

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION
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Website Release

Pulwama, [14.09.2024] —in view of the recent horrific incident that happened during the evening hours on 11.09.2024 at Gulshanpora, Tral, District-Pulwama, Sh. Sarvesh Rai, IFS expressed deep concern over the loss of minor girl. Subsequently, a meeting which was held on 13.09.2024 under the chairmanship of PCCF stressed upon all the Wildlife Wardens of J&K to take necessary steps for the prevention of such grave incidents.

Shri Tawheed Ahmad Deva, IFS who recently assumed the role of Regional Wildlife Warden, Kashmir, chaired a meeting in his office chamber during the afternoon on 13.09.2024 which was attended by all the territorial Divisional Officers and the Wildlife Wardens of Kashmir Region. The Regional Wildlife Warden Kashmir stated that “the main

reasons include the increase in human population settlements, habitat fragmentation and the growing population of dogs, which become easy prey for leopards. Leopards, known for their remarkable adaptability, thrive across diverse human-modified habitats and inhabit the peripheries of human settlements, increasing the likelihood of encounters with humans. When confronted with scarcity of prey within forests, leopards venture closer to human dwellings to prey upon accessible targets such as livestock or dogs. In doing so, the frequency of human encounters escalates dramatically, amplifying the risk of attacks on humans.

He acknowledged the increasing incidents of human-animal conflict, noting that the department receives distress calls on a daily basis regarding the presence of Wild animals inside the human habitations. The control rooms of the valley act swiftly and based on the situation, animals are either captured, tranquilized and released back into the wildlife habitat. Unfortunately, some incidents result in injury or death to both humans and animals.

The Worthy Regional Wildlife Warden, Kashmir accompanied by the Wildlife Warden, South/ Shopian, Shri Sohail Ahmad Wagay, paid visit to the family of the deceased and assured all possible assistance. Meanwhile, on the directions of the Regional Wildlife Warden, Kashmir an immediate relief (ten percent of the ex-gratia) was disbursed to the account of the next of the kin of the deceased.

Further, the worthy Regional Wildlife Warden, Kashmir monitored the situation personally by visiting Gulshanpora, Tral and directions were issued to the concerned staff to remain vigilant (24*7), and make all the possible efforts to tranquilize the problem animal, so that horrific incidents like Gulshanpora can be prevented in future.

Sd/=

Wildlife Warden
Shopian Wildlife Division