



KASHMIRI PANDIT SANGARASH SAMITI

Sathu Barbar Shah, Srinagar, Kashmir (J&K) – 190001

e-mail: kpss.kashmir@gmail.com

PRESS RELEASE / OPEN MEMORANDUM

17.04.2007

(Protection and Preservation of Temples in Kashmir Valley)

Full body meeting was held at KPSS Head Office at Barbar Shah, Srinagar, where all the members including the Coordinators from all the Districts participated and it was resolved that we the KP's living in the Valley, having non-migrant status, welcome all the efforts whatsoever done by few KP youths who have risked their lives for the preservation of the temples / shrines of the Valley because State / Central Government have failed to protect the rich Kashmiri Heritage. The KPSS thanks the majority Muslims Community for providing them all information regarding these temples and our organization is hopeful that the Muslim community will continue their support to these KP youths for preserving the rich cultural heritage of Kashmir which is commonly known as Kashmiriyat.

Whenever the State Legislation will pass the bill on the preservation of temples / shrines of the Kashmir they should considered these basic criteria for the members of the managing body and also they should take some steps with immediate effect.

1. He should be Kashmiri Pandit having State Subject of the Kashmir.
2. Members should be within the age limit of 35 to 60 years.
3. He should possess his own / ancestral property in Kashmir Valley. Because the erstwhile members of the managing committees of these Kashmiri Pandit temples and shrines have / had already sold their ancestral property in the valley. They now least care about the sanctity of these temples and its historical / cultural values, so these committee members are selling / leasing the shrines / temples property (movable / immovable) for few bucks for their own vested interests without the knowledge of those KP's who have elected them as care takers of these temples / shrines before 1990.
4. He should have at least 2 days in week to go personally to see the present position of these temples / shrine property.
5. No property (moveable / immovable, cash / kind) should be transferred outside Kashmir Valley but it should be invested back in the Kashmir Valley for the renovation of these temples / shrines and



KASHMIRI PANDIT SANGARASH SAMITI

Sathu Barbar Shah, Srinagar, Kashmir (J&K) – 190001

e-mail: kpss.kashmir@gmail.com

the restoration and future of the betterment of Kashmiri Pandit Community living in the Valley.

6. State Government should seize all the accounts of all the erstwhile Mandir Committee's in the Valley with immediate effect whether the accounts are in Valley or at Jammu. The Reserve Bank of India should be approached to instruct the all the nationalized banks running in the Valley or in Jammu to provide details of transactions of these accounts since 1990 to have a check –n- balance.
7. There should be quarterly audit of the accounts of all the temples / shrines and the auditor should be chosen from time to time by the beneficiaries on vote basis.
8. All revenue records (Pre-1990) of all the Kashmiri Pandit Shrines in the Valley should be published in all local daily papers, which will aware the general public in the Valley and particularly Kashmiri Pandit's to judge who is behind the destructing of these temple properties by way of sale / leasing.
9. All the sale deeds / leases of these temple / shrine properties which took place from 1990 i.e. for past 17 years should be declared null and void and that also be published in the local newspapers that will surely help to strength the relationship between the two communities in the State.

If the Government fails to resolve the issue of preservation / protection of these temples / shrines in the Kashmir Valley on the points mentioned above, **within one month**, then we have no other option to knock the door of Apex Court for the redressal of our grievances.

Sanjay K. Tickoo
President, KPSS
9906564741