

**HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH  
AT JAMMU**

*(Through virtual mode)*

**WP(C) PIL No. 1/2020**

**In Re-in the Matter of  
Encroachment of Public Land for  
Religious Structures**

**...Petitioner/Appellant(s)**

Through: Ms. Pariksha Parmar, Advocate (*Amicus Curiae*)

**Vs.**

**UT of J & K and Ors.**

**...Respondent(s)**

Through: Ms. Monika Kohli, Sr. AAG

**CORAM:**

**HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (ACTING)  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MOHD YOUSUF WANI, JUDGE**

**ORDER**

18.08.2026

1. In compliance with the order dated 02.09.2025, the Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, has filed the status report enlisting of the encroachments made on the State/Kahcharai/Shamilat Deh land etc. for raising the construction of places of worship by different religions in the Kashmir Division. There are Mosques, Temples, Churches and Gurdwaras constructed on the said land.
2. The Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, however, has not clearly indicated the encroachments, if any, made in the name of Temples, Churches, Mosques or Gurdwaras, etc. on public streets, public parks or other public places. The Divisional Commissioner has also not indicated steps, if any, initiated by the Union Territory Administration to deal with existing encroachments as also to prevent such encroachments in future.
3. Let a fresh status report on affidavit be filed by the Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, indicating clearly the encroachments,

if any, found to have been made on public streets, public parks or other public places in the name of Temples, Churches, Mosques or Gurdwaras. He shall also indicate clearly the steps taken by the Union Territory Administration to remove such encroachments and also to prevent such encroachments in future.

4. Ms. Monika Kohli, learned Sr. AAG appearing for the respondents prays for and is granted six weeks' time to file a detailed affidavit.
5. List alongwith OWP No. 1/2019 on 12.10.2026, pending adjudication in the Srinagar Wing of this Court.
6. A copy of this order be placed with OWP No. 1/2019.

**(Mohd Yousuf Wani)**  
Judge

**(Sanjeev Kumar)**  
Chief Justice (Acting)

**SRINAGAR:**

18.08.2026

"ARIF"

