



# **KASHMIRI PANDIT SANGARASH SAMITI**

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **(SASB Land Transfer Controversy)**

KPSS finds that the move taken the political leaders, Separatists or Main Stream, on the SASB land transfer and handing over the Management of Shrine Board to Kashmiri Pandits a gimmick which turned the situation hell in the Valley, as KPSS had already requested / appealed so many times through one-to-one meetings and local press (published on 14.12.2007 in local dailies) to these leaders to come forward to stop the sale and purchase of temples properties in the Valley by the unscrupulous elements. But their reply / move in this behalf is still awaited. If the leaders are really concerned on the issue that the Pandit religious places in the Kashmir Province, starting from Keran Karnah, Uri to Qazigund should be handed over to Kashmiri Pandits then why is Temple Bill still pending in the Legislative Assembly? Then why the persons from Mirpur, Pakistan or Delhi are governing the management of the local temples in the Valley? Then how a fugitive from the other state is given the permission by the State Authorities to run the temple affairs in the Valley without knowing / verifying his back ground / police record? Then why a Kashmiri Pandit is asked "what concern does he have with temple" when he approaches the Authorities to save them from these unscrupulous elements? These very politicians and State Revenue Department are behind the scene to facilitate these Non Kashmiris and big guns of land mafia to sell and purchase the temple land property to vanish the Kashmiri Pandit history and faith from the Valley. There are so many questions which are first to be answered by these politicians who are voicing together to hand over the Management of Shrine Board to the Kashmiri Pandits.

The controversy which has been deliberately raised to disturb the social and communal fabric of the Kashmiri Society is very unfortunate and unethical, by some vested interest politicians regarding the land transfer to SASB, which boiled the sentiments of Majority Community in the Valley. It shows the immaturity of these politicians, who are bent to destroy the present and future of Kashmir by triggering the communal fights across the State, as there is



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no way to any one to raise a permanent housing colony, on that forest land which has been transferred to SASB due to high altitude and weather conditions which records 15 to 20 feet of snow during the winter season.

KPSS condemns the killing of innocent citizens during the last few days and console with the families who lost their loved ones because of ongoing controversy raised by the Government and other politicians and also condemns the attack on the tourists and yatris by the unscrupulous elements who are trying to communalize the situation for their vested interests. We appeal to State Government, Majority Community Leaders and Other Groups to take stern action against those persons across Jawahir Tunnel who are making false rumors to communalise the situation.

KPSS requests His Excellency the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, to call a special session of the Legislative Assembly and pass and approve the temple bill which is pending since years to stop more blood shed in the Valley and end this controversy. In this temple bill all the temples what so ever should be included within the province of Kashmir.

KPSS appeals all sections, all faiths in the Valley to stop this ongoing protest so that a cordial atmosphere could be established to save the lives of poor Kashmiris from death and starvation and smooth run of this years Amarnath Yarta.

Further, we appeal the majority community to be cautious against those unscrupulous elements who raise such slogans which may force minorities especially Kashmiri Pandits to re-think the decision of staying back in the Valley with the majority community brethren at the peak of the turmoil.

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