

Curfew relaxed in Jammu

Curfew was relaxed for 12 hours in Jammu from 5 a.m. Thursday, a day after over 50 people were injured in clashes that saw several police posts and vehicles damaged and government buildings attacked.

'There was need to impose curfew Wednesday because the Jammu agitators had threatened to bring children on the streets,' an official said. People in large numbers, including children, still came out on the streets despite curfew.

Police and paramilitary forces have taken vantage positions to keep a watch on the situation, the official said.

National Security Adviser M.K. Naryananan, who had reviewed the situation in the state in [Srinagar](#) Wednesday, had voiced his concern over the law and order situation in the region. In Jammu, the nearly two-month-long agitation with consecutive days of shutdowns has left 12 people dead, more than 1,000 injured and massive economic losses.

The genesis of the trouble lies in the state government's decision to transfer a 40-hectare plot of land in the Kashmir valley to the Shri Amarnath Shrine Board but later withdraw this following protests in the Muslim-dominated valley. The revocation July 1 ignited an agitation in the Hindu majority Jammu region.

The Shri Amarnath Sangharsh Samiti that has been spearheading the protests had given a call for a three-day programme of 'jail bhara' or fill-the-jails, and Wednesday was the turn of children after men courted arrest Monday and women Tuesday.

The death toll in the entire state in the waves of protests and counter-protests now stands at around 40.

(© IANS / India eNews)