/2025

May 22, 2025

To
Justice V. Ramasubramanian (Retd),
Chairperson,
National Human Rights Commission,
Manav Adhikar Bhawan,
Block-C, GPO Complex, INA,
New Delhi –110 023
Email: chairnhrc@nic.in

Respected Sir,

Subject: Requesting to initiate suo moto proceedings in the case of arrest of 8 activist for staging a Kashmir solidarity march in Kochi, Kerala on 29.04.2025.

We are writing to you in bring to your kind attention that on 29.04.2025 Rejaz M Sheeba Sydeek journalist and activist from Friends of Palestine, Kochi, Kerala organised a protest at Panampally Central Park in the evening expressing solidarity for Kashmiris. Rejaz sought permission for the protest march and just before the event, the Station House Officer (SHO) of Enrankulam Town South Police Station denied the permission for the protest march.

In the evening of 29.04.2025 Rejaz and eight activists from Friends of Palestine, Kochi participated in the protest march at Panampally Central Park, Kochi, Kerala. The Enrankulam Town police officials detained five men and three women protestors and they were released later . An FIR was registered under sections section 285 (Danger or obstruction in public way), 189(1) (Unlawful Assembly), 191(2)(rioting), and 190 (Liability of members of unlawful assembly) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023. The eight activists were summoned by the police on 30.04.2025.

The incident has been reported widely in the media and a link is shared here for your reference – [Kerala Police detain 8 activists for Kashmir 'solidarity gathering', book them for rioting](#)

We urgently appeal to you to exercise Section 12 (a) of the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Act, 2019, and take *suo moto* cognizance of this incident and initiate an independent inquiry through NHRC's investigation wing. We hope and expect that the NHRC will intervene in this case impartially and in a time bound manner.

Yours Sincerely,

(Henri Tiphagne)
National Working Secretary