

UNTOLD STORY OF KASHMIRI PANDITS THE SAGA OF SURVIVAL

VOLUME II

STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL DURING FIRST 14 YEARS OF VAN VAAS (1990-2003)

HOMAGE TO THE MARTYRS...



COMPILED
BY
CHAMAN LAL GADOO

VIDYA GAURI GADOO RESEARCH CENTRE
71, SUNDER BLOCK, SHAKARPUR, DELHI 110092
Email: cl.gadoo@gmail.com , Blog: www.clgadoo.blogspot.com

HOMAGE TO THE MATYRS WONDHAMA MASSACRE



The inhuman torture and slaughter had left mutilated bodies beyond recognition. The few identifiable are few. The slain had agony and disbelief on their faces. No appeared to have achieved peace and calm after deliverance from fear of the devil.



Smt. Roopawati, (Pulwama), Smt. Ganju (Srinagar), Smt. Girja (Bandipora)

MARTYRS OF NADI MARG MASSACRE 23RD MARCH 2003



ARDE NARESHWAR TRUST NADI MARG

SHRADHANJALI TO KASHMIRI PANDIT MARTYRS





Kashmiri Pandits protest on the 20th Kashmiri Pandit Martyrs' Day, near Parliament in New Delhi on Monday. Tribune photo: Manas Ranjan Bhui

CHAPTER VIII UNTOLD STORY OF KASHMIRI PANDITS

‘The terrorist organizations carried out systematic operations to massacre the Hindus and flush them out of the Kashmir Valley. As the death toll of the Hindus increased, they began to evacuate from the Valley in larger numbers. The State Government reacted to the elimination of the Hindus with utter passivity and indifference. The Janata Dal Government lacked the will to deal with terrorist violence. With the Home Department of the Government of India, placed under a Kashmiri Muslim, who too was committed to the precedence of the Muslim majority in the State, and who carried out the behests of the powerful Muslim lobbies in the Janata Dal, the State Government could not deal with the terrorist violence with any firmness. The ludicrous drama of the kidnapping of Rubiya Sayeed, the daughter of the Home Minister and the consequent breakdown of the Central Government, had left little moral strength with the State Government to face the terrorist challenge. The brief spell, during which Jagmohan tried to retrieve the situation, was a half-hearted endeavour, which ultimately ended in a fiasco.

By and large, the militants succeeded in their broad designs in eliminating the Hindus in Kashmir. They destroyed the traditional population balances which formed the bases of the coordinate plurality of the State, replacing it by a communal identity of the Muslims, which found its legitimacy in Islamic fundamentalism.’

(White Paper on Kashmir drafted by Dr. M. K. Teng & C.L. Gadoo)



J&K migrants threaten stir

NEW DELHI, Feb. 23 (HTC)

Various organisations of the Kashmiri Pandit displaced persons, have threatened to start nationwide protests if the Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah forced the migrant employees to go back to the Valley to join their duties.

In separate statements, president of the J&K Sangam C. L. Gadoo and general secretary of the Kashmir Samiti, Delhi, Sunil Shakhdar said that such irresponsible statements being issued by Dr Abdullah were fraught with dangerous consequences. "His approach to tackle the issue of displaced persons is ridiculous as on one hand there were reports that even the members of the Muslim community were fleeing the Valley and on the other, he has started using a threatening posture to force the Kashmiri Pandit employees to go back."

Mr Gadoo while sharply reacting on this issue, alleged that Dr Abdullah has not taken any step so far for the welfare of the displaced persons. It is intriguing that no reservation was being provided for the Kashmiri Pandits in the 26,000 jobs being created in the State. On top of that, the Union Ministry has two Ministers from the Valley who belong to the same community.

Mr Shakhdar said that it was unfortunate that Dr Abdullah has threatened the migrant employees to go back to Kashmir instead of sympathetically looking into their problems. "The community will not be cowed by his threat," he said and added that a call would be given to all the migrants to shift to Delhi from Jammu where an agitation would be started for safeguarding their interests. "We want a safe place not only to live but die also", he added.

Mr H. K. Kaul, president, All-India Kashmir Displaced Employees Forum, has condemned the statement of Dr Abdullah — he has no right to issue such statements when he has failed to settle the pending issues of the migrant employees like HRA and CCA."



कश्मीर के पंडितों ने शुक्रवार को जम्मू-काश्मीर संगम के बैनर तले अपनी मांगों को लेकर जंतर-मंतर पर धरना दिया।

संवाद : जे की जी टाइम्स

विस्थापित कश्मीरियों ने धरना दिया

जे की जी टाइम्स संवाद

नई दिल्ली, 28 फरवरी। दिल्ली में रह रहे विस्थापित कश्मीरियों के पुनर्वास के मामले में कश्मीर सरकार चौहरी नीति अपना रही है। विस्थापित कश्मीरियों ने आज जंतर मंतर पर जम्मू व कश्मीर संगम के तत्वावधान में एकदिवसीय धरना आयोजित करते हुए अपने पुनर्वास के मामले को स्पष्ट करने की मांग की है।

धरने पर बैठे विस्थापित कश्मीरियों ने कहा कि मुख्यमंत्री फारूख अब्दुल्ला द्वारा पुनर्वास के मामले में अलग-अलग बयान दिए जा रहे हैं, जिसके कारण विस्थापितों के बीच अनिश्चितता बनी हुई है। उन्होंने कहा हाल में ही दिल्ली और मुंबई में विस्थापित कश्मीरियों के संदर्भ में अलग-अलग बयान सामने आए हैं। एक ओर सरकार ने यह कहा है कि उपवास के समय जो भी क्षति हुई थी, उसकी भरपाई राज्य सरकार नहीं करेगी और वहीं दूसरी ओर उनका बयान यह है कि कश्मीर में जब तक शांति का माहौल नहीं बन जाता है तब तक विस्थापितों को सही तरह से नहीं बसाया जा सकता है।

विस्थापित कश्मीरियों ने कहा आज दिल्ली में हजारों परिवार स्थाई व्यवस्था न होने के कारण निवास, बच्चों की शिक्षा और भोजन जैसी समस्याओं से जूझ रहे हैं। धरने में जम्मू-काश्मीर संगठन के प्रवक्ता रमेश मनवरी भी शामिल थे।

THE HINDU, Friday, February 28, 1997

Farooq's statement on migrants criticised

HINDU
28/2/97

From Our Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, Feb. 27.

The Jammu and Kashmir Sangam has criticised the statement of the J&K Chief Minister, Dr. Farooq Abdullah, whereby he has said that all migrants, employed in Government jobs, will have to return to the Valley.

In a statement issued here today, the Sangam said that Dr. Abdullah has assured soon after assuming office that the Pandits would be asked to return only after his Government rebuilds their burnt houses.

The Sangam has also criticised Dr. Abdullah for comparing militancy in Kashmir with that in North-Eastern states. "The militancy in the Valley started in 1989 when he was the CM and it was directed against the Hindus of the Valley to drive them out."

J&K migrants flay Farooq comments

HT Correspondent

NEW DELHI, March 1
Jammu and Kashmir Sangam, an organisation of displaced Kashmiri Pandits, has condemned the statement of Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah that no special package would be offered for the welfare of the displaced persons.

In a statement issued here today, its president, Mr C. L. Gadoo, said that such irresponsible utterances of Dr Abdullah re-

flect his lack of seriousness to normalise conditions in Kashmir. If by making such a statement he meant that the Pandits had deliberately fled from the Valley, out of pleasure, he was only playing to the gallery, he said. This statement is an attempt to appease the minority community of Kashmir for whom package after package is being announced by the Centre also, he added.

Mr Gadoo announced that the Sangam would hold a demonstration tomorrow at Jantar Mantar to protest against the apathy of the State Government, particularly Dr Abdullah, towards the migrant Pandit community.

It was shocking that instead of assuaging the feelings of the displaced persons, Dr Abdullah was inviting them to go back to Kashmir to survive on their own and get killed, Mr Gadoo said. If the conditions there are so conducive, why has he raised a special force of 500 commandos to protect his own life, he questioned.

SANGRAMPURA MASSACRE

An escalation in violent attacks against Kashmiri Hindus living in Kashmir Valley called into question the state government's assertion that the elections had brought normalcy to the region. On March 22, 1997, suspected militants killed seven Kashmiri Hindu men in Sangrampora, a hamlet twenty miles south of Srinagar in Badgam District in the Valley. This attack left a strong impression on the Kashmiri Hindu community, especially in light of the state government's discussions of incentives for rehabilitation. Kashmiri Hindu migrant organizations in various cities; Jalandhar, Lucknow, Hyderabad, Kohlapur, Indore, Dharamsala, responded to the massacre with meetings, resolutions, demonstrations, and processions. Condemning the attacks, these various local organizations sharply criticized the National Conference government for its failure to protect Kashmiri Hindus remaining in the Valley.

Gadoo issued a letter to the president of India, noting that "under these circumstances it seems that return of Displaced Kashmiri Pandits to their birthplace is impossible in the near future" (1997a: 28).

(International Journal of Hindu Studies by Haley Duschinski, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Ohio University, Athens)



DEMONSTRATION WITH BLACK BANDS

जवाजा टाइम्स

सोमवार, 24 मार्च 1997 □ वर्ष 1 अंक 353 समय का सजग प्रहरी महानगर पृष्ठ :





Panun Kashmir members sitting on dharna to condemn the killings of seven Pandits in Kashmir, at Jantar Mantar in the Capital on Sunday. — HT photo

Migrants protest against killings

HT Correspondent

NEW DELHI, March 23
Migrant Kashmiris held a massive dharna and demonstration at Jantar Mantar today in protest against the killing of seven members of the minority community by militants in the Valley.

Slogan-shouting protestors also blocked the road at Jantar Mantar crossing. The dharna was organised by Jammu Kashmir Vichar Manch.

Speaking on the occasion, various members of the displaced Kashmiri Pandit community condemned the brutal act and criticised the claims of Central leaders as well as Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah about normalcy in the State.

The killing has also been strongly condemned by various other

representative organisations of migrant Kashmiris in the Capital.

Panun Kashmir blamed the Central Government's "policy of total apathy" towards Kashmiri Hindus for the brutal killings.

In a statement issued here today, the organisation said that the incident has made it amply clear that Kashmiri Pandits continue to be sitting ducks for Islamic fundamentalists in the Valley. The sole aim of the fundamentalists was to clear the Valley of the few remaining members of the minority community and declare Kashmir an Islamic State, the Panun Kashmir charged.

The Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, described it as a total failure of the State administration. The killings exposed all tall claims of the Government about normalcy having been restored in the Valley, according to Samiti vice president

Dr L. N. Dhar.

He recalled that a similar situation had developed in the State during 1990 when people from the minority community were selectively killed by militants and this had led to an exodus from the Valley. If the State Government failed to take appropriate measure to protect the community, another round of mass migration may start, he feared.

The Kashmiri Samiti also held a demonstration at the INA crossing to protest against the massacre that took place on Friday. A number of protestors were detained by police and released later.

Ex-Servicemen, war widows and disabled persons are disturbed at being denied proper representation in the Fifth Pay Commission, which submitted its report recently.

HINDU MARCH 25, 1997 REPORTS

Kashmiri migrants skip Holi festivities

From Our Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, March 24. There were no Holi celebrations by the Kashmiri Hindu migrants in the Capital and elsewhere in the country today in mourning for the seven Pandits who were gunned down at Sangrampura in the Kashmir Valley's Badgam district on Friday night. Even friends and neighbours who came over to the houses of Kashmiri Pandits here with colour were sent back and told about the tragedy that had befallen the community.

This was just a token protest. The Kashmiri

Samiti, an organisation of migrants, has decided to organise a 'Black Flag' march for the Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister, Dr. Farooq Abdullah, here on his next visit. This is to protest against Dr. Abdullah's failure in providing security to the 'handful' of Pandits still living in the Valley. The family had been living in the village all through the militancy and the seven male members were called out by some men wearing 'Pathani suits' on the pretext that an Army major wanted to meet them.

They were gunned down some distance away. The Kashmiris will also not celebrate 'Navreh',

the Kashmiri new year on April 8 as a mark of respect.

"The killing has hurt the sentiments of the Hindus and clearly shows that the ground situation in the Valley has not improved at all. The targeted killings were carried out in the early 90s when militancy was at the peak," says Mr. C. L. Gadoo, a social activist. He described the killings as a deliberate attempt to prevent the migrants from returning to the Valley. The incident has also come as a major blow to the Farooq Abdullah administration.

DAILY EXCEL

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JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1997

Migrants flay Leghari

NEW DELHI, Mar 25:

Kashmiri migrants in the capital have flayed Pakistan President Mr. Farooq Ahmed Khan Leghari's statement extending full support to the militant campaign in Jammu and Kashmir.

"This proves that Pakistan is not and will never be interested in a meaningful dialogue to solve the issue," Mr. C.L. Gadoo, a prominent Kashmiri leader and human rights activist told PTI.

He said India should take serious note of the statement and counter it
(Contd. on page 5 col 6)

Migrants flay....

(From page 1)

at the world fora.

"He (Leghari) talks of human rights violations in the valley by security forces," Mr. Gadoo said. "but what about the spine-chilling murder of seven Kashmiri Pandits in Sangrampora last week."

He urged External Affairs Minister Mr. I K Gujral to summon the Pakistan High Commissioner in Delhi and express the "anger" of Indians over such "irrelevant and irresponsible" statement.

"Pakistan should remember that India has and would stand united when the question of its territorial integrity comes," Mr. Gadoo said.

He said it was India which wanted peace in the region and alleged that Pakistan never wanted peace to return.

"Our neighbours have been ruled by army for several decades and army never wanted peace in the valley," Mr. Gadoo alleged.

He said, "Nawaz Sharif has to follow the guidelines of army rather than dictating it what to do."

The business community of Pakistan, which supported Mr. Sharif during the recent elections, wanted to do trade with India, Mr. Gadoo said.

"But Pakistani Army is not willing to let the Kashmir question be kept aside in favour of developing trade and economic relations," he alleged. (PTI)

Panun Kashmir to launch search

ANATH JHA
NEW DELHI, APRIL 1

PANUN Kashmir, the organisation of the displaced Kashmiri Pandits, has decided to launch a door-to-door campaign to identify those who have deserted from Jammu following last week's blast in the Valley.

A five-member delegation led by CL Hindu, president of the Delhi Kashmiri Pandits, also met Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda on Friday and related the plight of Kashmiri Pandits.

Accusing chief minister Farooq Abulhasan for failure of law and order and establishment of a "militant raj" in Jammu, the delegation said the militants, allegedly enjoying political support, were trying to create ethnic divide to push

Kashmiri Pandits out of Jammu.

A senior leader of the organisation told the Express Newsline that the militant outfits of Hizbul Mujahiddin had prepared a "hit list" of over 100 Kashmiri Pandits, living in Jammu and Delhi. "Enjoying support of some senior political stalwarts in the Valley, this group was preparing a plan to launch underground operation to eliminate them," he said.

Ramesh Hindu, the organisation's spokesman, said that even when the turmoil was at its peak in the Valley, Jammu remained peaceful. However, the militants had now targeted Jammu in order to wipe out the Kashmiri Pandits from there. About 3.5 lakh pandits have deserted the Valley so far, he added.

Hundreds of pandits residing in Jammu were ringing up their relatives in

Delhi to make some 'immediate arrangement' for their accommodation as well as their employment, Hindu said. "Neither the government nor its law enforcing agency are genuinely interested to protect their life and properties," he accused.

Vijay Kumar Kaul, another Kashmiri leader said: "Besides 19 families, who arrived from Badgam district, insisted their names and place of origin be kept confidential. They also refused to be photographed or video-taped as they apprehend reprisal to their relatives who are still in the valley."

"Absence of protection from the government and insistence on part of the neighbours that the Pandits leave, forced them to leave their home and seek refuge 350 km away from the plains of Jammu," Kaul said.

When asked why after having stayed in the valley during the last eight years of turmoil they have chosen to leave their homes, they replied: "After the election the scene has changed in the Kashmir Valley. Secessionist elements are ruling the roost and the vigil by the security forces too has gone down."

Meanwhile, the recent statement by the State Chief Minister that he would force all the displaced people to return has upset the people who control Panun Kashmir properties and usurped the posts left vacant after the exodus. "These people are politically, as well as economically quite strong would like to cleanse the valley of the pandits."

Explaining the reasons for their migration, the recent exiles say that their neighbours have suggested that they leave

7 सैरत

बुधवार, 22 मार्च 1996





NATIONAL HERALD: New Delhi, Sunday, April 20, 1997

Protest against killings of Kashmiri Pandits

Herald News Service

NEW DELHI, April 19 — A Kashmiri Samiti Delhi workers today organised a protest rally against the killings of eight Kashmiri Pandits in Baramullah district of the Kashmir Valley.

They alleged following this, a large number of Kashmiri Pandits settled there had started leaving the Valley.

They charged that even the elected government in the state has failed to check the increasing terrorists' attacks aided and abetted by subversive elements from across the border.

The protesters were carrying placards and banners which read "Kashmiri Pandits, high death rate, low birth rate" and "release salaries of displaced employees."



Herald photo by Ramash Kumar

Kashmiri Samiti activists staging a protest rally against killing eight Kashmiri Pandits in the Valley in New Delhi on Saturday.

KOSHUR SAMACHAR REPORTS

KSD Rally To Protest Sangrampura Massacre

MEMORANDUM SENT TO PRESIDENT OF INDIA

KASHMIRI Samiti Delhi organised a Rally on April 19, from Ferozeshah Kotla Ground to protest against the recent mass exodus of Kashmiri Pandits following the killings of eight Kashmiri Pandits by Islamic terrorists in Sangrampura, District Badgam, Kashmir last month. The wanton killings of innocent members of minority Kashmiri Pandits and the resultant exodus gives lie to the Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister's claim of returning normalcy in the State and is a grim reminder of ground realities in Kashmir, the KSD said in a press release.

The Badgam massacre once again exposes Government's inability to protect the lives of miniscule minority. In the wake of eight years of forced exile of Kashmiri Pandits through threats, selective killings, rape of women and burning of thousands of minority Kashmiri Pandit houses and religious shrines, the Badgam killings and the consequent exodus is a calculated move to completely cleanse the Valley of a few remaining Kashmiri Pandits.

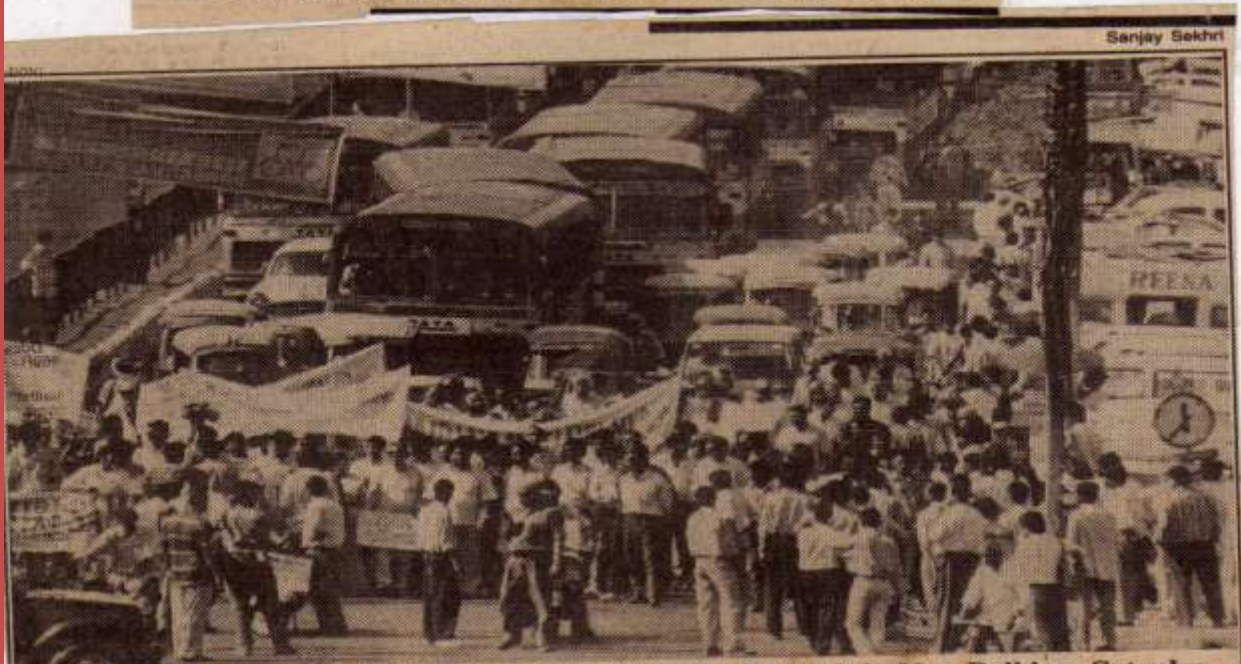
It amply proves that the Pan-Islamic forces are on the leash and their design to Islamise the Valley is not being thwarted by the State administration. It

also makes one to doubt that a section of the State administration may be in tandem with the Pan-Islamic objectives. The Pan Islamic onslaught is now spreading its tentacles to other parts of the State viz. Jammu region, the Samiti said.

A delegation of Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi also submitted a Memorandum to Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, Hon'ble President of India, highlighting the plight of the community-in-exile and demanded a high judicial probe into the causes of mass exodus of minority Kashmiri Pandits including the recent killings of Kashmiri Pandits leading to fresh exodus. The judicial probe should also identify forces, groups, parties, responsible for induction of terrorism, insurgency and foreign mercenaries in Kashmir.

Undaunted by the scorching sun, hundreds of protesters, which included a large number of women and children, marched through Press Lane, Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, ITO and Tilak Bridge. Mishandling of the rally by local police led to frayed tempers and blockade of traffic at ITO. A public meeting was later held at Tilak Park which was addressed by the KSD President C.L. Gadoo, Shri H.N. Jattu and other leaders.

THE SUNDAY TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI, APRIL 20 1997 3



Members of Kashmiri Samiti blocking the traffic at ITO chowk in New Delhi on Saturday in protest against the brutal killings of eight Kashmiri Pandits in Sangrampura-Budgam, Kashmir.

Text of Memorandum

No. F. (Memorandum)-97

April 19, 1997

Respected Rashtrapati Jee,

It is now eighth year, that, we are living a life of exile from Kashmir Valley. Tattered tents, rented inhabitable rooms, a meagre sustenance allowance (less than what a 'C' class prisoner is being paid), and a hostile environment is our forte in this land—called the Secular Democratic Republic of India.

With the induction of so-called elected Government of Jammu and Kashmir State, it was hoped that conditions would change and three lakh displaced minority would be able to return to their birthplace. It was not so. Instead of curbing terrorism with courage and conviction, the State political Chief and the administration engaged themselves in demolishing the groups of anti-terrorist civilians who volunteered to help the Army, security forces and Civil Administration in nabbing and curbing the fanatic insurgents. The number of terrorist attacks on civilian and security forces increased by leaps. Foreign Islamic fundamentalists, aided and abetted by local insurgents started ruling the roost. Even those areas which were cleared of terrorist activities again became trouble spots. Spread of insurgency Jammu region and a number of bomb blasts and shooting took place in Jammu proper. A sinister move of migration of thousands of Kashmiri, Badherwahi, Muslims to Jammu city and suburbs started, which resulted in

demographic change in population ratio of Jammu. All this happened right under the nose of the new Ministry and with the connivance of those Ministers and officers known for their terrorist links and sympathy.

To crown this all, Chief Minister Dr. Farooq Abdullah himself threatened Kashmiri Pandit employees to join their duties in the Kashmir Valley, failing which their services would be terminated. It is deplorable that the salaries of about thirteen thousand migrant employees have been stopped for the last three months and their families are suffering and are at the brink of starvation.

The Kashmiri Pandits who were already living in the Valley were not provided with any protection which resulted in the gruesome mass murder of eight innocent Kashmiri Pandit males in village Sangrampura, District Budgam in Kashmir. Their bodies carried a caption "This is welcome to Kashmiri migrants to Valley" written by the terrorist/killers.

Under these circumstances it seems that return of Displaced Kashmiri Pandits to their birthplace is impossible in the near future. It also proves that the present Govt. is not only incompetent and inefficient, but doubts arise that these leaders may have clandestine agenda to fulfill.

The Displaced community, therefore, request the President of India to do justice to our cause and defeat the nefarious designs of the Pan-Islamic movement.

Sir, it is in the light of above that we demand:

1. (a) An objective judicial enquiry into the causes, which drew away minorities (Kashmiri Pandits), from their centuries old birthplace, including the recent killings of Kashmiri Pandits leading to fresh exodus; and
(b) The forces, groups, parties and administrative lapses responsible for induction of terrorism, insurgency and foreign mercenaries in Kashmir.
2. To fight the insurgency/terrorism with conviction to make the State again a safe haven for peace loving citizens.
3. To provide suitable residential accommodation to the displaced living in tents, camps and rented inhabitable rooms, enhancement of relief and better working conditions for Teh-Bazari.
4. To provide free Medical facilities to all displaced persons from the State of Jammu and Kashmir.
5. As the education of the wards of Kashmiri displaced persons is concerned, the Government of India should ask all the States, and centrally administered Universities, Medical Colleges and School system to provide education and scholarships to the deserving displaced students on the Maharashtra pattern.
6. As the chances of jobs in the State have completely shrunk, proper jobs for the youngsters should be provided in all Central Government organisations with age relaxation.
7. Most of the houses and business establishments of the minority community have been looted and burnt down or otherwise destroyed or damaged for which appropriate ex-gratia relief should be paid without further delay. Similarly, compensation must be paid for crops, agricultural, horticultural as well as livestock destroyed or damaged or otherwise taken over by the fundamentalist terrorists. Well established business, factories and other enterprises have been completely uprooted. The owners must be compensated for and aided and assisted in every way by providing suitable sites, necessary finance etc. to establish themselves a new.
8. Temples, shrines, places of pilgrimages, Ashrams, cremation grounds desecrated and seized by the terrorists must be restored to the rightful people in their original conditions.
9. Release of salaries of about thirteen thousand Kashmiri migrant employees.
10. No political parleys can be conclusive without taking the Kashmiri Pandit community into confidence. For this, Representatives of the Community should be made part and parcel of any discussions on Kashmir.

With regards,

Hon'ble Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma
President of India.

Yours sincerely,
Sd/-

PRINT MEDIA REPORTS ON APRIL 20, 1997

PIONEER REPORTS

HINDUSTAN TIMES REPORTS

Pandits' protest

■ KASHMIRI Pandits today staged a demonstration against the forced exodus of their community, following the killings of eight persons in Sangrampa in Badgam district, Jammu last month.

They gave a memorandum to President Shankar Dayal Sharma. The stir was organised by the Delhi unit of Kashmiri Samiti.

Protest against Pandits' exodus

Kashmiris held a rally at the Ferozshah Kotla ground on Saturday to protest against the mass exodus of Kashmiri Pandits that had been forced by the killings in Badgam district last month. According to a release by the Kashmiri Samiti, the incident has proved wrong Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah's claims that no...

जे वी जी टाइम्स, नई दिल्ली 20 अप्रैल, 1997



कश्मीरी पंडितों को हत्या के विरोध में शनिवार को फिरोजशाह कोटला मैदान में दिल्ली कश्मीरी समिति ने प्रदर्शन किया।

छाया : जे वी जी टाइम्स

कश्मीरियों ने रैली निकाली

नई दिल्ली, १९ अप्रैल (जनसत्ता)। राजधानी के विस्थापित कश्मीरियों ने कश्मीर के मौजूदा हालात के खिलाफ आज रैली निकाली और राष्ट्रपति शंकर दयाल शर्मा को ज्ञापन दिया। रैली कश्मीर समिति के बैनर तले की गई।

प्रदर्शनकारी पिछले महीने कश्मीर के बडगाम जिले में उग्रवादियों द्वारा आठ कश्मीरी पंडितों की हत्या के खिलाफ रोष जता रहे थे और सरकार के खिलाफ नारे लगा रहे थे। उनका कहना था कि चुनाव के बाद भी कश्मीर के हालात में कोई सुधार नहीं आया है। उन्होंने कश्मीर में स्थिति सामान्य होने के सरकार के दावे को गलत बताया।

समिति के अध्यक्ष सीएल गड्डू के मुताबिक सरकार ने विस्थापित कर्मचारियों को तीन महीने से वेतन नहीं दिया है।

विस्थापितों ने राष्ट्रपति से कश्मीरी पंडितों की हत्या की उच्चस्तरीय जांच कराने, पिछले महीने आठ कश्मीरी पंडितों की हत्या के खिलाफ कश्मीर विधानसभा पर प्रदर्शन कर रहे गिरफ्तार लोगों को छोड़ने और विस्थापित कर्मचारियों के बकाया वेतन के भुगतान की मांग कर रहे थे।

रैली आज दोपहर दिल्ली गेट से शुरू हुई जिसे आईटीओ पर पुलिस ने रोक दिया। इसमें महिलाओं ने भी भाग लिया।



PRINT MEDIA REPORTS

Tribune, April 20, 1997, Hindustan Times, April 22, 1997

Pandits' release sought

NEW DELHI, April 19 (PTI) - The Kashmiri Samiti today demanded the unconditional release of all Kashmiri Pandits who were detained in Jammu or elsewhere after their demonstrations against the massacre of their community members in Sangram-pura village in the Kashmir valley last month.

In a memorandum submitted to the President, Dr S.D. Sharma, the samiti highlighted the plight of the "community in exile" and called for a judicial probe into the cause of renewed exodus of Kashmiri Pandits from the valley after the killings.

It also urged the President to order the release of the salaries of migrant employees.

The president of the samiti, Mr C.L. Gadoo, alleged that the state government was paying less attention to the welfare of Kashmir migrants.

He urged the National Human Rights Commission to take a serious note of the plight of migrant employees, who were not being paid salaries for the past three months.

"Some families are on the brink of starvation," Mr. Gadoo claimed.

Valley migrants protest against mass exodus

NEW DELHI, April 21 (HTC) Hundreds of Kashmiri displaced persons today held a demonstration to protest against the recent mass exodus of Kashmiri Pandits from Kashmir Valley after brutal killing of the eight members of the community. The demonstration was held under the aegis of Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi.

The protestors led by the Samiti president, Mr C. L. Gadoo raised slogans against the State Government for its failure to protect the lives of their community members. They also denounced Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah and the Central Government for doing nothing to rehabilitate the displaced persons.

They later took out a protest march from Ferozshah Kotal grounds to Tilak Bridge.

Later a delegation of the Kashmiri Samiti also submitted a memorandum to the President.

THE HINDU, Wednesday, April 30, 1997

Kashmiri migrants welcome PM's efforts

NEW DELHI, April 29,

The Kashmir Samiti, an organisation representing Kashmiri migrants, today welcomed the efforts of the Prime Minister, Mr. I. K. Gujral, in rehabilitating the displaced Hindu community.

"At last we now have a Prime Minister, who is ready to give a patient hearing to our seven-year-old sufferings," Mr. C. L. Gadoo, Samiti president told PTI.

Mr. Gujral, he said, is the first Prime Minister, who took pains to visit the migrants camps during his visit to Jammu on Sunday.

"He has definitely lived up to the expectations of migrants," Mr. Gadoo said.

Welcoming the assurances made by the Prime Minister, he expressed hope that the rehabilitation plan would take off soon saying "living in tents and unhygienic conditions is likely to come to an end soon."

About the return of migrants back to the Valley, Mr. Gadoo said, "we are not averse to going back to the Valley provided the return is honourable. The Prime Minister understands the pain of migration and being homeless. He would soon take steps to solve the problems of the Pandit community," he said.

Mr. Gadoo said the previous Central and State Governments never took the community seriously and urged the Prime Minister to take effective



KOSHUR SAMACHAR JULY ISSUE REPORTS

The admission fever is on and the students are busy in filling their forms for admission in Maharashtra universities, Delhi University and Kendriya Vidyalayas. Admission forms from Maharashtra universities were distributed free of cost to all the eligible students. We made arrangements to send the forms to Jammu as well. Forms were made available at Veer Bhawan, Geeta Bhawan and the Kashmiri Pandit Sabha, Amphalla, Jammu. As many as 1,232 forms have been distributed at various centres and the cost thereof has been borne by Shri Kidar Nath Sahani, BJP leader.

A three-member committee, headed by Shri N.N. Zijoo, Vice-President of the Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, coordinated the admission process at Kashmir Bhawan in Delhi. Shri Nanaji Raina is looking after Maharashtra admissions while Shri T.N. Gurtoo is supervising Delhi admissions. The committee is doing an excellent job in ensuring transparency at all levels.

An interaction with different sections of the biradari members was held twice last month under the auspices of the Samiti at Kashmir Bhawan. A large number of biradari members from Delhi and around attended the two-day meeting. Some prominent members from Jammu also attended. The purpose of this interaction was to discuss some important issues concerning the return of Kashmiri Pandits to the Valley.

Shri D.N. Mushi, Dr. M.K. Teng and Prof. K.N. Pandita were asked to prepare a report on these discussions which they shall submit to the Samiti shortly. The report will be made public in due course after further discussions.



KASHMIRI PANDIT SUMMIT LONDON

The Kashmiri Pandit London Summit, proposed and hosted by the Indo European Kashmir Forum, was held in Hendon, London, from 18th –21st June 1997. The purpose of the Summit was to evolve a common platform for the unified voice of all Kashmiri Pandits .He was elected as Director of Press and Publicity & Director of Inter-Party Affairs (National Parties) at the meet.

KSHIR BHAWANI TIMES JAMMU, AUGUST 1997 REPORTS

BARADARI NEWS

Kashmiri Pandit Political Steering Committee (KPPSC)

A Global Summit of K.P. leaders of different frontline organizations from India, USA, Europe and Canada was held at London from 18th to 21st June 1997, with the aim of evolving a common social and political platform representing the voice of Kashmiri Pandits all over the globe and of formulating a common minimum political programme (CMPP) acceptable to all sections of the community.

Consequent upon the deliberations in the London Summit, an apex body called the Kashmiri Pandit Political Steering Committee (KPPSC) was formed comprising of a Chairman and four directors. Those elected for the Year ending September 1st 1998 are Shri A.N. Vaishnavi, Chairman and Director of Intra-Party affairs, Dr. K.L. Chowdhary, Director, Political Affairs, Shri Triloki Nath Khosa, Director Cultural and Educational affairs, Shri Ashwani Kumar, Director, Human Rights affairs and Shri C.L. Gadoo Director, Press, Publicity and Economic affairs and inter party affairs.

The Common Programme of KPPSC has a political and social agenda.

(A) POLITICAL AGENDA :-

- (i) Recognition of factors that led to the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits from the valley to become refugees in their own country viz :-
 - a) Article 370.
 - b) Indigenous Islamic fundamentalist and secessionist movement in Kashmir.
 - c) Exclusion of Pandits from the Political, Social and Administrative structure of the State.
 - d) The insensitivity and the failure of the Indian Political system to act decisively and respond effectively to events in Kashmir since 1947.
- (ii) KPs are determined to return to Kashmir with honour, dignity and safety and work on strategies involving discussions on a safe and secure physical presence in the valley.
- (iii) Guarantees against refoulment.
- (iv) Inviting the State and Central Govt for a serious dialogue to expedite the return to the valley of all refugees with compact and complete Constitutional, Institutional and Political guarantees on their terms for all times to

come.

- (v) Improvement in the current status of refugees presently living in sub-human existence in camps and non-camp habitations.

(B) SOCIAL AGENDA :-

- (i) Restoration and preservation of all religious places in Kashmir, seeking control of all religious institutions in Kashmir and organising group pilgrimages.
- (ii) Provision of facilities and scholarship for students of the community at all levels Primary, University and Professional.
- (iii) Preservation of all cultural institutions and restoration of educational and cultural heritage of the community.

The KPPSC calls on the Government to desist from any negotiations with individuals or groups or people of different regions for return of the displaced community to Kashmir through committees involving bureaucrats. We invite the State and Central Govt. for a serious dialogue in order to break a new ground in the matter of early return of Kashmiri Pandits to the valley.

KPPSC views with serious concern the haphazard and lopsided manner in which the employees and students of the community are being directed to report to various places of posting in the valley and in far-flung militancy afflicted zones of Jammu Province. The Sangrampora massacre and the recent killings in Gool should serve as warning signals to the Govt. that they are trying to push the helpless people into death traps.

The KPPSC resolves to vigorously pursue the Political and Social agenda for the upliftment of the neglected community and for the fulfilment of their urges and aspirations for a speedy return to their homeland.

THE KPPSC REPRESENTS THE FOLLOWINGS ORGANISATIONS :-

At: State Kashmiri Pandits Conference (ASKPC)
Kashmiri Pandit Sabha, Jammu (KPS)
Panun Kashmir Movement (PKM)
Kashmiri Samiti Delhi (KSD)
Panun Kashmir (PK)
Kashmiri Overseas Association, USA (KOA)
Indo American Kashmiri Forum (IAKF)
Indo Canadian Kashmiri Forum (ICKF)
Indo European Kashmiri Forum (IEKF)
Kashmiri Pandit Association of Europe (KPAE)

THE LONDON KP SUMMIT



Standing L to R—Dr. K.L. Chowdhery (P.K., Jammu), Sh. B.L. Bhat (P.K., Noida), Sh. Virender Sumbly (ICKF - Canada), Dr. Ashok Raina, (KOA - USA), Dr. Vijay Sazawal (IAKF-USA), Sh. Avtar Tikou (IEKF - Geneva), Sh. Ashwani Kumar (PKM - Jammu).

Sitting L to R—Sh. T.N. Khosa (KPS - Jammu), Sh. Rattan Kotwal (IEKF - London), Sh. A.N. Vaishnavi (ASKPC - Jammu), Sh. C.L. Gadoo (Kashmiri Samiti Delhi)

Terrorism in Jammu And Kashmir

—The Genesis and the Solution

—C.L. Gadoo

[Shri Gadoo represented the Kashmiri Samiti Delhi at the Global Summit of Kashmiri Pandit leaders in London from June 18 to 21, 1997, and actively participated in the deliberations. The working paper presented at the Conference by Shri Gadoo on behalf of the KSD has been adapted by us and given the shape of an article which is published hereunder for the benefit of our readers. Comments are welcome.—Editor.]

MAJOR issues faced by the Hindus in Kashmir, who suffered the process of ethnic extermination for having opposed the Muslim secessionist movements in the State, arise out of several political commitments, which have dominated the developments in Jammu and Kashmir. In the first place, a Muslim separatist movement has been in progress from the time of the accession of the State with India in 1947. Secondly, another Muslim movement, which has largely drawn its inspiration and support from the Islamic secessionism in the State, has been going on in the State, which has supported a separate and independent political organisation of the State on the territories of India but outside the political organisation, almost in a state of equidistance from India and Pakistan. Thirdly, the entire political development in the State during the last five decades has followed a process of reorganisation of its government, society and economy so as to ensure its Islamisation.

Basic Issues

The basic issues involved in the crisis in Jammu and Kashmir are mainly those which arise out of the irreconcilability of the Islamisation movement of the State with the secular, political organisation of India, which enshrines the basic principles of equality and rule of law. These issues were basic to the partition of India and are basic to the crisis that has engulfed the State from 1989, due to the militarisation of Muslim communalism.

The terrorist violence in Jammu and Kashmir is the culmination of the secessionist movements, going on in the State during the last five decades. It is politically motivated to bring about the secession

of the State from India and unite it with Pakistan. Let us face the bitter truth and refuse to be hoodwinked by interested quarters, many of which are in the Government of India as well, and which have sought to camouflage the Muslim secessionism in Kashmir to provide cover to its real objectives. Pleas of alienation, erosion of autonomy, exclusion of Muslims from political participation and economic deprivation have been used to conceal the real character of Muslim separatism and communalism in Kashmir. The Muslim unrest in the State, the so-called struggle for self-rule, autonomy and separate identity of Kashmiriyat, are political movements, which are fundamentally communal in character, aimed at the Islamisation of the State and its ultimate disengagement from the Indian Union, at a time when the Muslims in the State, supported by Pakistan and other Muslim countries, find it possible to defeat India.

Unaccepted Falsehood

We have lived in Kashmir in the last five decades of Indian freedom and are perhaps the only witnesses of what has been wrought in the State by Muslims secessionist forces and the successive state governments, with the passive acquiescence of the Government of India. We cannot, in the interest of our nation and in the interest of history, accept lies and falsehoods as the truth, for that may not only harm our community but also our country and earn us the calumny of having failed in our duty unto our country.

The terrorist flanks waging war against India claim the divine right to complete the partition of India, which, according to them, was left unfinished in 1947, because of the accession of the State to

India. The secession of Jammu and Kashmir from India and its unification with Pakistan will extend the Muslim power over the traditional northern frontier of India. Flanked by Afghanistan in the east and Central Asia in the north and China in the west, Pakistan would assume a factorial importance in the configuration of power in Asia. Using the ideological and military support received from militarised pan-Islamic fundamentalism, Pakistan would inevitably force a further division on India.

The violence in Kashmir has three major dimensions: (i) the Muslim militancy in Kashmir with its transnational dimensions; (ii) its commitment to the Islamisation of the government and society of the State; and (iii) the terrorist regimes operating in Kashmir and the Muslim crusade are communal, fundamentalist and separatist in their content. The ethnic extermination of Hindus in Kashmir is a part of the basic scheme of communalisation and fundamentalisation of the State.

Creation of Pakistan

The creation of Pakistan in 1947 was a landmark in the struggle for the unification of the Muslim Umma and ever since Pakistan was created, it has followed a sustained policy of thrust for expansion towards the east as a major strategy to spread across Jammu and Kashmir and take the Muslim power to the dominant Muslim regions of Central Asia, Mongolia and Sinkiang. The terrorist violence in Jammu and Kashmir is a continuation of the consolidation of pan-Islamic unity, of which the creation of Pakistan was a part. Pakistan claimed Jammu and Kashmir on the basis of the Muslim majority of its population and while terrorism raged in Kashmir, it demanded that India be divided again to carry the partition to its logical conclusion by ceding the State to Pakistan.

The questions that immediately arise are: how is the restoration of the 1952 status relevant to the war of attrition raging in the State? How far will the exclusion of the State from the constitutional structure of India go to meet the Muslim movement for secession of the State from India? Are the militarised secessionist forces prepared to accept the exclusion of the State from the constitutional

framework of India as a basis to lay down their arms? How far is Pakistan prepared to accept the exclusion of the State from the constitutional organisation of India as a basis for a settlement on Kashmir?

Evidently, the exclusion of the State from the Indian constitutional framework will not be acceptable to the secessionist military flanks as a basis for a settlement, leaving them free to carry on the war of attrition in the State against India and the Hindus. It will only serve the purpose of carrying the State almost into the no-man's land between India and Pakistan, which would then be exposed to greater pulls from Pakistan. With the terrorist violence continuing unabated inside the State, pressure would be mounted on India to accept the exclusion of the State from the territories of the Indian Union and its defence parameters. Perhaps, the National Conference leadership in the State would, at that time, again intervene and bring round India to accept a position of equidistance for the State from both India as well as Pakistan.

Regional Autonomy

The proposals to lend regional autonomy to Jammu and Ladakh would ultimately lead to the division of the Jammu Province into the Muslim-majority region and the Hindu-majority region and, in Ladakh, the separation of the Muslim-majority district of Kargil, already accomplished by the grant of Hill Council to it. With the process of the elimination of the Hindus from the Muslim-majority regions of the State, already completed in the Kashmir Province, the whole region situated west of the Chenab would be formed into a separate Muslim political organisation on the basis of a modified form of the Dixon Plan which was proposed for the settlement of the Kashmir dispute in 1950. Once the State is disengaged from India, the pro-Pakistan Muslim forces would push into Pakistan earlier than anticipated and the National Conference would eventually be prepared to reach a settlement with Pakistan on the separate political identity of the Muslim-majority regions of the State in which would be included the Pakistan-occupied territories of Kashmir within the territorial jurisdiction of Pakistan but outside its political structure.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED PACKAGE FOR RETURN TO VALLEY

'In January 1998, the Jammu and Kashmir State government announced a twenty eight billion rupee rehabilitation package for Kashmiri Hindu migrants who left Kashmir Valley during the militancy. The package included a rehabilitation incentive of Rs. 100,000 for each family willing to return to the Valley, a reconstruction grant of Rs. 150,000 for each house, a sustenance allowance of Rs. 3,000 to those migrants employed in the private sector, waivers of loans, and incentives for unemployed youths. It also authorized the creation of Protector General Migrant Properties and the establishment of transit settlements at Srinagar, Baramulla, and Anantnag for those migrants willing to return. This rehabilitation scheme, which had been under development for several years, was premised on the idea of the return of normalcy in the state. Coupled with the resumption of electoral democracy, it suggested that the time for the reversal of both the militancy and the migration had finally arrived'. (Haley Duschinski, at Ohio University)

KASHMIRI PANDITS THREE DAY MEET IN JAMMU HINDUSTAN TIMES & DAILY EXCELSIOR JUNE 23, 1997 REPORTS

Pandits form panel for talks with govt

LONDON, June 22 (PTI)— Representatives of divergent Kashmiri Pandit organisations meeting here for a global summit have announced the formation of an apex political steering committee to address all vital issues facing the community, particularly their return to Kashmir.

Announcing the formation of the committee after three days of deliberations here, Dr Avtar Tikou, president of the Indo-Kashmir European Forum, which hosted the summit, said the newly-formed steering committee would be empowered to negotiate with the state and central governments on the vital issue of his community's return to the valley.

Veteran Kashmiri leader A.N. Vaishnavi was unanimously elected chairman of the committee which will have four members, Dr K.L. Choudhary (political affairs), Mr T.N. Khosa (cultural and educational), Mr C.L. Gadoo (finance and publicity) and Mr Ashwini Kumar (human rights affairs).

Briefing newsmen on the deliberations, Dr Vijay Sazawal, coordinator of Overseas Kashmiri Pandit Associations, said the summit had sharply come out against "partisan and selective agenda" being pursued by inter-

national human rights organisations, particularly Amnesty International, regarding the turmoil in Kashmir.

"The political agenda that Amnesty International is pursuing would have meant that if the organisation was in existence it would turn a blind eye to the carnage of Jews in Nazi concentration camps spread all over Europe in the 1940s," Dr Sazawal said.

He said, "It would not be long before such self-styled organisations, which fawn over terrorists, kidnapers, rapists and Islamic mercenaries, are exposed before civilised people."

"It is time that human rights groups changed their agenda and instead of becoming mouthpieces and propaganda tools of terrorists and fundamentalists, spoke for the suffering masses like the entire Kashmiri Pandit community which is facing extinction," he said.

Dr Sazawal said the global summit had decided on raising the issue of the sufferings faced by the community at international fora, and said they would soon meet influential leaders, members of Parliament and Congress and opinion makers in the USA, the UK and European countries to expose the designs of Islamic fundamentalists.

KPs form apex committee to negotiate with Govt

From A K Dhar

LONDON, June 22 Representatives of divergent Kashmiri Pandit organisations meeting here for a Global summit have announced the formation of an apex political Steering Committee to address all vital issues facing the community, particularly their return to Kashmir.

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Kashmir.

He alleged the Amnesty had not, till date, even documented the "gun-point exodus of over seven lakh Kashmiri Hindus from the Valley forced by Islamic fundamentalists". "The political agenda that the Amnesty International is pursuing would have meant that if the organisation was in existence it would turn a blind eye to carnage of Jews in Nazi concentration camps spread all over Europe in the 1940's," Dr Sazawal said.

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KPs form apex....

(From page 1)

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Vaishnavi said the fight in Kashmir was not of referendum or accession to Pakistan. "It is a fight for a pan-Islamic movement and if the West is not wary it would also soon be engulfed by it."

Other leaders like Dr Choudhary, Gadoo and Khosa said the entire Kashmiri Pandit community was for returning to their home State. "We are the original inhabitants of that place who have a proud past and proud culture. We want authorities to ensure that return and resettlement take place with full security and dignity," they said.

DAILY EXCELSIOR DATED JULY 11, & JULY 21, 1997 REPORTS

KPs' 3 day meet in Jammu today

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI, July 10: Representatives of Kashmiri Pandit organisations will assemble in Jammu tomorrow for a three-day meet called for a High-level inquiry into anti-community attitude by the State and Central Government.

We will raise our voice against the unabated killings of Kashmiri Hindus and the neglect at the hands of the administration at all levels, the Kashmiri Samiti president, Mr C L Gadoo said.

(Contd. on page 11 col 2)

KP's 3 day meet.....

(From page 1)

The meeting in Jammu, Mr Gadoo said, is to cement the unity between various Kashmiri Pandit factions around the globe.

This meet is being organised after the first-ever world Kashmiri Pandit Summit held in London last month and is being held to evolve a common political programme for all Kashmiri Pandit organisations for return of community to Kashmir.

Referring to the recent verdict of Delhi High Court on the annual Amarnath Yatra, Mr Gadoo expressed his happiness and said, the judiciary has again played its role and lived upto the expectation of people.

Mr Gadoo also expressed his happiness at the statements of some Kashmiri leaders, who have extended their full cooperation for the forthcoming Yatra.

KPs call for honourable return

NEW DELHI, July 20:

Kashmir Pandit Political Steering Committee (KPPSC) has urged the Central and State Government to expedite the return of Kashmiri migrants to their home with full dignity and honour.

KPPSC, which met in Jammu last week, evolved a Common Minimum Political Programme (CMPP), to safeguard the interest of displaced community, a committee release said here today.

The committee urged the State Government to desist from negotiating with any individual or groups of people for return of migrants.

We invite the State Government for a serious dialogue in order to break ground for early return of migrants, Mr C L Gadoo, member of KPPSC said.

The committee also demanded a high level inquiry into unabated killings of Kashmiri Hindus in what they called grand design to liquidate the community.

Centre and State Government should give constitutional, institutional and political guarantees while ensuring the return of migrants back to the valley, Mr Gadoo said adding, or time being the condition of migrants living in camps should be improved.

He said the Government should take effective measures for preserving all religious places of displaced community in the Valley. (PTI)



Smt. Nancy Kaul Daughters of Vitasta leading a demonstration

DAILY EXCELSIOR
13th July 1997.



The "Political Steering Committee" members of Kashmiri Pandits addressing a joint press conference in Jammu on Saturday. Excelsior/Ashok

KPs warn Govt against holding parleys with individuals

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 12: Rejecting the State Government's move of holding parleys with individuals and groups of the displaced people, on their return to Valley, the Kashmiri Pandit Political Steering Committee (KPPSC) has called for a purposeful

dialogue with the genuine representatives of the community on the issue.

This was stated by Mr A N Vaishnavi, Convenor KPPSC while talking to media persons here today.

He said the Steering Committee which is the Apex Body of all Kashmiri Pandit organisations totally rejects the formation of "Bureaucratic Committees" by the Government for the return of exiled community and urged for a meaningful dialogue with the representatives of the community on the issue.

He said the Kashmiri Pandits are eager to return to their homes and hearths, but the ground situation is not yet conducive for that as the gun still rules the roost in the Valley.

The KP leader said "how the Government is floating the idea of our return to Valley when the militancy still chases us in Jammu."

Blaming the State Government for its total failure in solving the problems of the displaced community and restoring peace and normalcy in the Valley, he said the militants have expanded their area of operation to

Jammu region and the present situations warrant another exodus of peace loving people across the Ravi river.

Taking a serious view of Government asking the employees and student community to return to Valley, he said such a discriminatory policy will lead to serious repercussions.

Mr Vaishnavi maintained that KPPSC has not made any dialogue with the Steering Committee constituted by the State Government so far, saying that "no invitation was sent to us by this Committee."

Rejecting the identification of security zones, he said "there is no such move and atleast we have not identified any such zone, as yet."

The KP leader said the Government is not sincere on our return, but it only wants to tell the entire world that we want to take KPs back, which in their core of heart they do not want, he alleged.

Making a dig at present Government, he said besides the violation

(Contd. on page 11 col 2)

KPs warn Govt against holding...

(From page 1)

of human rights by the militants we faced discrimination and denial at every step.

Lambasting the State Government for its discriminatory attitude towards the community, he alleged that the date for entrance test for various engineering courses has been fixed along the date of counselling for the same courses by Maharashtra Government, with the intension to deprive the Community from availing this opportunity in their home State.

He said the entire KP Community has taken serious view of this attitude of the Government. Mr Vaishnavi said the KPPSC will launch a campaign outside the nation against the human rights violations of the community and it will also submit a representation to World Human Rights Commission in Geneva during its next meet in September.

Mr Vaishnavi said the All State Kashmiri Pandit Conference will observe the July 13 as "black day", saying that onslaught against the Community had started on this day in 1931. All the representatives of

other KP bodies will participate in the "black day," he added.

Mr Vaishnavi also lambasted at Kashmir University for setting up papers as per the desire and wishes of militants and fundamentalists. Citing an example he said, recently the students of BA Part second were given a question in English Paper in which they were asked "write a letter to Deputy Commissioner of your city complaining about the misbehaviour of security forces during a crackdown in your area."

He said this is a serious trend growing in the highest educational institution of the State, which indicates that the people from top level are involved in anti-India baiting, he added.

The others who were present in the press conference include Dr K L Choudhary, Director Political Affairs, Messrs T N Khosa, Director Cultural and Educational Affairs, Ashwani Kumar Director, Human Rights Affairs and C L Gadoo, Director Press Publicity, Economic and Inter Party Affairs.

KASHUR SAMACHAR REPORTS ON THE KASHMIRI PANDIT GLOBAL SUMMIT, LONDON AND KPPSC MEETING AT JAMMU

Namaskar,

Recently, I had an occasion to participate in two important events, one at London and the other at Jammu. The Kashmiri Pandit Global Summit, proposed and hosted by the Indo-European Kashmir Forum, was held in Hendon, London, from 18th to 21st June, 1997. Almost all frontline organisations from India, U.S.A., Europe and Canada participated in the Summit with the aim of evolving a common social and political platform representing the voice of Kashmiri Pandits all over the globe. A Kashmiri Pandit Political Steering Committee (KPPSC) was formed comprising a Chairman and four Directors—all from Indian organisations with its head office at Jammu. Kashmiri Pandit Sabha, Jammu, has provided an excellent office block which will soon be equipped with most modern and upto-date communication facilities. With this infrastructure, problems of Kashmiri Pandits will get international attention on an issue-to-issue basis at different fora. A working paper presented by me at the summit is reproduced elsewhere in this issue.

The common minimum programme of KPPSC has a political and social agenda which broadly aims at the identification of factors that led to the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits from the Valley to become refugees in their own country. The main factors involving in this ethnic cleansing—indigenous Islamic fundamentalist and secessionist movement in Kashmir, Article 370, exclusion of Kashmiri Pandits from the political, social and administrative structure of the State and the failure of the Indian political system to respond effectively to events in Kashmir since 1947 and take appropriate decisions.

Kashmiri Pandits are determined to return to Kashmir with honour, dignity and safety and work on strategies involving, *inter alia*, discussions on a safe and secure physical presence in the Valley; restoration and preservation of all religious places in Kashmir and its lands occupied by unscrupulous elements; build a heritage centre at Jammu; provide educational scholarships; medical assistance to the needy; organise programmes for the welfare and development of women; and bring about improvement in the current status of refugees living in sub-human conditions in camps and non-camp habitation. For this, active support from the biradari members will be sought throughout the globe.

KPPSC met at Jammu from 11th to 13th July, 1997. We had a closed-door meeting to discuss ways and means for the implementation of the programme agreed to at London. Every participant showed vigour and will to carry on the programme at various levels. We also held a press conference on 12th July, 1997, which was well attended. Every Director of KPPSC and its Chairman explained in detail the agreement and the programmes. There was good response from the media. This was followed by a public meeting the next day.

The return of Kashmiri Pandits was the main agenda. Every speaker stressed on the need to streamline the efforts of different organisations for meaningful measures to be adopted by the biradari as a whole.

We have pledged to move together in future in the interests of our community and look forward to your valuable guidance, support and co-operation to carry forward our mission.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,
C.L. Gadoo
President
Kashmiri Samiti Delhi

KASHMIRI SAMITI REJECTS GOVERNMENT PLAN

Kashmiri Hindu community leaders, frustrated by their exclusion from these meetings, accused the Koul Subcommittee of misrepresenting the aspirations of the migrant community, claiming that “stooges” and “henchmen” operating within the community presented statements about the desire of the migrants to return home (see *Koshur Samachar*, August 1997). Dwarkanath Munshi, the former president of AIKS, wrote in a special report: The [Vakil] committee went wandering around in its efforts to meet individuals and sundry. What do they go out to offer or talk about without any formal authority? And what would they be able to take back with them without having the elementary knowledge and understanding of the multi-dimensional problems of the community in exile, dispersed in widespread areas, and of each family and each individuals?” (1997: 26).

The Kashmiri Samiti Delhi hosted a series of special seminars to formulate official responses to the interim report specifically, and the rehabilitation proposal more generally. An article in *Koshur Samachar* clearly stated the position of the Kashmiri Samiti Delhi: The Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, is of the firm view that Kashmiri Pandits have an inalienable right to go back to their homes and hearths in Kashmir as and when normalcy is restored in the Valley. The gimmickery resorted to by the State government will not in any case inspire the migrants to go back in accordance with the government’s wishes but they would definitely go back to their homes as soon as the law and order situation in the State becomes convincingly conducive to their return (Gadoo 1997b: 5).

Haley Duschinski, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Ohio University,



KOSHUR SAMACHAR REPORTS
CONFERENCE OF KASHMIRI PANDITS ON AUGUST 13, 1997

Namaskar,

Consequent upon the dubious decision of the Jammu and Kashmir government to push back the Hindu refugees into the inferno in Kashmir, after having been subjected to untold miseries during their exile, a conference of the leaders of various Kashmiri Pandit organisations was held at Kashmir Bhawan on August 13, 1997, which was followed by a public meeting the next day. The report of the committee appointed by the State government to recommend such measures as would enable the Kashmiri Pandits to return to their homes and hearths was discussed thoroughly in the conference. It was attended by representatives of the Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi; the All-State Kashmiri Pandit Conference; the Kashmiri Pandit Sabha, Jammu; Panun Kashmir; the Jammu and Kashmir Vichar Manch; the All-India Kashmiri Samaj, the Kashmiri Sahayak Samiti, Chandigarh; the Kashmiri Pandit Welfare Association, Noida; the Jammu and Kashmir Sangam, Delhi; the Kashyap Kashmiri Sabha, Gurgaon, and others.

The conference was unanimous in its denunciation of the report of the committee appointed by the State government. Decision was reached to reject the projected return of the Kashmiri Pandits to the Valley when the security environment in Kashmir was far from conducive for such a move. Fears were expressed that the return of the Kashmiri Pandits at a time when unabated terrorist violence was raging in the State would be disastrous for the community. Opinion was unanimous that the new efforts of the Farooq Abdullah government to push back the community into the strife-torn Valley was to expose them to a fresh terrorist onslaught, on the one hand, and silence their protest against the apathetic policies of the State government, on the other.

It was of the view that the Kashmiri Pandits in exile are an embarrassment to both the State as well as the Central governments which thought that the best way to silence their protest, and obliterate their existence, would be to push them back into the death trap, where they would neither be able to protest for what they suffered nor be able to come out again as they had done in 1990.

The general consensus among the representatives participating in the conference was that the return of the Pandits to their homes and hearths in Kashmir would depend upon the restoration of normalcy in the State and conditions which the community would determine for itself.

The conference listed four major conditions, which they said were basic to the return of the Kashmiri Pandits to their homes in the Valley. These are:

1. The abrogation of Article 370 and the integration of the State into the secular, constitutional fabric of India to ensure them freedom of faith, right to equality and protection against discrimination on the basis of religion and safeguards against persecution;
2. the reversal of precedence of the Muslim majority in the government, society and the economic set-up of the State, which had isolated the Kashmiri Pandits politically during the last five decades, impoverished them economically and subjected them to widespread communal persecution;
3. the re-establishment of demographic balance in Kashmir as well as in Jammu, changed by the ethnic cleansing of Hindus in 1990 and the silent exodus of Hindus from Kashmir due to social, economic and political oppression; and
4. the restoration of the properties of the Kashmiri Pandits to them, their temples and the lands attached to their shrines and such other premises as are occupied by the Muslims at present.

We are fighting our war for survival. We trust all of us will form a united front against any onslaught on our community.

With high regards,

Yours sincerely,
C.L. Gadoo
President
Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi

**AMAR SHAHEED PT. TIKA LAL TAPLOO
MEMORIAL COMMITTEE**



Kashmiri Samiti President C.L. Gadoo addressing the condolence meeting.

Rich tributes were paid to Shaheed Tika Lal Taploo on his 8th Martyrdom Day at a function held in Kashmir Bhawan on September 14, 1997. The meeting was organised by the Shaheed Pandit Tika Lal Taploo Memorial Committee and was attended by a large number of biradari members and others. Prominent among those who spoke on this occasion included Smt. Sarla Taploo, wife of the late Shri Tika Lal Taploo, Shri C.L. Gadoo, Shri J.N. Kaul, Shri D.N. Munshi, Shri H.N. Jattu, Shri T.N. Razdan and others.

Shaheed Tika Lal Taploo, then the Vice-President of the Jammu and Kashmir unit of the BJP, fell to the bullets of the assassins on this day in 1989.



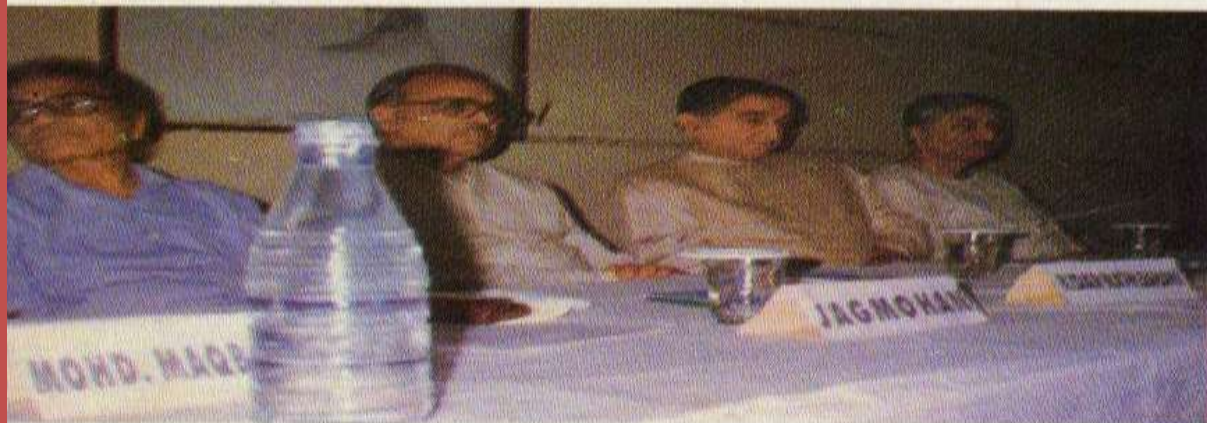
The audience observing 2-minute silence as a homage to the martyrs.

REPORTS KOSHUR SAMACHAR

SEMINAR ON RETURN OF KASHMIRI PANDITS

(Organised by Kashmiri Samiti Delhi)
Gandhi Peace, Foundation, New Delhi,

4 OCTOBER 1997



From (L to R) Shri Jagmohan, Shri Kedarnath Sahni, Shri J.N. Kaul, Shri C.L. Gadoo.



A section of the audience.



Shri C.L. Gadoo addressing the gathering.



A section of the audience Dr. Teng, Shri Kundan, Shri Jagan Kaul can be seen in the front row.

Kashmiris show no signs of returning

'It's time for Govt to ask Jagmohan to demand that we go home'

ANURADHA NAGARAJ
NEW DELHI, OCT 4

THE hall was full and at first it looked like everyone meant business. But as the symposium on 'Return of Kashmiri Pandits to the Valley' reached half-way, it was obvious that not everybody was there for the cause. Many of them just seemed to be on a socialising binge and gossiped in hushed tones, even as the excited speakers drew morbid pictures of the community's sufferings. The one bit that caught their attention was a plea to Priyanka Gandhi to help them out.

Organised by the Kashmiri Samiti of

Delhi, the symposium was a gathering of the displaced community after a long period of time. "We are meeting after a long time. The last time we took to the streets, the Gowda Government fell. This time maybe it's time for the Janata Dal to go," Veerji Khar, General Secretary of the Samiti said, amidst thunderous applause.

The audience liked this reassuring talk of people power. So they paid attention for the next 15 minutes. The last time Khar had managed to get their attention was when he announced that all those who had not parked their scooters in the right place should do so immediately. "Otherwise the police will tow them away," he added.

Conversation stopped midway and there was a scramble for the door. After 10 minutes, the troops marched back and settled down. The symposium was underway.

C.L. Gadoo, President of the Samiti, delivered the opening address. A minute into

his speech and he was stopped by a round of applause, marking the arrival of MP Jagmohan. Gadoo smiled and continued: "It is said that Kashmiri Hindus abandoned their homes on then Governor Jagmohan's call. Well, in that case maybe the Government should ask him to give a similar call for us to return."

He and all the following speakers came down heavily on the Gujral doctrine, blaming him for the recent Kargil killings. "We have to have a clear policy on where we place Kashmir. And then, the State has to assert power to keep the situation under control," Jagmohan said.

That wasn't well received, but before anybody reacted to that, the next speaker was on the podium. "Doesn't he look like Gujral," was the first audience reaction. But when the vice-president of the Kashmiri Pandit Forum in the US, Jagan Kaul, started speaking, everyone's attention fluctuated between his accent and his

"I have come to India after mourn the premature death of my father," he said, adding, "I have accepted the logic given by Indians for this situation and the Government should follow." He also enlightened them about how he had personally written to the Clinton administration of the US to solve the problem, adding that the US should not be a witness to the massacre of minorities. Some of the audience members were watching at him, he acknowledged. "I would like to see progress that we have given them. It would like to see the return of leaders. What have the BJP done? What has the BJP done? It's time for the BJP to show power and I hope they keep this power. Everyone is saying there was a lot of discussion about the BJP coming to power. I found questions raised by Kaul about the BJP coming to

STATES MAN 5-10-1997

J&K migrants seek special status for Hindus

NEW DELHI, Oct. 4. — Kashmiri migrants today said they would not go back to the Valley unless the government guaranteed them social, economic, political and religious freedom in the state, reports PTI.

"The government cannot force us to go back to Kashmir to face another massacre. We will not allow it to happen," Mr C.L. Gadoo, president of the Kashmiri Samiti, said.

The situation in the Valley was not at all conducive for the return of Kashmiri Pandits to their homes, he told a symposium "Return of Kashmiri Pandits to Valley" here.

"Of course we want to return, but to a life of security and a life of freedom," Mr Gadoo said. Any doubts regarding the return of

Hindus should be dispelled, he added.

Former Governor of the state, Mr Jagmohan, asked the government to make its stand clear on the state.

"Giving a special status to Jammu and Kashmir started this problem and the government is now talking about autonomy," he said.

Mr Jagmohan, who is also a Lok Sabha MP, said conditions were not conducive for return of the migrants to the Valley at this time.

Among others who spoke on the occasion were BJP leader, Mr K N Sahani, and president of the All India Kashmiri Samaj, Mr J N Kaul.

Kashmiri migrants facing hardships

NEW DELHI, Dec 3:

An organisation of Kashmiri migrants, Kashmiri Samiti, today urged the Centre and Jammu and Kashmir Government to pay immediate attention towards hardships faced by the community currently in its ninth year of exile.

Several migrants living in camps and elsewhere have reached a point of starvation as there is hardly anything to bank on, CL. Gadoo, president of the Samiti said adding the migrants were being paid only Rs 350 per person, less than a C Class prisoner. He urged government to enhance the aid at least upto Rs 1000 per person.

He alleged that despite restoration of elected government in the state, Kashmiri migrants were still facing a step motherly treatment.

He also asked the State Government to provide suitable accommodation to migrants in Jammu and Delhi, reservation in government jobs (Contd. on page 11 col 4)

Kashmiri migrants..

(From page 1)

and age relaxation upto 10 years.

Mr Gadoo said the Kashmir migrant employees should also be granted a general amnesty from income tax.

Expressing serious concern over the un-hygienic conditions of migrants living in camps, he said the State Government should take effective steps in this regard.

Demanding opening of fresh registration for migrants in Delhi or Jammu, he said a fresh batch of these have migrated after the escalation of violence in the valley. (PTI)

कश्मीरी विस्थापितों की 'घर वापसी' संभव नहीं : गड्डू

जे वी वी टाइम्स संवाद
नई दिल्ली, 3 दिसंबर। 'जम्मू-कश्मीर में प्रतिनिधि सरकार के गठन के बाद यह आशा की गई थी कि कश्मीर की स्थिति में सुधार होगा और कश्मीरी विस्थापित अपनी जन्मभूमि का वापस लौट सकेंगे, लेकिन ऐसा नहीं हो सका। जिन क्षेत्रों में आतंकवाद नहीं था वहां भी स्थितियां विस्फोटक हो गईं। ऐसी परिस्थितियों में नहीं लगता कि निकट भविष्य में कश्मीरी विस्थापितों की 'घर वापसी' संभव हो सकेगी।' ये कहना है कश्मीरी समिति दिल्ली के अध्यक्ष चमनलाल गड्डू का। आज यहां जे वी वी टाइम्स के साथ विशेष भेंट में उन्होंने कहा कि आज आतंकवाद कश्मीर तक ही सीमित नहीं है, बल्कि जम्मू क्षेत्र में भी फैल चुका है। आश्चर्य की बात तो यह है कि प्रदेश में एकात्मक सरकार के गठन के बाद आतंकवादियों ने राजौरी और पुलवामा को भी अपना निशाना बनाया है। ऐसी परिस्थितियों में कश्मीरी विस्थापितों की 'घर वापसी' कैसे संभव हो पाएगी, जबकि आज भी वहां आतंकवाद चरम पर है, गांधियों की 'निंदनाहट' बर्बाद नहीं है।

श्री गड्डू ने कहा कि कश्मीरी विस्थापितों की निश्चिन्ता में आठ वर्ष पूरे हो गए हैं और तीनों वर्ष जा रहा है। इन तीनों वर्षों में उन्हें काफी दिक्कतों का सामना करना पड़ा है। इस समुदाय

के तीन लाख लोगों में 35 प्रतिशत परिवार ऐसे हैं, जो जम्मू और दिल्ली में फटेहाल शिविरों में रह रहे हैं।

जो किराए के कमरों में रहते हैं, वे भी कई लोगों को शिकार हो गए हैं। इन्हीं परेशानियों के चलते कश्मीरी पंडित समुदाय में जन्मदर घट गई है और मृत्युदर में बढ़ोतरी हुई है। कोई भी विकल्पाकीय सुविधा विस्थापितों को नहीं दी जा रही है। उन्होंने कहा कि विस्थापितों को प्रति व्यक्ति 350 रुपये प्रति माह सहन राशि दी जा रही है, जो पर्याप्त नहीं है। कश्मीरी समिति दिल्ली के अध्यक्ष ने बंडे और प्रदेश सरकार ने प्रांगि भी है कि जब तक कश्मीर की स्थिति में गुणात्मक सुधार नहीं होता तब तक कश्मीर विस्थापितों को जम्मू और दिल्ली में उचित आवासीय सुविधा, या जाए, प्रति व्यक्ति की सहन राशि एक हजार दो, विस्थापित युवकों की आयु सीमा में 10 वर्ष की छूट देकर प्रदेश और केंद्रीय विभागों में उनके लिए पद आरक्षित हों, कश्मीर में लपटाई गई उनकी सत्य और अथल संपत्ति का उनको पुआवजा मिले। उन्होंने कहा कि कश्मीर में सधामपुरा और गुल गुलाबगढ़ (जम्मू) में एक विशेष समुदाय के लोगों की हत्या के बाद बहुत से ऊरे, यहमें भागे लोगों का परीक्षण दिल्ली और जम्मू में हो।

कश्मीर वापसी की शर्तें तय की जाएंगी : गड्डू

जे वी वी टाइम्स संवाद
नई दिल्ली, 25 दिसंबर। 'कश्मीरी विस्थापितों की घर वापसी कैसे संभव हो पाएगी और कश्मीरी विस्थापित किन शर्तों के आधार पर लौटना चाहेंगे। इसके लिए शीघ्र ही एक रणनीति तय कर दी जाएगी। कश्मीरी विस्थापित पूरे सम्मान और सुरक्षा के साथ घाटी लौटें, इस हेतु समिति एक एक्शन प्लान तैयार करेगी।'

ये कहना है कश्मीरी समिति दिल्ली के अध्यक्ष चमन लाल गड्डू का। आज यहां समिति कार्यालय में आयोजित 'समर्पण दिवस' पर वे बोल रहे थे। श्री गड्डू ने कहा कि हम अब नई सरकार बनने की प्रतीक्षा कर रहे हैं। 12वां लोकसभा के गठन के बाद जो नई सरकार केंद्र में बनेगी, इसके सामने हम अपना एक्शन प्लान रखेंगे। उन्होंने कहा कि कश्मीरी पंडितों का देश की राजनीति में क्या अस्तित्व है इसको भी उजागर करने का प्रयास किया जाएगा।

समिति के अध्यक्ष ने कहा कि वह शीघ्र ही इस बार में एक सम्मेलन आयोजित करेंगे, जिसमें आगामी कार्यक्रम तय किए जाएंगे।

'समर्पण दिवस' के अवसर पर कश्मीरी

पंडित समुदाय के गणमान्य व्यक्ति भी शामिल हुए, जिन्होंने अपने विचार रखे। इस विशेष बैठक में अखिल भारतीय कश्मीर समाज के पूर्व अध्यक्ष द्वारिका नाथ मुंशी, हिंदी साहित्यकार प्रो. चमन लाल गुप्ता, जम्मू-कश्मीर संगम के अध्यक्ष अवतार कृष्ण काव, आल स्टेट कश्मीरी पंडित कांफ्रेंस के नेता एवं अधिवक्ता हर्जी लाल जद भी उपस्थित थे। विशेष बैठक का आयोजन कश्मीरी विस्थापितों की घर वापसी और आगामी कार्यक्रम तय करने के लिए किया गया था।

जे वी वी टाइम्स
26-12-1997

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 3, 1997

Justice M.N. Venkatchaliah
Chairman
National Human Rights Commission
Saddar Patel Bhawan Parliament St.
New Delhi, India
fax: 11 334 0016

Dear Chairman Venkatchaliah:

We are writing to express our concern regarding the plight of the Kashmiri Pandits.

As you are aware, Kashmiri Pandits were forced to leave the Kashmir Valley due to actions committed by terrorists who were armed and trained by the enemies of India. Since 1991, the Pandit community has lived in refugee camps scattered throughout Jammu and New Delhi. Many of these ill-equipped camps lack the proper educational and job training facilities that would enable them to live decent and productive lives. Unfortunately, the tremendous suffering and the inability to return home has instead led to the deterioration of their community.

Kashmiri Pandits are citizens of India and are afforded the same constitutional protection that all Indian citizens enjoy. However, members of the Pandit community residing in the United States have expressed their concern regarding the lack of attention to the problems of the Kashmiri Pandits in India.

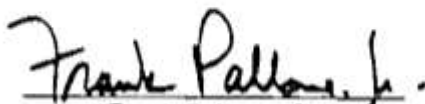
We firmly believe that the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) can play an instrumental role in resolving this issue. It is our understanding that there are several cases filed by Kashmiri Pandits pending before the NHRC. We would like the NHRC to consider the following options:


- Declare the Pandit community an "Internally Displaced People" (IDP). IDP status would require the government to undertake extensive humanitarian assistance programs consistent with the IDP charter.
- Advise and assist the Government of India in creating conditions in the Kashmir Valley that are conducive to the return of the Pandits.

- page 2 -

We thank you for addressing this important issue. We understand that this is a complex problem and cannot be easily resolved. Nonetheless, we hope that the NHRC will adequately address the Pandits' concerns and grievances in a timely fashion. In so doing, the NHRC will help preserve this community and prevent Kashmiri Pandits from becoming the "forgotten" people of India.

Sincerely,


Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress


Sherrod Brown
Member of Congress

CHAPTER IX
UNTOLD STORY OF KASHMIRI PANDITS
KOSHUR SAMACHAR REPORTS

KPs Recall the Night of Terror

—A Report—

KASHMIRI Samiti Delhi organised a function in New Delhi on January 20, 1998 to observe the Holocaust Day, an annual feature, to recapitulate all that happened during the night of January 19 and 20, eight years ago, when calls were issued at dead of night by fundamentalist Muslims over loudspeakers from inside the mosques and through posters, asking Kashmiri Pandits to leave the Valley or face annihilation. Despite the bone-chilling cold weather, over 500 Kashmiri Pandit men, women and children from all parts of the city were present in the Speaker's Hall of the Constitution Club to hear from the KSD President, Shri C.L. Gadoo, a graphic but heart-rending account of the tribulations faced by the Kashmiri Pandit community, now in forced exile for the last eight years, after they had to flee from the Valley in panic leaving behind all their worldly possessions, only to save their lives and the honour of their womenfolk. Their only fault was that they were the loyal citizens of their motherland and had upheld the honour and dignity of the Indian tricolor against heavy odds.

KSD had invited prominent political leaders who at one time or the other, whether in the Government or outside, had been associated with the turmoil that overtook the Valley in the early nineties and even before. However, only Shri Rajesh Pilot, Congress leader and former Union Minister of Internal Security and Shri Kidar Nath Sahani, Delhi BJP President attended. Shri Jagmohan (BJP), Shri George Fernandes (Samta Party), Shri Sompal (BJP) and Shri Sharad Yadav (Janata Dal), who were also billed to address the meeting, could not attend obviously because of being too occupied with their election-related problems.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Rajesh Pilot said that having been closely involved in Kashmir affairs when he was a Minister, he was very much aware of the hardships suffered by the Kashmiri Pandit

community after they had to leave their homes and hearths. He was conscious of the fact that what should have been done for this hapless community when they were in power, was not done. He disclosed that he had time and again warned Dr. Farooq Abdullah that the only acid test of normalcy having returned to the Kashmir Valley was the safe and honourable return of the Kashmiri Pandits to the Valley. Otherwise, all claims of normalcy would appear to be hollow.

Shri Pilot suggested that soon after the elections, a Committee cutting across party lines should be formed to dispassionately discuss the problems of Kashmiri Pandits and find effective ways and means to facilitate the return of the migrants and their rehabilitation and ensure adequate compensation for the losses suffered by them. He offered to become a member of such a Committee.

Shri Kidar Nath Sahani congratulated the KSD for observing the Holocaust Day every year because it helps in keeping alive the memories of that dreadful night and the wounds that were inflicted on a patriotic community by the fundamentalist elements in Kashmir in such a brazen manner. It was important that these wounds are allowed to remain fresh insofar as they help us in reflecting on the blunders committed by the powers that be with regard to the humanitarian problems of the displaced community, lakhs of whom are suffering as refugees in their own country, he said.

Despite repeated warnings, the Central Government had failed to take timely action in checking the anti-Indian elements in the Valley from spreading their tentacles in the State. Instead of strengthening the pro-Indian elements in the Valley and bringing them into national mainstream, the successive governments nursed the illusion that by providing them with subsidized rice, they could win

over their loyalties, Shri Sahani added. According to him, what happened in 1986 in Anantnag district was a trailer of what was to follow in the early nineties and the State Government always misguided the Centre about the real situation. Shri Sahani exhorted the Kashmiri Pandits to remain united in their current struggle and to steel their resolve that one day they shall go back to their homes in the Valley with honour and dignity.

Captain Shiban Tikkoo, founder member of the Jammu Kashmir Awami League, headed by Shri Kuka Parrey, MLA, also spoke on the occasion. Shri Tikkoo pertinently observed that all along these 50 years, the Central Government had committed repeated blunders in handling the Kashmir affairs, and added that there was no compulsion at any stage in granting the State a special status when Maharaja Hari Singh had signed the Instrument of Accession. But the notion of plebiscite was all along dinned into the psyche of the Kashmiri people when initially no one had ever thought of it or asked for it. The pro-Indian elements, whether Muslims or Kashmiri Pandits, never got any support or encouragement from the Centre. On the other hand, the State Government encouraged the secessionist elements, provided arms to them and facilitated the frequent escapades of prominent fundamentalist leaders to cross the borders and then come back after receiving training in terrorist activities. The State Governments of all hues kept the Centre in the dark all along giving the latter an impression that all was well in the State, so that they could enjoy perpetual power and get all the benefits from the Centre.

Shri Gadoo, in his speech, called upon the present and emerging political leadership in the country not to close their eyes to the lurking dangers to the security and integrity of the country and make an honest appraisal of the situation in the Jammu & Kashmir State. He said *inter alia* :

Let us be forthright. Today country is passing through a very grave situation. Forces of disintegration aided and abetted by Islamicists the world over are working overtime to wreak havoc in our country. Some international groups masquerading as 'Peace and conflict resolution' activists are also lending their support overtly and covertly to

secessionists. The political leadership in our country has to come to grips with this reality. They have to stand up boldly to machinations of Pan-Islamicists. Unfortunately the policy pursued by the power groups in the Central Govt. ever since the dawn of Independence has been erratic and an unmitigated failure. The policies have promoted nothing but that which it was sought to combat. The people of this great country are getting conscious of the dangers ahead. They want complete reversal of prevailing ad hoc approach and policies of the Central set-up. And, our community having been the worst victim and sufferer of the weak kneed, appeasing and spineless policies of the Central Govt. and State government want a commitment from the political leadership, a commitment that will promote unity and integrity of our Nation. A commitment that will ensure our cultural ethos and protect our thousands of year old civilisation. This community wants a future central set-up which can deliver basic human rights and a civil society to all Indians irrespective of caste, creed, colour, minority or majority. We demand a government which can assure law and order, dignity of individual, safety of life and property and an honest administration. Is it too much to ask from political leadership?

Last, but not the least, we expect from political leadership of India an honest appraisal of the situation in the Jammu and Kashmir State.

Shri Gadoo placed the following minimum demands of the displaced Kashmiri Pandit community before the political leadership for immediate implementation of normalcy is to be restored :—

- a) A high level judicial enquiry into the causes of Kashmir minority displacement from the Valley, the role of political leaders, bureaucracy and other interest groups in Kashmir turmoil;
- b) An educational and economic package for the community in diaspora;
- c) Immediate adequate compensation for the properties burnt, arsoned, damaged and compensation for those who were forced to go in for distress sales;
- d) The trading class in diaspora must be compensated, aided and assisted in every way by providing suitable sites, necessary finance etc., to establish themselves anew;
- e) To restore our religious shrines and cultural symbol—restoring the ancient cultural names of the villages which has been changed during last five decades;
- f) Establishment of law and order in Kashmir and a conducive environment for the return of the displaced in dignity and honour.

—A.N. Kaul

KOSHUR SAMACHAR REPORTS

THE HOLOCAUST DAY
January 20, 1998



Shri Rajesh Pilot addressing the gathering



Shri Kidar Nath Sahni speaking at the seminar



A view of the audience and participants in the seminar

THE STATESMAN REPORTS

DELHI, WEDNESDAY, 21 JANUARY 1998



OLD FRIENDSHIPS DIE HARD: The president of the Delhi unit of Bharatiya Janata Party, Mr Kedar Nath Sahani, with a beaming former Minister of State for Internal Affairs, Mr Rajesh Pilot, and an equally jovial chief of the Kashmiri Samiti, Mr C. L. Gadoo, in the Capital on Tuesday. — *The Statesman*

Call to ensure safe return of Kashmiri Pandits

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, Jan. 20. — The intractable issue of Kashmir cannot be fully solved unless all the Kashmiri Pandits in exile are able to return to their homes with dignity and honour.

This was the consensus at a seminar organised by the Kashmiri Samiti to mark nine years in exile, in the Capital today.

The former Minister of State for Internal Affairs, Mr Rajesh Pilot, praised the nationalistic spirit of the Pandits, who were able to keep the flag flying high in the face of severe odds.

"The first task of any government after the election is to ensure that those in exile are able to return to their homes safely in the Valley", he said. Mr Pilot suggested that after the elections, a non-political com-

THE ASIAN AGE REPORTS



NOSTALGIA! Congress leader Rajesh Pilot, BJP leader Kedar Nath Sahni (standing) and Delhi Kashmiri Smriti president C.L. Gadoo at a seminar titled "The Holocaust" on the nine-year-long exile of Kashmiri pandits from their home state in New Delhi on Tuesday. A photograph by G.N. Jha



Mr. Rajesh Pilot, Mr. C.L. Gadoo and Mr. Kidar Nath Sahani at a seminar organised by Kashmiri Samiti on the occasion of the ninth year of exile of Kashmiri Pandits in New Delhi on Tuesday.

Pilot admits failure to protect interests of Pandits

By Our Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, Jan. 20.

Mr. Rajesh Pilot, former Minister of State for Internal Security, today admitted that his party had failed to look after properly the interests of Kashmiri Pandits, who were forced to migrate from their State because of militancy.

Participating at a seminar 'The Holocaust', organised by the Kashmiri Samiti here today, Mr. Pilot confessed that not much could be done for the migrants due to the Government's inability to find ways to tackle the problem successfully.

Regretting that the State Government had done little for the migrants, forced to live in "inhuman conditions," he urged the State and the Centre to find ways and means so that these people could return to their "Valley of Flowers."

Referring to the sufferings of Kashmiri Pandits, Mr. Pilot said it was shameful for a country to see their brethren live in unhygienic camps, not only in Delhi but in other parts of the country.

Captain Tikkoo, an associate of Kukka Parrey — a renegade militant-turned politician — condemned the policy followed by the respective Central Governments which failed to counter the machinations of Pan-Islamic organisations. "Forces of disintegration — aided and abetted by Islamic ideologues the world over, are working

overtime to wrought havoc in the country," he said.

Criticising the leadership at the Centre, he lamented that even nine years of turbulence in Kashmir Valley had failed to teach them a lesson. "Nowhere at the Government level, was visible to any resolve wipe out the secessionists and terrorists," he added.

Commenting on the migration of Pandits, Mr. Tikko remarked sarcastically, "I can only stay in your neighbourhood as long as you want me too," implying that if the state remained a mute spectator to all the incidents and with no security worth mentioning, the Pandits were left with no other option but to leave.

Mr. Kidar Nath Sahani, president of the BJP's Delhi unit, stressed the need for highlighting policies that "promote unity and integrity" of the Nation. Future governments should ensure basic human rights and a just society, which worked for the good of the people irrespective of caste, creed or colour.

Earlier, Mr. C.L. Gadoo, president of Kashmiri Samiti, demanded a high-level judicial inquiry into the causes of the minority displacement, the role of political leaders, bureaucracy and other interest groups in the Kashmir turmoil, besides an educational and economic package for the community in distress and compensation for the properties burgled and damaged.

WANDHAMA MASSACRE

The massacre of twenty-three Kashmiri Hindus in their homes at Wandhama village near Ganderbal, on the night of January 25, 1998, the eve of Republic Day and the night of Shab-e-Qadr, the holiest night of the month of Ramzan, severely set back the state's plans for rehabilitation during this period. Kashmiri Hindu migrant organizations in Delhi responded vehemently, launching public protests against the state government. These organizations called on the Central Government to dismiss Farooq Abdullah's administration in Jammu and Kashmir and reconsider the rehabilitation schemes. Members of the community widely discussed the Wandhama massacre, which received extensive coverage in the national media and also in community publications. The Kashmiri Samiti Delhi devoted an entire issue of *Koshur Samachar* to the massacre, featuring editorial articles as well as photographs from the scene of violence. The Wandhama massacre, even more so than the previous attacks, convinced community members that the newly elected state government had not implemented the necessary conditions for the safe and honorable return of the migrants to their homes. (*International Journal of Hindu Studies* by Haley Duschinski, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Ohio University, Athens)

THE MASSACRE OF 23 PANDITS

The felons came with the fox's smile. The trusting but targeted sleepy innocents served them Kashmiri customary tea. In a minute the young and old were razed to dust and ash.



Not even the little ones were spared. Two sucklings butchered at point blank range.

**THE HINDUSTAN TIMES REPORTS
DEMONSTRATION OF KASHMIRI HINDUS AT JANTAR MANTAR
AGAINST WANDHAMA MASSACRE OF 23 HINDUS IN KASHMIR**

THE HINDUSTAN

Vol LXXIV No. 28

Late City

New Delhi Wednesday January 28 1998



Rally by Kashmiri Pandits

NEW DELHI, Jan. 27 (HTC)
Agitated over the brutal killings of 23 Kashmiri Pandits in Kashmir, the members of the community held a demonstration here today, demanding dismissal of J&K Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah.

The protestors raised slogans against the Centre and Dr Abdullah, and burnt latter's effigy. They staged a *dharna* and blocked traffic on Parliament Street. The community members, including a number of women, carried placards condemning the Pakistan Government for their continuous interference in Kashmir.

Later, the police resorted to mild lathicharge to stop the protestors from moving towards Parliament Street. At least eight policemen and a dozen protestors were injured as a result of the stone-pelting and lathicharge.

Addressing them, former Governor Jagmohan said that the massacre of innocent persons had once again proved that neither the Centre nor the State government had any control over the situation.

Mr C. L. Gadoo, president Kashmir Samiti, who led the demonstration, said that the community had been facing such onslaughts for the last nine years.

Other community leaders, including Dr Agnishekher, Dr Shakti Bhan of Panun Kashmir and Mr H. L. Jattu, also took part in the demonstration.

Jantar Mantar on Tuesday against the Sunday's killings in Wandhama village in Jammu and Kashmir. — HT photo by S. Burmaula (Report on page 5)

सहारा

राष्ट्रीयता • कर्तव्य • समर्पण नवी दिल्ली,



शहीदों के शवों को सड़क पर रखकर प्रदर्शन करने वाले कश्मीरी पंडितों के पूर्व सांसद सुनील दत्त (नीचे)।



त्या के विरोध में कश्मीरी पंडितों ने मंगलवार को संसद मार्ग पर प्रदर्शन किया। पुलिस कार्रवाई (र) और प्रदर्शनकारियों के प्रति समर्थन जताने पहुंचे सुनील दत्त (नीचे)।



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JAMMU, TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1998 Rs. 2.00

4 kids, 9 women also slain

23 Kashmiri Pandits massacred

Worst ever carnage of eight-year militancy

Fresh wave of scare in CM's constituency

From Ahmed Ali Fayaz

SRINAGAR, Jan 26: In the worst ever carnage of 8-year-long militancy in Kashmir valley, unidentified terrorists—widely believed to be foreign mercenaries—have massacred as many as 23 members of Kashmiri Pandit community, including four young children and nine women, during the auspicious *Shab-e-Qadr* in the Chief Minister's constituency of Ganderbal.

The incident has evoked widespread condemnation throughout the State, particularly the Valley, and at the same time betrayed total security failure and abject complacency of the security forces in the heart of central Kashmir.

According to the statements of the shaken and dumbfounded inhabitants of Wandhama, 8 km from Ganderbal town, some women of the village came screaming from the mosque at 11.30 PM during the last night and revealed that the residential house of a Pandit Kashi

Nath as well as the temple were up in flames after roars of automatic gunfire.

All the 500-odd members of the majority Muslim community, who were busy in the nightlong prayers of *Shab-e-Qadr* at the village mosque, came out and rushed towards the inferno for rescue. As some described it as a "routine encounter" between militants and security forces at the nearby Army camp of Kurhama, there was a loud blast which intensified the blaze. Within minutes, the villagers learnt that the entire Pandit community had been wiped out selectively.

Six members of a family, including at least three young children, were even roasted inside their house which seemed to have been set on fire while fleeing from the spot. The adjacent place of worship was also ablaze.

Some of the residents claimed that they rushed to the 17-Bihar camp at Kurhama, 3 km from Wandhama, after midnight and apprised the Army of everything. They said that the officers showed little concern saying that they would go to the village next morning. They said that the complainants spent the night at Kurhama and returned to

their village early this morning.

15-year-old Vinod Kumar Dhar alias Ashoo—a class 10 student of Government High School Lar—who is the only survivor among the wiped out minority community at Wandhama and has lost his parents, two sisters, brother and maternal uncle, told the visiting officials and some mediapersons that a well-armed group of 15 to 20 men in "Army uniform" descended on the village at 9.30 p.m. and distributed themselves in three to smaller groups. He said that the gunmen of similar features had been frequently coming to a medical practitioner Moti Lal Pandita for dressing and diagnosis. All of them, the boy claimed, spoke in Urdu. He said that they demanded tea which they sipped leisurely and after two hours they disappeared asking the inmates not to make any movement out of their home.

Vinod Kumar said that at about midnight, innumerable roars of automatic gunfire and rushed to the fourth storey of his house where he hid under straw. Hours after he came down only to find all of his family members and neighbours mowed down in pools

of blood. Six members of one family, including three young children, had been roasted in fire that devastated their house as also the adjacent temple. Vinod said that after the gunmen set ablaze the two structures, they

raised some slogans.

The slain Pandits include a 5-member family of a police wireless operator Shadi Lal of Shopian who had recently been transferred to Ganderbal area. Shadi Lal, who was staying in

List of victims

1. Sh. Moti Lal S/o Srikanth.
2. Smt. Chhoti W/o Moti Lal.
3. Sanjay Kumar S/o Moti Lal.
4. Seema Kumari D/o Moti Lal.
5. Sarika D/o Moti Lal (Lady Police Constable).
6. Vijay Kumari W/o Sanjay Kumar (S.No. 8)
7. Venan Kumar (minor) S/o Sanjay Kumar.
8. Neemu (minor) S/o Sanjay Kumar.
9. Kashi Nath S/o Shiv Dhar Bhat.
10. Vinod Kumar S/o Kashi Nath.
11. Shadi Lal, Wireless Operator.
12. Mrs. Shadi Lal.
13. Vikas (minor) S/o Shadi Lal.
14. Akshay Kumar S/o Shadi Lal.
15. Badri Nath S/o Shamboo Nath.
16. Ashaji W/o Badrinath.
17. Vinod Kumar alias Papu Son-in-law of Badri Nath.
18. Jyoti D/o Badri Nath.
19. Meenakshi D/o Badri Nath.
20. Rakesh son of Badri Nath.
21. Vishnoo Bhat S/o Tara Chand.
22. Dulari wife of Vishnoo Bhat.
23. Triloki Nath son of Tara Chand.

A Delegation Led BY C.L.GADOO Met President Sh. K.R.NARAYANAN



JVG TIMES JANUARY 29, 1998 REPORTS

आप के दुख में हम भी कम दुखी नहीं



नई दिल्ली में कश्मीरी पीपुल्स के प्रतिनिधिमंडल से ज्ञापन लेते राष्ट्रपति के.आर. नारायणन : फोटो

दैनिक जागरण

नई दिल्ली, बुधवार 28 जनवरी 1998

सं. 21042/97

गंदरबल नरसंहार के विरोध में राजधानी में कश्मीरियों ने जुलूस निकाला

प्रदर्शनकारियों व पुलिस में संघर्ष, डेढ़ दर्जन घायल

जागरण संवाददाता

नई दिल्ली, 27 जनवरी। कश्मीरी समिति व पंजुन कश्मीर के कार्यकर्ताओं और पुलिस के बीच आज दोपहर हुए संघर्ष में लगभग डेढ़ दर्जन लोग घायल हो गए। इनमें आठ पुलिसकर्मी भी शामिल हैं। संघर्ष की नीबत उस वक्त आई जब ये कार्यकर्ता श्रीनगर के निकट 23 कश्मीरी पंडितों की हत्या के विरोध में संसद मार्ग पर प्रदर्शन कर राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग की ओर जबरन कूच करना चाहते थे।

उत्तेजित कार्यकर्ताओं ने संसद मार्ग धाने के सामने पुलिस द्वारा खड़े किए गए तीन अवरोधक तोड़ डाले और जबरन राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग की ओर बढ़ने का प्रयास किया। पुलिस ने उन्हें रोकने की कोशिश की तो कार्यकर्ताओं ने पुलिस पर पथराव किया। पुलिस ने जवाब में लाठीचार्ज किया, आंसू गैस के गोले व बौछारें छोड़ीं। देखते-देखते कार्यकर्ताओं में भगदड़ मच गई और जान बचाने के लिए इधर-उधर छिप गए। पुलिस एक दर्जन उपद्रवी कार्यकर्ताओं को

पकड़कर धाने ले गई।

पुलिस उपायुक्त टी. एन. मोहन ने लाठीचार्ज से इनकार करते हुए बताया कि प्रदर्शनकारियों के पथराव से आठ पुलिसकर्मी घायल हुए हैं। इनमें से एक के चेहरे पर गंभीर चोट आई है। उधर कश्मीर समिति के अध्यक्ष सी. एल. गुड्डू ने बताया कि पुलिस द्वारा लाठीचार्ज करने तथा पानी की तेज बौछारें छोड़ने के कारण एक दर्जन से भी

प्रदर्शनकारियों का नेतृत्व समिति के अध्यक्ष सी. एल. गुड्डू व पंजुन कश्मीर के संयोजक डा. अग्निशेखर कर रहे थे। कार्यकर्ताओं ने जंतर-मंतर पर प्रदर्शन किया व धरना दिया।

जंतर-मंतर पर धरना देने वालों को जम्मू-कश्मीर के पूर्व राज्यपाल एवं नई दिल्ली संसदीय क्षेत्र से भारतीय जनता पार्टी के प्रत्याशी जगमोहन व दक्षिणी दिल्ली संसदीय क्षेत्र से इसी दल की

- उग्र कार्यकर्ताओं ने अवरोधक तोड़े, पुलिस पर पथराव किया
- पुलिस ने लाठियां भांजीं, आंसू गैस व पानी की बौछारें छोड़ीं

अधिक कार्यकर्ता घायल हुए हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि पुलिस ने शांतिपूर्ण प्रदर्शन कर रहे कार्यकर्ताओं पर अकारण ही लाठीचार्ज किया।

श्रीनगर के गंदरबल में आतंकवादियों द्वारा 23 कश्मीरी पंडितों की नृशंस हत्या के विरोध व फारूक अब्दुल्ला सरकार की बर्खास्तगी की मांग को लेकर कश्मीरी समिति व पंजुन कश्मीर के कार्यकर्ता प्रातः जंतर-मंतर पर एकत्र हुए।

उम्मीदवार श्रीमती सुपमा स्वराज ने संबोधित किया।

श्रीमती स्वराज ने कहा कि जम्मू-कश्मीर में मासूम बच्चों, महिला व पुरुषों की कल हुई निर्धम हत्या के बारे में सोचकर उनका हृदय अथाह वेदना, पीड़ा व आक्रोश से भर गया है। केंद्र में कांग्रेस का पिछले चार दशक का कुशासन ही आतंकवाद के श्रेष्ठ पृष्ठ 15 पर

प्रदर्शनकारियों व पुलिस में...

पृष्ठ एक का शेष

बीज बोने के लिए जिम्मेदार है। उन्होंने कहा कि यह घटना इस बात का जीता-जागता प्रमाण है कि अक्षम सरकार के हाथों में देश कितना कमजोर हो सकता है।

उन्होंने कहा कि भाजपा कश्मीरी हिंदुओं के कष्ट से भावनात्मक रूप से जुड़ी है। केंद्र में भाजपा सरकार बनने पर कश्मीर की उच्च प्राथमिकता दी जाएगी और आतंकवाद से कड़ाई से निपटा जाएगा।

सी. एल. गुड्डू ने कहा कि मुख्यमंत्री फारूक अब्दुल्ला को देश व खासकर कश्मीरी पंडितों को बताना चाहिए कि उनके निर्वाचन क्षेत्र में यह जघन्य हत्याकांड की उच्च न्यायालय के न्यायाधीश अथवा सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के सेवानिवृत्त न्यायाधीश से जांच कराने की मांग की। उन्होंने कहा कि राज्य सरकार को संग्रामपुरा हत्याकांड के बाद ही कश्मीरी पंडितों की सुरक्षा के लिए आवश्यक कदम उठाने चाहिए थे।

डा. अग्निशेखर ने इस हत्याकांड के लिए फारूक सरकार को जिम्मेदार ठहराते हुए कश्मीरी पंडितों के मामले में सभी राजनैतिक दलों के रवैये की कड़ी आलोचना की।

उन्होंने राष्ट्रपति से राज्य सरकार को तुरंत

बर्खास्त करने का आग्रह किया।

इसके बाद प्रदर्शनकारियों ने राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग की ओर कूच किया। संसद मार्ग पुलिस ने धाने के सामने अवरोधक खड़े कर उन्हें रोकने का प्रयास किया।

उत्तेजित प्रदर्शनकारियों ने एक-एक करके तीनों अवरोधक तोड़ डाले। सभी प्रदर्शनकारियों की भीड़ में से कुछ लोगों ने पुलिस पर पथराव किया। जवाब में पुलिस ने लाठी प्रहार किया व पानी की तेज बौछारें छोड़ीं।

पुलिस के साथ संघर्ष में राजेंद्र पंडित, विजय कौल, अतार टिक्कू व अजय भारती समेत अनेक लोगों को चोटें आई हैं।

विजय कौल व अतार सिंह सहित 10 व्यक्तियों को अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान में भर्ती कराया गया है।

प्रदर्शनकारियों में शामिल दिल्ली सरकार के अधिवक्ता राजेंद्र पंडित ने पुलिस पर बर्बरतापूर्ण रवैया अपनाने का आरोप लगाया है। बाद में कुछ लोग राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग के कार्यालय में घुस गए और वहां पूर्ण खंडपीठ के सामने अपनी याचिका प्रस्तुत की।

उधर प्रदर्शन के दौरान कुछ शरारती युवकों ने राष्ट्रीय ध्वज को जलाने का प्रयास किया।

Keep Fresh Milk Handy



THE TIMES

New Delhi, Thursday, January 29, 1998 • Capital Edition

Bennett, Coleman & Co.

NEWS DIGEST

NHRC team to probe R-Day killings in J&K

NEW DELHI: The National Human Rights Commission on Wednesday decided to conduct an on the spot investigation into the massacre of 23 Kashmiri pandits by militants on the intervening night of January 25-26 at Wandhama village in Srinagar district.

After hearing the views of various organisations representing Kashmiri people, the three member bench of the commission headed by its chairperson Justice M N Venkatachaliah asked its director general (investigation) to proceed to the spot and submit a report immediately.



Kashmiri Pandits with President K. R. Narayanan and home minister Indrajit Gupta at Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi on Wednesday when they called on them to protest against the killings in the Valley

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES & PIONEER FEBRUARY 27, 1998 REPORTS

Pandits seek UT status for Valley

NEW DELHI, Feb. 27
Kashmiri Pandits stressed that they would return to Kashmir only if the Valley was reorganised into a centrally administered Union territory.

The Kashmiri Pandits, who left the Valley because of terrorism in the past 10 years, also demanded the immediate toning up of the administration and security measures to root out terrorism and bring back normalcy.

They raised the demands at a Press conference organised by the Kashmir Samiti, a representative organisation of displaced Kashmiris in Delhi.

They said militancy continued in the Valley and the only change was in the tactics and technology used by the militants.

As long as the situation did not normalise, the minorities particularly the Kashmiri Pandits, would not be able to return to their homes, said the Samiti president. (UNI)

Demand to reorganise Kashmir

THE KASHMIRI Samiti, Delhi has demanded that immediate action be taken by the government in the wake of the massacre of 23 Kashmiri Pandits in Wandhama. The Samiti president C L Gadoo, in a written statement, demanded immediate administrative and security measures to root out terrorism in the State in order to restore normalcy there. He stated that Kashmir province be immediately declared as Union Territory under Central administration and the process of "muslimisation" of the State is reversed. The demographic change, which has been brought about by the migration of Hindus from Kashmir during the last four decades and after 1990, be reversed and population ratio in the State be rationalised. The statement also said Hindus are willing to go to Kashmir with a proviso that it is reorganised into a Centrally administered Union Territory.



हत्या के विरोध में कश्मीरी पंडितों ने मंगलवार को संसद मार्ग पर प्रदर्शन किया। पुलिस कार्रवाई (र) और प्रदर्शनकारियों के प्रति समर्थन जताने पहुंचे सुनील दत्त (नीचे)।

दिल्ली में प्रदर्शनकारियों पर लाठी चार्ज, सात जखमी

सहारा समाचार

नयी दिल्ली, 27 जनवरी। कश्मीर पार्टी के गांदरवल गांव में आतंकवादियों द्वारा 23 निर्दोष कश्मीरी पंडितों की हत्या किये जाने के विरोध में विस्थापित कश्मीरियों ने प्रदर्शन किया। उत्तेजित प्रदर्शनकारी जब राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग को ज्ञापन देने जा रहे थे तब पुलिस ने प्रदर्शनकारियों पर पानी की तेज बौछार डालने के अलावा लाठीचार्ज किया और अशु गैस के गोले छोड़े। पुलिस की इस कार्रवाई से सात प्रदर्शनकारी घायल हो गये। प्रदर्शनकारी जम्मू-कश्मीर के मुख्यमंत्री फारुक अब्दुल्ला के खिलाफ नरिबाजी कर फारुक सरकार की बर्खास्तगी की मांग कर रहे थे।

कल गांदरवल में 23 कश्मीरी पंडितों की हत्या के विरोध में आज दोपहर करीब 12 बजे पनून कश्मीर और कश्मीरी समिति से जुड़े करीब 400-500 विस्थापित कश्मीरियों ने जंतर-मंतर चौक पर धरना दिया। धरने में महिलाएं भी शामिल थीं।

धरने पर बैठे कश्मीरी युवक शेख अब्दुल्ला के खिलाफ नरिबाजी कर रहे दो बुजुर्ग 'औरंगजेब से अब्दुल्ला तक हो रहा है कश्मीरी पंडितों का नरसंहार, क्या कर रही है भारत सरकार' लिखा बैनर फाड़ते थे। खबर पाकर कल के नरसंहार पर दुःख व्यक्त करने जंतर-मंतर चौक पहुंचे पूर्व संसद एवं अभिनेता सुनील दत्त को भी नहीं बोलने दिया गया। वहां उपस्थित कुछ लोग सुनील दत्त को सुनना चाहते थे, मगर अधिकांश इसके खिलाफ थे। इसलिए सुनील दत्त को बोलने नहीं दिया गया।

बाद में सभी प्रदर्शनकारी ज्ञापन देने पटेल चौक स्थित राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग गये। उत्तेजित युवक नारे लगाते रहे। पुलिस ने प्रदर्शनकारियों को रोकने की कोशिश की। किन्तु पुलिस के रोकने के बावजूद प्रदर्शनकारी पुलिस द्वारा की गयी बेरीकेटिंग को गिराकर आगे बढ़ने लगे। प्रदर्शनकारियों को रोकने के लिए पुलिस ने पहले चैतावनी दी फिर उन पर तेज पानी की बौछारें शुरू कर दी और फिर अशु गैस के गोले छोड़े और लाठीचार्ज किया। इस घटना में महिलाओं को भी चोट आयी। पुलिस का आरोप है कि उग्र प्रदर्शनकारी पुलिस पर पथराव कर रहे थे और जब वे काबू में नहीं आये तो उन्हें मजबूरन वाटर कैनिन और अशुगैस का सहारा लेना पड़ा। इसमें कुछ पुलिस वाले भी जखमी हुए।

इससे पूर्व प्रदर्शनकारियों को भाजपा नेता सुषमा स्वराज, जगमोहन तथा केदारनाथ साहनी ने संबोधित किया। इन नेताओं ने फारुक अब्दुल्ला

को बर्खास्त करने तथा राज्यपाल के.वी. कृष्णाराव को वापस बुलाने की मांग की।

सुषमा स्वराज ने कांग्रेस को आड़े हाथों लेते हुए कहा कि वह अयोध्या कांड पर तो माफी मांग रही है, किन्तु दुःख की बात है कि इस नृशंस हत्याकांड पर कांग्रेस एक भी शब्द नहीं बोली। उन्होंने कहा कि भाजपा आश्वस्त करती है कि केन्द्र में भाजपा सरकार के आने पर कश्मीर उनकी उच्च प्राथमिकता रहेगी और आतंकवाद से कड़ाई से निपटा जाएगा।

जम्मू कश्मीर के दो बार राज्यपाल रहे श्री जगमोहन ने कहा कि केन्द्र की गलत नीतियों के कारण कश्मीर में ऐसे दुःखद हादसे होते रहे हैं।

प्रदर्शनकारियों को कश्मीर समिति, दिल्ली के अध्यक्ष डी.एल. गड्डू तथा पनून कश्मीर के अध्यक्ष डा. अजीत शेखर ने भी संबोधित किया। पुलिस के वाटर कैनिन, अशुगैस तथा लाठीचार्ज के शिकार ये दोनों भी हुए। इनके अलावा घायलों में अजय कौल, संजय, राजू, सुरेन्द्र हैं। डा. अग्निशेखर को गंभीर चोट आयी है। इन सभी को आल इंडिया इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ मेडिकल साइंसेज में भर्ती कराया गया। बाद में एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग गया और वहां ज्ञापन दिया।



Panun Kashmiri Samiti activists carry away a wounded demonstrator in the Capital on Tuesday *Alwin Singh/Pioneer*

Kashmiri protestors lathicharged

Staff Reporter

New Delhi

HUNDREDS OF Kashmiri Pandits staged a demonstration at Jantar Mantar on Tuesday afternoon protesting against the massacre of 23 Pandits in Kashmir.

They were lathicharged when they tried to cross the barricade to go to the National Human Rights Commission.

The demonstrators had started gathering near Parliament Street Police station since Tuesday morning.

The demonstrators started gathering at Parliament Street around 12 in the noon. By 2 pm the demonstrators started marching towards

the barricade to cross over to the other side as they wanted to go to NHRC and meet the Prime Minister to submit their memorandum.

However, the police first persuaded them not to do so. Meanwhile, some of the demonstrators started pelting stones on the police. The police then used water cannon on them. Later, the police resorted to a mild lathi charge to scare them. However, the police denied there was a lathi charge.

Around 10 demonstrators received minor injuries. They were discharged after first aid. Agni Prakash, a demonstrator almost fainted because of the impact of the water cannon.

Later, a delegation submitted a memorandum to the President, the

Prime Minister and leader of the opposition, Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee, in which they demanded the immediate dismissal of the Kashmir Government.

According to the memorandum, the massacre in Gandherbal in Kashmir has underlined the intensity of the genocidal war against Hindus in Kashmir, a fact which political leadership refused to acknowledge.

The memorandum said the State Government cannot escape the responsibility for the present as well past massacres of Pandits in Sangrampura and Gool in Jammu Nad Kashmir. It also demonstrates the failure of the National Conference Government and National Government as well.

The memorandum said the entire issue of internally displaced persons and their return should be directly undertaken by the Centre. The community has no faith in the NC Government and its bureaucracy.

A high-level judicial probe may be instituted to look into all aspects of the State Government's handling of the return of the Pandits, the memorandum said.

The Pandits also demanded immediate evacuation of a few hundred Hindu families still stranded in Kashmir.

The demonstration was organised by Panun Kashmir, All India Kashmiri Samaj, Kashmiri Samiti and All India Displaced Kashmiri Pandits Conference.

Wondhama Tragedy

Special Number of KOSHUR SAMACHAR Released

THE Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, held a Press conference at the Press Club, New Delhi, on February 26, 1998, to acquaint the public, in general, and mediapersons, in particular, with the true picture of the continuous carnages in Jammu and Kashmir which have been reflected in the latest frightful mayhem of merciless murders in a village in Kashmir. The Special Number of *Koshur Samachar*, the trilingual official organ of the Kashmiri Pandit community, which featured the latest carnage, was also released to the Press on the occasion.

From the dais, sitting with Shri C.L. Gadoo, Sumer Kaul and A.N. Dar, former editors of national dailies and now noted columnists, and A.N. Kaul, Editor-in-Chief of the *Samachar*, with its Editorial Board, S.N. Bhat 'Haleem', T.N. Dhar 'Kundan', Prof. C.L. Sapru and D.P. Bhan, and the members of the Samiti's Executive Council around, Shri Gadoo touched upon the 5,000-year-old annals of Hindus in Kashmir and their wilful and systematic annihilation in the State. He said that the history of Kashmir after 1947 and especially after 1989 is full of instances of religious discrimination and the forced exile and ethnic cleansing of the minuscule minority of Kashmiri Pandits in the Valley.

He said that it was ominous that this third macabre incident occurred after the carnage at Sangrampora in Kashmir and Gool-Gulabgarh in Jammu, after the Farooq Government took the reins of the State in his both hands. And this carnage was committed in the Chief Minister's own constituency of Ganderbal.

Tears filled the eyes of the audience as they went through the pages of the *Samachar*. Though it is shameful that this gruesome and barbaric mayhem was committed in the month of holy Ramzan on the night of Shab-e-Qadar, was it a wilful tragic coincidence that all the Muslims of the village were praying in a mosque. And then not a dog barked or was killed in the indiscriminate volley of gunfire by the ISI-trained militants, they wondered.

Shri Gadoo said: "We had always considered the Muslims of Kashmir our brethren. But how can we think that any longer now? How can we have a dialogue with them when Islamic militants are raping our sisters and mothers and killing our relatives? Like at the time of Partition, the state has once again

witnessed such an upheaval".

"More than nine years ago, almost three lakh Kashmiri Pandits were forced to leave their home state. We were made refugees in our own country and have been trapped in the proxy war being waged by Pakistan and the Muslim fundamentalism in the Valley and ethnic cleansing that is taking place there. But no one has the guts to present the true picture of the persecution in Kashmir," he added.

He lamented the fact that the terrorists have become national heroes and their victims mere statistics in government files. No prominent militant has been punished for his crimes in the Valley. Maqbool Bhat, founder-member of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, was sentenced to death by Pt. Nilakanth Ganjoo, the then Session Judge. But the judge was gunned down soon after in a busy market in Srinagar.

"When the structure of the so-called Babri Masjid was demolished, there was an uproar in the country. The media splashed its photographs all over and the politicians utilised the issue to conjure up support. But now when the Home Minister admits in Parliament that many temples have been desecrated and razed in Kashmir, no one says anything," he added.

The Samiti President said that while there is reservation for minorities in India, more than 96 per cent of the jobs are usurped by Muslims in the State. In the next five years, not a single Hindu will be working in the State government offices, he ruefully predicted.

He said that the policy of appeasing vote banks, being followed by political parties in the country, has merely helped to sideline Pandits in Kashmir. "At only 2 per cent, we hardly constitute a vote bank," he added.

Shri Gadoo said that Kashmiri Pandits want to return home. "There are no two views about it. One day, we will go back to our roots and culture but how and when we will do that nobody knows," he added.

"And look at the security scenario. In Sangrampora, barely 60 kilometres from Srinagar, Hindus were massacred. In Gulabgarh, near Jammu, they were dragged out of a bus and made the target



From left S/Shri A.N. Kaul, Sumer Kaul, C.L. Gadoo and A.N. Dar.

of militant bullets. Now in Wondhama, among the 23 Pandits who were massacred there, a one-year-old baby's body was pumped with 16 bullets," he added.

He said: "Even the Army has admitted that it has lost more officers and men in these past nine years than it did in the three wars India fought with Pakistan for Kashmir. Almost 1,800 Pandits have been killed in Kashmir while 6,500 are missing, presumed dead, over the past eight years."

He demanded that immediate administrative and security measures be taken to root out terrorism and to restore normalcy in the State and the Kashmir Province be declared as a Union Territory under the Central administration, so that the process of Islamisation in Kashmir is reversed.

Shri Gadoo pointed at the demographic changes which have been brought about by the forced migration of Hindus from Kashmir during the last four decades and later after 1990 should be also reversed so that the population ratio in the state was rationalised.

The State government has failed to curb terrorism. Militancy continues unabated in the state, which invites more demographic changes. The only change that has come about in the militant operations is that

of tactics and technology, he added.

Later, the Samiti released the Special Number of *Koshur Samachar*, its official organ, dedicated to the victims of the Republic Day-eve massacre of 23 Pandits in Wondhama. Releasing the journal, Shri Gadoo told mediapersons that the Wondhama massacre had brought many festering issues to the fore, including the question mark over the future of the Hindus who had been flushed out of Kashmir and their conflict with the Muslim population of Jammu province. He said that the State government has failed to curb terrorism and the claims that the situation in Kashmir was returning to normal were false, which are "largely based on its inability to accept the harder realities of the situation."

The editorial in the journal said that there could also be a deliberate design in appearing to misread the situation. The Wondhama incident had proved, beyond any doubt, that the Muslim crusade in Kashmir was aimed at the Hindus as much as it was aimed against India. "The basically communal, fundamentalist and separatist character of the crusade is ideologically geared to this outlook, which had also dominated the Muslim League movement for Pakistan, leading to the Partition," it added.

—D.P. Bhan

THE ASIAN AGE REPORTS



BRINGING OUT THE REALITY: Kashmiri Samiti Delhi president C.L. Gadoo (right), along with office-bearer Sumar Kaul, releases a book on the Wondhama village massacre in New Delhi on Thursday. A photograph by G.N. Jha

'We are trapped in a Pak-made proxy war'

BY OUR CORRESPONDENT

New Delhi, Feb. 26: "We had always considered the Muslims of Jammu and Kashmir to be our brethren. But how can we do that any longer? How can we have a dialogue with them when Muslim militants are raping our sisters and mothers and killing our relatives? We fear that, like at the time of Partition, the state will once again witness such an upheaval," said an agitated Mr C.L. Gadoo president of the Kashmiri Samiti of Delhi at a press conference here on Thursday.

Ominous words indeed, but they might ring true amidst the "nonchalance" of the government towards the deteriorating situation in the Valley once famed for its tranquil and serene surroundings. "More than nine years ago almost three lakh Kashmiri pandits were forced to leave their home state. We were made refugees in our own country," said Mr Gadoo. "We have been trapped in the proxy war being waged by Pakistan in the

■ Turn to Page 11

'We are trapped in a proxy war'

■ Continued from Page 9

Valley and the fanatic Muslim fundamentalism and ethnic cleansing that is taking place there. But no one has the guts to present the true picture of persecution in Kashmir," he added.

Lamenting the fact that terrorists have become national heroes and their victim's mere statistics in government files, Mr Gadoo pointed out that no major militant had been punished for his crimes in the Valley. Maqbool Bhatt, a founder member of the Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front, was sentenced, however, sessions judge Pandit Nila Kanth Ganjoo, who passed the sentence was killed soon after in a busy market in Srinagar.

"At the time when the Babri Masjid was demolished there was an uproar in the country. The media splashed photographs all over and politicians used the issue to conjure up support. But now when the home minister admits in the Parliament that many temples have been desecrated in Kashmir, no one says anything," said Mr Gadoo.

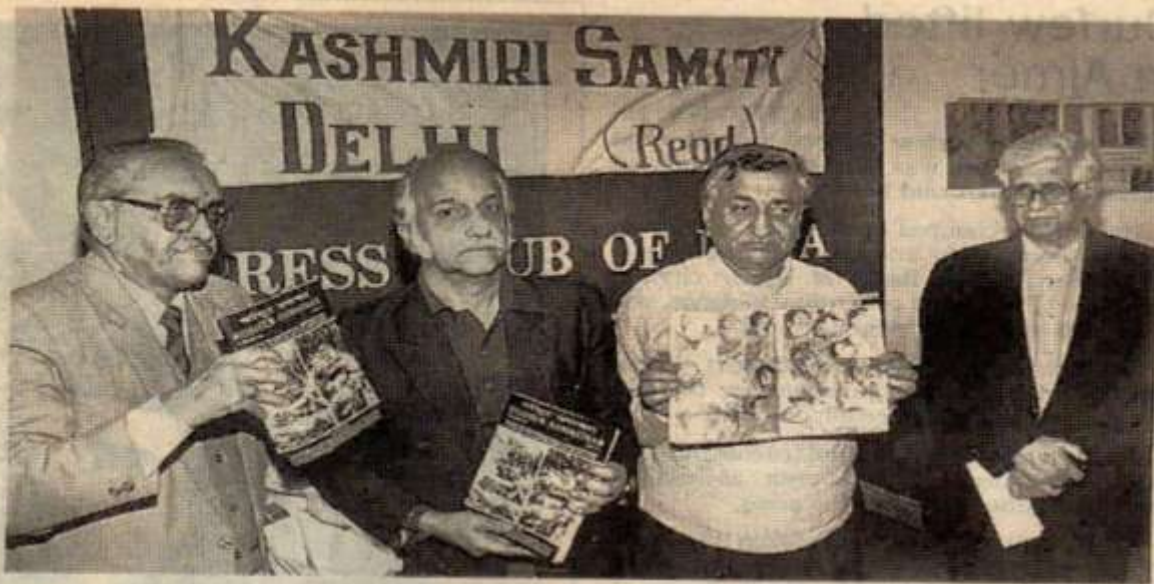
While there is reservation for minorities in India, in Jammu and Kashmir more than 96 per cent of the jobs are taken by Muslims. "In the next five years there will be not a single Hindu

working in the Jammu and Kashmir government offices," Mr Gadoo predicted.

The policy of appeasing vote-banks, being followed by political parties has merely helped to sideline pandits in the state. "At only one per cent we hardly constitute a votebank," he said. "We want to return home. There are no two ways about it. One day we will go back to our roots and culture, but how and when we do not know," he added. "But what security do we have? In Sangrampur, barely 60 km from Srinagar Hindus were massacred. In Gulabgarh they were dragged out of a bus and made the target of militants' bullets. Now in Wondhama, amongst the 23 women, men and children who were massacred, a one-year-old baby's body was pumped with 16 bullets," he said.

"Even the Army has admitted that it has lost more officers and men in these past nine years than it did in the three wars India had with Kashmir. We don't believe that normalcy will return to the Valley for a very long time," he added.

The Samiti claims that almost 1,800 pandits have been killed in Kashmir while 6,500 are missing, presumed dead over the past eight years.



Members of Kashmiri Samiti, Mr.A.N.Kaul, Mr.Sumer Kaul, Mr. C.L.Gadoo and Mr. A.N.Dhar, releasing 'Koshur Samachar', a journal, in New Delhi on Thursday.

Special issue of Koshur Samachar released

By Our Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, Feb. 26.

The Kashmiri Samiti Delhi today released a special issue of Koshur Samachar, devoted to the victims of the Republic Day eve massacre of 23 Pandits in Wondhawa, and speaking for the community, announced that Pandits would return home to Kashmir only after it was reorganised into a centrally administered Union Territory.

The Samiti President, Mr C.L.Gadoo, told presspersons that the Wondhawa massacre had brought many festering issues to the fore, including the question mark over the future of the Hindus who had been flushed out of Kashmir, and their conflict with the Muslim population of Jammu province.

The Samiti feels that the State Government has failed to curb terrorism, and the claims that the situation in Kashmir was returning to normal were false, and "largely based on the inability to accept the harder realities of the situation".

The Samiti feels there could also be a deliberate design in appearing to misread the situation, while militancy continues unabated, and the only change apparent is that of tactics and technology used by the militants. "As long as the normalisation of the situation is not ensured,

the minorities, in this case the Kashmiri Pandits would not return to their homes", Mr Gadoo, said.

The Samiti said the Wondhama incident had also proved beyond doubt that the Muslim crusade in Kashmir was aimed at the Hindus, as much as it was aimed against India. "The basically communal, fundamentalist and separatist character of the crusade is ideologically geared to this outlook, which had also dominated the Muslim League Movement for Pakistan, leading to Partition."

The third issue, crucial to peace and the economic, political and social progress of Kashmir, as well as its integration onto the secular constitutional organisation of India was Article 370. The Samiti has said abrogating Article 370 was arguably an imperative pre-requisite to end the "Muslimisation" of the State.

It was time the Government realised a mindset of seeking inter-community balance of interests as the basis of the settlement of the crisis in the State could ensure no more than a measure of advantage for those who needed the Muslim votebank.

The Pandits did not wish to be "pushed back into Kashmir to the slavery of a Muslim State," Mr Gadoo said.

The special issue of Koshur Samachar was released by columnist, Mr Sumer Kaul.

विश्वभर में कश्मीरी पंडित विरोध दिवस मनाएंगे

मारे गए 23 कश्मीरियों की 10वीं क्रिया आज

जे वी जी टाइम्स संवाद
 नई दिल्ली, 2 फरवरी। कश्मीर में मुंधरबल इलाके में वंधामा गाँव में 25 जनवरी की रात को सरासत्र आतंकवादियों द्वारा 23 कश्मीरी पंडितों की हत्या का कल 10वाँ दिन है। इन हतात्माओं की 10वीं क्रिया यमुना घाट आईटीओ पर सुबह 10 बजे संपन्न होगी। उधर विश्व के कश्मीरी पंडित कश्मीर घाटी वंधामा नरसंहार के 10वाँ दिन कल विरोध दिवस मनाएंगे।

कश्मीरी समिति दिल्ली के अध्यक्ष प्रेमनलाल गड्ढू ने इन दिवंगत देशभक्तों को अपनी अंतिम श्रद्धांजलि देने के लिए समस्त संनसमुदाय का आह्वान किया है।

श्री गड्ढू ने कहा कि कश्मीरी समिति भारत पर एक शोक सभा का आयोजन भी करेगी। साथ ही 27 एवं 28 जनवरी को यहां भारत-मॉर में कश्मीरी पंडितों के शांतिपूर्ण प्रदर्शनकारियों पर पुलिस लाठीचार्ज के विरोध में आईटीओ के पुलिस मुख्यालय तक अंतिम

हत्या पर अपना रोष व्यक्त कर रहे थे। इस बीच सरकार और निजी संस्थानों में कार्यरत पंडित समुदाय के सभी कर्मचारी सामूहिक आकस्मिक अवकाश लेंगे और अपने सभी संस्थान तथा व्यावसायिक प्रतिष्ठान एक दिन के लिए बंद रखेंगे। दिल्ली, जम्मू, मुंबई, चंडीगढ़ और बंगलूर सहित विभिन्न स्थानों पर शोकसभा आयोजित की जाएगी।

यह फैसला कश्मीरी पंडितों की राजनीतिक स्थायी समिति की आज यहाँ हुई

बैठक में किया गया। समिति ने फिर जम्मू-कश्मीर के मुख्यमंत्री फारूक अब्दुल्ला के इस्तीफे की मांग की और कहा कि इस नरसंहार की घटना को केंद्र और राज्य सरकार हल्के ढंग से ले रही है।

समिति ने राष्ट्रपति के आर नारायणन और राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग के अध्यक्ष एम एन वेंकटचलैया से इस मामले में हस्तक्षेप करने तथा न्यायिक जांच कराने की मांग की।

राष्ट्रीय

7 सहारा

नयी दिल्ली, बुधवार, 4 फरवरी, 1998



बंदहामा नरसंहार के विरोध में मंगलवार को कश्मीरी पंडितों ने नयी दिल्ली में शोक यात्रा निकाली।

छाया : राष्ट्रीय सहारा

कश्मीरी पंडितों ने दिल्ली और जम्मू में प्रदर्शन किया

जे वी जी टाइम्स संवाद
नई दिल्ली, 3 फरवरी। कश्मीर घाटी में 25 जनवरी को पंचमा गण्ड में घारे गए 23 कश्मीरी पंडितों की हत्या के दसवें दिन की रक्त अंदा करने के लिए आज यहाँ राजधानी और जम्मू में शोक सभाएं हुईं, प्रदर्शन किए गए तथा गिरफ्तारियां दी गईं। जम्मू में 10 हजार कश्मीरी विस्थापित प्रदर्शनकारियों और पुलिस के बीच टकराव में 50 विस्थापित और सात पुलिसकर्मी घायल हो गए तथा दो हजार प्रदर्शनकारियों को गिरफ्तार किया गया। इसके अलावा देश तथा देश से बाहर भी कश्मीरी पंडितों ने शोक सभाएं आयोजित कीं। उधर, राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग ने इस हत्याकांड की जांच के लिए एक जांच दल कल कश्मीर भेजने का

कैसला किया है।
आज यहाँ कश्मीरी समिति दिल्ली की ओर से आईटीओ स्थित यमुना घाट पर घारे गए 23 कश्मीरी पंडितों की दसवीं क्रिया संपन्न हुई। इस शोकसभा में रैकडों की संख्या में कश्मीरी पंडितों ने इन हतात्माओं को अनुपूर्ण अर्पणित दी। शोक को व्यक्त करने के लिए सभी ने काली पट्टी बांध रखी थी।
शोकसभा संपन्न होने के बाद प्रेस को जारी एक विज्ञापित में कश्मीरी समिति के अध्यक्ष चमन लाल गड्डू ने घाटी में अल्पसंख्यक कश्मीरी पंडित समुदाय के लोगों की सुरक्षा के लिए जम्मू-कश्मीर सरकार को जिम्मेदार उद्घारया तथा सरकार को नित्य की कि वह घाटी शेष पृष्ठ 11 पर

कश्मीरी पंडितों ने...

प्रथम पृष्ठ का शेष

में अल्पसंख्यकों को सुरक्षा देने में विफल रही है। उन्होंने प्रदेश सरकार की यह कहते हुए निंदा की कि कश्मीरी पंडितों को हिंदू कर्मकांड के अनुसार, दसवीं क्रिया पूरी तरह से अंदा नहीं करने दी क्योंकि सरकार ने इन देशभक्तों की पवित्र 'अस्थियां' हमें नहीं सौंपी। श्री गड्डू ने कहा कि हम इन अस्थियों को पवित्र गंगा और यमुना नदी में प्रवाहित करना चाहते थे।

कश्मीरी समिति के अध्यक्ष ने कहा कि इस हत्याकांड के बाद घाटी में ज्वेलन इलाके में आतंकवादियों ने एक और कश्मीरी पंडित की हत्या की। कश्मीरी समिति ने मांग की है कि दोषी व्यक्तियों को गिरफ्तार कर कड़ी से कड़ी सजा दी जाए, साथ ही घाटी में अर्ध-खुले कश्मीरी पंडितों को या तो पर्याप्त सुरक्षा प्रदान की जाए या उन्हें जम्मू के सुरक्षित क्षेत्रों में लाया जाए।

शोकसभा समाप्त होने के बाद कश्मीरी पंडितों ने विरोध स्वरूप एक मातमी जुलूस भी निकाला। यह जुलूस यमुना घाट आईटीओ से शुरू होकर दिल्ली पुलिस मुख्यालय के द्वार पर खत्म हुआ। 27 और 28 जनवरी को दिल्ली में कश्मीरी पंडितों के विरोध प्रदर्शन पर पुलिस ने लाठीचार्ज किया था, जिसमें कई प्रदर्शनकारी घायल हुए थे। ये लोग 25 जनवरी को श्रीनगर के पास संध्या में घारे गए 23 कश्मीरी पंडितों की हत्या का विरोध कर रहे थे।

आज की शोकसभा में जम्मू-कश्मीर विचार मंच के अध्यक्ष एवं सुप्रीम कोर्ट के अभिवक्ता त्रिलोकनाथ राजदान, जम्मू-कश्मीर संगम के महामंत्री ओमकार नाथ शास्त्री, कश्मीरी नेता हृदय नाथ जर्जू, कश्मीरी समिति दिल्ली के पूर्व अध्यक्ष हृदय नाथ नेहरू तथा अखिल भारतीय कश्मीरी समाज के पदाधिकारी राजेंद्र प्रेमी आदि उपस्थित थे। उपस्थित नेताओं ने उन पुलिसकर्मियों के खिलाफ दंडात्मक कार्रवाई करने की मांग की, जिन्होंने 27 और 28 जनवरी को उनके प्रदर्शन पर लाठीचार्ज किया था। इस संबंध में एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल दिल्ली पुलिस आयुक्त को ज्ञापन देने भी गया था, पर पुलिस आयुक्त के कार्यालय में उपस्थित न होने के कारण ऐसा नहीं हो सका।

उधर, जम्मू से प्राप्त समाचार के अनुसार, कश्मीरी विस्थापितों और पुलिस के बीच टकराव में 50 विस्थापित और सात पुलिसकर्मी घायल हो गए। विस्थापितों के जुलूस ने जब पुलिस का पैर तोड़ने की कोशिश की तो पुलिस को लाठीचार्ज करना पड़ा और आसुरीस छोड़नी

पड़ी। इन लोगों ने पुलिस पर पथराव भी किया।

पुलिस उप महाविशेषक एस के मिश्रा ने संवाददाताओं को बताया कि पुलिस कार्रवाई को जांच कराई जाएगी, लेकिन जम्मू रेंज के उपायुक्त सुरेश कुमार ने कहा कि पुलिस के पास कोई विकल्प ही नहीं था और यदि प्रदर्शनकारियों को सचिवालय की ओर जाने से नहीं रोका जाता तो स्थिति और बिगड़ सकती थी।

एक प्रत्यक्षदर्शी के अनुसार, जब 10,000 कश्मीरी हिंदुओं ने राज्य सचिवालय की ओर शांतिपूर्वक प्रदर्शन शुरू किया तब पुलिस ने 2,000 पंडितों को सावधानी के तौर पर गिरफ्तार कर लिया। विस्थापित पंडित हत्यारों को गिरफ्तार न कर पाने में राज्य सरकार की विफलता पर विरोध प्रदर्शन कर रहे थे।

इस बीच राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग का एक उच्चस्तरीय दल कल श्रीनगर खाना हो रहा है जो कश्मीर घाटी के गंदरबाल क्षेत्र में 25 जनवरी को 23 कश्मीरी पंडितों की जघन्य हत्या के मामले की जांच करेगा।

आयोग में जांच विभाग के महानिदेशक शंकर सेन इस दल का नेतृत्व करेंगे। अपने तीन दिवसीय कश्मीर दौरे के दौरान यह दल घटनास्थल पर जाकर इस घटना के संबंध में छानबीन करेगा। दिल्ली वापस लौटने पर यह दल आयोग को अपनी रिपोर्ट पेश करेगा।

कश्मीरी पंडितों की एक अनुसूध मांगिका पर आयोग पहले ही कश्मीर घाटी में कश्मीरी पंडितों की सुरक्षा के लिए समुचित कदम उठाने के बारे में राज्य सरकार को निर्देश दे चुका है। इस तीन सदस्यीय आयोग ने घाटी में कश्मीरी पंडितों की सुरक्षा प्रदान करने के लिए उन क्षेत्रों में जहाँ इन लोगों की अधिकांश आबादी है, पुलिस की गश्त बढ़ाने और पुलिस की टुकड़ियों को सतर्क रखने को कहा है। आयोग ने राज्य सरकार से इन कदमों के बारे में उसे अवगत कराने को भी कहा है।

अखंड हिंदुस्तान मोर्चा के संयोजक जी एल शर्मा प्रेम को उस समय गिरफ्तार कर लिया गया जब वे हत्याकांड के विरोध में राष्ट्रपति भवन की ओर बढ़ने की कोशिश कर रहे थे। प्रदर्शनकारी जम्मू-कश्मीर सरकार को बर्खास्त करने, राज्य का शासन सेना को सौंपने की मांग कर रहे थे।

प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने बाद में राष्ट्रपति के आर नारायणन को ज्ञापन दिया।

पुन कश्मीर ने भी घटना पर दुःख व्यक्त करते हुए घाटी में रह रहे कश्मीरी पंडितों की सुरक्षा की मांग की।

(6) दैनिक जागरण, नई दिल्ली, 27 फरवरी 1998

कश्मीरी समिति की जम्मू-कश्मीर का इसलामीकरण रोकने की मांग

प्रदेश को केंद्र शासित राज्य घोषित किया जाए : गद्दू

जागरण संवाददाता

नई दिल्ली, 26 फरवरी। कश्मीरी पंडितों ने जम्मू-कश्मीर राज्य को केंद्र शासित प्रदेश घोषित करने की मांग की है। उन्होंने कहा कि हिंदुओं का परलान और तेजी से हो रहे इसलामीकरण को भी रोकने की मांग की है।

कश्मीरी समिति के अध्यक्ष सी.एल. गद्दू ने उच्च जानकारी देते हुए पत्रकारों को आज बताया कि जम्मू-कश्मीर को राज्य सरकार वहां पर न केवल आतंकवाद रोकने में विफल रही है बल्कि राज्य में कानून व्यवस्था कायम करने का उपाय भी खूब साबित हुआ है। ऐसे हालात में जम्मू-कश्मीर को केंद्र शासित राज्य घोषित कर केंद्र सरकार के हवाले करना ही वहां की समस्या का एक मात्र विकल्प है।

उन्होंने वहां के हालात को ज्याबहारिक जानकारी देते हुए बताया कि सन् 1990 के बाद से जम्मू-कश्मीर में जो कुछ भी हो रहा है उससे न केवल वहां सांख्यिकी ढांचा बदलत है बल्कि काफी तादात में वहां से हिंदुओं का परलान हुआ है। इसके एवज में वहां पर मुसलमानों की संख्या लगातार

बढ़ती जा रही है और उनही लोगों की वजह से वहां पर आतंकवाद को पर्याप्त संरक्षण मिल रहा है।

कश्मीरी पंडितों के परलानबादी स्वयं की चर्चा करते हुए श्री गद्दू ने कहा कि पुनर्वसित कश्मीरी पंडित वहां वापस लौटना चाहते हैं मगर वे मुसलिम राज्य का गुलाम बनकर वहां नहीं रह पाएंगे और न ही अब वे आतंकवादियों का पिछाना बनना चाहते हैं।

पिछले दिनों हुए सामूहिक नरसंहार का उल्लेख करते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि जम्मू-कश्मीर में बाहरी ताकतों की संलग्नता के फलस्वरूप वहां के हिंदुओं के खिलाफ बड़ा जेहाद छेड़ दिया गया है। इस पर कबू पाने का अब एक ही तरीका है कि वहां की सरकार को बर्खास्त कर जम्मू-कश्मीर को केंद्रीय प्रशासन के हवाले किया जाए यतना वह दिन दूर नहीं जब कश्मीर समस्या केवल कश्मीरी पंडितों के लिए नहीं बल्कि पूरे देश के लिए एक वास्तु बन जाएगी। श्री गद्दू ने कहा कि जब तक जम्मू-कश्मीर को केंद्र शासित राज्य घोषित नहीं किया जाएगा तब तक कश्मीरी पंडितों की गृह-बाहरी संभव नहीं है।

HERALD: New Delhi, Friday

Steps to root out terrorism in J-K demanded

Herald News Service

NEW DELHI, Feb 26 — Kashmiri Samiti has demanded that immediate administrative and security measures be taken to root out terrorism in the state, 50 that normalcy is restored and Kashmir province be declared as a Union Territory under Central administration.

Addressing a press conference today Mr C.L. Gadoo, the president of the Kashmiri Samiti, also, the demographic change, which has been brought about by the migration of Hindus from Kashmir during the last four decades and after 1990, he also reversed so that population ratio in the state was rationalised.

He alleged that the State government has failed to curb terrorism. Militancy continues in the state unabated and the only change that has come about in the militant operations is that of tactics and technology, he charged.

4 जनसत्ता, दिल्ली, 28 फरवरी, 1998

कश्मीर में राष्ट्रपति शासन लागू करने की मांग

नई दिल्ली, 26 फरवरी (जनसत्ता)। कश्मीर में पिछले नौ सालों में 19 सौ हिंदुओं की हत्या की गई। करीब 650 लोग लापता हैं। यह संख्या सरकारी कार्ड के मुताबिक है। वास्तविक संख्या 10 गुना ज्यादा है। आजादी के समय कश्मीरी पंडितों की संख्या करीब 10 लाख थी। यह जानकारी कश्मीरी समिति के अध्यक्ष सीएल गद्दू ने दी। वहां के हालात को मद्देनजर रखते हुए उन्होंने राष्ट्रपति शासन लागू करने की मांग की।

श्री गद्दू ने 'प्रेस से मिलिए' कार्यक्रम में कहा कि कश्मीर घाटे के वनधाम गांव में 23 कश्मीरी पंडितों की हत्या से तारुण्य अशुभल्ला सरकार को मंशा का ता चल्ता है। जम्मू-कश्मीर के मुख्यमंत्री कश्मीरी पंडितों की वापसी की बात जिस दिन करते हैं, उसी दिन वहां

पंडितों की हत्या कर दी जाती है। उन्होंने कहा कि 24 जनवरी को वनधामा गांव हत्याकांड के समय बहुसंख्यक समुदाय 'शाब-ए-कदर' त्योहार मना रहे थे। इस मौके पर सभी जगत की मसजिद में जमा थे। लेकिन 23 बेगुनाह लोगों को मौत की चीख अनसुनी कर दी गई। उन्होंने कहा कश्मीर में 'गन कल्चर' कायम है। उनके मुताबिक वहां आतंकवाद का केवल स्वरूप बदल गया है। आतंकवाद जस का तस है।

श्री गद्दू ने कहा कि जब तक वहां के हालात सामान्य नहीं होंगे, कश्मीरी पंडित वापस नहीं जाएंगे। उन्होंने कहा कि अब एक भी कश्मीरी पंडित वहां सरकारी नौकरी नहीं कर रहा है। जो पहले से सरकारी नौकरी में थे वे विस्थापित हो चुके हैं। बेरोजगारी वहां की प्रमुख समस्या है।

कश्मीरी पंडित रोजगार को खोज में वहां से बाहर निकलने के लिए मजबूर हैं। दूसरी ओर कई कश्मीरी नशा और तस्करों के कारोबार में लिप्त हैं। ऐसा उनके लिए समस्या नहीं है। दिल्ली के भी ज्यादातर फाइव स्टार और 'थ्री स्टार' होटलों में उनकी दुकानें हैं। उनके मुताबिक बेरोजगारी को वजह से भी कश्मीरी पंडित राज्य का मुख्यधारा से अलग हो गए हैं।

उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार को इसकी कोई चिंता नहीं है। उन्होंने हालात को सामान्य बनाने के लिए धारा 370 को हटाने की मांग की। उन्होंने कहा कि मुसलिम लोग को तर्ज पर देश को बांटने की कोशिश की जा रही है।

श्री गद्दू के मुताबिक कश्मीरी पंडित ही कश्मीर के असली वाशिये हैं। पांच हजार 93 साल पुरानी उनकी संस्कृति है।

इसलिए उन्हें कश्मीर छोड़ने का दर्द है। वे हालात के सामन्य होने का इंतजार कर रहे हैं और वहां जाने के आतुर हैं। उन्होंने कश्मीर की समस्याओं के लिए केंद्र सरकार को दोषी ठहराया। उन्होंने वहां राष्ट्रपति शासन लगाने और केंद्र शासित प्रदेश घोषित करने की भी मांग की।

श्री गद्दू ने कहा कि एक साजिश के तहत कश्मीर में हिंदुओं को विस्थापित किया जा रहा है। जहां हिंदू थे वहां मुसलमानों की संख्या बढ़ाई जा रही है। उन्होंने कहा कि पिछले तीन युद्धों में जितने सिपाही भारत के शहीद हुए उससे अधिक संख्या में भारतीय सुरक्षा कर्मी पिछले दस साल में मारे गए हैं।

इस मौके पर मासिक पत्रिका 'कोशुर समाचार' का लोकार्पण किया गया। पत्रकार सुमेर कौल ने इसका लोकार्पण किया।

KPs for central intervention

NEW DELHI, May 8:

Three Kashmiri Pandit organisations today condemned the mass killing of Hindus by militants in parts of Jammu region and urged the Central Government to intervene to ensure end to repeated massacres and renewed migrations in Jammu and Kashmir.

We strongly denounce the ability of the State Government to give full security to Hindu minorities in Jammu and Kashmir and urge the

(Contd on page 11 Col 6)

KPs for central....

(From page 1)

Central Government to take immediate and urgent steps for ensuring end to the repeated massacres by militants in the state, said Kashmiri Samiti.

Stating that the organisation had apprehended beforehand escalation of terrorist violence in the Jammu province, Samiti president CL Gadoo alleged the massacres were aimed at forcing migration of Hindus from the Jammu region.

He said the organisation had time and again warned about the growing fundamentalism in Jammu province, where plans are afoot to change the demographic proportions.

MONDAY, MAY 18, 1998 (PAGE-4)

Kashmiri Samiti welcomes nuke tests

NEW DELHI, May 17:

Kashmiri Samiti, a representative body of people from the Jammu and Kashmir state in the Capital, has lauded the Union Government for conducting nuclear tests at Pokhran this week.

The Pokhran tests have changed history by breaking the monopoly of nuclear weapon countries, which had held the world at ransom for long, the Samiti said in a statement here yesterday.

It said the tests ensured a role for India in achieving nuclear disarmament in the world.

The tests provided the country with a deterrent capability to meet threats from our Northern frontiers, which during the last several years had assumed dangerous proportions, the Samiti added. (PTI)

CHAMAN LAL GADOO REPORTS IN KOSHUR SAMACHAR

Namaskar,

I have just returned after paying a personal visit to the United States where I got an opportunity to meet several important persons connected with the Kashmir problem and found them greatly concerned with the future of the Kashmiri Pandit community. Besides several American leaders with whom I interacted, I had a long meeting with Congressman Sherrod Brown in Washington during which he exhibited his keen involvement in the Kashmir problem and deep concern for the future of the exiled community. He talked to me about the sordid events taking place in Kashmir and turbulations the community has suffered. I have a strong belief that now, thanks to the ceaseless efforts of our own brothers and well-wishers in the USA, there is greater appreciation among the Americans of our position and stand on our return to our hearths and homes. The Congressman, who is adequately informed about the developments in Kashmir and also the plight of the Kashmiri Pandits, was sad that the community has had to face untold miseries and assured me that he would try his best to persuade the US Government as well as the Indian authorities to adopt a more sympathetic policy towards us.

I met several leaders of the Kashmiri Pandit community in America—of the Indo-American Kashmir Forum (IAKF), the Kashmir Overseas Association (KOA) and some others—and discussed with them a series of plans which could be adopted to chart out the future of the community. I explained to them the stand the Kashmiri Samiti has been taking on the return of the Kashmiri Pandits to the Valley and the work it has done to ameliorate their hardships.

In Atlanta a Mahayagya was performed for the salvation of the community by the Indian American community in which about 1,000 members participated. I was given an opportunity to address the congregation which got so sentimental after hearing the account of our life in exile that a number of them came forward with their contributions. I requested the KOA to receive the contributions and suggested that the same be part of the project which it will sponsor as the medical assistance programme for the Pandits and assured the Samiti will co-ordinate with it in finding deserving cases.



C.L.Gadoo addressing at Atlanta,USA

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Prayer is offered for safety of Pandits

By a Staff Writer

NEW YORK — A havan, or fire ritual, was organized on April 4 at the Shakti Mandir in Atlanta to pray for the well-being of the displaced Kashmiri Hindus, or Pandits, and their safe return to their homes.

It was performed by the temple priest in accordance with the holy scriptures. Chaman Lal Gadoo, president of the Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, was the chief guest.

In his address after the havan, Gadoo described in detail the atrocities committed by terrorists on the mem-

bers of the Pandit community during the last nine years. He said more than 300,000 Pandits were forced to leave their ancestral homes and become refugees in their own countries.

Both Gadoo and Upendra Patel, public relations director of the temple, called upon the Indian government to take steps to make Kashmir a safe place for the Pandits.

According to the organizers of the havan, about 1,000 people participated in the event which coincided with Durga Asthami, an auspicious day according to the Hindu calendar.



April 20, 1998

SHERROD BROWN
THIRTEENTH DISTRICT, OHIO

C.L. Gadoo, President
Kashmiri Samiti Delhi
Kashmir Bhawan, Amar Colony
Lajpat Nagar - IV
New Delhi, India 110024

Dear Mr. Gadoo:

I very much enjoyed meeting you at Vijay Sazawal's home recently. Our conversation was enjoyable and enlightening, particularly the discussion concerning Kashmir and India.

Please be assured that I will continue to bring the plight of the Kashmiri Pandits to the attention of both the U.S. and Indian governments in an effort to facilitate the community's eventual return home with dignity and full security.

Thank you for all your hard work. I hope our paths will cross again in the near future.

Sincerely,

Sherrod Brown
SHERROD BROWN
Member of Congress

cc: Dr. Vijay K. Sazawal, President
Indo-American Kashmir Forum

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HINDUSTAN TIMES JUNE 23, 1998 REPORTS DODA MASSACRE

Kashmiri bodies slam Pak for Doda killings

NEW DELHI, June 22 (HTC) The Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi and the Jamaat-e-Islami Hind, have condemned the brutal killings of 26 innocent persons in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir.

A delegation of the Samiti met the Union Home Minister L. K. Advani and lodged a protest the failure of the State Government to protect against the lives of innocent people.

The delegation which was led by its president, Mr C. L. Gadoo, told Mr Advani that the massacre of innocent citizens has become a routine affair in the State after Dr Farooq Abdullah became the Chief Minister.

The massacre of Kashmiri Pandits at Sangrampura and Wandhama in Kashmir valley followed by three massacres of Hindus in Doda district, showed that the situation has further worsened in J&K

Apprising Mr Advani about the prevailing situation in the State the delegation members said that the ultimate game plan of Pakistan was to ethnically cleanse the Hindus from the Muslim majority areas of the State. They demanded that some demographic changes be made immediately in the Muslim majority areas of the state.

They further demanded that



Kashmiri Samiti activists sitting in a silent dharna to protest against the Doda massacre in the Capital on Monday. — HT photo by S. Burmaula

Village Defence Committees in Doda should be revived immediately and the members of these committees should be given arms. They should also be paid Rs 2,500 each per month to motivate them. Eighteen police posts should be revived immediately and

Army Cantonment be set up in Bholderwah, they demanded.

Meanwhile, the Jamaat general secretary, Mr Muhammed Jafar, has condemned the killings. Expressing his grief over this inhuman act, he conveyed his heartfelt sympathies to the relatives of the victims.

He demanded that the Government should order a high-level enquiry into this massacre and punish the guilty.

Mr Jafar appealed to the people of Jammu region, particularly those of Doda, to keep patience irrespective of their religion or community.

□ नवभारत टाइम्स, नई दिल्ली, 23 जून 1998





डोडा नरसंहार के विरोध में सोनभार को कश्मीरी समिति के वीर लाल कार्गिलवाली ने जंतर-मंतर पर धरना दिया।

छाया : राष्ट्रीय सहारा

डोडा नरसंहार के विरोध में जंतर-मंतर पर धरना

कश्मीरी समिति का शिष्टमंडल आडवाणी से मिला

सहारा समाचार
नयी दिल्ली, 22 जून। जम्मू काश्मीर के डोडा जिले के गांव जंतर-मंतर में सोनी 19 जून को एक प्रतिष्ठित आतंकवादियों द्वारा निर्देशित लोगों को हत्या किये जाने के खिलाफ आज यहां कश्मीरी समिति, दिल्ली के वीर लाल जंतर-मंतर पर धरना दिया गया। बाद में एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल केंद्रीय गृहमंत्री सवाल कृष्ण आडवाणी से मिला। प्रतिनिधिमंडल का नेतृत्व कश्मीरी समिति के अध्यक्ष सी.एल. गह्वर ने किया।

प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने केंद्रीय गृहमंत्री तथा जम्मू काश्मीर मामलों के प्रचारी सवाल कृष्ण आडवाणी को बताया कि यहां चुने हुए सरकार के साबुत निर्दिष्ट लोगों को हत्या किये जाने और मात हो गयी है। उन्होंने कहा कि पिछले दो-तीन महीने से जिस तरह से आतंकवादियों द्वारा एक धर्म विशेष के निर्दिष्ट लोगों को हत्या की जा रही है। इससे लगता है कि जैसे राज्य में कानून नाम की कोई चीज ही नहीं है। प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने गृहमंत्री से मांग की कि केंद्र तथा राज्य सरकार निर्दिष्ट लोगों की हत्याओं के इस मिलिशिन को फौरन रोकें, अन्यथा यहां हजारों कश्मीरी शिशुओं का हो सकते हैं।

शिष्टमंडल ने कहा कि जम्मू काश्मीर में कानून का सम्मान करने वाले नागरिकों की जान तथा सम्पत्ति आज जबरदस्त खतरे में है। गृहमंत्री को कश्मीरी समिति, दिल्ली के अध्यक्ष सी.एल. गह्वर तथा डोडा विचार मंच के अध्यक्ष एस.एस. कोटवाल के हस्ताक्षरित संयुक्त ज्ञापन में मांग सूची मांगों का उल्लेख किया गया।

मांग की गयी कि डोडा में गांव मुख

उधार कई मुस्लिम संगठनों एवं नेताओं ने डोडा नरसंहार की कड़ी निंदा की है। उन्होंने इस जघनम हत्याकांड को इस्लाम के विरुद्ध करार दिया है और केंद्र सरकार से इस मामले को उच्चस्तरीय जांच कराये जाने की मांग की है।

जम्हो इस्लामी के प्रमुख महासचिव मोहम्मद जाकर ने डोडा में निर्दिष्ट लोगों को हत्या किये जाने पर गहरा दुःख व्यक्त किया है। उन्होंने कहा कि

शक्ति का संदेश देता है। उन्होंने कहा कि जमात फैलाने या अभय को समाप्त करने इस्लाम के आदर्शों के विरुद्ध है। उन्होंने डोडा नरसंहार के मुत्तकों के प्रति गहरी संवेदन व्यक्त की है।

मुस्लिम विकास दल के अध्यक्ष मोहम्मद सादिक एडवोकेट एवं महासचिव हाफिज मोहम्मद खानेद ने एक संयुक्त बयान में काश्मीर में वीर लाल जंतर-मंतर पर गहरा दुःख और मुत्तकों के प्रति संवेदन व्यक्त की है। उन्होंने कहा कि जम्मू-काश्मीर में बड़े गैर आतंकवादी प्रतिनिधियों पर सरकार को कड़ी नजर रखनी चाहिए। उन्होंने मुत्तकों के आश्रितों को उचित मुआवजा एवं मुआफ प्रदान किये जाने की मांग की है।

संयुक्तवर्ग शाही मस्जिद के इस्लाम सौजन्य आतंकवादी नेताओं ने कहा कि जो लोग इस्लाम के नाम पर आतंकवाद फैला रहे हैं वह इस्लाम विरोधी कार्य कर रहे हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि इस्लाम ने खुनखुरानी करने वालों की कड़ी निंदा की है। उन्होंने डोडा नरसंहार पर गहरा दुःख व्यक्त किया और मुत्तकों के पीछे नहीं की इस सन्दर्भ में मुत्तकों की खुदा से दुआ की है। उन्होंने सरकार से इस मामले की जांच कराये जाने की मांग की है।

मुस्लिम संगठनों ने भी निंदा की

संविधि का ताकतपूर्ण पुनर्गठन किया जाए। समिति के सदस्यों को अत्याधुनिक हथियारों से लैस किया जाए। इन सन्दर्भों को काई हवाकर अपने प्रतिपाद दिया जाए। 18 प्रतिशत चूट जो कि अभी हाल में बंद कर दी गयी थी उन्हें बहाल किया जाए। डोडा जिले को आतंकवाद क्षेत्र घोषित किया जाए और सेना के हथियार दिए जाए तथा भद्रावधि जिले में सेना छावनी स्थापित की जाए। भारतीय जनता मुक्त मोर्चा के इस्लाम मंडल के महामंत्री मनेज खन्देशवाल ने डोडा जिले में निर्दिष्ट लोगों को

उत्तक हटाने में हर संभव के लिए को दबाव दिया है। उन्होंने मुत्तकों के पीछे नहीं एवं हदसों में धक्का देने के प्रति अपने दिली इन्तर्दोष व्यक्त की है। उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार को इस कार्रवाई को पूरी गंभीरता से लेना चाहिए। उन्होंने घटना की उच्चस्तरीय जांच कराये जाने की मांग की है।

इस्लामिक काउंसिल ऑफ इंडिया की एक बैठक में डोडा नरसंहार पर गहरा दुःख व्यक्त किया गया है। काउंसिल के अध्यक्ष क़ारी मोहम्मद रिफा मजहरी ने कहा कि इस्लाम धर्म प्रेम-भावनाएं एवं



डोडा कांड के विरोध में कश्मीरी समिति के सदस्यों ने सोमवार को जंतर-मंतर पर धरना दिया। जागरण

खालों के तस्कर को जमानत मिली

विधि संवाददाता

नई दिल्ली, 22 जून। उच्च न्यायालय ने वन्य जीव खालों की तस्करों के मामले में गिरफ्तार राजकुमार की अंतरिम जमानत स्वीकार कर ली है। उसे गत 19 जून को अलवर (राजस्थान) में विचाराधीन एक मामले के सिलसिले में गिरफ्तार किया गया था। अभियुक्त राजकुमार खालों के अंतर्गामीय तस्कर संसार चंद का भाई है।

न्यायमूर्ति के. रामामूर्ति एवं न्यायमूर्ति सी. के. महाजन की खंडपीठ ने अभियुक्त राजकुमार को जमानत 25 हजार रुपये के व्यक्तिगत मुचलके व एक अन्य जमानत पर स्वीकार की है। साथ ही खंडपीठ ने अभियुक्त को 4 जुलाई को अलवर स्थित सी.जे.एम. की अदालत में पेश होने का निर्देश दिया है।

कश्मीरी समिति का प्रतिनिधिमंडल आडवाणी से मिला

डोडा को अशांत घोषित कर सेना के हवाले करने की मांग

संवाद सहयोगी

नई दिल्ली, 22 जून। कश्मीरी समिति के एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने गृहमंत्री एल.के.आडवाणी से भेंटकर कश्मीर में आतंकवादियों द्वारा की गई हिंदुओं की जघन्य हत्या पर रोष व्यक्त किया है। समिति ने डोडा जिले को अशांत क्षेत्र घोषित कर सेना के हवाले करने की मांग की है।

समिति के अध्यक्ष सी.एल.गड्डू के नेतृत्व में प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने गृहमंत्री से कहा कि डा. फारूक अब्दुल्ला की सरकार बनने के बाद कश्मीर में ऐसे हत्याकांड होना सामान्य बात हो गई है। पिछले तीन माह के दौरान संग्रामपुर, बंधामा व डोडा में ऐसे नरसंहार हो चुके हैं। कश्मीर के पुंछ, राजौरी व अन्य क्षेत्रों में स्थिति चिंताजनक बनी हुई है। श्री गड्डू ने पिछले कुछ दिनों में 150 निर्दोष हिंदुओं की हत्याओं के लिए केंद्र व राज्य सरकारों की आलोचना की है। उन्होंने कहा कि राज्य सरकार जनता के जानमाल की सुरक्षा करने में पूरी तरह असफल रही है। उन्होंने कहा कि पाकिस्तान की साजिश से यह नरसंहार किया जा रहा है।

श्री गड्डू ने मुसलिम बहुल क्षेत्र में ग्रामीण सुरक्षा

समिति में शीघ्र सुधार की आवश्यकता पर बल देते

श्रद्धांजलि के लिए शोकसभा

जागरण संवाददाता

पूर्वी दिल्ली, 22 जून। डोडा में आतंकवादियों की गोली का शिकार हुए लोगों को श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करने के लिए सौलमपुर में शोकसभा आयोजित की गई। इसका आयोजन भारत हितैषी मंच ने किया था।

मंच के संयोजक कमल कुमार ने मृतकों के प्रतिशोक संवेदना व्यक्त करते हुए इस हादसे को राज्य सरकार के लिए शर्म की बात बताई। उन्होंने कहा कि इस घटना ने जम्मू-कश्मीर के ही नहीं बल्कि पूरे देश के लोगों को झकझोर कर रख दिया है। उन्होंने कहा कि कश्मीर से यदि आतंकवाद का सफाया करना है तो वहां से अनुच्छेद 370 तुरंत हटा देना चाहिए।

उधर प्रदेश युवक कांग्रेस के उपाध्यक्ष अनिल वशिष्ठ ने कश्मीर में आतंकवाद रोकने में नाकाम केंद्रीय गृहमंत्री लालकृष्ण आडवाणी से त्यागपत्र देने की मांग की है।

हुए डोडा जिले को सेना के हवाले करने की भी मांग की है।

जम्मू-कश्मीर हिंदू महासंघ के अध्यक्ष योगी ठाकुर व कोषाध्यक्ष अजीत राज ने राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष दिनेश चंद्र त्यागी से भेंटकर उन्हें कश्मीर हत्याकांड से अवगत कराया है। उन्होंने एक संयुक्त बयान में कहा कि फारूक अब्दुल्ला की सरकार कश्मीर के पश्चिमी क्षेत्र में हिंदुओं की सुरक्षा करने में पूरी तरह असफल रही है। उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार की निष्क्रियता व संवेदनहीनता के कारण हिंदुओं द्वारा यहां से पलायन किया जा रहा है। उन्होंने फारूक अब्दुल्ला सरकार को बर्खास्त करने की मांग की है।

जमायत-इस्लामी हिंदू के महासचिव मुहम्मद जाफर ने डोडा में किए गए जघन्य हत्याकांड की निंदा करते हुए शोक व्यक्त किया है। उन्होंने सरकार से इसकी उच्चस्तरीय जांच कराने व दोषी लोगों के विरुद्ध कड़ी कार्रवाई करने की मांग की है। श्री जाफर ने जम्मू-कश्मीर की जनता से सौहार्द बनाए रखने व धार्मिक भावना अपनाते हुए शांति स्थापित करने की अपील की है।

EXPRESS News



MEMBERS of several Kashmiri organisations today braved the searing heat and humidity in the Capital to voice their anger over the massacre of 26 persons in Doda four days ago. They said that such incidents had become routine after the Farooq Abdullah government came to power in 1996. "The massacre of Kashmiris in Sangrampura, Wandhama, and three more in Doda district over the past three months shows that the situation has further deteriorated in the Valley," said S.S. Kotwal, president of Doda Vichar Manch, who

has come to the Capital to meet Union Home Minister L.K. Advani. Bharatiya Janata Party vice-president Kedar Nath Sahani, who met the protestors at Janatar Manatar this afternoon, assured them that the Centre was reviewing the J&K situation. Some concrete measures would be announced after Advani visits the site of the massacre tomorrow, he added. Besides holding consultations with the state administration, Advani is also scheduled to meet representatives of various parties, said Sahani. Photo by NAVEEN JORA



UNITED WE SIT: Activists of the Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, hold a dharna in New Delhi on Monday to protest against the recent massacre of pandits at Doda in Jammu and Kashmir. (PTI) ■ Another photograph on Page 11



शक्ति के लोगों ने सोमवार को नई दिल्ली में डोडा में हुए नरसंहार के विरोध में प्रदर्शन किया।

फोटो: जनसत्ता

डोडा नरसंहार के खिलाफ फिर कई संगठनों ने विरोध जताया

12 जून (जनसत्ता)। जम्मू-कश्मीर में 26 दिनों लोंगों की हत्या से दुखी ने आज भी अपना विरोध और नरसंहार के विरोध में कश्मीर समिति, दिल्ली के ने गृह मंत्रालय कृष्ण आडवाणी से राज्य में कानून व्यवस्था की स्थिति न्यायिकों की सुझाव का पुख्ता इंतजाम मिले। कई संगठनों ने यह नरसंहार के विरोध में भर्त्सना करते हुए राज्य सरकार से निर्दोष के आरोपों को नकारने का, कुत्सना और सत्याग्रह व धर्म के अपना विरोध और दुख जताया।

नई दिल्ली के लोग यानी कश्मीर के लोगों के प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने सोल गार्ड की प्रतीति में ध्वजा उठाई। उन्होंने डोडा के घंटी बजाई हिंदुओं को पाकिस्तान प्रयोजित के हथों हुई हत्या के प्रति नकार के आडवाणी जम्मू-कश्मीर मामलों के आतंकवादियों की धमकी और उनको न के बावजूद हिंदू नगरियों को सुझाव में का देश राज्य सरकार से मांगें हुए हैं।

अल्पसंख्यकों की सुझाव करने की बात का। प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने डॉ. फारूख अब्दुल्ला के नेतृत्व में 21-22 जून में नेशनल कौन्सिल सरकार के सत्ता में आने के बाद से हुए संग्राम और घंटी के अलावा गांधीयता में हुए भाषणा सभों का हवाला देते हुए कहा कि इतना होने के बावजूद सरकार होना में नहीं आई है और राज्य में कानून-व्यवस्था को हलत को बेरामी से दुरुस्त बना रही है। बोले दो-तीन महीनों से हलत और गंभीर हुए हैं। श्रीनगर को छोड़ कर अब भाड़े के आतंकवादी पुंज, राजौर, जम्मू और घाटी से दूर अन्य जिलों में छिंट गए हैं। सरकार के टाबों के बावजूद बोले केवल दो-तीन महीनों में डेढ़ सौ से ज्यादा हिंदुओं की हत्या पर उन्होंने दहशत और दुख जताया।

श्री गार्ड के मुताबिक राज्य में बच रहे हिंदुओं को छोड़कर धर्म परिवर्तन करने पर मजबूर किया जा रहा है। साथ ही आतंकवादी चाहते हैं कि राज्य को राष्ट्र की मुख्य धारा से काट दिया जाए। राज्य सरकार पूरे ही मजबूतक बनी थी तो हलत का पूरे बाहर हो जायेंगे। लिहाजा केंद्र को दखल देना चाहिए। पाकिस्तान घाटी में अपने गतिविधियां चला रहा है

और बांध लड़ाख और गिलगित में गुप्तगुप्त बंधन रख रहा है। जबकि राज्य सरकार चाहता है। प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने अनुरोध किया कि डोडा सहित आसपास के अन्य जिलों में गांधी सुझाव समितियों में फेरबदल कर आधुनिक व स्वचालित हथियारों से लैस किया जाए ताकि वे आतंकवादियों का मुकाबला कर उन्हें नैस्तबाद कर सकें। कमेटी के सदस्यों को बर्तन हथियार सार्वजनिक दिए जाए ताकि वे पूर्ण विश्वास से अपने जिम्मेदारों निभा सकें। पुलिस चौकियों को भी दुरुस्त किया जाए। डोडा जिले को अशांत क्षेत्र घोषित कर वहां आपतकालीन और सभी जरूरी कार्रवाइयां की जाएं।

पश्चिमी दिल्ली के जेल रोड कर्मोंकर मार्केट एसोसिएशन के अध्यक्ष स्वामी कर्मा ने भी इस सामूहिक हत्याकांड पर अस्मांस जताते हुए राज्य सरकार पर केंद्र का शिकंजा कसने और डोडा के अंदरूनी इलाकों में भी सेना की तैनाती बढ़ाने की मांग की है। उन्होंने इस बारे में गृहमंत्रालय को लिखे भी लिखे हैं। विरोधीयों एसोसिएशन ने भी बैठक कर इस कांड पर गंभीरता व्यक्त जताया। एसोसिएशन के सदस्यों ने दो मिनट का मौन रख कर मोरे गए लोगों

के प्रति संवेदना जताया। निम्न पार्टी गुडगांव प्रबंधक कमेटी के सदस्य बल कुलमोहन सिंह, बलबो सिंह और सिंह ने भी इस घटना को निंदा की है। मद्रास संघ, नेशनल लोकतांत्रिक हत्याकांड को दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण और पाकिस्तान काया है। समूह विहार में नूरे इलाहा सभ में पड़ोसी देशों को नाराज करने की अर्थात् कश्मीर की नरसंहार जमाअत ए इस्लामो हिंदू ने भी इस जताते हुए सरकार से इस हृदय की न करने की मांग की है।

जम्मू कश्मीर हिंदू महासभा के प्र आज दिल्ली में महानभा के अध्यक्ष लोंगों से मिल कर सामूहिक हत्याकांड हलत को जानकारी दी। वे राज्य अध्यक्ष योगेश ठाकुर और महासचिव नेतृत्व में आए थे। उन्होंने कहा कि मु के घुमें और तब जान दें कि राज्य है। उन्होंने जम्मू कश्मीर में आतंकवाद का आरोप मुहम्मदजी कलक अब्दुल्ला



IN A PENSIVE MOOD: Activists of the Kashmiri Samiti at a dharna to protest against the Doda massacre, in the Capital on Monday. — The Statesman. (Report on page 8).

ASIAN AGE REPORTS DODA MASSACRE

Hindu migrants seek probe into Doda massacre

NEW DELHI, June 22 (ANI) — Hindu migrants from Kashmir protested today against the killing of 25 Hindus by militants in Doda district of the Valley last Friday.

A Delhi-based committee of Kashmiri migrants, Kashmiri Samiti, which led the protest demonstration, demanded full enquiry into the incident and handing over Doda to the army.

It asked the government to revive village committees in the state and supply adequate arms and ammunition to its members.

The committee members met Union Home Minister L.K. Advani a few days back and lodged a protest on what they called "cold-blooded massacre of 25 Hindu civilians by heavily armed Pakistani mercenaries."

Committee president C.L. Gadoo said Pakistan's gameplan was to kill Hindus in the state to bring about demographic changes

Kashmiri Pandits protest against Doda killings

NEW DELHI, June 22:

Scores of Kashmiri Pandits today protested against the killings of 25 people in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir and demanded an immediate halt to the ethnic cleansing in the state.

The Pandits protesting here under the joint banner of Kashmiri Samiti and Doda Vichar Manch also took strong exception to what they called indifferent attitude of the subsequent Union Governments towards the problems of the minorities in the state.

Militants shot dead at least 25 Hindus, including two bridegrooms, and wounded nine at Champnari village in Doda district in Jammu and Kashmir on June 19.

Kashmiri Pandit leaders said the brutal killings could have been averted had the state administration learnt from the past and ensured proper security to the people.

They said the killing of 23 pandits in Wandhama in Kashmir on January 25 this year should have been an eye-opener.

Samiti president CL Gadoo demanded that Doda district should be declared disturbed and be handed over to Army to win over the confidence of the citizens. (PTI)

EXCELSIOR - 23-6-1998

Kashmiris voice fears to Advani

BY OUR CORRESPONDENT

New Delhi, June 22: A delegation of members of the Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, called on the Union home minister L.K. Advani to lodge a protest against the cold-blooded massacre of 26 innocent civilians by mercenaries in Chapnari village on June 19.

The delegation led by samiti president C.L. Gadoo told Mr Advani that such massacres of unprotected citizens have become a routine affair in the state after the installation of an elected government. The massacre of Kashmiri pandits at Sangrampur and Wandhama in Kashmir Valley followed by three broad daylight massacres in Doda district during the past two-three months show that the situation has further deteriorated in the state.

डाडा नरसहार का लेकर कश्मीरी प्रतिनिधिमंडल आडवाणी से मिला

कार्यालय संवाददाता

नई दिल्ली, 22 जून। कश्मीरी समिति के एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने केंद्रीय गृहमंत्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी से भेंट कर जम्मू-कश्मीर के डोडा जिले के चांपरी गांव में आतंकीयों द्वारा 25 हिन्दुओं को नृशंस हत्या पर अपना रोष प्रकट किया।

प्रतिनिधिमंडल के नेता एवं समिति के अध्यक्ष सी.एल. गाडू ने गृहमंत्री का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाया कि राज्य में फारुख अब्दुल्ला सरकार के गठन के बाद से ही इस प्रकार की घटनाओं में बढ़ोतरी हुई है। समिति के नेताओं ने कहा कि केंद्र एवं राज्य सरकार को कश्मीर में बढ़ती आतंकवादी गतिविधियों के मद्देनजर समेत हो जाना चाहिए।

इन नेताओं ने गृहमंत्री को बताया कि पाकिस्तान की योजना हिन्दू बहुल क्षेत्रों में आतंकवाद को बढ़ावा देना है और वहां मुजलिमों का साम्राज्य स्थापित करना है।

The Indian EXPRESS
NEW DELHI ■ SATURDAY ■ JULY 25, 1998

Trauma not over for Chapnari victims

■ Over 500 Doda villagers have fled, leaving behind their families

PAWAN K. PANDITA
JAMMU, JULY 24

FEAR has gripped the villagers of Doda district in the light of the constant militant threats with many of them fleeing their homes and taking shelter in Jammu and adjoining areas. "The Government has learnt no lesson from the June 19 massacre of 26 *baratis* at Chapnari. Very soon, you will hear about another carnage in the area," says Deep Singh, 29, of Kai village, which was attacked by militants.

He is among the more than 500 youth who fled from Kai, Thanote, Chapri, Behna, Chalas, Gadhar and Gadhi villagers in Doda district on July 7 fearing another attack. Leaving behind their families, some 60 youths sought shelter in Jammu. The rest are in Katra and Udhampur.

It was not just the Chapnari incident that forced them to flee. After cremating the bodies of the victims, the menfolk returned home on June 27. "On July 1, four militants, who met me outside my village, again held out threats," said Deep Singh.

He was not unnerved even as three militants visited the house of Somi Raj, one of the victims of the carnage who is recuperating at the Government Medical College, Jammu. The militants were gunning for Raj's brother, Kishen, who had gone to Jammu, said Deep.

But finally, he and the others gave up on the night of July 6. "We were huddled inside Kuldeep Singh's shop watching the TV re-

port on Chapnari massacre when a woman from the village told us the militants had threatened that they would eliminate all of them soon.

Deep Singh said despite the announcement made by J-K Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah that eight-member Village Defence Committees (VDCs) would be con-

stituted within 15 days in the area, and the members armed with sophisticated weapons, a wireless set and a telescope to combat terrorism, they were yet to get the arms.

NHRC asks Govt to list migrants' properties

NEW DELHI: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has asked the J-K Government to prepare a district-wide data of properties left behind by Kashmiri Pandits who migrated from the Valley due to militancy. The Commission's recommendations came on a petition by Kashmiri Samiti (Delhi) president C.L. Gadoo seeking protection for minorities and immovable properties left behind by migrants in the Valley.

The Commission urged the Centre and the State Government to suggest names of people who could be invited for an advisory interaction to evolve some workable solution for effective implementation and enforcement of "The Jammu and Kashmir Migrant Immovable Property (Preservation, Protection and Restraint on Distress Sales) Act, 1997". The NHRC has also asked the State Government to file a report on action taken under the Act by August 10. The Commission was earlier informed by the Centre's counsel that police pickets had been formed and other security measures taken to protect minorities in the Valley.

"The CM also promised to send additional security forces in 15 days," he added. Farooq's announcement came after the killing of four VDC members. The militants struck again the next day and killed five persons accompanying the bodies of the slain VDC mem-

bers at Gheji-Anchal, Deep Singh said. "Had we been fully equipped, so many lives could, have been saved," he lamented.

Another migrant, Gurudutt Singh of Chalas, said after the Chapnari carnage, when Home Minister L.K. Advani visited Doda on June 23, people had demanded that the

Home Minister on July 16, who said he would discuss the problem with the Chief Minister and the Governor. They were to reach Delhi the same day. But for three days, nobody turned up," said Pyar Singh of Gadhar.

Deep says now they cannot even go back unless they are armed with automatic weapons.

However, IGP Jammu Range, Kuldeep Khuda, said the authorities had their own constraints. "The 303 rifles for supply to VDC members are available with the SP, Doda. There is no need to issue wireless sets to them as there are other effective ways of communication," he said.

Khuda said members of the Village Defence Committees had been able to counter the attacks in all 31 cases of firing on VDCs in June, 1998.

But MLC Daya Krishen Kotwal of the Bharatiya Janata Party said there were more than 400 youth in the area who were ready to get enrolled as VDC members. "Why can't the police select them here itself? What is the guarantee that they will be shown at Doda and provided arms?" he asked.

Kotwal said the youth who had fled their homes were camping at the BJP office in Jammu and living on free meals from the *langars* organised for Amarnath pilgrims. "As soon as the *yatra* is over, they will have to leave. Moreover, they cannot live here indefinitely, that too, without their families," he added.

The migrants' visit to Delhi did not yield any result either. "We met

Let down by BJP, Pandits move NHRC

By Anil Anand

NEW DELHI, July 27
Tortured by militants and ignored by the successive governments at the Centre and in the State, the Kashmiri Pandit migrants have finally knocked at the doors of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to seek redressal of their problems regarding rehabilitation and protection of properties left behind by them in the terrorist-infested Kashmir valley.

The petition moved by the Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, which is a nodal agency for displaced Kashmiris, seeks the intervention of the Commission in directing the Centre and the State Governments to take immediate steps in this regard. The Samiti has submitted to the Commission the copy of the memorandum, which they recently gave to Union Home Minister L. K. Advani, and urged that it be treated as their petition.

Stressing that the problems being faced by the displaced persons needed immediate

attention while the officious attitude of the Government caused inordinate delay in implementing any step in this regard, Samiti president C. L. Gadoo pleaded that the Commission should issue directions to the government to protect the interests of the displaced persons.

This development has assumed significance as the displaced Kashmiri Pandits, who were said to be BJP supporters after they were uprooted from their place, approaching the Commission after meeting the Home Minister clearly conveys their disenchantment with the BJP-led government at the Centre. The community feels let-down for they expected a more sympathetic treatment from the party they openly supported for the last few years.

Significantly, the two-member quorum of the Commission comprising its Chairman, Justice M. N. Venkatachaliah and Justice V. S. Malinath, felt that more broad-based and wider discussions were required with the parties concerned, representatives of the

State and Union Governments, some experts on Kashmir affairs and the NGOs working in this field, before they formulated their recommendations.

They asked the counsel of the parties appearing before them to file a list of names of those persons who could be invited by the Commission for such an "advisory interaction" to evolve some workable solutions, particularly for an effective implementation of the State Government's legislation titled the Jammu and Kashmir migrant immovable property (preservation, protection and restraint on distress sales) Act, 1997.

The Commission has also directed the State Government to prepare a district-wise list of the properties which fall under the purview of this Act. The list should also specify the action taken by the Government in this regard so far. The report based on this list would have to be furnished by them to the Commission by August 10 next.

The Samiti in its petition criticises the Centre and the State

Governments for their failure to attend to the problems of the displaced persons. The callous attitude of the Governments has left the hapless community with no other option but to approach the Commission, it stated.

Meanwhile, the members of the displaced community are dismayed over the BJP-led government "backing out" from the promises made by them earlier on for the redressal of their grievances. "The BJP was our last hope and we expected them to pay more attention to our problems but all our hopes have been belied as the government seems to be more interested in placating State Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah rather than assuaging the feelings of the Kashmiri Pandit community and all others displaced persons," said a senior member of the community.

Expressing his anger over the BJP apathy, he said, "perhaps we committed a blunder by pinning all our hopes on them. We had put all our eggs in one basket which we should not have done".

26-6-1998

DAILY EXCELSIOR

Advani assures Kashmiri Pandits rehabilitation

NEW DELHI, June 25:

Centre will give "full thought" to the problems being faced by Kashmiri pandits for the past nine years ever since they were forced to leave the Valley due to Pakistan-aided terrorism, Home Minister L. K. Advani has said.

Advani gave the assurance to a delegation of Kashmiri Samiti Delhi (KSD) led by its president C. L. Gadoo which presented him a charter of demands including rehabilitation and compensation for losses and destroyed properties, a Samiti release said here today.

The memorandum demanded among other things adequate representation to pandits in Jammu and Kashmir Assembly as well as Parliament and appointment of members of the community to important posts in the state administration and judiciary.

They also sought appointment of a commission with wide terms of (Contd on page 11 Col 1)

Advani assures...

...to uncover the ground realities in the state, special provisions for admission of displaced youths seeking education at all levels throughout the country and jobs for educated and trained youths in all states and Central Government organisations with age relaxation.

30-6-1998

Hindustan Times Refugee status for Kashmiri migrants urged

HT Correspondent

NEW DELHI, June 29

Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, an organisation articulating the cause of Kashmiri migrants, has urged Union Home Minister L. K. Advani to give them status of refugees and take steps accordingly to protect their interests and rehabilitate them properly.

In a memorandum submitted to him, Samiti president C. L. Gadoo reminded Mr Advani that granting the refugee status to the community was a demand which he had repeatedly supported before coming to power. He said that the nomenclature migrants was misleading and at times prevented the community from being treated equally at the administrative and political levels.

He demanded that the community should be given adequate political representation. A similar mechanism should be evolved to give them meaningful say in the administrative machinery and judiciary in Jammu and Kashmir. This was essential so that the community could have an effective say in getting their problems mitigated, he felt.

KOSHUR SAMACHAR REPORTS ABOUT LEFT-OVER PROPERTIES

NHRC Hears KSD Petition

The National Human Rights Commission met in New Delhi on July 21, 1998, to hear the petition (case no. 490/9/97-98) filed by Kashmiri Samiti Delhi in connection with the problems of Kashmiri Pandit migrants. KSD was represented by Shi C.I. Gadoo, its President.

After hearing the counsel for the Union Government and the KSD, the learned Commission felt that a wider and broad-based interaction and discussion with the parties, representatives of the State and Union Governments, some of the experts on Kashmir affairs and those who could contribute to an useful debate on the issues may be necessary and useful. The Commission has, therefore, called for a list of names who could be invited for such an advisory interaction to evolve some workable solutions, particularly for an effective implementation and enforcement of the J&K Migrants Immovable Property (Preservation, Protection and Restraint on Distress Sales) Act, 1997.

The Commission has directed the concerned authorities of the State government to prepare a district-wise list of the properties which fall within the purview of this Act and indicate action taken thereunder by August 10, 1998.

HINDU & EXCELSIOR ON JULY 25, 1998 REPORT

NHRC for list of migrants' properties

By Our Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, July 23.

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has asked the Centre and the Jammu and Kashmir Government to prepare by August 10 a district-wise list of the properties left behind by the Kashmiri migrants in the Valley and address the immediate and over all problems of the community.

Reacting to a petition filed by the Kashmiri Samiti on July 21, the Commission asked the Governments to carry out broad-based interaction and discussion with the parties, representatives of the State and Union Governments and some of the experts on Kashmir affairs and those who could contribute to a useful debate on the issues including the voluntary agencies. However, before a decision could be taken on such a step, the Commission has asked the counsel for the petitioner to file a list of names of those who could be invited for such an advisory interaction to evolve some workable solution. The counsel has been requested to file by July 21, the list of the names.

The list of properties would be filed in accordance with the Jammu and Kashmir Migrant Immovable Property (Preservation, Protection and Restraint on Distress Sales) Act, 1997.

Govt asked to make migrants properties' data

NEW DELHI, July 24:

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has asked the Jammu and Kashmir Government to prepare a district-wide data of properties left behind by Kashmiri Pandits who migrated out from the Valley due to militancy.

The Commission's recommendations came on a petition by the Kashmiri Samiti (Delhi) president C L Gadoo seeking protection for minorities and immovable properties left behind by migrants in the Valley.

The Commission urged the Centre and the State Government to suggest names of people who could be invited for an advisory interaction to evolve some workable solutions for effective implementation and enforcement of 'the Jammu and Kashmir migrant immovable property (preservation, protection and restraint on distress sales) Act, 1997'.

The NHRC has also asked the State Government to file a report on (Contd on page 11 Col 3)

Govt asked,....

(From page 1)

action taken under the Act so far by August 10.

The Commission was earlier informed by the Centre's counsel that police pickets had been stationed and other security measures taken to protect minorities in the Valley. (PTI)

شہر سے آیتوالے ہندو شہنائیوں کی جائیدادیں

انسانی حقوق کمیٹی نے مرکز اور ریاست سرکار کو فرسٹ پٹیج کرنے کی چالاک کی

یہ دفعہ (پانچ آئی) انسانی حقوق کے قومی ادارے نے ہندو شہنائیوں کی جائیدادیں کے بارے میں ایک رپورٹ پیش کی ہے۔ اس رپورٹ میں ہندو شہنائیوں کے جائیدادوں کے بارے میں بتایا گیا ہے کہ ان کے جائیدادوں کو سرکار نے محفوظ رکھنا چاہیے اور ان کے ساتھ کوئی بھی ایسا کام نہیں کیا جائے جس سے ان کے جائیدادوں کو نقصان پہنچے۔

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DAILY EXCELSIOR 3-8-1998

JK Govt. asked to prepare list of KPs' properties

NEW DELHI, Aug 2.

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has directed the Jammu and Kashmir Government to submit a report by August 15 on the steps taken by it to protect the properties of Kashmiri Pandits who have fled the state after the recent brutal attacks by the militants on them.

NHRC sources told today that the Commission had asked the State Government to prepare a district-wise list of properties falling within the purview of the Jammu and Kashmir migrant Inmovable Property (preservation, protection and restraint on distress sales) Act, 1997 and indicate the action taken under the act so far.

The Commission gave the direction after hearing a petition filed by the Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, urging the Commission to send a fact finding mission to the disturbed Doda district

JK Govt asked to.... (From page 1)

ties, representatives of State and Union Governments, some of the experts of the Kashmiri affair and those who could contribute to a useful debate on the issues. Including some of the NGOs in this field, may be necessary and useful.

The sources said the Commission asked the councils of all the parties to file a list of names of those who could be invited for such an advisory interaction or "brain storming session as they called it" by July 31 to evolve some workable solutions for effective implementation and enforcement of the legislation with appropriate monitoring mechanism.

The petitioner had requested the Commission to take cognizance of the brutal killings and gross violation of the human rights of Kashmiri Pandits and take appropriate action against the culprits.

The Samiti had requested the NHRC to seek Action Taken Reports from the State and Central Government so that the nation is given proper and correct information in this regard. It also asked the NHRC to direct the Government to pay compensation to the families of the victims and protect the life and properties of the remaining Hindus in the area.

The Government should also provide full facilities of living and other means of sustenance to those who have fled or migrated from the state as a result of the brutal killings, the complaint had stated. The Samiti demanded that Doda district should be declared disturbed area to infuse a sense of security among the people.

The killings have spread panic and distrust among the minority commu-

and seek an action report from the Centre and the Jammu and Kashmir Government on the continued killing of Pandits in the state.

Earlier, the Union Government has informed the Commission that the State Government has taken certain steps regarding the stationing of police pickets and other security measures for the protection of minorities in the Kashmir Valley.

M N Venkatasubrahmanyam, Union Government had also stated before the Commission that for the preservation of the inmovable properties left behind by the migrants the act was passed by the State Legislature which came into force on June 2, last year.

After hearing the Councils of Union and State Governments, NHRC chairperson M N Venkatasubrahmanyam felt that "a wider and broad-based interaction and discussions with the participation of all concerned parties is essential to bring about a lasting solution to the problem of the Kashmiri Pandits who have started fleeing from their homes, it pointed out and said Pandits should be recruited by different security agencies and Defence Committees should be further strengthened.

A systematic, barbaric and brutal killing have been executed with a firm motive to let loose the reign of terror and to exterminate the rest of the Hindu population from their homes and hearths, the complaint stated. (UNI)

THE BLACK DAY (August 14, 1998)



KSD members demonstrating at the Pakistan High Commission, New Delhi



Another view of the demonstration at Pak High Commission

PRINT MEDIA REPORTS
HINDU & HINDUSTAN TIMES August 15, 1998 REPORTS

Protest against Pak. support to militants

By Our Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, Aug 14.

The Kashmiri Samiti Delhi today held demonstrations in front of the Pakistan High Commission and the U.S. Embassy here protesting against Islamabad's continued support to militants in Jammu and Kashmir and demanding that Pakistan be declared a terrorist state.

Hundreds of protesters and migrants from Jammu and Kashmir led by the president of the Samiti, Mr. C.L. Gadoo, shouted slogans condemning the massacre of innocent people in Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh recently. The protesters demanded that Pakistan should put an end to its brutal and dastardly

acts immediately. They were stopped by the police from marching to the Pakistan High Commission.

Later, five representatives presented separate memorandums to the two missions. The memorandum submitted to the U. S. Embassy demanded that the U.S. should declare Pakistan a terrorist state without any loss of time. It blamed the country for 'unceasing and inhuman massacres' at an unprecedented scale in Jammu and Kashmir. 'Pakistan is promoting violence and fundamentalism across the globe and the blasts in Kenya and Tanzania are only recent examples of it,' the memorandum added.

It further said that the U.S. people and Government have always extended the hand of

friendship, sympathy and all around assistance to Pakistan from where only death and destruction have followed. In the memorandum to the Pakistan High Commission, the Samiti demanded that Islamabad should immediately stop sending mercenaries to the State. 'Islam is a religion which conveys peace, love and goodwill towards its neighbours and not the one practised by your country,' it added.

Addressing the demonstrators, Mr. Gadoo expressed confidence that the BJP lead coalition government at the Centre would be able to deal with terrorism effectively and hoped that it would soon evolve a strategy to counter the challenges from both internal and external forces.

Rally condemns Pak's proxy war in Valley

NEW DELHI, Aug. 14 (HTC)

The Kashmir Samiti of Delhi, an organisation articulating the cause of the persons displaced from the terrorist infested areas of Jammu and Kashmir has asked the Pakistan government to stop immediately their proxy war in the state which has resulted in the killings of innocent people. The organisation has also asked the US government to declare Pakistan as a terrorist state for perpetrating mayhem in the Valley.

These demands were raised by the Samiti members after they held demonstrations outside the US and Pakistan embassies here today. The demonstrations were led by its president, Mr C. L. Gadoo.

They raised anti-Pakistan and anti-US slogans condemning the massacre of Hindus in J&K and Himachal Pradesh. Addressing the gathering, Mr Gadoo expressed the hope that the present BJP government led by Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee would be bold enough to face the challenge.

Paradox of Being A Refugee in One's Own Home

— C.L. Gadoo

[The Other Media, in collaboration with the South Asian Forum for Human Rights, organised a 3-day Regional Consultation on "Refugees and Forced Migration—Nee for Rational Laws and Regional Co-operation" in New Delhi from September 5-7, 1998. Delegates from six South Asian countries—Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka participated in the Consultation with the objective of "evolving a common instrument at the South Asian level to deal with the refugee situation prevailing in this region."

KSD President CL Gadoo was also invited to participate in the meeting. The present paper is an adaptation of the address delivered by him on September 5, 1998.—Editor]

AS we know, the refugees are today a subject of great import all over the world and more particularly in our region, where the refugee problems crop up ever so frequently but are of varied nature and intensity and often too complex for easy understanding and solution.

Who is a refugee

The word and concept of "refugees" is not new. It is as old as human civilization. In simple and direct term, as commonly understood, it means "one who flees for refuge to another country, especially for religious and political persecution" as the Chambers dictionary puts it. Yet over time the word has assumed many different connotations, images and character and today, we are seeking to define who is a refugee in the South Asian context. This naturally implies that the definition would vary from region to region, from one social or political set-up to another, or between different customs and traditions or religious beliefs. Yet a 'refugee' remains one who has fled or has been driven out of home by some one who has no right to do so, and is violating in a most inhuman way natural laws as well as those established by human society. In ancient times, we learn from legend, that Moses had to lead Hebrews to flee from their land of adoption under harsh oppression of, for example, burdens imposed by back-breaking building operations. Or in North America only two to three centuries ago, the Red Indians were steadily and relentlessly uprooted from their centuries-old habitations and driven into inhospitable environs by the force of arms, ambushes, cheating and unspeakable atrocities and oppression to create what today stand as the USA and Canada. This phenomenon was not peculiar to

that continent alone. It operated equally harshly in Australia and New Zealand by the European colonial expansionists within Europe itself. We have the most shameful and dastardly example of pre-World War II German Nazis who exterminated and thus expelled millions of their own countrymen though of a different race and religion. Where do we place such victims in the definition of 'Refugees'?

Refugees from Kashmir

Having said this, I would now turn to present the picture of the situation in regard to the refugees from the Kashmir Valley with special reference to the trends of State policies which cause or promote, wittingly or unwittingly, this type of displacement of hundreds of thousands of innocent people.

In Kashmir, the oppression that led to eventual fleeing from one's centuries-old home started palpably with the birth of India and Pakistan in 1947. In Kashmir, a section of the society—the Kashmiri Pandit—was in a minority. The State, after getting freedom from the autocratic rule of the Maharaja, came to be ruled by "the people" as they would call it. And 'the people' were the overwhelming majority of the Muslims of the State. Why the Kashmiri Pandits came to get deeper and deeper into covert, and at times, overt oppression on many counts is a long story of bigotry, jealousy and zeal of faith. Unfortunately for us, the short sighted political considerations, again more imagined than real, by the Central leadership, which ironically represented the Hindu majority, made them to take hold of the reins of State government's horse but turn the other way through all the years since Independence. The inevitable fallout of this apathy was the growing oppression by the State's majority community of

their minority cohorts. This should be characterised as a direct rather than incidental promotion of oppression by the State machinery, reaching to an unmanageable position.

Persecution of an intellectual race

Kashmiri Pandits are historically and traditionally a community of scholars, intellectuals, and efficient professional and administrative workforce and have a passion for education. Here is a community which is over 95 per cent educated in varied disciplines. It was thus an unbearable oppression for them when the State authorities worked assiduously and strictly towards restricting their admissions to higher educational courses and institutions. Simultaneously, their opportunities to enter State government employment were slashed and their landed properties were taken over under cover of laws which were unconstitutional, unfair and unequal.

Pressure on these luckless people kept increasing to an unbearable point and this forced them to leave their birthplace to seek new pastures. They left silently and unobtrusively, but in a regular stream. This was one aspect of the emerging refugee problem, though not very visible commonly.

Diaspora of the Nineties

At the beginning of this last decade of the 20th century, a new and deadly assault on the minority community suddenly erupted with a severity which turned out to be wide and unending. This was abetted, instigated and actively promoted by Pakistan. Earlier, incidents of physical and mental assaults, indignities, humiliation and other pressures on individuals were not unknown, though these were vocational. In 1989-90 killings of the Kashmiri Pandits as a whole started all over the Valley, first selective and later indiscriminate. Women were dishonoured, raped and then brutally murdered. Even little children and babies were not spared. In short, nothing was left undone or even half done—and continues to be so with the sinister aim of pushing out the remaining Kashmiri Pandits to seek refuge elsewhere.

As if this was not enough, bone-chilling threatenings would blare out from the mosques, night and day, giving time-bound ultimatums to Kashmiri Pandit men to clear out of the Valley but leave their

young womenfolk behind. Over the last nine years, more than three hundred thousand well educated and enlightened people, almost the entire community, are getting wasted away physically, mentally and spiritually in miserable camps and makeshift dwellings in unknown and uncharted places.

Some responsible people in high places in the then government of India—which has the power to dismiss a State government in the event of a breakdown in the law and order (which had clearly happened in Kashmir), chose to ignore the facts and cover them up in what was an exercise unprecedented in history. They made statements to the effect that the Kashmiri Pandits had chosen to leave everything behind and move out of the Valley of their own free will. And comically in those terrific and tragic times, the government even went to the extent of accusing their own nominated and appointed Governor of the State as the villain of the piece. He was charged of luring the Kashmiri Pandits by offering free rides out of the Valley or small tenements in some town or city outside their state if they left so that he could deal with the rest of the population. How ludicrous it was! And when it suited them otherwise, they ate their own words. One feels ashamed of even referring to such blatant lies shamelessly put out by them. But it is an important aspect to remember in any analysis of the refugee question such as we are engaged in presently.

Politicians recognise no limits to their greed to hold on to power and ensure votes at the next hustings even when they fail miserably in their gimmicks. They have been used to take the common people as dumb driven cattle who could be fed with the filth and rubbish and falsehood that they alone can generate.

Anomaly of being called a migrant

The governments, both at the Centre and in the State, have been doing their utmost not to recognise these refugees as a constitutional, moral and humanitarian responsibility of the State except throwing crumbs at them as if in charity or as bothersome pests. They are being characterised as “migrans” and not as displaced persons, internally or otherwise, which they are. To call them ‘migrants’

is a travesty of facts. A 'migrant' moves out of his own free will to seek better fortunes and need not, therefore, be eligible to claim the rights of a recognised and established citizen or inhabitant of a particular place. As we all know, in the present day world a large proportion of the population keeps migrating from one place or country to another, just because they want to better their prospects. A refugee or a person displaced under force and oppression is an entirely different proposition and is rightfully a claimant of adequate relief and compensation and eventual return to the place from where he has been thrown out or displaced. All of us are aware that when huge chunks of population in a country get displaced to facilitate construction of a big dam or a development project, the people displaced there are given substantial compensation and even much better conditions of life than they were having at the original place. What have the Kashmiri Pandits got instead? It is imperative that the terminology adopted in international conventions and in common practice should make these distinctions meaningful, flexible and practical.

The Vote Bank politics

I have earlier mentioned about minorities in the Jammu and Kashmir State, being Hindus in faith. In our country as a whole, it is the Muslims who form the largest single minority besides other smaller communities. This large minority wields an effective voting strength, which is solid and formidable. Each political party, therefore, strives to keep them always in good humour, which, not unoften becomes counter-productive. Yet the politicians continue to woo them and pursue their machinations even at considerable cost to the society, including the minorities.

One of these machinations is to emphasize the point that Muslims in Kashmir, in spite of being in overwhelming majority in the J&K state do need special treatment and in that process even the genuine interest of the minorities (here the Hindu minority of Kashmiri Pandits) can be sacrificed to keep the Muslims in India in good humour. This undoubtedly, is a very weak and superficial assessment of the actualities and essentially of no great respect to the intelligence of Muslims in the country. That should explain why the State government turned a blind eye to the oppression of the Kashmiri Pandit minority

and the Central government turned a deaf ear and showed absolute unconcern for what was happening to the Kashmiri Pandits in the State and where it would lead.

By saying so, one does not advocate a movement with any communal angle or lay any blame on the Muslims in the country. The only point that is sought to be made sincerely and objectively is the double face of politicians of all hues, and shades in India.

Quirks of Fate

The other point that needs to be emphasized here is full of pathos and quirks of fate. Reference is to the Afghans, a large number of whom had to flee their country in the wake of the civil war and the extensive destruction of their country. It was a proxy war of sorts. USA, fighting the then USSR was supplying unlimited and un-accounted quantities of war material to its friend, Pakistan. The Afghans had come as refugees to Pakistan just as quite a number came to this country too. Gradually, the section that remained in Pakistan started falling on difficult days. It was only natural that they fell to the lure of turning into terrorists and trying their luck in Kashmir with full backing of their hosts.

Kashmiri Pandits were among the front line victims as refugees to escape the atrocities perpetrated by the Afghan refugees, turned terrorists. For the latter, we get reports that the wheel has come full circle, for many of them are languishing in misfortune here and there.

To sum up, this statement focuses on two aspects, in particular; one relates to the trends of State policies, which cause painful displacement and which call for thorough examination and reform and redressal.

The second, in giving examples of different periods, places and occurrences, obsessions and compulsions, I was guided by the view that it may need serious thought and discussion to establish proper definitions of 'refugee', displaced persons etc. such as would do justice to these terms and make them immediately understood and justly applicable without confusion. For obvious reasons, this paper is for the most part a profile of what actually obtains in Kashmir which, of course, is a burning question in so far as refugees or so-called migrants are concerned. □

Kashmiri Pandit Balidaan Divas

SOLEMN HOMAGE TO VICTIMS OF TERRORISM

—A Report—

IT was a mammoth gathering, rather unprecedented in recent years, which turned up at the Constitution Club, New Delhi on September 14, 1998 to pay homage to hundreds of patriots, who fell victims to the terrorist guns since the start of militancy in the Kashmir valley in 1989. The impressive function was organised by Kashmiri Samiti Delhi to observe the Balidaan Divas (Martyrdom Day) in memory of these martyrs, an annual feature.

Union Home Minister Shri L.K. Advani, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Tourism Shri Madan Lal Khurana and senior BJP leader in-charge of Kashmir affairs, Shri Kedar Nath Sahani joined the traumatized Kashmiri Pandit community in paying their tributes to Late Shri Tika Lal Taploo and other innocent Pandits, men, women and children, as also the brave officers and jawans of the Indian Army who had to pay a heavy price with their lives in keeping the Indian tricolour aloft in terrorist ridden J&K state. Shri Taploo, it was recalled, was a patriot to the hilt, who stood for Akhand Bharat—a united India and had consistently advocated the scrapping of Article 370.

Addressing the gathering, Shri L.K. Advani declared that the Government of India would facilitate the return of Kashmiri Pandits ousted from their homeland consequent to the rise of insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir. Claiming that the BJP-led government had achieved notable success in containing terrorism in the state, Shri Advani declared that “we would consider to have solved the crisis completely only when we are able to provide complete security and send back migrants to their native land”. The Home Minister promised that after complete normalcy was restored in the region, the Union and the State Governments would open a dialogue with representatives of the Kashmiri Pandit community and work for their welfare and rehabilitation. On the subject of return of Kashmiri Pandits, he gave an assurance that the prevailing ground realities will be kept in view because it was

a well known fact that they had not left the valley of their own accord but were forcibly driven out by the militants and compelled by circumstances to spend all these years as “refugees in their own country”.

It was unfortunate, Shri Advani observed, that “Kashmiri Pandits had become hostages in their own homeland” due to the proxy war waged by Pakistan through its ISI which had spread its tentacles all over the country, including the South. He exuded confidence that the government would smash their nefarious designs and defeat the proxy war waged by Pakistan against India.

According to the Home Minister, there was a discernible improvement in the Kashmir situation with tourism fast picking up. But normalcy in Kashmir would be incomplete without ousted Kashmiri Pandit populace going back there, he added.

In response to a question from the audience about the living conditions in migrant camps, Shri Advani gave an assurance that he would talk to the administration in regard to bringing about improvements in such conditions. While Shri Advani did not fix any time frame for the return of displaced Kashmiri Pandits, he was emphatic that they shall eventually have to go back to Kashmir.

Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shri Madan Lal Khurana echoed the feelings of Shri Advani and conceded that unless and until the displaced Kashmiri Pandits return to their birthplace, Kashmir would not be considered to have achieved complete normalcy. He said he felt deeply concerned over the pains and sufferings of the displaced Kashmiri Pandits, having himself gone through the trauma at the time of India's partition. He assured the migrants staying in camps in Delhi that more facilities would be provided to them. Regarding the demand for regularising the services of displaced teachers appointed on *ad hoc* basis, Shri Khurana promised that the matter would be looked into.



Shri Kedar Nath Sahani expressed deep anxiety over the conditions in Kashmir and said that what Pakistan was doing today was in conformity with a plan prepared some 25 years ago. He said that the Government would have to create a situation when we can unfurl the national flag in Srinagar without the escort of any security paraphernalia. He suggested that the living conditions of the camp-dwellers should be upgraded and their monthly doles increased.

Earlier, paying homage to the martyrs who had laid down their lives for holding unshakable belief in *Dharma* and the unity and integrity of the country, Shri C.L. Gadoo, President, Kashmiri Samiti Delhi, said that "change in Kashmir situation can be brought about only by negating the policies pursued for the last 50 years" including the abolition of article 370. Paying homage also to thousands of officers and jawans of the Indian Army who had sacrificed their precious "lives fighting the Pakistan-sponsored proxy war and fanatic Islamic terrorism in J&K state", Shri Gadoo said "a lot more Army cantonments shall have to be established in the state and pro-integration people within the state to be mobilized and supported to defeat the fascist formations, helped by zealots from different parts of the world".

While the "misdeeds and erroneous perceptions all through these fifty years resulted in the catastrophe of 1989-90 for our community", Shri Gadoo expected from the BJP leadership, now in

command at New Delhi, "a better future for our country and, as its citizens, a bright future for us"—the Kashmiri Pandit community.

Complaining that the J&K Government was unconcerned about the plight of this hapless community, the KSD President said "nothing substantial had been done to win our confidence". On top of it, the state government had been issuing threats to the now hardly a few thousand employees to return to the valley or else to forego their salaries and jobs. "In no case are we going to be hostages in Kashmir to further the nefarious designs of Pakistan-sponsored and locally-abetted terrorists," he declared.

Striking an emotional chord, Shri Gadoo said "Kashmir is a part of our life and death and once the Indian flag hoists there without any need of security, and terrorists and their overt and covert supporters meet their doomsday, we shall return to the land of Sharda Maa to once again contribute our best to our country", he added.

Referring to the extremely fluid situation in Doda, Shri Gadoo reiterated that the security threat in that district cannot be countered effectively without the revival and strengthening of the village defence committees and providing right motivation and sufficient incentives to the members of such committees. In this context, he welcomed the Union Government's decision to commence the process of setting up a cantonment in Bhandarwah.

—A. N. Kaul

HOMAGE TO MARTYRS



OBSERVING SILENCE IN MEMORY OF VICTIMS OF TERRORISM



L. K. ADVANI ADDRESSING THE AUDIENCE



SH. KIDAR NATH SAHANI AND SH. MADAN LAL KHURANA



The Union Home Minister, Mr L. K. Advani, and the Bharatiya Jansamiti Party leader, Mr K. N. Subramani, paying homage to those killed by in Jammu and Kashmir, at a function in the Capital on Monday. — The Statesman.

Kashmiri migrants to be sent back home: Advani

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, Sept. 14. — The Union Home Minister, Mr L K Advani, today said the government would facilitate the return of Kashmiris ousted from their homeland following insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Home Minister was speaking at the balidan diwas (martyrdom day) function organised by the Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, to pay homage to those who had fallen to the bullets of the terrorist and separatist outfits in the region.

Mr Advani said the BJP had been successful in solving the terrorist problem in Jammu and Kashmir. He, however, added, "We would consider to have solved the crisis completely only when we are able to provide complete security and send back migrants to their native land."

He promised that after complete normalcy was restored in the region, the Centre along with the state government would open a dialogue with representatives of native Kashmiris and work for their reinstatement and welfare. He did not specify any time frame for the exercise.

The Kashmiris, Mr Advani pointed out, "had

become hostages in their homeland due to the proxy war waged by Pakistan through its Inter Services Intelligence agency. The ISI has spread its tentacles all over the country and has even spread to the South, but the government will smash their nefarious designs," Mr Advani added.

The Home Minister criticised "certain countries" which had advised India to "exercise patience" on the Kashmir issue, saying countries which had not undergone the trauma being faced by India, especially Kashmir, would not appreciate the problems. "Those intervening in Indian affairs should refrain from doing so", he said.

The government had achieved some success in curbing the ISI activities. Out of the 41 bomb blasts during the past one and a half year, those responsible for 36 blasts had been apprehended, he said.

Pakistan, according to Mr Advani, has been waging a proxy war against India after the signing of the Shimla pact as it realised that it could not match the might and prowess of the Indian Army on the battle field.

The president of the samiti, Mr C L Gadoo, urged the government to intervene in the matter and restore the natives to their home land.



● HOMAGE: Union home minister L.K. Advani and Bharatiya Janata Party leader Kedar Nath Sahni pay homage to Kashmiri martyr in the occasion of Kashmiri Balidan Diwas in New Delhi on Monday. A photograph by G.N. Jha

Advani flays 'foreign countries' for hypocrisy

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi, Sept. 14: Union home minister L.K. Advani on Monday flayed "some foreign countries" for advising India to demonstrate patience while dealing with cross-border militancy.

"When the US embassies were attacked, an American spokesperson said that Americans are not expendable and soon after that they bombed Sudan and Afghanistan. Does it then mean that Indians are expendable?" Mr. Advani said.

"They give us advice and suggestions to prevent militancy in India but they cannot even strategise for us without realising the pain undergone by Indians and the Kashmiris," he added. Condemning the proxy war instigated by Pakistan, Mr. Advani said

that "We are working to defeat the proxy war launched by them. Pakistan resumed to launching a proxy war in India following its defeat at the hands of Indian forces in the 1971 war and after the 1972 Shimla Agreement, he said, adding,

"Pakistan thought it cannot face Indian forces in the battle-

field and so it started the proxy war to kill innocent civilians here." The home minister said Pakistan-sponsored terrorism in India started about 15 years back in Punjab and spread to Kashmir and then to the Northeast and Southern states and other parts.

Mr. Advani said that the ISI is trying to spread its activities one way or the other in almost all the states of India. He asserted that the government was determined to foil

their network in the country. "Even if we cannot control their activities on the border, we are definitely determined to smash their network," he said. Stating that the government had succeeded in thwarting the network to some extent,

he said that the accused in 36 bomb blasts in the capital

had so far been arrested. Mr. Advani said that though there has been considerable improvement in the valley, unless and until the Kashmir refugees feel its safe enough to return, normalcy cannot be ensured. He assured that the government will hold talks with the representatives of refugees, the state government and form strategies for their safe return. Mr. Advani was addressing a function organised by the

Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, to observe Balidan Diwas (Martyrdom Day) in memory of victims of terrorism in Kashmir.

Alleging that the Jammu and Kashmir government was unconcerned about them, Kashmiri Samiti president C.L. Gadoo said, "Nothing substantial has been done by the Jammu and Kashmir government to win our confidence." He said that the state government has also been issuing threats to refugees employees to return to the Valley or to forego their salaried jobs.

"In no case are we going to be hostages in Kashmir to further the nefarious designs of Pakistan-sponsored and locally abetted terrorists," he said. Also present at the occasion were Union parliamentary affairs minister Madan Lal Khurana and BJP leader Kedar Nath Sahani.

STOP INDIA BASHING

Plan to help Kashmiri migrants' return

By Our Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, Sept. 14.

The Union Home Minister, Mr L.K. Advani, has said the Centre has formulated a plan to help the return of the Kashmiri migrants. The Jammu and Kashmir Government and the refugees would be consulted on the measures to be taken.

Speaking at the Martyr's Day function organised today by the Kashmir Samiti, New Delhi, to observe the ninth death anniversary of Tika Lal Taploo, who was the State BJP vice-president when he was gunned down by the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front militants in 1989, Mr Advani said like checking insurgency, safe return of the refugees to their homes was also one of the objectives of the Centre.

Mr Advani told the gathering that "the Government has been working on the agenda it had set itself before the elections and some success has been achieved as the rise in tourists to Pahalgam, Gulmarg and Amarnath Yatra indicates." Mr Advani assured that "all decisions will be taken keeping in mind that you (refugees) were forced out" of Kashmir.

Asserting that patience was wearing thin as this proxy war has been on for a long time, the Home Minister said this war has been on since 1971, when Pakistan realised that it could not

win open military conflicts against India. "It then began targeting innocent civilians."

"Terrorism first took roots in Punjab, from where it spread to Kashmir and then to the North East. Today, however, it is all over the country and the Pakistan's ISI has spread its tentacles all over." On how the Government would combat the menace, Mr Advani said besides checking insurgency, efforts are being made to catch the culprits.

In this regard he pointed out to the 41 blasts in Delhi during the past year and a half in which culprits have been identified and arrested in 36 cases.

Recalling how he had gone to the funeral of Taploo, Mr Advani said the late leader had been receiving threats for his bold pro-India posture on the Kashmir issue. "But he did not pay heed to the threats and paid the price with his life." So was the case, Mr Advani said, with lakhs of other Kashmiris who have become refugees in their own country because they always stood by the "Bharat Mata".

Mr Advani said "in 1947, the partition made me and many others refugees, but at least there were two countries then. Kashmiris are refugees in their own country now."

Taking a dig at the foreign powers, Mr Advani said they used to tell India to remain patient, but when their diplomatic missions were targeted by

fundamentalists they pounded Afghanistan and Sudan with missiles. "Still, they insist that India does not have the right to do so." But if "Americans are not expendable, neither are we."

Earlier, addressing the gathering which included the Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Mr Madan Lal Khurana, and the former Delhi party unit president, Mr Kedar Nath Sahani, the Kashmir Samiti president, Mr C.L. Gadoo, demanded that Article 370 be scrapped and more Army cantonments be set up in Kashmir.

Blaming the "wrong policies" of successive governments for internationalising the Kashmir issue, Mr Gadoo said little has been done at the home front to ameliorate the problems of the minorities of Kashmir. Over 6,000 of them have retired in the last 10 years but their children have not been given jobs. Promotions are denied to non-Muslim employees. They are transferred to far-flung areas and even the government-sponsored J&K Bank treats them with contempt, he charged.

Mr Gadoo also referred to the deteriorating educational standards, lack of work opportunities and denial of financial assistance to the minorities in the State. Further, he urged the Government to take steps to oust the illegal occupants of properties and enhance the aid to the refugees.

CITY/NATION

THE PIONEER 3

TUESDAY S

'Govt will smash ISI links'

Pioneer News Service
New Delhi

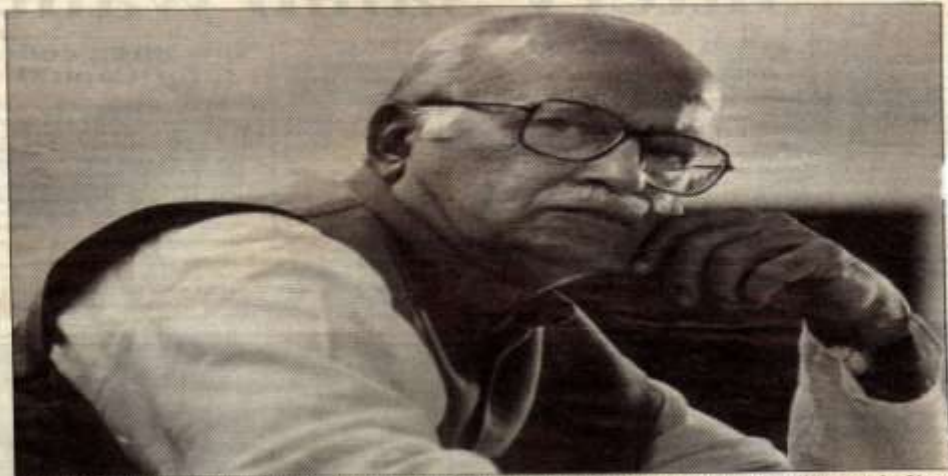
STRONGLY ENDORSING the government's resolve to wipe out the ISI network from the country, Union Home Minister LK Advani on Monday came down heavily on "some foreign countries" for their selective condemnation of cross-border terrorism.

"ISI is trying to spread its tentacles, in some way or the other, in almost all the states of India. However, we are equally determined to smash their network," Mr Advani said at a function organised to observe 'Baldan Divas' (martyrdom day), in memory of victims of terrorism in Kashmir.

Mr Advani reiterated his government's resolve to defeat the proxy war waged by Pakistan against India.

He also spoke of the success of security agencies in thwarting militancy, stating that the security agencies have been successful in defeating the ISI to some extent, he cited that the accused in 36 of the 141 bomb blasts in Delhi had so far been arrested.

Mr Advani said Pakistan-sponsored terrorism in India started about 15 years back in Punjab from where it spread to Kashmir and then



Home Minister LK Advani pays homage to people of J&K killed last year by militants, in New Delhi on Monday
Anil Sharma/Pioneer

to the North-East and other parts. Pakistan resorted to launching a proxy war following its defeat at the hands of

the Indian forces in 1971, he said.

Mr Advani added that "Pakistan thought it cannot

face Indian forces in the battle-field and so it started the proxy war to kill civilians here".

Advani firm on cutting off ISI tentacles

UNION Home Minister Shri L.K. Advani criticised "some foreign countries" for advising India to demonstrate patience while dealing with cross-border terrorism.

He pointed out that ISI was trying to spread its tentacles, in some way or the other in almost all the States in India. "However, we are equally determined to smash their network," he said. Shri Advani was speaking at a function organised by Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi to observe 'Balidan Divas' (Martyrdom Day) in the memory of victims of terrorism in Kashmir.

Shri Advani said that Pakistan sponsored terrorism in India started about fifteen years back in Punjab and spread to Kashmir and then to the North-east and other parts. Pakistan resorted to proxy war following its defeat at the hands of Indian forces in 1971 war. Shri Advani added that "Pakistan thought it can not face Indian forces in the battle field and so started the proxy war to kill Indians here."

Shri Advani reiterated his government's resolve to defeat proxy war being waged by

Pakistan against India.

The Union Home Minister also informed the success of security agencies in combating militancy. He cited that the accused in 35 out of the 141 bomb blasts in Delhi had so far been arrested.

Shri Advani added that the Kashmir will have a normal situation when the refugees come back to their own land.

Attending the function Union Minister for Tourism and Parliamentary affairs, Shri Madant Lal Khurana assured the Kashmiris who are staying at the Delhi camp for more facilities in their camp. He said that he will keep watch with Advani about this matter. Regarding the demand of Kashmiri Samiti for regularising the teachers who had been appointed in ad-hoc basis, Shri Khurana also assured them to look into the matter.

Shri Kedarnath Sahani, former State President of Delhi



Shri L.K. Advani paying floral tribute to the victims of terrorism in Kashmir

BJP pointed out that first of all we have to unfurl the National Flag in Srinagar without the escort of any security paraphernalia. Shri Sahani who is in charge of Kashmir affairs in BJP suggested that better arms should be provided to the village committees to combat the terrorists. He added that the living conditions and monthly doles of the refugees in the

camp should be increased.

In the beginning of the function Shri Advani paid floral tribute to the terrorist victims of Kashmir. Shri C.L. Gadoo, the President of Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi read a memorandum regarding problems of Kashmiris in front of the Home Minister of India.

Deepak Kumar Rath



पंडितों की वापसी के बगैर कश्मीर समस्या का समाधान मुमकिन नहीं : आडवाणी

सहारा समाचार

नयी दिल्ली, 14 सितम्बर। केन्द्रीय गृहमंत्री लालकृष्ण आडवाणी ने कहा है कि कश्मीर समस्या का तब तक समाधान नहीं हो सकता जब तक कश्मीरी पंडित घाटी में वापस नहीं लौट जाते और शरणार्थी बने रहने पर मजबूर हैं।

घाटी में आतंकवादियों द्वारा मारे गये लोगों की इम्ति में दिल्ली कश्मीर समिति की ओर से आयोजित बलिदान दिवस के मौके पर गृहमंत्री ने आज कहा कि कश्मीरी पंडितों की वापसी से संबंधित कोई भी फैसला उनके प्रतिनिधियों व जम्मू-कश्मीर के मुख्यमंत्री फारूक अब्दुल्ला से विचार-विमर्श के बाद ही किया जाएगा। उन्होंने कहा कि वापसी के संबंध में कोई भी निर्णय लिये जाते समय इस हकीकत का साकारपदा ध्यान रखा जाएगा कि कश्मीरी पंडितों ने घाटी इस्तेफा से नहीं

छड़े हैं। गृहमंत्री आडवाणी ने आतंकवाद से निपटने में भारत को अमरीका की तरफ से दिये जा रहे सुझावों के लिए उसकी आलोचना की। उन्होंने कहा कि जब संजानिया और केन्या में आतंकवादियों द्वारा किये गये विस्फोट में कुछ अमरीकी मारे जाते हैं तो अमरीका को गुस्सा आता है और वह सूडान और अफगानिस्तान पर निसाइलें दागता है लेकिन उसे जम्मू-कश्मीर में हजारों भारतीयों के मारे जाने के प्रति कोई सहानुभूति नहीं है।

उन्होंने कहा कि विश्वजन के बाद से ही पाकिस्तान भारत के खिलाफ काम कर रहा है। मगर 1971 में पराजय और 1972 में शिमला समझौते के बाद उसने भारत के खिलाफ अघोषित 'युद्ध' छेड़ रखा है। वह देश को अशांत करने के लिए आई.एस.आई. के जाल को चारों तरफ फैला रहा है। उन्होंने कहा कि पाक अच्छी तरह जानता है कि वह अमरीका के साथ कौन से करारों को तोड़ रहा है।

इसलिए वह सामान्य नागरिकों को अपना निशान बनाकर हमारे खिलाफ अघोषित युद्ध कर रहा है।

गृह मंत्री श्री आडवाणी ने कहा कि पाक के भारत में फैले जाल को कुछ हद तक काटना संभव हुआ है। सुसंपैडियों को रोकने में भी कामयाबी मिली है, लेकिन भारत के सामने पाकिस्तान की चुनौती गंभीर है। उन्होंने चिंता व्यक्त करते हुए कहा कि यह एक ऐसी लड़ाई है जिसे सामने से नहीं लड़ा जा रहा है। इस मौके पर संसदीय कार्यमंत्री मदनलाल खुराना ने कहा कि शरणार्थियों की पीड़ा व दिक्कतों को मैं जानता हूँ। उन्होंने कहा कि आज स्थिति में सुधार है और यहाँ चुनौती हुई सरकार है।

दिल्ली में रह रहे शरणार्थियों के संरक्षक तथा पूर्व प्रदेश भाजपा अध्यक्ष केदारनाथ साहनी ने कश्मीर की हालत पर गहरी चिंता व्यक्त की। उन्होंने कहा कि आज पाकिस्तान जो भी कर रहा है उसका सीजना 25 साल पहले ही बन गयी थी।

(4) नई दिल्ली, सोमवार, 9 नवम्बर, 1998

हिन्दुस्तान

चुनावों को लेकर कश्मीरी विस्थापितों में उत्साह नहीं

हेमंत केसरी

नई दिल्ली, 8 नवम्बर। यमुनार के लगभग एक लाख कश्मीरी विस्थापितों के बीच विधानसभा चुनाव को लेकर कोई उत्साह नहीं है। अपनी दुर्दशा के लिए कांग्रेस तथा संयुक्त मोर्चा को जिम्मेदार ठहराने वाले विस्थापितों को अपने तथा अपने परिवार के भविष्य की चिंता सता रही है। भारतीय जनता पार्टी को सरकार से भी जो उम्मीदें थीं, वह भी टूटती नजर आ रही है।

पूर्वी दिल्ली के मयूर विहार फेज-एक, दो,

तीन, बसुंधरा इंकलेव, पोंडव नगर, मंडावली, शंकरपुर, लक्ष्मी नगर, रामप्रसाद, कृष्ण नगर, गंधीनगर, अहमद विहार, फ़िलमिल कालोनी, दिलशाद गार्डन आदि इलाकों में फैले कश्मीरी विस्थापित बाहों भी पलायन के झंझट से मुक्त नहीं हो पाए हैं। स्थानीय लोगों द्वारा इन 'रिज्यूजी' शब्द से अपमानित करने का दुख भी है।

इतनी बड़ी संख्या होने के बाद भी लगभग 60 हजार लोगों का नाम ही वोटर लिस्ट में शामिल है। जिनका वोटर लिस्ट में नाम नहीं है उन्होंने सरकार तथा संबंधित अधिकारियों के

घर भी लगाए। सफल न होने पर अब चुप हो गए हैं। इन्हें दुख है कि सरकार को सब कुछ पता है फिर भी हमारी तरफ उनका ध्यान नहीं जाता है। बड़े-बड़े दावे सिर्फ उनके मुंह से ही निकलते हैं और कागजों में ही खत्म हो जाते हैं।

कश्मीरी समिति के अध्यक्ष जी.एल. गांधू ने बताया कि दुख की बात तो यह है कि अभी तक सिर्फ 20 हजार परिवारों का नाम ही दिल्ली प्रशासन में पंजीकृत है। उनमें से एक परिवार को भरण-पोषण के लिए सिर्फ अट्टारह सौ रुपए महीने में सरकार की तरफ से मिलता है। इसका पक्षपात भी तीन हजार लोग ही उठाते हैं। कुछ को तो यह राशि पूरी मिलती भी नहीं।

1993 से ही उनके पड़े पंजीकरण को श्री गांधू फिर से शुरू करने की मांग करते हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि हम लोग इसे सहायता राशि के लिए नहीं चाहते, बल्कि हम चाहते हैं कि कम से कम हम जितनी संख्या में यहाँ हैं उनका नाम तो दर्ज हो जाए।

इन समस्याओं और सरकार द्वारा अपने को नजरअंदाज करने वाले रवैये से विधानसभा चुनाव को लेकर कश्मीरी विस्थापितों में कोई उत्साह नहीं है। सरकार की नीति से क्षुब्ध होने के बावजूद भाजपा से इनका अंदरूनी लगाव है। भाजपा को विस्थापितों का हार्दिक बताने वाले इन लोगों ने एक स्तर में कहा कि पलायन

के बाद भाजपा ने हमारी मदद की है।

साथ की कुछ विस्थापितों का कहना था कि भाजपा ने भी दुर्लभमत नीति अपना रखी है। भाजपा से हमारी बहुत अपेक्षाएँ थीं। हमने सोचा था अब हमारी समस्याएँ खत्म होंगी। लेकिन ऐसा कुछ भी नहीं हुआ।

बावजूद इसके विस्थापितों ने कहा कि हमारा वोट भाजपा को ही जाएगा। कुछ नहीं तो भाजपा ने हमारा खाल रखा ही है। यह और बात है कि केन्द्र में भाजपा सरकार के साथ अन्य सहयोगी दल भी हैं। लेकिन हम यह जानना चाहते हैं कि, जिन अन्य दलों के सहयोग से केन्द्र में भाजपा को सरकार बननी है, क्या वे कश्मीरी विस्थापितों को समस्या को देश की समस्या नहीं मानते? क्या हमारी दयनीय स्थिति में सुधार लाना अन्य दलों की प्राथमिकताओं में शामिल नहीं है?

बहरहाल, विस्थापितों ने भाजपा को वोट देने की बात तो कही साथ ही उन्होंने अपने को भगवान के घरसे छोड़ दिया है। हंसे गले से कश्मीरी विस्थापितों ने कहा कि हम यहाँ भी पलायन की जिदगी जी रहे हैं। रहने का अपना ठिकाना भी नहीं है। हम लोगों ने अपनी सारी संवैति कश्मीर में छोड़ रखी है। हम लोग अपने बतन को लौटाना चाहते हैं। हम सभी राजनीतिक पार्टियों से अनुरोध करते हैं कि 'अब बस, वाले इन लोगों ने एक स्तर में कहा कि पलायन की जिदगी जीना अब नहीं चाहते।'

An Alternative Perspective on Kashmir

—C.L. Gadoo

[KSD President C. L. Gadoo was invited to participate in a seminar organised in London on November 26, 1998, at the House of Commons, Westminster, by the Indo-European Kashmiri Forum. We reproduce hereunder the text of his address at the seminar.—Editor.]

AN “alternative perspective on the Kashmir issue” can lead the discussion into many directions. However, I would like to present here the picture as it exists and the attempts by various parties who like to drag it into different directions suiting their own interests.

The Jammu and Kashmir State came into being formally in 1846 in a somewhat romantic setting when the British rulers in India were busy extending their domain and overpowering the native establishments. In a war with the Sikhs, the British defeated them, demanded war reparations and finally obtained it in the form of money when the defeated Sikhs had to sell the land, which now forms the state, to the Dogra ruler Gulab Singh. Gradually, the new ruler expanded the state into what it had emerged at the time of independence of India in August 1947.

Question of Accession

The Partition accompanying our independence had left more than 550 princely states free to choose which of the two dominions, India and Pakistan, they would like to accede to. This was under the Indian Independence Act passed by the British Parliament in the same premises where we stand today. Pakistan however, had an eye on Kashmir all the while and even before the then ruler, Maharaja Hari Singh, could decide on the question, sent raiders and regular forces to take it by force. Ironically, Pakistan broke its own agreement with the ruler, called the Standstill Agreement, and invaded the state. India had desisted from interfering till the ruler would make up his mind. Pakistan thus became the aggressor from the day of Independence itself.

It occupied a large part of the state, more than one-third of the total state's areas of 222,000

square kilometers, which it continues to hold on. India, to which the ruler of Kashmir had acceded and the people of the state had requested India to accept the ruler's decision, took the matter of aggression to the United Nations. But (the then Agro-American bloc) played politics and tried to patronize the aggressor. In January 1949, a ceasefire agreement was concluded between India and Pakistan, which resulted in the overrun area remaining under Pakistan occupation. Besides, the UNO passed a few resolutions asking for holding a plebiscite to determine the wishes of the people. The essential riders were that all Pakistani nationals and armed forces will be withdrawn from the state (under Pakistani occupation), the administration will be carried out by the legal Government of Jammu and Kashmir, Indian forces would safeguard the borders of the state and the state administration would provide defence and protection to minorities in all parts of the state. Pakistan did not comply with these stipulations. It continues to occupy a large portion of the state, about 78,114 square kilometres. It has completely merged Baltistan and Dardistan areas with Pakistan, depriving the people of this part of Kashmir from elementary rights envisaged in the UN resolution. Further, it has illegally in defiance of the spirit of the UN resolution, ceded 5,180 square kilometres of the state to China. Besides, it has completely cleansed non-Muslim minorities from the areas under its occupation.

Unfinished Agenda

All along, Pakistan has been treating Kashmir as unfinished agenda of the Partition. And, to achieve its objective, it has again unleashed the forces of bigotry, fanaticism and theofascism. It needs no reiteration that Islamist terror traders are working globally. Their main aim is to usher

in a state of mind which accepts Islam as the only remedy for the modern ills of human society. These bigots regard modern sciences, modern systems of communication, freedom of speech, freedom of conscience, life and work and equality devilish concepts. This mentality is theofascism or theNazism. This is the worst type of thought control, much worse than the totalitarian concepts of communists or Nazis. Having failed to usurp Kashmir through the wars of 1965 and 1971, the only tool left in their repertory was inciting religious sentiments. And, here innocent Muslims also became prey to bigotry. Jihad, becomes their battle cry. Young Muslims, the world over are brainwashed, recruited and trained in insurgency and terrorist strategy and tactics. Their target was Pandits, in particular, and all dissenters, in general. The Indian or Kashmiri security forces are ambushed and, once they retaliate, the terrorist outfits and their overt and covert accomplices try to utilize the same media and human rights organizations to defame the security forces.

Terrorist Killings

The terrorist outfits and armed infiltrators from Pakistan have (a) killed more than 7,000 innocent civilians so far, (b) burgled and looted properties of nearly 70,000 families, (c) arsoned nearly 10,000 houses of Hindus, (d) occupied the orchards and farms of 479 Hindus, (e) burned more than 400 schools and libraries, (f) destroyed nearly 100 government buildings and 280 bridges, (g) desecrated hundreds of places of worship, many shrines and temples and (h) appropriated the property of Hindu shrines. Because of this inhuman terrorist activity, more than 300,000 people have become refugees/displaced persons in their own country. This displacement from a cold, salubrious climate to a hot and tropical climate has resulted in physical, psychological and emotional trauma for thousands of displaced people. Having to live in tattered tents, one room tenements and unhygienic conditions, they became victims to heatstrokes, snake and scorpion bites and heart ailments. The terrorist killings have been accompanied by torture unheard of in

civilised society. It has been barbaric to say the least. The other disgraceful actions indulged in by the terrorist groups with headquarters in Pakistan are abductions, kidnapping, extortion, rape and sodomising. Indian as well as foreign tourists, travellers, businessmen, academics, etc., were kidnapped and some of them are missing for the last seven years.

Terrorists would also pick up innocent Muslims and kill them. All Muslim dissenters were threatened and some done away with. This resulted in a good number of Muslim political activists, belonging to groups other than Jammate-Islami and terrorist outfits, to flee the Valley. Hundreds of young Muslim girls and boys were sent by their parents outside the Valley to pursue their high school and college education and save them from terrorist black deeds.

Yet the terrorist propaganda machinery is so well oiled throughout the world and even in this country that we hear day in and day out about the so-called human rights violations of the security forces and harsh treatment meted out to terrorists and not a word about the human rights violations indulged in by the terrorist outfits and their godfathers.

Human Rights Declaration

Doesn't the Universal Declaration of Human Rights or the United Nations Covenants on Human Rights envisage safeguards against the infringement of the rights of men by any people and organs of society? Is not mass extermination of Hindus in Kashmir a violation of the Human Rights Charter? Isn't killing, maiming, abducting, assault on women, looting and arsoning of properties in the name of religion indulged in by the theocratic states or Muslim zealots an infringement of the rights of man? Does it behove democratic countries, like yours and the USA, to redefine the contours of human rights to suit narrowly national and narrowly dated political interests? In Kosovo or Bosnia, you get troubled, but when it is decimation of coptic Christians in African Muslim belt or Hindus or Buddhists in Asian Muslim belt, your conscience goes to slumber. Don't you feel

thought-control is today exercised in theoretic states or states ruled by despots? Don't you feel that compromise with such forces today will lead to a greater catastrophe in the foreseeable future?

Kashmir problem for anyone in the world may be a political problem. For us, it is an ideological one. It is a clandestine struggle between the forces of liberty, democracy, freedom of conscience versus the forces of bigotry, thought control, theofascism and despots or oligarchies. We have to be with the forces of progress, new world, a world of scientific understanding and not be a part of blinding faith, intolerance, medieval darkness. Kashmir for us is a choice—a history of nearly 6,000 years, which produced great poets, historians, litterateurs, sages and saints much before the Muslim rulers came on the scene, and a Kashmir, where even the shrine of great saint Nund Rishi is torched by Must Gul a symbol of intolerance. We have no option but to save Kashmir and its great cultural heritage from terrorism and theofascism. And, I feel, it is time

that all democrats the world over should combine to make the world a better place to live in, live freely, fearlessly and fairly. This is how one can cope up with changing realities.

I am confident that you are aware of the position that obtains, which gets fuelled by Pakistan's intransigence and aggression. Unfortunately, it gets encouragement from the most unlikely quarters such as powerful democracies and most of the opinion leaders and the media who are supposed to be the watchdogs of freedom and justice. The picture gets so much clouded and distorted that even the most neutral observes and commentators get confused. At the same time, the "issue", as we call it here, has been so long drawn-out as to test patience anywhere and lead all well-meaning people wish somehow to be done with it. However, there can be no compromise on truth and the truth is that the only solution lies in Pakistan vacating its aggression before it can be reasonably admitted on the table of discussions and deliberations for a happy ending of the trouble. □



Distinguished guests on the dais.

'Give white paper on relief for Kashmiri migrants'

By A Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI: Many Kashmiri Pandit groups have urged the government to come out with a white paper on the money the government claims to have spent under the "relief fund" on displaced migrants.

Expressing concern over the government's alleged failure in rehabilitating Kashmiri migrants, several Pandit leaders said the community had started disintegrating after the exodus from the valley.

"We should unite and fight from a common platform for our social, economic and political rights," Delhi Kashmiri Samiti president C L Gadoo said on Friday.

He was speaking to reporters following the observance of Dedication Day by the samiti. Among those who attended were several Pandit leaders and prominent community members. They expressed concern over the way successive governments had "ignored" the problems of the community during the past decade.

"Some government agencies had even siphoned off relief funds," Mr Gadoo alleged. "That's why we want a white paper to explain where the money has been spent," he added.

Mr Gadoo demanded special reservations for members of the displaced community in different organisations. "Though we are a minority community, we are considered a majority community in the valley."

All India Kashmiri Pandit Conference president H N Jattu demanded the dismissal of the Jammu and Kashmir government for allegedly "befooling" the Centre about the law and order situation in the valley.

He alleged chief minister Farooq Abdullah had been projecting a "wrong" picture about the law and order situation so he could manage to get more money from the Centre.

While demanding a Rs 1,000 crore package for the rehabilitation of the migrants, Mr Gadoo said the time had come when Union minister Jagmohan should be again sent as the governor of the state. "Mr Jagmohan can efficiently and effectively tackle the problems of the state," he maintained.

25-12-1998

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

9

J&K Govt yet to furnish details of migrants' properties

NHRC's intervention demanded

Anil Anand
New Delhi, December 24

OVERLOOKING THE directions of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), issued nearly six months back, the Jammu and Kashmir Government has not yet been able to furnish a detailed list of the properties left behind by Kashmiri Pandit migrants in the strife-torn Valley.

Incensed over the apathetic attitude of the Government, the Kashmiri Samiti, an organisation articulating the cause of the migrants, has urged the Commission to further direct the State Government to deal with the matter in a time-bound manner.

This is in view of the hardships faced by the migrants, who had to abandon their properties in the wake of the militancy, the Samiti said. Despite an assurance by the State Advocate-General that the district-wise list of such properties is ready, the State Government submitted only a composite picture of the land and houses belonging to the migrants during the case hearing held here on Dec. 15.

As per the data provided by the Government, the total number of immovable properties left behind by the Kashmiri Pandit migrants was 16,979. Out of these, 5,608 were destroyed by the terrorists and 2,872 suffered losses due to natural calamities. The security forces were occupying 416 out of

the 8,499 properties and 618 have been unauthorisedly occupied by the local people. The Government has claimed that 370 illegal occupants of the properties have already been served eviction notices.

The State Government claimed that it has sanctioned Rs. 28,62,93,680 as relief to 4,691 property-owners. While 917 cases are pending, a reassessment is being done in 302 other cases.

Dissatisfied by the action of the Government, the Kashmiri Samiti has urged the Commission that an overall view of the issue hardly gave any clue to the actual picture about the state of properties and relief provided by the Government. The Samiti has sought immediate publication of lists giving case-wise details of the properties.

It may be recalled that the Commission had on July 21 last, directed the State Government to furnish a district-wise list of the properties. The Government had repeatedly sought time before finally projecting a total picture about the state of the properties and relief given thereof.

Further, the Commission has convened a meeting of the State's Chief Secretary and Advocate-General and counsel representing the parties, to discuss the matter, before the larger issues relating to the problem of migration were heard by it.



THE TRIBUNE, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1998

Kashmiri Pandits refuse to return

NEW DELHI, Dec 25 (PTI) — Various Kashmiri Pandit groups today asserted that the displaced persons would not return to the valley in the present security situation there and demanded provisions for their rehabilitation as well as their voice in any talks on Kashmir between India and Pakistan.

Speaking at a conference here to churn out a common strategy for the future of the Kashmiri migrants, representatives of 15 Pandit organisations felt that the conditions in Kashmir were not conducive yet for their return.

"The situation in the valley is drifting into the hands of militants while the National Conference Government headed by Farooq Abdullah is befooling the Centre to extract money," said All India Kashmiri Pandit Conference President H.N. Jattu.

Stating that Pakistani agents were spread all over the valley perpetrating subversion, he demanded the dismissal of the Abdullah Government to "end the misrule of the National Conference".

Kashmiri Samiti president C.L. Gadoo alleged that both Central and state governments had failed to produce any substantial plans for the migrants "who are languishing in Jammu, Udhampur, Delhi and some other parts of the country."

"We request the Central Government to assess the ground realities in Kashmir before initiating any steps for our return," he added.

The conference also resolved that the community would not recognise any solution of the Kashmir issue "unless we are equal participants in all discussions at all levels".

J&K Pandits not willing to return

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, Dec. 25. — Kashmiri Pandits today demanded that the state and Central governments stop pressuring them to return to the Kashmir Valley, saying the situation was not conducive to their return.

In a meeting under the aegis of the Kashmiri Samiti to observe Dedication Day (the anniversary of their migration from the valley), Kashmiri Pandit organisations from northern India passed a resolution asking the Centre to cease all overt and covert means of pressure and persuasion to make them return. Condemning these moves, the resolution said the community would take a joint decision on the

question of return. The resolution has also demanded participation in all discussions and decisions on the Kashmir problem.

Saying that they were losing faith in the country's body politic, the meeting today also reiterated the earlier demand for granting of refugee status to the Pandits since their migration from the valley was not voluntary.

Addressing a Press conference, Mr C L Gadoo, president of the Kashmir Samiti, the community could not return to the valley at this point since the government could not ensure their security. This, he said, was evident from the high number of killings.

Speaking of the demand for the status of refugees or internally dis-

placed persons for the community, Mr Gadoo said the samiti had drawn the attention of the Union Home Minister, Mr L K Advani, to the living conditions in the camps. Mr Advani had subsequently directed the Governor, Mr Girish Saxena, to visit the migrants' camps.

Seeking representation in different branches of the government, including the judiciary, Legislative Assembly and the NHRC, and recognition as minorities by the Minorities Commission, the samiti has also sought reservation in state and Central government jobs.

Other demands include housing, admissions into educational institutions, monetary help for entrepreneurs, compensation for

destroyed properties, return of occupied properties, revocation of distress sales, registration of all Kashmiri Hindus who are not registered and enhancement of the monthly allowance from Rs 1,500 to Rs 5,000.

The ITBP DG, Mr Gautam Kaul, who is the president of the education, cultural society, said the meeting today had also resolved to create a system of panchayats for sorting out social problems to mitigate the problems of litigation. The meeting has also resolved to revive Kashmiri festivals amongst the displaced community and had also given a call to the families to give up the pernicious practice of dowry which was resulting in a break-up of families.



CHAPTER X UNTOLD STORY OF KASHMIRI PANDITS

‘The story of what happened to the Hindus and Hindu religious culture in Kashmir, during the rule of the Shah Miri Sultans and the Chaks, Mughals and the Afghans, who followed them, have not been told. The British historians and their Europeans contemporaries, who awakened the Hindus of Kashmir to their Sanskrit past and retrieved whatever was left of their Sanskrit heritage from the centuries of oppression and religious persecution, which they were subject to during the Muslim rule. They carried archeological studies to identify their temples, which lay in ruins strewn around all over the ancient kingdom. They located whatever of the Sanskrit books and records had escaped destruction and recorded their oral traditions, which the Hindus, who had survived the holocaust had passed on from generation to generation, including the valuable *Vakhas* of the Hindu poetess Lalli Shori, who lived through the early phase of Muslim rule in Kashmir. But they avoided any inquiry and investigation into the destruction and devastation, the Muslim rule brought to the Hindus in the Hindu kingdom of Kashmir. Hundreds of thousands of Hindus were killed, thousands of them left Kashmir and went into exile and the rest were converted to Islam. Another Persian chronicle, *Tohafatul-Ahbab*, which was also translated by Dr. Kashi Nath Pandita records; “In accordance with the guidance instructions of Amir-e-Kabir, this religious-abiding ruler became the instrument of strengthening the religion of Muhammad and the community of Mustafa. He brought prosperity and embellishment to the faith of the Prophet. He razed to ground all the idols houses in his country. The idols of the infidels and the customs of the (*Kafirs*) community of infidels, and of vices, aberrations and oppressions of the heretics (*Zandiq*) were abolished. He ordered the infidels and the polytheists to leave the country. For breaking and destroying the idol houses, temples and idols, he is known by the title of Sultan Sikandar, the iconoclast (But-Shikan).” **Kashmir-Hindu Religious Culture**

Pandits look back on 10 years of solitude

By Our Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, Jan 17.

A large number of Kashmiri Pandit leaders from across the country and abroad met here on Sunday for a day. They discussed the economic and social problems of displaced people after 10 years of exile from the Kashmir Valley.

The participants felt that Pandits continued to suffer both socially and economically. Leaders of the Kashmiri Samiti, All India Kashmiri Pandit Conference (AIKPC), Panun Kashmir, All India Kashmiri Samaj, Displaced Kashmiri Employees Forum, Kashmir Overseas Association, Kashmiri Pandit Association of Europe and a host of other organisations took part.

They said displaced Kashmiri Pandits were losing their culture and ethnicity besides facing economic hardships, they stressed a united effort by all organisations representing the community to help sustain it. “We have a long history and we are all proud to be Kashmiris. But after migration our community has been facing problems,” said AIKPC president, Mr. H N. Jattu.

The president of the U.S. based Kashmir Overseas Association, Mr. Lalit Wanchoo, said all organisations must join hands to generate activity in social and cultural fields.

He said the community needs to link efforts to ensure the uplift of those sections of the community which are in a bad economic state.

Mr. J. L. Manwani, president of the Mumbai-based Kashmiri Pandit Association, said efforts must be made to ensure survival of the community's heritage and culture. He said their organisation was running Kashmiri language classes in Mumbai to enable youngsters born and brought up outside the State to learn and speak their mother tongue.

The president of the Jammu-based Kashmiri Pandit Sabha, Mr. S. K. Shah, said his organisation was making efforts to preserve ancient manuscripts.

KOSHUR SAMACHAR Jan. 1999 REPORTS

Seminar in London

After I spoke to you in the December 1998 issue of *Koshur Samachar*, I had been to London to participate in a seminar organised by the Indo-European Kashmiri Forum at the House of Commons. The topic was "The Kashmir Issue—An Alternative Perspective". It was attended among others by Justice (retd.) M.L. Bhat, Shri Ashok Bhan, advocate, and myself from India. The purpose was to familiarise the British people about the various aspects of what is generally called the Kashmir issue and the ethnic cleansing of the Kashmiri Pandit minority of Jammu and Kashmir brought about by Pakistan-sponsored fundamentalist terrorism there. The seminar was a success as we were able to put forth our point of view forcefully and effectively.

The British Government's policy about Kashmir has always been anti-India and pro-Pakistan and as such no Minister of the British Government found it convenient either to attend the seminar or find time to meet our delegations. Nevertheless, we were able to place our viewpoint before two senior officials of the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office concerned with South Asian and South-East Asian Affairs. Apart from this, we placed our view on record with two Special Advisors of the Political Affairs Division of the Commonwealth Secretariat. We also called on the Deputy Foreign Editor of the *Independent* group of newspapers which is an influential group in England, apart from Mr. Gohel, Chairman, Next Century Foundation—a pro-Kashmiri Pandit organisation—the High Commissioner of India, Shri Lalit Mansingh, Justice M.M. Venkatachaliah (NHRC Chairman) and Lord Avebury whose latest stance about Kashmir and Pandits has now-softened.

School of Management

The youth of the community are the most important ingredient of our future and the all-prevailing view is that the needs of this sector of our population have to be met in whatever way possible within our limited means of which we have to make the best use. In this context, your Samiti proposes to set up a School of Management for our boys and girls at Kashmir Bhawan, New Delhi. The

blueprint for the project is under preparation. Its establishment will progress simultaneously with the addition of two more floors to the existing one floor of the Bhawan. The school will be affiliated to some renowned international institution. The idea got full support of the Indo-European Kashmiri Forum (IEKF), the Kashmiri Pandit Association of Europe (KPAE) and the Kashmir Overseas Association (KOA) during my visit to London. These associations have assured us of handsome financial assistance and other support for the project.

KOSHUR SAMACHAR REPORTS

Human Rights Commission

The National Human Rights Commission held a hearing on December 15, 1998, on our petition for safeguarding our properties in Kashmir when the Jammu and Kashmir Government presented to the commission a list of the properties left behind by our dispossessed community in the Valley. It was just a one-page outline of the total number of houses owned by the community (16,979), subverted (5,608), damaged naturally (2,872) and standing (8,499) and other such details, besides 68,953 kanals of land, alienation's sanctioned officially, etc. We demanded tehsil and district-wise lists of all such properties. The state government has promised to display such lists for public information at the offices of the Relief Commissioner Jammu and the Resident Commissioner, New Delhi, and also to present these to the NHRC. We feel these lists and the state's claim of having already paid a hefty sum of Rs. 28,62,93,680 to owners of damaged properties lead us nowhere. We must demand lists of our properties based on the claims submitted by the community in 1992 and full details of the recipients of relief. This will naturally be a long-drawn process but we propose to stand firm on this demand of ours.

INDIAN EXPRESS Jan. 23, 1999 REPORTS

Help migrants: NHRC to J-K

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, JAN 22

THE National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) today directed the Jammu and Kashmir Government to organise a high-level meeting with representatives of Kashmiri migrants in March in order to redress their grievances.

During the meeting, a release issued by it added, senior state ministers and government officials should listen to and solve the grievances of the migrants, who had fled from the state in the wake of militancy. The NHRC also offered its help in handling

individual issues.

The directions were given after a meeting between the commission, the Chief Secretary and Advocate General of the state and representatives of Kashmiri migrants, the release said.

It also informed that the state government had complied with the NHRC's earlier order seeking a report on the steps taken to protect the properties of Kashmiri Pandits who had fled the state. The NHRC release said the Jammu and Kashmir government had expressed willingness to allow migrants to check their properties and take stock of the damage

done.

23.1.99 Indian Express
The state government had reportedly been asked to prepare a district-wise list of properties falling within the purview of the Jammu and Kashmir Migrants Immovable Property (Preservation, Protection and Restraint on Depressed Cells) Act, 1997, and indicate the action taken so far.

On the commission's direction that liaison between the migrants and the state government be improved, the Chief Secretary is said to have assured that officers at various levels would be directed to interact effectively with them to provide them all necessary aid.

NHRC directive to J & K Govt. on Pandits issue

By Our Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, Jan. 22.

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has directed the Jammu and Kashmir Government to organise a high-level meeting with the representatives of Kashmiri migrants in March where senior Ministers and officials would listen to and resolve the grievances of those displaced. The Commission has also offered its good offices in helping the process of handling individual issues regarding the problems of J&K migrants.

These directions were given after a meeting held in the Commission with the State Chief Secretary, the Jammu and Kashmir Advocate General and the representatives of the Kashmiri migrants.

Earlier, the Commission had asked the State Government to submit a report on the steps taken by it to protect the properties of Kashmiri Pandits who had fled the State after attacks by the militants.

The Commission has also directed the State Government to prepare a district-wise list of properties falling within the purview of the Jammu and Kashmir Migrant's Immovable Property (Preservation, Protection and Restrain on Depressed Sales) Act, 1997 and indicate the action taken so far.

According to a Commission spokesperson, these directions have been complied with and the State Government has expressed its willingness to allow migrants, who so desire, to check on their properties and take stock of the damage done. The Government would provide all necessary help whenever sought by the migrants.

On the Commission's direction to work towards improving the liaison between the migrants and the Government, the State Chief Secretary has assured that the officers at various levels would be directed to interact effectively to provide all necessary aid to the displaced people.

The Hindu 23-1-99

EXPRESSNewsline
NEW DELHI ■ MONDAY ■ FEBRUARY 1, 1999

Refugee camp in the dark after DVB cuts off electricity

ANURAG SHARMA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 31

THE Delhi Vidyut Board (DVB) has cut off power supply to the Kashmiri Bhawan in Lajpat Nagar. Kashmiri Pandits have been living in a transit camp here since January 1990. The DVB claims that the migrants have not been paying their electricity bills since 1991 and the connection was finally cut in December '98.

President of the Kashmiri Samiti, C.L. Gadoo says the Delhi administration had promised them free electricity and water when they first came here in 1990. According to the DVB, the unpaid bills amount to Rs 3.60 lakh.

The Delhi government had in fact paid the Bhawan's bills in 1991 when a disconnection notice was served to the Kashmiri Samiti. The government had then reportedly directed the Vidyut Board to send the bills directly to them.

But, according to the Samiti, the bills kept piling up in government files and no payment was made. In 1995, the Samiti got another disconnection notice from the Vidyut Board. "We visited the Director of Relief, who then approached Navin Chawla, chairman of DVB at that time. Chawla reass-

ured us that our electricity connection would not be cut," said Shuban Duda, treasurer of the Kashmiri Samiti.

Says Manoj Kumar, Additional Divisional Magistrate (ADM): "We have asked the Home Ministry to give us the policy guidelines regarding the status of the payment of the bills." But an official at the headquarters of Sub-Divisional Magistrate who refused to be quoted says that Kashmiri Bhawan does not feature in the list of the 14 camps registered in Delhi and every year there is a debate on the same issue.

The Bhawan was built in 1969 by the Kashmiri Samiti. In 1990, the government constructed four additional rooms and as many toilets in the Bhawan to accommodate the migrants. The Kashmiri Bhawan was then declared a transit camp and a nodal agency.

C.L. Gadoo told *Express Newsline* that despite assurances by the government nothing has been done so far and the inmates of the camp continue to suffer. The 33 families who are living in the transit camp have now left the Bhawan.

At present, Kashmiri Bhawan officials are working in candle light.

J&K Govt rejects minority status for displaced Pandits

Even while going ahead with its greater autonomy report, the ruling National Conference has opposed the recommendations of the National Minority Commission that Pandits be accorded minority status in J&K. Reports said that National Conference leaders say the recommendations could result in disaffection and regional tension.

Ironically in 1982, the Farooq government itself had adopted a bill for setting up a minority commission. Even the name of Mr SL Shakdhar was being proposed for the chairmanship. The Bill was later repeated by the GM Shah government.

Since 1996, after the popular government took over, suggestions had been given to the government to move the Bill again. Several ministers and legislators belonging to the NC are said to have opposed the move.

To pre-empt the move for minority status, the State government shifted Prof Satish Raina, a close confidante of Dr Farooq Abdullah from SSRB and appointed him as principal Advisor on minority affairs. The appointment of Prof Raina has come under severe criticism from Kashmiri Samiti, Dehi and other Pandit groups □

Kashmiri Samiti denounces experimentation with displaced Pandits

NEW DELHI, Feb 11: The Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi President Mr CL Gadoo denounced in strong terms the reported State government move to force displaced doctors and teachers to return to militant infested Valley on experimental basis.

Seeking intervention of NHRC to restrain the State government from coercing Pandits to return in insecure conditions, the Samiti President said that it was not only impracticable but also fraught with dangerous consequences. The displaced Kashmiri employees, who had once forcibly migrated from Kashmir due to selective killings and open threats, cannot be forced to face a similar situation again, he added.

Mr CL Gadoo also doubted the intentions of the State government in improving. The conditions for the displaced people, said that the State Chief Secretary has also, failed to constitute a high-powered committee,

which was to formulate short-term and long-term proposals for the well-being of displaced persons. The proposed committee was also to have representation from Kashmiri refugees □

No postal ballot for Kashmiri Pandit

In the forthcoming Panchayat election in the State, the Chief Electoral officer, Mr SV Bhave ruled out the facility of postal ballot for displaced Kashmiris. It may be recalled that the Kashmiri refugees had been given the postal ballot facilities during 1996 and 1998 elections, as these had the international focus. Mr Bhave said that those on the electoral rolls will have to go to their respective Panchayat areas in the Kashmir valley for casting their votes □

राजौरी में निर्दोषों की हत्या के विरोध में धरना व प्रदर्शन

गाजियाबाद (नस): कश्मीरी समिति दिल्ली ने गत 19 फरवरी को जम्मू-कश्मीर के राजौरी में 20 निर्दोष लोगों की हत्या के विरोध में जंतर-मंतर पर धरना व प्रदर्शन कर रोष जताया और केंद्र सरकार से लोगों की सुरक्षा पर ध्यान देने की मांग की।

धरना व प्रदर्शन का नेतृत्व समिति के अध्यक्ष चमन लाल गड्डु ने किया। उपस्थित लोगों को संबोधित करते हुए श्री गड्डु ने कहा कि जम्मू-कश्मीर में अल्पसंख्यकों और राष्ट्रवादी ताकतों के जीवन और सम्पत्ति की सुरक्षा के लिए केंद्र सरकार कड़ा कदम उठाए। उन्होंने कहा कि आतंकवादी निर्दोष लोगों की हत्या कर राष्ट्रवादियों और अल्पसंख्यकों को आतंकित कर रहे हैं ताकि वे देश की मुख्य धारा से अपने को अलग कर लें। लेकिन आतंकवादियों को अपने पकसद में सफलता नहीं मिलेगी। जम्मू-कश्मीर में पहले एक सप्ताह में हजारों लोग मारे जाते थे। लेकिन आतंकवादी कमजोर हुए हैं और राष्ट्रवादी ताकतें मजबूत हुई हैं। इन हत्याओं से राष्ट्रवादी ताकतों का मनोबल टूटने वाला नहीं है।

श्री गड्डु ने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री श्री वाजपेयी और पाकिस्तान के प्रधानमंत्री नवाज शरीफ में शांति बनाए रखने के लिए वार्ता हो चुकी है। अब नवाज शरीफ को इस प्रकार की घटनाएं रोकने के लिए प्रभावी कदम

उठाना चाहिए।

धरने पर बैठने वालों में डोडा विचार मंच के अध्यक्ष एस.एस. कोतवाल, कश्मीरी समिति दिल्ली के उपाध्यक्ष एन.एन. जोषी, सुरेंद्र खेर आदि थे।

HINDUSTAN TIMES FEBRUARY 21, 1999 REPORTS

20 killed in Jammu to spoil peace party

Govt deputed team to make on-the-spot assessment; curfew clamped in Rajouri

By Joshi
Jammu, February 20

TWENTY HINDUS, including women and a child, were killed in three separate incidents of massacres by militants in Jammu region last night, as India and Pakistan were preparing for the Indo-Pak summit. Two massacres took place in Rajouri district, while the third was in Udhampur district. In the first incident, militants gunned down 20 Hindus. The police said that militants entered the house of Pinder Sharma, where a wedding was on when they opened fire. The authorities clamped curfew in Rajouri town and other major towns of the district. There came another report from village Khudwani in Kalakote tehsil, where militants had gunned down

a 70-year-old, his wife, and his two children.

The third massacre took place at Briana, a village in Mahore tehsil of Udhampur, close to Prankote. In this incident, militants killed two men and seven women. There is a red alert in the region.

The police in Jammu said that armed Muslim separatists eliminated 20 Hindus in three different villages in Pir Panjal Range of the Himalayas on the intervening night of Friday and Saturday.



In the third massacre, the militants gunned down nine Hindus, seven of them women, in Briana village near Mahore in Udhampur district.

There was then another report of four more Hindus having been massacred in Khudwani village near Kalakote in the same district.

Four persons were killed. The third report from Udhampur revealed that nine more persons had been killed.

Rajouri and Poonch, were of late

reporting reverses for the militants following the induction of fresh troops in the area. The latest report by the Army had suggested that 56 militants were killed and a huge quantity of arms and ammunition were seized. Two more militants were killed early on Friday.

HTC ADDS: The Centre today deputed a two-member team headed by senior Home Ministry official Rakesh Hooja for an on-the-spot assessment of the situation. Home Minister L.K. Advani reviewed the situation with senior officials at his North Block office. He spoke to the State Governor and the Chief Minister on telephone.

Kashmiri Samiti, an organisation of people displaced from militancy affected areas of Jammu and Kashmir, has condemned the brutal killing in Rajouri.



From Our Correspondent

KASHMIRI Samiti Delhi has condemned the government's move to force displaced doctors and teachers to return to the strife-torn Kashmir valley on experimental basis in the near future as stated by the Chief Secretary and Advocate General of Jammu and Kashmir state before the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) recently. This is unacceptable to the community as a whole, said Samiti's president Shri G.L. Gadoo.

Employees of the State government belonging to the Kashmiri Pandit community, who have once been forcibly

Kashmir Samiti Delhi opposes Move to send doctors and teachers back to the Valley

displaced by terrorists can not be forcibly sent back to the Valley, Shri Gadoo informed adding that this is an accepted principle of the International Human Rights jurisprudence. Acceptance of this proposal by the NHRC would unperil interests of the Kashmiri Pandits and put the community in deep despair, he feared.

Rejecting the proposal, the

Samiti stated that the Kashmiri Pandits have been longing to return to the Valley provided political, social and law and order conditions permit so.

The community doubts sincerity of the State government in ameliorating condition of the Pandits languishing in refugee camps under most appalling conditions as it had failed to keep its

promise of constituting a high level committee headed by senior cabinet minister or the chief secretary, including senior IAS officer and representatives of the migrant community to evolve broad based short and long-term proposals for betterment of the Pandits. Instead, the State government has appointed an advisor to the government which is not acceptable to the

community.

The Kashmir Samiti Delhi has urged the NHRC to persuade and direct the State government to keep its commitments as decided in a meeting held on January 21. The Samiti has requested the NHRC to appoint a sub-committee of the Commission to look into problems of the migrant Pandits. The Samiti also condemned the State government's move to stop monthly financial assistance to the displaced persons at Jammu since December 1998 and has called upon Home Minister Shri Lal Krishna Advani to immediately intervene in the matter.

कश्मीर, आतंकवाद और

■ सन गल गडू

अंशों के घात से भारत को पूर्व क्षेत्र का मु. 1948 में अखंड भारत में लौटने के लिए तैयार होना पड़ेगा। अनेक वर्षों के संघर्ष के बाद भी भारत को लौटने के लिए तैयार होना पड़ेगा। अनेक वर्षों के संघर्ष के बाद भी भारत को लौटने के लिए तैयार होना पड़ेगा। अनेक वर्षों के संघर्ष के बाद भी भारत को लौटने के लिए तैयार होना पड़ेगा। अनेक वर्षों के संघर्ष के बाद भी भारत को लौटने के लिए तैयार होना पड़ेगा।

अखंड भारत को लौटने के लिए तैयार होना पड़ेगा। अनेक वर्षों के संघर्ष के बाद भी भारत को लौटने के लिए तैयार होना पड़ेगा। अनेक वर्षों के संघर्ष के बाद भी भारत को लौटने के लिए तैयार होना पड़ेगा। अनेक वर्षों के संघर्ष के बाद भी भारत को लौटने के लिए तैयार होना पड़ेगा। अनेक वर्षों के संघर्ष के बाद भी भारत को लौटने के लिए तैयार होना पड़ेगा।

स्वायत्तता की मांग जम्मू-कश्मीर को भारत से अलग करने के उद्देश्य से आतंकवादियों द्वारा तैयार की गई बुनियाद पर आधारित है, नितो इसके प्रस्तावक पूरे सन्तोष के साथ इस्तेमाल कर रहे हैं।

अखंड भारत को लौटने के लिए तैयार होना पड़ेगा। अनेक वर्षों के संघर्ष के बाद भी भारत को लौटने के लिए तैयार होना पड़ेगा। अनेक वर्षों के संघर्ष के बाद भी भारत को लौटने के लिए तैयार होना पड़ेगा। अनेक वर्षों के संघर्ष के बाद भी भारत को लौटने के लिए तैयार होना पड़ेगा। अनेक वर्षों के संघर्ष के बाद भी भारत को लौटने के लिए तैयार होना पड़ेगा।

स्वायत्तता

कर दिये गए तो वह दिनसन मोनस के अनुसार विधान के सारने राज्य का विधानन स्वीकार करने के लिए पकिस्तान का आधार बन सकता है। जम्मू-कश्मीर में गल 10 वर्षों से भी अधिक समय से चलाने का रहे विनासकारी आतंकवादी गतिविधियों के परिणाम में राज्य को स्वायत्तता की मांग अल्पतः खारजक है। जम्मू-कश्मीर को भारत के संवैधानिक ढांचे से अलग रखने को नेशनल फ्रन्टिस परे बिंद और मुस्लिम यूटोसक स्वसन के आधार पर इसको अलग राष्ट्रीय पहचान बनाने की बात कहना, पकिस्तान बनाने के लिए मुस्लिम लीग को विचारधारा से अलग नहीं है। विधान की धारा 370 में मूल रूप से जम्मू-कश्मीर को भारत के संवैधानिक ढांचे से अलग रखने और जनसंख्या की दृष्टि से मुस्लिम बहुल होने के कारण इसका पूराक अस्तित्व बनाए रखने का प्रावधान है। यह धारा राज्य में भारतीय विधान लागू करने को सीमित करती है। इसे स्वयं करने की मांग राज्य के श्रेष्ठ खारजक है। स्वायत्तता की मांग वास्तव में नेशनल फ्रन्टिस का घोषणा पत्र है, क्योंकि इसमें शामिल सभी सदस्य इसी लक्ष्य के हैं और यह स्पष्ट उनको राजनीतिक जीवन प्रदान करने का प्रयास है।

यदि जम्मू-कश्मीर केन्द्र विचार का लोत है तो जम्मू-कश्मीर असाक अलग कोई लोत नहीं है। नही असा करात। अधिकांश टेलीकॉम मिल भी असा नही क पोननाओं का सफल एवं गैर क अधिकांश प्राय केन्द्र देता है। नि (दिसम्बर-1998) पॉलिष्ट 1 और 15 में जम्मू-कश्मीर को केन्द्र इ 3010 रूप प्रति व्यक्त की, अखी लीग को विचारधारा से अलग नहीं है। रामसनाजु को 303 ह. उतर प्रं राजस्थान को 304 ह. की। केन्द्र को विनाई विद्वैत सहायता दे रं खाली बात है। स्वायत्तता की मांग जम्मू-कश्मीर करने के उद्देश्य से आतंकवादियों बुनियाद पर आधारित है, नितो इसके के साथ इस्तेमाल कर रहे हैं। के प्रस्ताव को नकार कर देने से उन मिल गई है।

TIMES OF INDIA, April 15, 1999, REPORTS

In their own gesture, hundreds of Kashmiri Pandits who have had to migrate from their trouble-torn state marched from Red Fort to Gurdwara Sisganj in Chandni Chowk to pay obeisance to Guru Tegh Bahadur on the occasion of Baisakhi.



Chaudhury Om Prakash Chautala, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Haryana, formally releasing the November 2000 number of **Koshur Samachar**, dedicated to Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji, at Gurudwara Rakabganj, New Delhi. Also seen in the picture are Sardar Jathedar Avtar Singh Hit, President Gurudwara Prabhandak Committee, Delhi; Sardar Tarlochan Singh, Vice Chairman, Minority Commission and Shri C.L. Gadoo, President, Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi.



Members of the Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, and other Kashmiri Pandit organisations in Delhi paid obeisance to Guru Tegh Bahadur on the tricentenary celebrations of Khalsa Panth. Picture shows the President along with the members entering Gurdwara Sisganj on that day.



KOSHUR SAMACHAR REPORTS

Namaskar !

For Kashmiri Pandits, the Pakistani aggression in Kargil heights has not come as a surprise. We understand the language of Pakistan better than our compatriots in other parts of the country. While living in Kashmir, we always took peace moves from Pakistan with a pinch of salt, waiting with bated breath for an assault of one kind or the other on our independence after each bout of peace-making. This process is now a part of the history of the subcontinent. What really hurts us is the vain attempts made by various countrymen of ours for "improvement of relations with Pakistan". These lovers of Indo-Pak amity continue to ignore the hate-Hindu basis of Pakistan, which has, over the years, transformed itself into its "Hate-India" mindset. What is more depressing is the complacency to which every government at the Centre has reverted time and again after every effort at peace-making. As a consequence, the country is bleeding today, with our brave jawans and officers offering supreme sacrifices in the freezing heights of Kargil. While the Himalayas are bleeding, our Indian lovers of their "peace seeking" brethren of Pakistan would still like to revive the so-called "Lahore Club" and the "Gujral Doctrine". We, the small non-Muslim minority of Kashmir, ousted from our ancient homeland, very much wish that the country, the Government of India particularly, does not allow itself to be taken for a ride once again by any sweet talk from across the border. We want our country to remain ever vigilant against perfidy from our wily neighbour, whatever the cost.

Protest demonstration

Kashmiri Samiti organised a protest demonstration on June 7, 1999 outside the Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi. It was inspiring to see hundred of Kashmiri Pandits, men and women, joining the demonstration, after which a memorandum was handed over to the High Commission, demanding immediate end to the intrusion and restoration of status quo ante at the LoC in the Kargil area. I am thankful to all my brethren, especially those working in *teh bazari*, who downed their shutters on that day and joined the demonstration. Lady teachers too did not lag behind and joined us in large numbers.

The Samiti also participated in the function organised by the intellectuals/professionals at the lawns of PM's residence on June 17, 1999, as part of the national movement to protest against Pakistani misdeeds in Kargil. The assertion of Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee at the Question/Answer session that earlier mistakes vis-_-vis Pakistan will not be repeated, is a milestone in the security scenario of the country. Let us hope this assertion, this pledge, will be honoured in practice.

Services of Ad hoc teachers

The issue of continuation/regularisation of services of ad hoc teachers has been at the top of the Samiti's agenda. In this context, a committee has been constituted to attend exclusively to this problem. The committee comprises myself, Vice President Shri Sunil Shakhder, Gen. Secretary Shri Nanaji Raina, and three representatives of the teachers. Shri Shakhder has been appointed as the Nodal Officer to interact with the Delhi Education Department on these issues. Having worked very hard in this field for quite some time, we are sure Shri Shakhder will put in his considerable weight and clout to seek justice for the teachers. The Committee called on the Education Minister of Delhi, Dr. Narinder Nath, recently and he has assured us that the needful will be done in good time and extension will be granted to each and every teacher from July, 1999 onwards and the matter of regularisation of their services will also be taken up in right earnest.

Increase in cash relief

A KSD delegation comprising myself, Vice President Dr. Shakti Bhan and Shri Nanaji Raina called on the Home Minister, Shri L.K. Advani on May 14, 1999 to remind him of his promise to increase the cash relief to Kashmiri migrants which was supposed to be applicable from April, 1999. This issue was followed up vigorously, again by Shri Sunil Shaktiher and the Union Home Minister's instructions to the Delhi Government in this behalf were issued under letter No. 12013/25/95-K.II(1) 555-559 D., 14.05.1999. This raises the amount of cash relief to those living outside camps to Rs.2,400/- per month and of those living in camps to Rs.1,600/- per month. All work relating to relief will now be handled by Shri Rakesh Razdan, Secretary, KSD.

Admission to Kendriya Vidyalayas

The Government of India has agreed to extend the facility of admitting Kashmiri displaced students in Kendriya Vidyalayas during 1999-2000 also. This has been conveyed by K.V. Sangthan to regional officers of the Sangthan under letter No.F-7/99-KVS (Admission Cell) dated June 7, 1999.

Admission to professional colleges

The process of admissions to professional technical colleges/institutes in Maharashtra has started. Admission forms received in good time from Mumbai were sent to Kashmiri Pandit Sabha, Jammu, as also distributed by K.S.D in Delhi. These are being processed and will be forwarded to the Maharashtra government in time so that our eligible boys and girls do not face any difficulty in this regard. The admission process is being handled/monitored by a committee comprising Dr. Shakti Bhan, Shri Nanaji Raina and Shri T.N. Gurtoo, KSD Secretary.

Koshur Samachar

We have decided to entrust to Shri Ashok Kak, Member Executive, all work relating to Koshur Samachar. This includes production, circulation and liaison with the Editors and ensuring the publication and circulation of the journal in time.

DDA Waiver on Penalties

At the request of the Kashmiri Pandit Association (Dilshad Garden), we have approached the Chairman, DDA to waive off the penalties imposed on Kashmiri displaced persons living in DDA flats. Recently, DDA has agreed to our request after great persuasion, especially by Shri M.L. Labroo, President of KPA (Dilshad Garden). The DDA has decided to give some concessions to those Kashmiri displaced persons who are in possession of DDA flats, either purchased or allotted. According to the notification, 50 percent relief will be given in penalty over and above the relief being given under DDA Amnesty Scheme, 1998 to the displaced persons, subject to verification of their migrant status. To obtain the relief in penalty, the Kashmiri displaced persons have to submit their applications at Vikas Sadan alongwith documents related to power of attorney and sale of agreement, proof of physical possession in respect of flat, copies of allotment and possession letters.

DELHI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OFFICE OF THE A.O.[COORDINATION]H.

b-31b, ~~20745~~, VIKAS SADAN, INA, N.DELHI-23.

NO:-P.22[Misc.]98/ 153

Dated:-2/10/99.

From:-

J.R.Gupta,
A.O.[Coordination]H.

To

Shri C.L.Godoo,
President, Kashmiri Samiti [Regd].
Kashmiri Bhawan, Kashmir Bhawan Marg,
Amar Colony, Lajpat Nagar-IV, N.Delhi-24.

Sub:-DDA Amnesty Scheme-98--- Procedure for processing of application
Of Kashmiri Migrants

Dear Sir,

Please refer to your letter No.KSD/1357/99 dated 24.9.99 addressed to the Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Urban Affairs, Govt. Of India, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi on the above cited subject. In this connection, I am directed to inform you that your request was considered by the Competent Authority but the same was not acceded to due to the following reasons:-

1. The amount already deposited towards penalty interest under relevant various relief schemes can not be refunded on the ground that past cases cannot be re-opened as per terms and conditions of various relief schemes.
2. The amount deposited towards conversion charges are being credited under the Urban Development Fund and as such DDA has no lien on such payments. As such ~~penalty amount~~ penalty amount already paid by Kashmiri Migrants over and above relief extended vide DDA circular No. F.22[Misc.]98/DDA/540 dated- 14.6.99 cannot be adjusted towards conversion charges. As per clause-3 of Amnesty Scheme-98 brochure, past cases cannot be re-opened.

Yours faithfully

[J.R.Gupta]
Accounts Officer [Coord.]H.

KOSHUR SAMACHAR REPORTS

Problems of teachers.

The first problem that we had to tackle was seeking extension in the services of the ad hoc teachers employed by the Delhi Administration over the past five years or so. This year, the extensions, which used to be granted as a matter of course previously, became somewhat difficult perhaps because of the change in the complexion of the Delhi Government. We have, however, succeeded in getting extensions for these teachers upto the end of June, 1999, in all but 61 cases, so far. The other cases, it is hoped, will also be seen through successfully before the time is out and the extension in service of all these teachers will have been hopefully granted before the schools re-open after the current summer break.

As a matter of fact, our long-term approach is to get the services of all these teachers regularised on a permanent basis. In this context, I would like to express my gratitude to the new President of the DPCC, Shri Subhash Chopra, and Minister of Education, Govt. of NCT Delhi, Dr. Narinder Nath, for their sympathetic and helpful approach. A detailed report on this problem and our meetings with the Minister appears elsewhere in this issue.



Dr. Narendra Nath at Kashmir Bhawan. Seated on the dais with him are: Shri Sunil Shakhder, Shri C.L. Gadoo and Dr. Shakti Bhan.



A section of the displaced teachers at the meeting.

भाजपा न कश्मीर दिवस मनाया : धारा 370 हटाने, विस्थापितों को बसाने की मांग

नई दिल्ली, 23 जून (दि.श.): भारतीय जनता पार्टी द्वारा आयोजित कश्मीर दिवस पर आज यहाँ अमर शहीद डा. श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी को जहाँ याद किया गया वहाँ जम्मू-कश्मीर में धारा 370 समाप्ति और तीन लाख कश्मीरी विस्थापितों को बसाने की मांग की गई।

माथलकर हाल में दिल्ली प्रदेश भाजपा के प्रधान श्री मांगे राम गर्ग की अध्यक्षता में आयोजित समारोह में भाजपा के केन्द्रीय उपाध्यक्ष श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथूर, प्रदेश भाजपा के प्रभारी प्रो. विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा, कश्मीर प्रकोष्ठ के संयोजक श्री सी.एल. गुड्डू आदि ने कहा कि डा. मुखर्जी का बलिदान व्यर्थ नहीं गया। उन्होंने जम्मू-कश्मीर में एक विधान एक निशान का संविधान लागू कराके आलौकिक कार्य किया था।

समारोह में उस समय जोशोले नारे लगाए गए जब कश्मीर प्रकोष्ठ के श्री सी.एल. गुड्डू ने कहा कि डा. मुखर्जी को पूर्ण श्रद्धांजलि तभी होगी जब कश्मीर में धारा 370 समाप्त की जाएगी। उन्होंने कहा कि डा. मुखर्जी भी इसी षड्यंत्र का शिकार हुए जिस षड्यंत्र के तहत आज 3 लाख कश्मीर हिन्दू बेघर है। उन्होंने कहा कि पीड़ादायक बात यह भी है कि जम्मू-कश्मीर में 212 मन्दिर जला दिए गए तब किसी संगठन ने उफ तक नहीं की जबकि एक कथित बाबरी ढांचे के गिराने पर इतना आवेला मचा मानो कहर हो गया।

श्री गुड्डू ने कहा कि केवल कारगिल में घुसपैठियों के सफाए से काम नहीं चलेगा, आज मौका है कि पाक स्थित आतंकवादी प्रशिक्षण केन्द्रों पर बम बरसा कर उन्हें नेस्तनाबूद किया जाए।

भाजपा के केन्द्रीय उपाध्यक्ष श्री जे.पी. माथूर

ने कारगिल प्रकरण पर वाजपेयी सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदम तथा जवानों की भूमिका की प्रशंसा की।

उन्होंने कहा कि डा. श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी ने अपनी कुर्बानी देकर जो जन जागरण किया था उसी का परिणाम है कि आज कश्मीर के लिए सारा राष्ट्र एकजुट है। श्री माथूर ने कहा कि अपनी करतूतों के कारण पाकिस्तान विश्व मंच पर अकेला पड़ गया है। वाजपेयी की कूटनीति के सामने पाकिस्तान आज बीना होता जा रहा है।

समारोह में डा. विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा ने डा. मुखर्जी द्वारा जनसंघ की स्थापना तथा उनके बलिदान के संस्मरण सुनाते हुए उनकी माता श्री के उद्गार भी बताए। उन्होंने कहा कि श्री मुखर्जी की मृत्यु आज भी पहेली बनी हुई है। कश्मीर की सुरक्षा के लिए बलिदानों का जो सिलसिला चला है। उसकी मजबूत शहादत के रूप में डा. मुखर्जी को हमेशा याद किया जाएगा। जनसंघ का जन्म संघर्ष की कोख से हुआ था, उसी का विस्तार रूप है भाजपा।

दिल्ली प्रदेश भाजपा के प्रधान श्री मांगे राम गर्ग ने डा. मुखर्जी को महामानव बताया तथा कहा कि जम्मू-कश्मीर के लिए भाजपा का प्रत्येक कार्यकर्ता रक्त की अखिरी बूंद तक देने को कटिबद्ध है। उन्होंने कारगिल में जूझ रहे जवानों के लिए रक्तदान की अपील की।

समारोह में पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री श्री साहिब सिंह वर्मा, दिल्ली विधानसभा में भाजपा दल के नेता श्री रामभजन, महापौर श्री अनीता आर्य, प्रदेश भाजपा महामंत्री श्री श्याम लाल गर्ग, श्री पवन शर्मा और श्री ओ.पी. बब्बर भी उपस्थित थे।

KOSHUR SAMACHAR REPORTS

Black Day

As in previous years, August 14, 1999, the independence day of Pakistan was observed by Kashmiri Samit Delhi as a Black Day. This year, however, we did not resort to any direct action like burning of flags and effigies. We, instead, held a press conference in Delhi, demanding that Pakistan should be declared a terrorist State by the international community for aiding and abetting terrorism in India. Memoranda were submitted to the U.N. Secretary General, as also to the missions of the member countries of the Security Council to this effect.

Apart from this, a Memorandum was also presented to major political parties in the country, demanding that a Commission under an eminent jurist should be set up to investigate the reasons that led to terrorist incursions in Kashmir in 1989 and the resultant mayhem and genocide of the Kashmiri Pandit minority. We have also demanded that all Kashmiri Pandits living anywhere in the country or abroad be declared as "displaced persons" under the relevant U.N. conventions and that all Kashmiri Pandits living outside Kashmir be registered as such persons.



जनसत्ता, दिल्ली, १५ अगस्त, १९९९ ३

कश्मीर समिति ने काला दिवस मनाया

नई दिल्ली, १४ अगस्त (जनसत्ता)। कश्मीरी समिति ने पाकिस्तान के स्वतंत्रता दिवस १४ अगस्त को 'काला दिवस' के रूप में मनाया। समिति ने पाकिस्तान समर्थित आईएसआई द्वारा कश्मीर में गैर मुसलिमों को हत्या करवाने, बलात्कार, अपहरण और दहशत फैलाने के विरोध स्वरूप काला दिवस मनाया गया।

इस अवसर पर कश्मीरी समिति के अध्यक्ष सीएल गड्डू ने बताया कि पाकिस्तान ने सन्-९० में योजनानुसार जम्मू-कश्मीर में सरासरी इस्लामिक आतंकवादियों को भेजना शुरू कर दिया। ताकि वे शांत घाटी में आतंक मचा सकें। आतंकवादियों के कहर से बचने के लिए घाटी में रह रहे हिंदुओं ने पलायन शुरू कर दिया।

उन्होंने बताया कि कश्मीरी पंडित समुदाय के सभी लोग कारगिल संघर्ष में शहीद हुए जवानों का सम्मान करते हैं। साथ ही देश के प्रधानमंत्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी ने विश्व में भारत की छवि को ऊंचे दर्जे पर पहुंचाया है। इसके अलावा विश्व जनमत भी भारत के प्रति बदला है।

इन दिनों कारगिल संघर्ष के दौरान पाक आतंकवादियों ने कई कश्मीरी पंडितों की हत्या कर दी थी।

बावजूद इसके कश्मीरी पंडित अपने देश व तिरंगे झंडे की खातिर कोई भी कुर्बानी करने को तैयार हैं।

कश्मीरी समुदाय ने अपील की कि बिस्थापित कश्मीरियों के पुनर्वास व रोजगार की ठोस योजना तैयार की जाए। साथ ही पाकिस्तान को एक आतंकवादी देश घोषित किया जाए। इसके अलावा सरकार देश के विभिन्न हिस्सों में रह रहे कश्मीरी पंडितों को पंजीकृत करे।

(2) दैनिक जागरण, नई दिल्ली, 15 अगस्त 1999

पाक को आतंकवादी राष्ट्र घोषित करने की मांग

जागरण संवाददाता

नई दिल्ली, 14 अगस्त। कश्मीरी समिति ने विकसित राष्ट्रों से पाकिस्तान को आतंकवादी राष्ट्र घोषित करने व केंद्र सरकार से कश्मीरी हिंदुओं को कश्मीर में राजनीति करने एवं सत्ता में भागीदार बनाने के लिए वहां उपयुक्त अवसर उपलब्ध कराने की मांग की है। साथ ही समिति ने पाकिस्तान के आज स्वतंत्रता दिवस को काला दिवस के रूप में मनाया।

संवाददाता सम्मेलन में समिति के अध्यक्ष सी.एल.गुड्डू ने कहा कि काला दिवस के रूप में

उनकी संस्था ने आज विभिन्न राष्ट्रों के दूतावासों को ज्ञापन देकर पाकिस्तान को आतंकवादी देश घोषित करने की मांग की। उन्होंने कहा कि कश्मीरी हिंदु अपनी जन्मभूमि को छोड़ दूसरे राष्ट्रों में रहने को मजबूर हैं और कश्मीरी हिंदुओं का वोट बैंक कमजोर होने के कारण विभिन्न सरकारें उनकी समस्याओं की तरफ कोई ध्यान नहीं दे रही हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि राजधानी में करीब 29 हजार विस्थापित कश्मीरी परिवार रह रहे हैं जिनमें अधिसंख्य परिवारों का सरकारी खाले में पंजीकरण नहीं है।

THE HINDU, Sunday, August 15, 1999 *****3

Displaced Kashmiri Pandits observe black day

By Our Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, AUG. 14. The displaced Kashmiri Pandit minority of the Kashmir Valley observed "Black Day" today on Pakistan's Independence Day to protest against terrorism being promoted by that country in India and demanded that Pakistan be declared a terrorist state.

The representative body of Kashmiri Pandits in Delhi, Kashmiri Samiti said it had been observing August 14 as Black Day ever since Pakistan began pushing terrorists into Kashmir and these persons started killing, plundering, raping and kidnap-

ping innocent peace-loving people.

Availing that the terrorists have primarily been targeting non-Muslims in Jammu and Kashmir, the Samiti said the terror let loose by these men has forced more than 300,000 Kashmiri Hindus out of their homeland and made them refugees in their own country. The Kashmiri Samiti, which has also written to all the political parties about its feeling, said the happenings in Kargil were just another attempt by Pakistan to foment trouble in India.

They wanted to isolate Ladakh and cut off the strategic Siachen area, it said, while lauding the In-

dian soldiers for giving a befitting reply to the enemy.

Stating that Kashmiri Pandits were prepared for any sacrifice to keep the flag of India flying, the members of the displaced community demanded a probe into the terrorist intrusions in Kashmir in 1989 which really led to the mayhem and genocide of the Hindu minority there.

The Samiti has also demanded that all Kashmiri Pandits living anywhere in the country and abroad be declared as displaced persons under various United Nations conventions and urged the Government to also start the registration of displaced persons.

'Declare Pak a terrorist state'

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, Aug. 14. — The Kashmiri Samiti, which represents displaced Pandits of Jammu and Kashmir, today appealed to world leaders to declare Pakistan, a terrorist state for "supporting global terrorism".

The Samiti has urged that all the five permanent members of the UN Security Council declare Pakistan, a terrorist state "as now there is enough evidence that Pakistan is aiding and abetting terrorism in India," its president Mr C.L. Gadoo said.

The Samiti which is observing the Pakistani Independence Day today as 'Black Day', asked the international community to declare Pakistan a terrorist state for its recent misadventure in

Kargil and ethnic cleansing in the Kashmir over the years.

Mr Gadoo said the Kashmiri Pandits were being forced to live as refugees in their own country because of ethnic sweeping by Pakistan-backed militants.

He said the plight of over 300,000 Kashmiri Pandits living in many parts of the country was pathetic as they had been neglected by both the Centre and the Jammu and Kashmir Government.

The Samiti president pointed out that the worst example of the sorry plight of the Kashmiri Pandits was their non-representation in the state Assembly which left them with no platform to air their grievances. He alleged that the Jammu and Kashmir Government had no interest in

rehabilitating members of the community and ensure their direct participation in the elections.

Regarding postal ballot, he said, the system did not do anything for the displaced people as contestants do not see them as a vote bank. "They are therefore least bothered about us" said Mr Gadoo.

A delegation of Kashmiri Pandits would be meeting the Election Commissioner in this regard.

The Samiti also expressed concern about the recent attacks on Army camps and said the situation in Kashmir was now vulnerable after the intrusion in Kargil and that under the circumstances it appeared that the return of Kashmiri Pandits to their own state appeared impossible.

HOLOCAUST DAY



MARTYRS DAY



‘The first blow which fell on the Kashmiri Hindus was the assassination of Pandit Tika Lal Taploo, the member of the National Executive of the Bharatiya Janata Party. Taploo was widely respected among the Hindus in Kashmir and though Kashmiri Hindus held diverse views on electoral politics, they venerated him as an indefatigable champion of their cause. He was assassinated by terrorists outside his house in Srinagar, while he was on his way to the local court where he practiced as a lawyer. Tika Lal Taploo was given a tearful farewell by thousands of Kashmiri Hindus who accompanied his funeral procession. The Kashmiri Hindus had given a call for a bandh that day. The Hindu shops, schools and office-establishment were closed, but the Muslims went on their work as usual. While the funeral procession, carrying Taploo on his last journey wound its way through the streets of Srinagar, stones were pelted on it. The next day, the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front owned the responsibility of killing Taploo. He was proclaimed the enemy of the freedom of the Muslims of the State. Taploo's death was followed by the broad day murder of the former Sessions Judge Pandit Nila Kanth Ganjoo, who had sentenced Maqbool Bhat, a founder, member of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front to death. Bhat was convicted of murder and executed. Ganjoo was killed in the busy market of Hari Singh High Street in Srinagar and his body lay unclaimed for an hour, wielding gunmen prowled round the place till the police appeared on the scene. A few days after, Kalashnikov terrorists gunned down another prominent Kashmiri Hindus leader, Prem Nath Bhat. Bhat too, was a lawyer and a columnist and had returned to his native town of Anantnag after he had left Kashmir due to the threats and warnings, he had received from the militants. After Bhat's death, hell broke loose in the Valley. Long hit lists were circulated in the villages and the townships of the valley indicting the Hindus for 'Mukhbiri', or complicity with the Indian State against the liberation movement of the Muslims’. (WHITE PAPER ON KASHMIR)

They fled their homes in order to escape threat to life. Ten years later, Kashmiri migrants continue to live in inhuman conditions in the rehabilitation centres across the city.

GARIMA GUPTA reports



NOTHING heals quite like time. Or so goes the saying. But, ten years after they were forced to flee their homeland, every passing moment seems to be bringing in its wake fresh problems and inducing even more intense longing for the paradise that was home. More than one lakh Kashmiri Pandits settled in and around Delhi, according to the Directorate of Resettlement and Rehabilitation, with 285 families rehabilitated in the 14 community centres across the city, continue to suffer from an appalling lack of sanitation, proper shelter, employment and education.

"The conditions in these camps are not only unhygienic but also inhuman," says C. L. Gadoo, President, Kashmir Samiti, an agency representing the rights of Kashmiri migrants in Delhi. "On an average, 15 families are forced to live together in a very small area and made to live in a near complete absence of sanitation or security. Despite our repeated appeals to the Delhi Government, nothing has been done to improve the conditions."

K. Tickoo, who represents the refugee camp at South Extension, concedes when he informs: "We have

No Refuge



PARADISE LOST: Lack of privacy (top), cramped

anonymity, that some refugees have also been allotted shops in the INA market. However, on the question of providing a decent residential accommodation and shifting them out of the camps, officials simply state that there is not enough land available in the city.

Which is why, people living in the Malviya Nagar, South Extension, Lodhi Road, Gole Market and Kailash Colony camps have identical woes to narrate. "There is an amount of Rs 1,800 given as aid by the government to the registered migrants for a family of four persons, of which Rs 1,200 is given as cash and the rest as ration worth Rs 600," informs C. L. Gadoo. "The sanctioning of this amount is often delayed by months together, resulting in harassment to the families."

"This aid is anything but sufficient, feels Nanajee Raina, General Secretary, Kashmir Samiti, who says, "The sanction was raised to Rs 2,400 from April 1, 1999 by the Central Government but it is yet to be implemented by the Delhi Government."

In fact, merely getting themselves registered in order to avail of the benefits is no less an ordeal. According to the office of the District Commissioner, nearly 29,000 families have been registered till date out of which 3,000 families are given aid by the government. Further registrations were stopped in 1993 and the Kashmir Samiti has been agitating to get the process



C. L. GADOO

President, Kashmir Samiti

"On an average, 15 families are forced to live together in a very small area in a near absence of sanitation or security. Despite our repeated appeals to the Delhi Government, nothing has been done to improve the conditions."

or compensation for their losses in the Valley. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has recently finalised the composition of a committee entrusted with the task of finding solutions to some of the pressing problems faced by the displaced Kashmiris. At the 55th UNHCR session in March-April 1999, it was pointed out that terrorism and the consequent displacement of the Kashmiri people had profound psychological, social, physical, and demographic impact on them.

That is borne out by the fact that the migrants report a sharp decline in their birth rate and a phenomenal increase in their death rate. Sunil Shaikh, Vice-President of the Kashmir Samiti believes the condition of the refugees can improve only if they are given a right to represent themselves in the parliament. "We should have a right to choose our representatives in Jammu & Kashmir also, and for this the Election Commission should not

INTERVIEW

'Survival is our Politics'

One of the front line leaders of Kashmiri Pandits and actively involved in highlighting the cause of Pandits in exile Shri P.L. Gannon at the age of sixty is an outspoken, articulate and a cultured leader. His long association with Kashmiri Samiti Delhi with honesty and sincerity has made him today a household name among Delhi Pandits. He talks to our correspondent about the area and politics.

President Kashmiri Samiti Delhi, honesty and dedication has made



Q: Was this activity forced on Samiti?

A: No, it was natural reaction to our forced migration from Valley that we switched our priority and whole effort was utilised in providing immediate relief to the displaced members of our community. Kashmir Bhawan became the hub of activity and we established a control room in our office. Our Samiti being in the capital defeated the disinformation campaign launched by Muslim fundamentalist.

Q: Some people say that Kashmiri Samiti has now been made political Akhara.

A: I do not agree with such statements. I feel community leaders have a responsibility. If I see my people dying for want of basic necessity education etc, I cannot remain a silent spectator. I will fight for every needy Kashmiri Pandit. Survival of my community members is now our politics.

Q: What is now the strength of Kashmiri Pandits in Delhi?

A: No exact figure, but as per my estimates we have now more than 1 lakh KPs residing in NCR which includes Ghaziabad,

Meerut, Faridabad, Sahibabad, Bahadurgarh, Gurgaon, Noida, Sonapat etc. We have now come up with address directory of KPs and is available from our office.

Q: What are your priorities?

A: We have long term and short term targets. My immediate priority is proper education of our children, employment of our educated youth and to develop perceptual unity among KP leadership.

Q: What steps you have taken in this regard?

A: New session is on and as per past practice we shall be organising admission of our children to Maharashtra Colleges. In addition we are in constant touch with Delhi State education directorate, Kendriya Vidyalaya etc. In this effort, I am personally thankful to Shiv Sena-BJP combine government in Maharashtra and Delhi government for providing special quota for displaced children. Further Kashmiri Samiti is providing financial assistance to needy students at different levels and even recommending to different organisations throughout the world for help.

Q: What about job opportu-

nities to our youth?

A: Yes, we have placement cell in Samiti office. It is functional and helps in getting jobs for unemployed youth. With the help of PHD Chamber of Commerce we are able to get some of our boys and girls adjusted. However, with our constant efforts we have now more than 500 lady teachers employed in Delhi State education dept on adhoc basis. My mission is to get them regularised and God willing we shall get it.

Q: What is your future plan?

A: Construction of second storey to Kashmir Bhawan is always dear to my heart. Because of other problems I could not give my attention towards that. But now with Man Sharda's blessings I plan for construction of auditorium, Koshar Samachar Block, data resource bank with center for art and culture, and establishing international Business Management school with self supporting funding arrangement.

Q: Do you have enough finance for construction of second storey of Kashmir Bhawan?

A: We have not much money

on this account. But I am in constant touch with HRD ministry for funding above project and in addition we are trying to generate funds within our own community members itself.

Q: Is there unity among KP leadership?

A: I believe that all KP leaders are doing good work and joining hands is not necessary for unity. I have been appealing for perceptual unity among the leadership and to a large extent we have been successful. Our thinking should be clear and action oriented. In this regard I have visited Jammu, Chandigarh, Bombay, USA, UK etc and our agenda was common approach to various issues and evolving a strategy for long term survival in Kashmir.

Q: What about other activities of your organisation?

A: Kashmiri Samiti Delhi, organised two seminars, one on 25th Dec '98 and other international seminar on 27th Jan '99 at Kashmir Bhawan Lajpat Nagar. Our objective was to create a common strategy towards the return of KPs and need to preserve our heritage. Response from various organisations was very good on both the occasions.

Q: How long have you been associated with Kashmir Samiti?

A: Since 1986, I was elected its Vice President in 1988. Then its President from Oct 1989 to May 1992 and from April 1997 onwards.

Q: What change do you see in Samiti activities in last ten years.

A: Role of Kashmir Samiti was basically social and cultural. But the year 1989 onwards was a disaster for the entire community. Our existence is threatened and we had to change our priorities.

C.L. Gadoo'

With Pakistan's latest perfidy in Kargil and its misadventure in Kutch, it is not the first time when these two minor towns of India have come to national and international notice forcefully.

Pakistan has been trying to disturb these towns time and again with the basic intention of grabbing Jammu and Kashmir and keeping India occupied elsewhere. This happened in 1964. Pakistan started cross border firing in Kutch in June of that year and the area of operation was extended to Kargil via the then ceasefire line in Jammu and Kashmir. This culminated in the second Indo-Pak war of 1965, which is recorded history. What is, however, generally forgotten in this context is that Pakistan utilised the entire period from June 1964 to July 1965, to send in thousands of armed infiltrators to Kashmir, via the Tossa Maidan, beyond Gulmarg, to the West of the valley. Incidentally Kashmir had never been attacked via Tossa Maidan. Even in 1947, when the then ruler was still to decide about accession Kashmir was attacked from the North followed by armed incursions from its North-West.

What is, however, interesting in that India did not know even upto the end of July 1965 that armed infiltrators were in the Valley. They had infiltrated upto the gates of Srinagar. Not to speak of Shalateg, which Pakistani tribal raiders had reached in 1947, they had reached Batawaloo, a locality of Srinagar City to its West, in 1965.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India, passed away in May, 1964. He was succeeded by the late Lal Bahadur Shastri, with the late

Will the Congress answer?

Shri Y.B. Chavan as the Defence Minister. Pakistan perhaps thought that after Pt Jawaharlal Nehru, India would not be able to marshal all its resources to fight it back. They were proved wrong by the late Lal Bahadur Shastri who

Minister Shri Y.B. Chavan, after a 3-4 day visit to Srinagar, announced at a Press Conference at the Srinagar Airport that everything was all right on the borders, particularly of Jammu & Kashmir. Skirmishes with Pakistani

reminded of what happened in 1964-65. Smt Sonia Gandhi, the Congress President, has said umpteen times "Sarkar Ko Jawab Dena Hoga". The Congress spokesman, Shri Kapil Sibal, is presently questioning the government about what happened in Kargil and when. They could ponder over 1964-65 before trying to declare themselves as the ever alert lot, the innocent.

In fact, there have been intelligence failures right from 1947, if one can use the term as presently thrown about by political leaders/spokesman of various hues. For instance, India had no idea about Pakistani intentions about J&K in 1947. At that time the J&K ruler had entered into a stand-still agreement both with India and

as early as 1954, when Chinese and Indian leaders came face to face at Bandung to sign the Panchsheel Declaration. It seems that while India revelled to the tune of "Hindi-Chini Bhai Bhai", China started construction of the road in Ladakh. The Government of India came to know about it as a rude shock in 1959, when 19 Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel were killed in a skirmish with Chinese forces in the area. To cap the intelligence failure, the then Prime Minister, Pt Jawaharlal Nehru chose to tell the Lok Sabha that "not a blade of grass grows there" presumably as a sort of justification for the unforgivable lapse in Ladakh. The 1962 fiasco in the North-East of the country is already well-documented although the main document has not as yet seen the light of the day.

The caretaker government of Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee has appointed a Committee of experts to look into what went wrong in Kargil in 1999. The report of the Committee will become public soon, hopefully. It would be better for the Congress to await the findings and recommendations of this Committee and cease its noise about Kargil lest intelligence failures in 1947, 1959, 1962 etc are brought to public notice to silence them. Spokespersons of the Congress are newcomers to the party. They would do well to read the history of the country, of their 114 year old party and of the various problems bequeathed to the country by its erstwhile leaders.

The writer is President of the Jammu & Kashmir cell of BJP, Delhi.

How did Pakistani infiltrators enter the valley right upto Srinagar in 1964-65 without the Congress Government knowing it until the hostilities began?

ordered crossing of even international borders in Punjab, Rajasthan and elsewhere, apart from the Ceasefire Line (CFL) in J&K. Thus Pakistan was brought to its knees despite the rhetoric of the late Z.A. Bhutto, the then Foreign Minister of Pakistan, in the UN Security Council which had become seized of the issue. Ultimately, the then USSR Prime Minister intervened to effect another ceasefire vide the Tashkent Declaration of January, 1966 under which India had to give back to Pakistan all the territories it had occupied in Punjab, Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir. India suffered a very strategic loss when it had to return even the Hajipur Pass connecting Uri in Kashmir to Poonch in Jammu Division of the State, a distance of just about 20 miles.

What is of importance to national security and territorial integrity of the country is that the Government of India was unaware of infiltration in Kashmir right upto the end of July, 1965. It was on August 4, 1965, that the then Defence

intruders, very much on this side of the CFL, started five days later, on August 9, 1965. At that time also it was a Gujjar, Mohammed Din, who informed the State authorities

Chinese started building a road to Ladakh in 1954 but the Nehru Government came to know about it in 1959.

about the presence of Pak infiltrators. Din was later awarded the Padam Shri. Incidentally Mohammed Din was one of the first Kashmiris to be killed by Pak-sponsored terrorists in 1990.

It continues to be an enigma why the then Government of India had no inkling about the large-scale Pakistani infiltration in Kashmir in 1964-65. Presently, all the leaders in opposition to the current caretaker Government of Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee are shouting themselves hoarse for the alleged intelligence failure in 1999. One can only wonder how they will behave when

Pakistan pending his decision about accession. While India stood still literally Pakistan went ahead with its agenda of annexing J&K by hook or by crook. Not many people outside Kashmir perhaps know that Pakistan stopped supply of rice, sugar, salt, tea and other necessities to Kashmir in September 1947 itself, while India was standing still as per protocol.

Again, it was known in Srinagar as early as the autumn of 1956 that the Chinese were constructing a road to link Tibet with Sinkiang via the Aksaichin area of Ladakh. They had perhaps started this construction

PROTEST BY KASHMIRI HINDUS AT UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, NEW DELHI ON Dec. 10, 1999(HUMAN RIGHTS DAY)



The All-Party Hurriyat Conference acting chairman, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq (left), talking to Kashmiri Pandits in front of the U.N. office in New Delhi on Friday. — Photo: Shanker Chakravarthy.

Police prevent clash between Kashmiri groups

By Our Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, DEC. 10. Police intervened in time to prevent a clash between members of the All-Party Hurriyat Conference (APHC) and Kashmiri Samiti, comprising Kashmiri Pandits, in front of the UN office here on Friday.

The groups had gathered in the morning to register their protest on different issues. Slogan-shouting APHC members were the first to arrive at the scene. They were protesting against the alleged atrocities committed by the Army in the Valley.

They alleged that the situation had become worse after the installation of a Government and that it was proved by statistics available to APHC. In fact, a successful boycott of the polls on the call of the Hurriyat Conference during the recent Parliamentary elections had further exploded the propaganda that was being carried out by the authorities.

Members of the Kashmiri Samiti arrived when a couple of APHC

that led to their "cleansing" from Kashmir during the past decade. They urged the Government to identify the forces, groups and parties responsible for reducing the state to the present state of chaos. The two groups resorted to some vociferous sloganeering forcing before policemen stepped in. The potentially explosive situation was brought under control after the policemen convinced the protesters to remain calm.

Kashmiris' meeting with a difference

HT Correspondent
New Delhi, December 10

IT WAS a dialogue with a difference. And there could be no better occasion than the World Human Rights Day for the separatist All Party Hurriyat Conference (APHC) and Kashmiri Samiti representing the Kashmir Pandit community to come face to face.

The setting, though not ideal for what turned out to be an impromptu roadside dialogue, was provided when the two groups found themselves juxtaposed while squatting on dharna outside the local UNHRC office today. Their grouse was similar - the violation of human rights - but the perpetrators were different.

The brief encounter between former APHC chief Mirwaiz Umar Farooq and the Samiti president C.

L. Gadoo had the supporters on both sides watching the scene with bated breath. It was the outpouring of grievances for the next 10 minutes with naturally the Samiti confronting the young Mirwaiz with the gory tales of the Pandits' unceremonious exit from the Valley.

Senior APHC leader and former State Minister Abdul Gani Lone quietly watched his young colleague entering into an on-the-spot dialogue with the Samiti representatives for which the initiative was taken by the Jammu and Kashmir Democratic Forum president Bhusan Bazaz.

The same old Muslim brethren who shared our joys and sorrows for years stood silently when we were hounded out, killed and maimed. Was not it your duty to protect us from the gun. Who is

responsible for the killings of innocent Kashmiri Hindus?," asked Mr Gadoo.

A patiently listening Mirwaiz replied: "We agree that you have suffered. But we are equal sufferers."

"It is wrong to say that only you have suffered," said Mohammed Yaqoob, former president of Kashmir Bar Association accompanying the Mirwaiz. "We are also here to ask who is responsible for the killing of over 30,000 Muslims."

Frayed emotions saw the police jumping in with an appeal to the two groups to disperse. To the surprise of everyone, their attempt was jointly resisted by the two delegations. "There is no question of a fight. This is our internal matter which we are discussing amongst ourselves," remarked one of the Samiti functionaries.

The complaints over, another Samiti functionary questioned: "But you want Pakistan. We cannot talk to you."

"We want neither Pakistan nor India. We are only fighting for a lasting solution to the vexed Kashmir problem," the Mirwaiz clarified.

"What about the return of Kashmiri Pandits to the Valley?," asked Mr Gadoo.

"We cannot give a guarantee for your safety. But we consider you our brethren and have included you in our programme," the former responded. Even before parting, the groups left a faint ray of hope. "You send us your policy document. We will see what have you prescribed for the Kashmiri Hindus before we decided to talk to you again," said the Samiti VP Sunil Shakhzad.

Move to ease tension in Kashmir

Observer Political Bureau

NEW DELHI

MUCH significance is being attached to Friday's first ever "direct informal dialogue" between representatives of Kashmir's majority and minority communities for stated purposes of "clearing misunderstandings" between the two and enabling the possible return of Kashmiri Hindu migrants to the Valley.

An exchange of ideas relating to common concerns was organised in New Delhi between representatives of All Party Hurriyat Conference (APHC), Kashmiri Samiti (representing the minority Hindus) and other organisations at the instance of Jammu and Kashmir Democratic Forum president Bhusan Bazaz.

Moreover, APHC leaders even maintained after the meeting that they were willing to hold talks with the Central government to discuss a solution to problems and issues being faced by the majority and minority communities of Kashmir.

Acting chairman of Hurriyat

Conference Mirwaiz Umar Farooq and Kashmiri Samiti president C L Gadoo were brought together by the mediation of Mr Bazaz and they agreed to follow up Friday's talks.

The first direct talks may turn out to be significant in paving the way for return of about 2.5 lakh Kashmiri Pandit migrants to the Valley.

Before the two leaders met, both the groups resorted to "sloganeering," prompting police intervention to prevent any ugly incidents.

While the Kashmiri Samiti members raised the issue of the killing of members of the minority community and suffering of migrants in Jammu and other places, the Hurriyat leaders highlighted the sufferings of the majority community on being caught in the cross-fire between militants and security agencies.

Mr Umar assured the Samiti leaders that they were a part and parcel of the state, but stressed that the decade-long communication gap between the two communities needed to be

bridged.

Mr Gadoo said the Hurriyat leaders had never flayed any killing by militants of the minority community members, including the various massacres in which even toddlers were not spared.

The Kashmiri Pandit leaders asked the Hurriyat to take "constructive measures" to revive the centuries-old ethos of amity and brotherhood in the militancy-wrecked state.

"When communal fire raged during partition, Kashmir was the only place where both communities lived in harmony," Mr Gadoo pointed out with tears rolling down his cheeks.

Militants had smashed peace and brotherhood prevalent in the state, he further said, blaming Hurriyat leaders for extending patronage to terrorist organisations.

Mr Umar, however, said that in the decade-long turmoil, both communities had only lost and gained nothing.

He stressed that the Hurriyat agenda contained a place for the Kashmiri Pandit "brethren."

The Samiti leaders also asked for the agenda so that they could discuss it within their executive committee and got a positive response.

Mr Umer later said that his organisation was not averse to holding talks with the Centre, provided the latter accepted the organisation as a party to the dispute over J&K.

"Hurriyat constitution talks about an alternative negotiated settlement under which bilateral talks could be held keeping in view the stand of the third party," Mr Umer said.

He, however, maintained that the final solution to the problem could be achieved only after India, Pakistan and representatives of Kashmiris were involved in the tripartite talks.

Regretting the decision of the Jammu and Kashmir government to extend the detention of 15 Hurriyat leaders under Public Safety Act till September 2001, Mr Umer said that "such decisions only create a greater wedge, which can lead the situation from worse to worst."

APHC, Kashmiri Samiti hold protest

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, Dec. 10. — The All Party Hurriyat Conference and the Kashmiri Samiti today held peaceful demonstrations on the occasion of Human Rights Day to protest against the inaction of the international community. The separate protests coincided outside the UN headquarters here putting the local police in a panic. It was the leaders of the two organisations who told the police not to worry and thereafter proceeded to exchange views on the Kashmir situation. The All Party Hurriyat Conference, in its memorandum to the UN Secretary General, Mr Kofi Annan, has asked the UN to intervene in the "illegal detention" of Hurriyat leaders in

UN for its inaction, the Hurriyat has said instead of helping the people it had become a mute spectator to their destruction.

The Hurriyat has said the Public Safety Act, under which its leaders have been detained, was a black law which provided for two years' detention without trial. The leaders were being treated as ordinary convicts and not political prisoners.

Also criticising the state government for its failure, the Kashmiri Samiti has said the hopes of the return of the Pandit community to Kashmir after the induction of the elected government had been belied and the number of attacks on civilians and security forces had increased. Areas earlier cleared

हरियत काँग्रेस और कश्मीरी पंडितों के मध्य प्रथम सीधी अनौपचारिक बातचीत

नई दिल्ली, 10 दिसम्बर (भाषा): कश्मीर में आतंकवाद की शुरूआत और परिणामस्वरूप कश्मीरी पंडितों के पलायन के बाद बहुसंख्यक मुस्लिम समुदाय के नेताओं और अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के बीच आज यहां पहली बार मतभेदों को सुलझाने के लिए सीधी अनौपचारिक बातचीत हुई। विश्व मानवाधिकार दिवस के अवसर पर संयुक्त राष्ट्र कार्यालय के बाहर अलग-अलग प्रदर्शन कर रहे अलगाववादी हरियत काँग्रेस तथा कश्मीरी समिति के नेताओं ने एक-दूसरे से शिकवे-शिकायत किए।

जम्मू-कश्मीर जनतांत्रिक फोरम जे.के.डी. एफ. के अध्यक्ष भूषण बजाज की मध्यस्थता के बाद हरियत काँग्रेस के कार्यवाहक अध्यक्ष मोरवेज ठमर फारूक और कश्मीरी समिति के अध्यक्ष सी.एल. गादू ने एक साथ बैठकर बातचीत की। दोनों नेताओं ने आज हुई बातचीत को जारी रखने की बात कही।

अपने आप में इस तरह की पहली सीधी बातचीत के फलस्वरूप 2.5 लाख विस्थापित

कश्मीर में اکثریتی اور اقلیتی فرقوں کے نمائندوں میں پہلی بار سیدھی بات چیت

حریت لیڈر کشمیری سستی کے نمائندوں سے ملے۔ دونوں کی طرف سے گلے شکوے کا اظہار

فرقوں نے یکجہاں نہیں بلکہ کھولا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ حریت کے ایجنڈا میں کشمیری پنڈت بھائیوں کے لئے جگہ ہے سستی لیڈروں نے کہا کہ وہ ایجنڈا دکھایا جائے تاکہ ان کی ایکڑیکٹو عملی اس پر غور کر سکے اور مثبت رد عمل ملے کر سکیں۔

حیت کی۔ حریت کانگرس کے قائم مقام چیئرمین میر واعظ عمر فاروق اور کشمیری سستی کے صدر سی ایل گڈو کو جموں کشمیر ایجوکریٹک فورم کے صدر بھوشن پڑا کی مصالحت سے ایک جگہ لایا گیا۔ اور پھر انہوں نے آج بات چیت کرتا منظور کر لیا۔ دونوں لیڈروں کی ملاقات سے پہلے دونوں گروپوں نے نعرے بازی کی اور پولیس کو کوئی ناخوشگوار واقعہ روکنے کے لئے مداخلت کرنی پڑی۔ کشمیری سستی کے ممبروں نے اقلیتی فرقہ کے ممبروں کی پتیلیاں اور جموں اور دیگر مقامات پر شراباہیوں کی مصیبتوں کا معاملہ اٹھایا اور حریت لیڈروں نے اکثریتی فرقہ کی مصیبتوں کا ذکر کیا جو کہ ملی نینٹوں اور سکيورٹی ايجنيسيوں کی گراس فائرنگ میں پھینے ہوئے ہیں۔ عمر نے سستی کے لیڈروں کو یقین دلایا کہ وہ راجیہ کے آگے ہیں لیکن اس بات پر زور دیا کہ دونوں فرقوں میں ایک دہائی سے بورہیل ٹوٹا ہوا ہے وہ بحال ہونا چاہیے۔ گڈو نے کہا کہ حریت لیڈروں نے ملی نینٹوں کی طرف سے اقلیتی فرقہ کے ممبروں کی پتیلیاں کی بھی مذمت نہیں کی۔ جنہوں نے مختلف دستکاروں میں نئے بچوں کو بھی نہیں چھوڑا۔ کشمیری پنڈت لیڈروں نے حریت سے کہا کہ وہ صدیوں پرانے بھائی بھارہ اور چاکھت کو بحال کرنے کے لئے کشمیری اقدامات کرے۔ جو کہ ملی نینٹوں کی وجہ سے ٹوٹ گیا ہے۔

نئی دہلی 10 دسمبر (پی ٹی وی) کشمیر میں ملی نینٹوں شروع ہونے اور اس کے نتیجے میں کشمیری پنڈتوں کی ہجرت کے بعد پہلی بار اکثریتی مسلم اور اقلیتی فرقہ کے لیڈروں میں برادری اور سستی کے بارے میں بات چیت ہوئی۔ جس کا مقصد دونوں کے درمیان فاصلہ مہیاں دور کرنا تھا۔

مظاہر کی پینڈ حریت کانگرس اور کشمیری سستی کے لیڈروں نے جو کہ عالمی انسانی حقوق کے دوس کے موقع پر احمدی سہا کے آفس کے سامنے الگ الگ مظاہرے کرتے رہے تھے۔ آج ایک دوسرے کے ساتھ اپنی شکایت اور مصیبتوں کے بارے میں بات

Kashmir Awareness Bureau

Delhi office of the

Jammu and Kashmir All Parties Hurriyet Conference

A-181, (GF) Shivalik Malviya Nagar New Delhi 110017 Ph. 6480439 Fax. 6283067

Dated. 4-1-2000

My Dear Gudoo sahib,

Kindly you will reminder that on 10th of December 1999 Jenab Mirwaiz Umar Farooq had come to meet your delegation, which had come to demonstration in front of the office of the resident coordinator of United Nation. A consensus had emerged that the leaders of the Sumiti and APHC would sit together and deliberate on the issues related to Kashmiri migrants, their rehabilitation and inter-community contact and interaction.

Jenab Mirwaiz Umar Farooq has advised me to write to your good self so that a start could be made.

I would like to request you to please inform me about the date and venue for a get together. I am here in New Delhi till 15th of February 2000.

With regard

Yours sincerely



Abdul Gani Lone
Executive member of APHC

Jenab C.L. Gudoo
President Kashmiri Samiti
New Delhi

JAMMU, MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2000

Kashmiri Samiti not to hold talks with Hurriyat

NEW DELHI, Jan 9:

Kashmiri Samiti, an organisation of Kashmiri Pandits, today said it would hold no dialogue with separatist Hurriyat Conference as was expected following impromptu talks between the leaders of the two groups last month.

Stating that the two groups had divergent principle policies, Samiti president C L Gadoo told PTI here the decision of not holding talks with the Hurriyat was taken unanimously at the two-day deliberations of various other Kashmiri Pandit groups recently.

Leaders of the two organisations had held an informal and impromptu dialogue, first direct interaction since the outbreak of 10-year-old militancy in Kashmir, on the World Human Rights Day on December 10 while both groups were demonstrating outside the UN office here.

The dialogue, held due to mediation of Jammu and Kashmir Democratic Forum (JKDF) president Bhushan Bazaz, was considered significant for the possible return of more than 2.5 lakh Kashmiri Pandit migrants.

Asked about a recent intimation from the Hurriyat to the Samiti that a start could be made towards deliberation on issues related to Kashmiri migrants and their rehabilitation, Gadoo said it is not acceptable to us.

The Hurriyat has been openly supporting militancy in Jammu and Kashmir and was responsible for the killing of hundreds of ethnic minorities in Kashmir, he added, explaining the reasons behind the Samiti's stand.

Besides, we are all out with India while the Hurriyat seeks separation from the Union. This is the basic difference between the principle policies of the two groups, the Kashmiri Samiti president said.

Demanding a public apology from the Hurriyat for what has been done to the Kashmiri Pandits, Gadoo said let it give up its main issue of seeking separation, then only can we consider holding talks with it.

Gadoo said if at all any talks were to be held over the issue of the Kashmiri Pandits' rehabilitation, it would be with the Central Government only.

Asked about the impromptu talks held outside the UN office on December 10, he said it was not a dialogue. We were only airing our complaints regarding killing and dislocation of our community members. (PTI)

H.T. 21-7-2005

Hurriyat-Pandit meet loses steam

ANIL Anand

New Delhi, July 21

THE MUCH-HYPED Hurriyat Conference-Kashmiri Pandit meeting in Srinagar on Tuesday lost much of its steam with two of the six organisations — which attended it — dissociating themselves.

Most of the mainstream Kashmiri Pandit organisations have already boycotted the meeting convened by the Hurriyat (Umer faction). On Thursday, Kashmir Pandit Sabha and the Hindu Educational Society of Kashmir disowned the representatives, who attended the meeting. "We have never authorised anyone to be our representatives," the organisations said.

"The July 19 meeting is not the first interface between the separatists and the displaced community's representatives as is being made out to be.

In October 1998, the united Hurriyat Conference and senior Kashmiri Pandit leaders had a chance meeting following which they staged a dharna outside the Unesco office here

OVERTURES



the same day to highlight human rights violations in J&K.

The Pandits under the aegis of the Kashmiri Samiti had the same agenda. Though the meeting was marked by frayed tempers, Geelani and former Samiti president C.L. Gadoo managed a brief discussion.

In contrast, though the July 19 meeting was a planned affair, it lacked the representative character of 1998 "roadshow".

Meanwhile, the Centre has denied any "secret deal" to resolve the Kashmir problem. Minister of State for Home Sriprakash Jaiswal said the minority communities of J&K (read Kashmiri Pandits) will be taken into confidence before taking any step.

KASHMIRI SAMITI, DELHI (REGD.)

KASHMIR BHAWAN, KASHMIR BHAWAN MARG, AMAR COLONY,

LAXPAT NAGAR-IV, NEW DELHI - 110024.

(NODAL AGENCY FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED KASHMIRIS)

Shri K.R.Narayanan,
President of India
Rashtrapati Bhawan
New Delhi.

Friday, December 10, 1999

Respected President,
Namaskar.

Ten years have passed since we, the Kashmiri Pandit Community, were slaughtered, uprooted and forced to flee from our Valley by well organised and trained terrorists, fundamentalists and secessionist forces. The bloodshed and devastation, with chaos and confusion have continued for us over the years and indeed deepened and broadened.

The terrorists supported by foreign mercenaries have unleashed an organised violence and sustained campaign to exterminate the Hindu minority in Kashmir. There have been attacks, molestation's, kidnapping gang rape of women and mass-massacre of men women and children. Even infants were not spared. The sole objective is ethnic-religious cleansing of the indigenous minority of Kashmiri Pandits.

Till date about 1,500 members of this religious minority have been brutally murdered and more than 400,000 were forced out of the Valley during the last decade. More than 10,000 displaced persons have died due to hostile environs and physical, psychological disorders. More than 24000 houses belonging to Kashmiri Pandits, hundreds of their business establishments, educational, cultural and religious institutions have been destroyed with the object of decimating all traces of the 6000 years old civilization of this indigenous minority community.

The genocide of Kashmiri Hindus and their ethnic cleansing contravenes the basic principals of equality, liberty, life and due process of law which underline the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is the GROSS VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF MINORITIES.

For a last one decade, we are living a life of refugees away from Kashmir Valley in tattered tents, rented inhabitable rooms, with a meagre sustenance allowance for a few and in unhygienic, hostile environment.

With the induction of elected Govt of Jammu and Kashmir State, it was hoped that conditions would change and 100,000 displaced minority would be able to return to their birthplace. It was not so. The number of terrorist attacks on civilian and security forces have instead increased by leaps. Foreign Islamic fundamentalist aided and abetted by the local insurgents have started taking the

KASHMIRI SAMITI, DELHI (REGD.)

KASHMIR BHAWAN, KASHMIR BHAWAN MARG, AMAR COLONY,
LAJPAT NAGAR-IV, NEW DELHI - 110024.

(NODAL AGENCY FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED KASHMIRIS)

In this scenario the displaced community, request the President of India to come to our aid and do justice to our cause and defeat the nefarious designs of Pan-Islamic movement.

Sir, permit us to set our demands as follows :

1. An objective judicial inquiry into the causes, which chased away minorities (Kashmiri Pandits) from their centuries old birthplace and identify the forces, groups, parties and administrative lapses responsible for induction of terrorism and insurgency in the Kashmir

2. Provide free medical facilities to all displaced persons from

3. The government of India should ask the state and centrally administered Universities, Medical and Engineering colleges, School system to provide education and scholarship to the deserving displaced students.

4. Provide suitable residential accommodation to the displaced persons living in tents, camps and rented inhabitable rooms and enhance relief and better working conditions for Teh-Bazari.

5. To the minority community whose houses and business premises have been looted, burnt down or otherwise destroyed or damaged. Appropriate *ex-gratia relief* should be paid without further delay. Similarly compensation must be paid for crops, agricultural as well as live stock destroyed or damaged otherwise taken over by the fundamentalist terrorist.

6. The Kashmiri Pandits should be declared as an ethnic minority.

7. Declaration of the KP minority as internally displaced under international conventions to which India is a signatory.

8. All members of the KP community living outside Kashmir should be registered as refugees (migrants) and due letter of Certification be issued to them.

9. Reservation be also provided for trainings / employments / other benefits under State / Central officers / undertakings / establishments and the like on the pattern of reservation for OBCs.

10. To provide voice in democratic forums of our country, we request that three seats in the State Legislative Assembly and one seat in the Lok Sabha on the Basis of our overall population in the State and outside be allotted to us.

11. No political parleys should be conclusive without taking the Kashmiri Pandit community into confidence. For this representatives of the community should be made part and parcel of any discussions on Kashmir.

WITH REGARDS

Sincerely yours,



राष्ट्रपति सचिवालय
राष्ट्रपति भवन
नई दिल्ली

*President's Secretariat
Rashtrapati Bhavan
New Delhi*

No.18/99-P(I)

13 December, 1999.

Dear Sir,

I acknowledge receipt of your memorandum dated 10.12.99 addressed to the President of India. The same has been forwarded to the Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi for appropriate action.

Yours faithfully,

(S.K. Aggarwal)
Officer on Special Duty

Shri C.L. Gadoo,
President,
Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi,
Kashmir Bhawan, Kashmir Bhawan Marg,
Amar Colony, Jaipat Nagar IV,
New Delhi-110024.



VISHWA SARASWAT SAMMELAN MANGALORE (KARNATAKA)



Shri C.L. Gadoo lighting the lamp at the inaugural session of First Vishwa Saraswat Sammelan at Mangalore. Shri Suresh Prabhu Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Govt. of India and Shri S.V. Pikale President. All India Saraswat cultural organisation are also seen in the picture.



Shri C.L. Gadoo addressing the Sammelan .



Shri C.L. Gadoo with other Kashmiri Participants.

S/Shri J.L.Manwati, C.L.Gadoo, Opender Bali, T.N.Wanchoo and others

Saraswaths' contributions to society highlighted

By Our Staff Correspondent

MANGALORE, DEC. 17. The three-day Vishwa Saraswath Sammelan began its official business session today, with a symposium on "the past, present and future" of Saraswaths as a community. The symposium featured the presentation of nine papers, and was inaugurated by Mr. P.Suresh Prabhu, Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers. The papers, which highlighted the Saraswath community as one social entity, dwelt in detail on the various sub-sects of Saraswaths and their contributions to society. For the first time, a paper showcasing the life and works of Kashmiri Saraswaths (Pandits), evoked wide-ranging discussions in the conference.

The paper entitled "The Saraswaths of Kashmir History", authored jointly by Mr. Kuldeep Pandit and Mr. Jawahar Manwati, said that the Saraswaths in the Kashmir Valley had a history of 5,000 years and their roots could be traced to the Harappan civilisation. The Kashmiri Pandits had direct contact with the sants and sages who were meditating in the Himalayas, and as their disciples they acquired knowledge and wisdom, which had been handed down from generation to generation.

The paper also pointed out that the migration of

these Pandits to different parts of the country was triggered by the continued attack and plunder of Muslim invaders. Another paper on "Kashmiri Saraswath Brahmin as of today", by Mr. C.L.Gadoo, stated that the severest blow to the Pandits was delivered by the secessionist movement in Kashmir which was aimed at driving the Pandits out of the Valley. A paper on "Origin of North India Saraswaths", by Dr. R.N. Sharma of the JNV University, Jodhpur, traced the spread of the Saraswaths in the North Indian plains and hilly regions.

Dr. P.R.Ojha, Professor of Zoology at the Dungan College, Bikaner, Rajasthan, in his paper "Saraswaths of Rajasthan", outlined the various skills of Saraswaths living on the banks of the Saraswathi river in town planning, architecture, construction, etc. He said that the Saraswaths were highly evolved even as early as 2900-2700 BC.

Dr. Ojha said that migration had been forced on the Saraswaths very early. The Saraswath tribes were forced to migrate from the banks of the Saraswathi river which became dry due to geological reasons. Muslim invasion, and the search for a conducive atmosphere for developing their culture, were the other causes for migration, he said.

Hattangady's *Aparajita* steals the show at Saraswat meet

The Times of India News Service

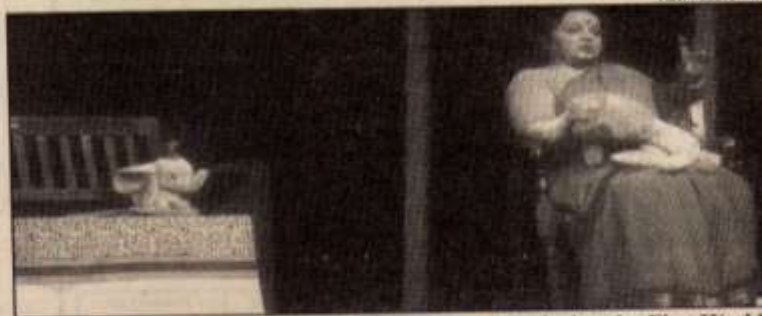
MANGALORE: A memorable performance by versatile theatre and cine star Rohini Hattangady stole the show on the second day of the ongoing First World Saraswat Convention organised by the All-India Saraswat Cultural Organisation at Mangala Stadium here on Friday evening.

The mono presentation of the play *Aparajita*, directed by her illustrious husband Jayadev Hattangady was the talk of the town among the delegates and others who witnessed the mesmerising performance as part of the cultural activities in the convention.

The deliberations focused on various topics of interests to the Saraswat community.

The day began with the spiritual retreat on 'Kshatra Dharma' by Dr Hemant Kamat.

Among the papers presented on Saturday, Satyanarain P. Punj from New Delhi spoke on the 'Future of Saraswats', in which he dealt with the social condition of the members of the community and the scope in various fields that is in



Actress Rohini Hattangady in the play *Aparajita* during the First World Saraswat Convention at Mangala Stadium in Mangalore on Friday night.

store for them in future.

Other papers dealt with the topics of the likes of entrepreneurial development in Saraswat community, development of Saraswat women, Saraswat service projects, role of Jyotishastra in the life of a Saraswat and the contribution of the community in Konkani language, literature and culture.

The All-India Saraswat Cultural Organisation session was also held

in the afternoon to discuss the various functional aspects of the organisation.

The day belonged to Kashmiri Saraswats who stole the hearts of the delegates with their original delicacies.

The Kashmiri pulav, original dum alu chatney and the Kashmiri chay (Tea) would be remembered by the delegates at the meet for a long time to come.

The Saraswat Brahmins Of Kashmir

—C. L. Gadoo

(The author was invited in December last year to participate in the First Vishwa Sarawat Sammelan held at Mangalore, Karnataka. We reproduce below the text of the paper presented by him at the conference—Editor)

THE origin of the vale of Kashmir, according to popular legend, was a vast mountain lake called Satisar, the lake of Sati and geologists confirm this. There is a tradition that its drainer was an ascetic, named Kashyapa, hence the reclaimed land was called Kashyapmar which later became Kashmir. The mountains which surround Kashmir are varied in form and colour. Kashmir is a land of lakes, rivers and abundant flora and fauna.

According to Kalhana's Rajtarangini after the Valley was drained out, Brahmins were brought there by Kashyapa Rishi who were philosophers engrossed in the pursuit of knowledge and practicing the lives of purity. These Brahmins, popularly called Kashmiri Pandits- form a distinct class of their own and were considered to be the perfect specimens of the ancient Aryan settlers in the Valley. (Monier William's Modern India and Indians)

Areawise, Jammu and Kashmir is the second largest State in the Republic of India. Its original area of 222, 713 sq kilometers has now been reduced to 138, 992 sq kilometers only, after the cease-fire in 1949 following Pakistani aggression in 1948, and 78, 932 sq kilometers are under illegal occupation of Pakistan. During China's aggression in 1962, it forcibly occupied 37, 555 sq kilometers in the Ladakh division of the State. Pakistan gifted 5,180sq kilometers of the State's territory under its illegal occupation to China. Kashmir commands a strategic importance touching on North- East, Afghanistan, China and Pakistan.

Kashmiri Pandits

Mr George Campbell, in his book "Ethnology of India" says :-

The Kashmiri Brahmins are quite High- Aryan in the type of their features very fair and handsome, with high chiselled features and no trace of intermixture of the blood of any lower race. It may be partly occupation, but they have certainly a greater

regularity of features than others of a rougher type, with, however, a less manly looking physique and colourless, ruddy and more inclining to a somewhat sallow fairness. The high nose, slightly aquiline, but by no means what we call Jewish or nut-cracker, is a common type. Raise a little the brow of a Greek statue and give the nose a small turn at the bony point in front of the bridge, so as to break the straightness of line, you have the model type of this part of India, to be found both in living men and in the statues in the Peshawar Valley. There are also a good many straight noses and some varieties, as in all places, but much less departure from an ordinary handsome standard than in most countries. The figure of the ordinary working Kashmiri is strong and athletic. But none of them are martial and the Brahmins, are in this respect, no exception. They rule by the brain and the pen and not by the sword.

Saraswat Brahmins

Kashmiri Pandits are offspring of Rishis and belong to the highest order of Brahmins, the Saraswats, highly educated and almost hundred per cent literate. The Saraswat Brahmins are mentioned in the Vedas, the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, the Bhagwata and even the Bhavisyttata Purana. They are descendants of great sage Saraswat Muni who lived on the bank of river Saraswati. There are many versions of the origin of this great, by now extinct river Saraswati. The oldest Sanskrit chronicle, Kalhana's Rajtarangini which is the fullest record of the Kashmir history, records in the Chapter "The Shrine of Sharda" as under:-

"The temple of Sharda rises in prominent and commanding position above the right bank of the Madhumati on the terrace-like foot of a spur which descends from a high pine-clad mountains to the east. Immediately below this terrace to the North West is the spot where the waters of the Madhumati and the Kishanganga mingle. There, on a small sandy beach, the pilgrims perform "Shradas" to their ancestors.

From the height of the staircase, which forms the approach of the temple from the West, an extensive view opens. To the south East, the Valley of the Madhumati is seen narrowing gradually into a gorge between precipitous spurs through which passes the direct route to Kashmir via Kroras. In the North East from where the Kishanganga issues, successive ranges of barren steep mountains with snowy peaks behind them seem to close all passages. To the North, a narrow chasm in the rocks marks the deboucher of the Sangam river, the Kankatotri of the map, which flows from the mountains towards Cilos and falls into the Kishanganga a short distance above the Madhumati. It is the Saraswati of Kalhan's description, still known by that name to local traditions.

Sharda Temple

In the ancient times in Kashmir, there existed a great temple called Saraswat temple. In the temple premises there existed one of the best manuscripts on Saraswats and their way of living. According to Prof. Bhuller, the manuscript of Kashmir were found in this Saraswat temple. This temple is situated on the bank of Kishanganga in the North West of Kashmir. This statement was made by Jain Scholar Hema Chandra, (AD 1088—1172) in "Prabhavakacharita".

This ancient Tirtha, though once evidently one of the most important temples of Kashmir and famous far beyond its limits has in recent times become almost unknown to Kashmiri Pandits as it falls in Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK). According to Kalhana's Rajtarangini Lalita Ditya Muktapida in 7th. Century marched towards seven Konkans. According to Mr. H.H. Wilson in his book "Hindu History of Kashmir", seven Konkans are spread on Malabar coast—Kerala, Tilangana, Govarashtra (Goa), Konkana proper, Kerataha, Varalatta and Vevrvera. We have a strong belief that large number of Saraswats had settled down in Malabar Coast thereafter as they found the land more fertile and atmosphere akin so that they could live there and be prosperous.

In the light of recent investigation and researches in history, Kashmiris played a vital role in the

development of intellectual, moral, religious, spiritual and social life of India as a whole. The works of Utpala and Abhinavgupta are treasures of Indian philosophy. Charka and Koka are indispensable for the study of Medicine and Sex respectively. Kalhana and Bilhana are known for their historical excellence.

Kashmiri Language

The Kashmiri language belongs to the Indo-Aryan family of languages. It has its origin in Vedic, Sanskrit itself. During the Muslim period in Kashmir, Persian and Urdu words and phrases have also been assimilated in the language. Kashmiri scholars have also contributed to poetry, aesthetics as also to other branches of learning. Although research into the origin of Kashmiri language is yet to be undertaken in all its seriousness, yet one finds traces of its origin in Sanskrit work called Setubandh, written by King Pravar Sen. From 8th. century to 13th. century there is no record of the development of Kashmiri language and the first monumental book in Kashmiri which comes handy is the Mahayana Prakash of Shitikanth. It is written in the Vakh form which was further enriched by the great Lalla Yogeshwari in 14th century.

Philosophic Traditions

It is a known fact that both Shaivagams and Vaishnavagams have originated from Kashmir. The rich Shiva Shaktha and Tantra tradition of Kashmir is still in vogue in the form of religious practices and rituals performed by Kashmiri Brahmins. Although Kashmiri scholars have given a rich monistic Trika philosophy called Kashmiri Shavia Darshan, in respect of religious practices and rituals Kashmiri Pandits have always followed the Vedic prescriptions.

The history of the Chitrapur Saraswat Brahmins serves to demonstrate how their religious and cultural views developed into the present century. Starting from the Valley of Kashmir, the ancestors of the Bhanaps migrated to all parts of India. These Kashmiri Brahmins are thought to be the descendants of the Aryans who migrated into India from Central Asia or Eastern Europe.

However, these people differentiate themselves

from the rest of the Saraswat Brahmins in that they identify their caste with the Goddess Saraswati, who has been mentioned in the Vedas as the Goddess of Learning. However, the Gaud Saraswat Brahmins residing on the Western coast of India (primarily in Maharashtra, Goa and Karnataka) are thought to have descended from these Kashmiri Brahmins. Substantial evidence has been set forth by several historians relating that the Kashmiri Brahmins migrated to Goa by the eleventh century AD.

Ancestry of Saraswat Brahmins

To trace the Gaud Saraswat Brahmins ancestry, from Kashmir to Goa, one must begin with the story of the famous seer, Saraswata. When there was a famine in Northern India, he continued to recite the Vedic texts by consuming the fish that Goddess Saraswati had given to him. The Brahmins of later generations who accepted fish as a part of their diet were often known to have referred to this story to justify their full-fledged status as Brahmins despite their consuming fish. Since the consuming of fish was also prevalent in the culture of many Bengali Brahmins and because of the apparent similarities between the languages of the two groups, many Gaud Saraswat Brahmin scholars maintained some of their religious views while modifying others. In the year 1708, a small group of these migrants had established their own unique caste and preserved the Guruparampara. The teaching of the Gurus and their dedication to the devotees strengthen the unity of the caste members which has survived till the present day.

Kashmiri Saraswats Now

The Saraswats of Kashmir, with a glorious history of thousands of years at their back, have been at the receiving end now for over six and a half centuries. Their decline in Kashmir began in 1339 AD when a Muslim courtier in the court of the last Hindu king of Kashmir, usurped the throne treacherously. The full impact of the treachery became visible with the advent of Sultan Sikander Butshikan (destroyer of idols) forty years later. The full fury of fanaticism was unleashed on the largely peaceful Hindus of Kashmir during the next forty years. This was the time (AD.1379-1420) when most of the Saraswats

of Kashmir were either killed or had to flee from their millennia-old homeland for the plains and coastal areas of India, mostly the western coast. This was the time when some of these Saraswats from the hamlet of Mangalore to the west of Kashmir, in the foothills of the now internationally known tourist resort of Tangamarg-Gulmarag, migrated to the Konkan coast and perpetrated the memory of their own hamlet in Kashmir by naming their new abode as Mangalore. It is indeed a matter of pride and honour for me to address this august gathering in Mangalore, of which the foundation has been laid by my illustrious ancestors from Kashmir.

Distinct History and Culture

As I have said, Saraswats of Kashmir, the Rishi Bhoomi of yore, have had a distinguished history and rich culture that produced a renowned historian of great calibre, Kalhana Pandit of the Rajatarangini fame. Rajatarangini, as you know, is the first recorded history in India. Apart from this, the Shiv-Shakti cult and the Mahayana Buddhism originated from Kashmir besides a lot of literature on religion, philosophy, history etc. All this in Sanskrit, the mother-tongue of the great Bharatvarsha, the language of Shrimad Bhagwad Gita.

It was this very talented community of Kashmir, the progeny of Vedic Rishis, which was brought to the brink of total destruction during just forty years of fanatical Islamic rule (1379 to 1420, AD), calamitous times for them. Tradition has it that only eleven Saraswat families could survive the catastrophe. The next fifty years (1420—1470 AD) of King Zain-ul-Abiddin Badshah or the great king) saw reversal of the process of persecution of Saraswats. They were recalled, their temples and shrines rebuilt and they were allowed freedom of faith. There is no record to indicate how many returned and how many were added to the eleven families, which had survived the butchery of the previous fifty years.

It was at this point of time that the surviving Saraswats, produced a Messiah of their own, in the person of the great Shree Bhat. He re-organised this very much thinned society of Saraswat Brahmins who had no Yajmans to whose spiritual and religious

need they could cater. All the Yajmans had either been killed or converted, forcibly or otherwise, to Islam. Shree Bhat created a new class of Purohitas from among them. It will be interesting to recollect here that the elder son or the eldest daughter of any family was selected to pursue religious and spiritual studies and in time to cater to these needs of the family. The others were freed for temporal work like agriculture, etc. In the course of a century or so, those left free for temporal jobs shifted to almost all the court languages according to needs of the time. They mastered Arabic, Persian, English and Urdu languages apart from Hindi. This period also saw the emergence of the saint-poetess, Lalleshwari, who gave a new dimension to the Shaiva-Shakti cult as also the birth of Rishi-Sufi cult of Kashmir urging peace and brotherhood among Hindus and Muslims.

During the Mughal Period

The next 120 years or so was comparatively peaceful, with some interludes of religious persecution, when the Saraswats learnt to live with Islam according to the preaching of Lalleshwari and Nunda Rishi. The annexation of Kashmir to the Mughul Empire in 1586 AD ushered in an era of peace for the Saraswats, marred only by the puritanical disposition, bordering on fanaticism, of the last known Moghul emperor, Aurangzeb (1658-1707 AD). Many of his Subedars were under instruction to convert all Kashmiri Saraswats to Islam which he had expected to help him to convert the Brahmins of Varanasi leading in turn to conversion of mass of Hindus in Northern India to Islam. This process was thwarted by the supreme sacrifice offered by the ninth Sikh Guru, Tegh Bahadur ji. This all is recorded history.

The decline of Moghuls after Aurangzeb led the Kashmiri Saraswat to another calamitous period of about 67 years. (1753—1820 AD) of brutal Afghan rule. This was broken after the Sikh ruler, Maharaja Ranjit Singh of Punjab annexed Kashmir in 1818 AD. This was followed by a brief Sikh rule followed by Dogra monarchy (1846—1947 AD)

Sikh Dogra Rule

The 128 year rule of Sikh / Dogra (1819—1947) saw the flowering of Kashmiri Saraswats both in

Kashmir and in other parts of India. The Saraswats in Kashmir took to modern education in English and produced brilliant administrators, educationists, doctors, engineers, advocates, judges and the like. The euphoria thus generated, made them ignore business and industry. They also participated in the democratic processes which had become the order of the day in India (against British rule) and in Kashmir against the autocratic dispensation of the day, though the ruler thereof was not an alien. As night follows the day and darkness the sunshine, the 128-year calm in Kashmir and in the lives of Kashmiri Saraswats was shattered by the partition in 1947 of India on the basis of the obnoxious two-nation theory. This played havoc with the Saraswats in Kashmir. From 1947 onwards they were treated as Hindus, rather than Kashmiris, who had contributed generously to the development of Kashmir on modern lines in all walks of life.

Post -1947 Turmoil

Thus began another turmoil in their lives. To begin with they were divested of their landed properties in the name of "land to the tiller", and deprived of other opportunities to grow along with their Muslim compatriots. The democratic rule in Kashmir ushered in Kashmir in 1947 was steadily transformed into Muslim rule with no consideration for the minority. As a result of these machinations and manipulations, thousands of Kashmiri Saraswats had to migrate once again to the plains of India for employment and sustenance. Their population percentage in Kashmir started going down from 15 % in 1947, reaching a low of 5 % in 1981. In the meanwhile they had started to switch over to business, industry and tourism etc, apart from public employment which was dwindling in any case.

The Muslims in Kashmir are the ruling elite of the state. They dominate its entire economic organisation and enjoy communal precedence in all social forums. Islam is virtually the official religion of the State. Whereas the Muslims constitute a little more than half the population of the state, they possess three-fourths share in legislative bodies, administrative organisations

and all the local Government institutions. In the Kashmir province, the Hindus have no elected representation in the State legislature, nor do they have any elected representation in the local bodies. They constituted less than five per cent of the administrative services of the State and have less than one per cent share in the higher cadres of the state administration. Muslims monopolise 94 per cent of the State services in Kashmir. The Hindu of Kashmir province have absolutely no share in the decision making bodies of the State Government, which have always been constituted by the Muslims of the Kashmir Province. More than 90 per cent of the admissions to professional, technical and other educational institutions are reserved for Muslims in one form or the other, purely on communal basis. The Hindus, Sikhs and other minorities share a bare 8 per cent of the educational facilities that the State provides.

The Muslims own and control the entire economic and industrial structure of the Kashmir Province. They own 96 per cent of the agricultural land, orchards and other urban landed estates. They enjoy a monopoly over the entire industrial, organisation, trade, commerce, financial resources and exports of the province of Kashmir. They have complete monopoly in trading in fruits, carpets, shawls, woodwork, woollens, silk etc. The Hindu in Kashmir have never been allowed to have any share in the tourist industry, the transport organisation, concessionaire contracts for the construction of the State property, roads and buildings and the licenses for imports and exports which the State Government has been lavishly distributing among the Muslims.

Quit Kashmir Call for the Saraswats

The Kashmiri Saraswats awakened to a devastating call to quit Kashmir "without their womenfolk" late in the evening on January 19, 1990. The call came through loudspeakers blaring threats to "Kafirs" to quit or perish, from mosques throughout the Valley. Then a hell, reminiscent of the horrendous rule of Sikander 'Butshikan' was let loose against the Saraswats. Killing, burning, looting became the order of the day. As a result, about

400,000 of them migrated from the Valley reducing their presence in Kashmir to mere 0.1% per cent of its total population. Even this 0.1 per cent is not safe.

Twentythree of them, including infants, were murdered in cold blood on the eve of Republic Day, 1998 at Wondhama Village in Srinagar district. The rest may be killed in time to come or converted to Islam. Nobody knows.

Till date about 1,500 (fifteen hundred) members of this Kashmiri Pandit community have been brutally murdered and more than 400,000 were forced out from Valley during the last decade. More than 10,000 displaced persons have died due to hostile environs and physical, psychological, disorders. 212 temples and more than twentyfour thousand (24,000) houses belonging to Kashmiri Pandits, hundreds of their business establishments, educational, cultural and religious institutions have been destroyed with the object of decimating all traces of the 6,000 years old civilisation of this indigenous community.

Presently, approximately over 2.5 lakh Saraswats of Kashmir are putting up in camps and shovels in Jammu Division of the State, with another large concentration of about 2.5 lakhs in and around Delhi. The rest of the over seven lakh strong community (post—1941 when they constituted 15 per cent of the Valley's population) are scattered throughout India and abroad. The community is trying to protect cultural and civilisational heritage even after the exile. Education has been our first priority. How long and how effectively this heritage can be protected, Out of Our Birthland, is a matter of conjecture.

In this dark and depressing scenario, it is encouraging to see the Saraswats in India and elsewhere in the world holding out to us their hands of affection and friendship. Let us blossom together henceforth.

May mother Saraswati bless us all , open up new vistas for our development, spiritually and materially, and enable us to serve our motherland, our Bharatvarsha to the best of our abilities and capacities. Let us not forget our roots, we should pledge to return to our sacred "Janam Bhoomi" Kashmir. □



“At the time of these provisional returns, migrant families had spent a decade away from their homeland, integrating into the towns and cities where they worked and lived. For some migrants, provisional returns directed their attention back towards home. These individuals and families considered possibilities of return under new conditions that were not contained within the discourse of recovery. They told stories suggesting that their homes had new meanings for them now and that they wished to return to the region differently and build connections to new neighborhoods, villages, and towns. For others, provisional returns highlighted the impossibility or undesirability of a permanent homecoming. Their stories indicated that they would never live in their homes again, even if they had the opportunity. All in all, these various orientations toward homeland, such as those represented in the letters to the editor, suggested the heterogeneity of stances that ran counter to the standard form of attachment articulated and circulated in community discourse at that time.”

Haley Duschinski-- *Kashmiri Hindu Community Identity and the Politics of Homeland*

CHAPTER XI UNTOLD STORY OF KASHMIRI PANDITS

Since the rehabilitation and further registration of displaced Kashmiri Pandits has not been taken seriously by the Central and State Governments, Kashmiri Samiti approached National Human Rights Commission to direct the concerned Governments for early settlement of the issue. In this connection, earlier on January 20, 2000 a memorandum was submitted to President K. R. Narayanan by a delegation of Kashmiri Samiti.



3 Pandits gunned down in Valley

HT Correspondent
Jammu, February 5

THREE KASHMIRI Pandits including an 8 year-old girl were killed and one critically wounded in an attack by unidentified gunmen in a village about 65 km south of Srinagar late last night. This happened on the eve of Pakistan-sponsored Solidarity Day for the people of Kashmir.

Around 7.15 p.m. the gunmen opened fire on the houses of Kashmiri Pandit families living in Telvani village. The initial bursts killed three of the community members who were preparing for dinner at that point of time.

The attack at Telvani where 32 members of six Kashmiri Pandit families are left alive was repulsed by the police guards posted in the village. The encounter lasted for about half-an-hour before the assailants fled the scene fearing that more reinforcements may encircle them.

An eight year-old girl Anshu Raina was among the killed. Her father Ashok Raina, a selection grade police constable and another neighbour Veer Pandit were two others who fell to the bullets of militants.

A head constable Bashir Ahmad and another Hindu, Jaideep, were critically wounded. Both of them have been shifted to Srinagar for treatment.

Militants also shot dead a ruling National Conference activist and a BSF jawan, while two army men were critically wounded in a bomb blast in separate incidents in Kashmir since last evening, reports PTI from Srinagar quoting an official spokesman.

Meanwhile, two militants were killed in an encounter with BSF personnel in Mahore area of Udhampur district today.

An activist of the ruling National Conference, Abdul Rehman Malik, was shot dead at Devbugh-Kunzar near Tangmarg in north Kashmir last night.

Another group of militants intruded into the house of Dil Ganai at Nasoo-Badergund near Qazigund, on the Srinagar-Jammu national highway last night, and gunned down the house owner and his son Fayaz Ahmed.

CONDEMNED: Panun Kashmir, an organisation of displaced Kashmiri Pandits, and Delhi-based Kashmir Samiti have strongly condemned the brutal killing of the three Pandits in the Kashmir Valley today, adds HTC from New Delhi.

In a statement, Panun Kashmir demanded that the Government should make immediate arrangements for shifting Kashmiri Pandit families still living in the Valley, to Jammu.

Kashmir Samiti chief C. L. Gadoo while expressing shock on the killing of three Kashmiri Pandits including a child, said that it had once again proved that the situation in the trouble-torn Valley has further worsened.

Kashmiri Pandits demand probe into killings

By Our Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, FEB. 7. The Kashmiri Samiti has demanded a probe into the killing of three Kashmiri Pandits in a South Kashmir village on Saturday and accused the State Government of having failed to safeguard the interest of the minorities in the Valley.

The organisation has also filed a complaint with the National Human Rights Commission on the issue, said Mr. C.L. Gadoo, Samiti president. Later, a delegation submitted a memorandum to the Union Home Minister, Mr. L.K. Advani, and demanded arrangements for the safety of the Hindus in the Valley.

The displaced people, under the banner of Kashmiri Pandits United Forum, held a demonstration in the Capital to protest against the 'selective, brutal and unprovoked' killing of the members of the community. They demanded arrangements be made for safe shifting of the minuscule Kashmiri Hindus in the Valley to Delhi.

Condemning the incident, Dr. B.L. Kachroo, convenor of the Forum, said the incident was a proof of the deteriorating security scenario in the Valley and the unjustified claims of the Government that the Valley was

returning to normalcy. The Forum wanted the State and Central Governments to ensure that the properties of the migrated population be taken care of. It said the killings had shocked Kashmiri Pandits the world over.



Members of Kashmiri Samiti holding a demonstration against Pakistan in New Delhi on Monday.

Dharnas galore; many held

By Our Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, JULY 14. Various political parties and organisations staged dharnas at Parliament street and some other places in the Capital in connection with the visit of General Pervez Musharraf today.

Police detained about 150 people at Moti Nagar this afternoon when they gathered at the Swarnajayanti Bharat Colony. These persons, belonging to Rashtriya Ekta Manch, were armed with black bags and placards saying "Musharraf, Go back" and were to proceed towards Rashtrapati Bhavan. However, the police rounded up the entire group.

According to a Rashtriya Ekta Manch spokesperson, the organisation demanded that General Musharraf should first release the prisoners of War in Pakistan and stop funding militant activities in India.

Several other political parties organised dharnas and demonstrations at the Jantar Mantar.

The Kashmiri Samiti, the nodal agency for displaced Kashmiris, burnt an effigy of Gen. Musharraf and also sat on a day-long dharna at Jantar Mantar.

They shouted slogans against the Pakistan President's visit. The organisation's spokesperson said Musharraf's effort to give legitimacy to Hurriyat was a public acknowledgement of Pakistan's direct support to cross-border



Members of the Kashmiri Samiti shouting slogans against the visiting President of Pakistan, General Pervez Musharraf, at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi on Saturday. — Photo: R. V. Moorthy.

terrorism. They urged the Prime Minister to raise the issue of safe and honourable return of Kashmiri Pandits in the valley during the talks.

Welcoming the talks, the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist)-New Democracy, however, warned that any solution to Kashmir should be taken with democratic aspirations of Kashmiri people in mind.

The party also said that the representatives of Kashmiri people should be made party to any talks on Kashmir. The Party also held a dharna at Jantar Mantar around 2

p.m. The All India Shia Sunni Front staged a solidarity demonstration around 1:30 p.m., welcoming the visit of the President.

They urged the visiting President to declare Kashmir as an integral part of India and stop supporting terrorist activities in Kashmir and other parts of India.

The Front also urged the visiting President to allow Indian Haj pilgrims' passage through Pakistan to make the journey more economical.

All the demonstrations and dharnas remained peaceful.

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DIGEST

NHRC directive to J&K Govt.

NEW DELHI, FEB. 7. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) today directed the Jammu and Kashmir Government to submit a detailed report on the killing of three Kashmiri Pandits in south Kashmir on Friday night.

The directive followed submission of a memorandum by the Kashmiri Samiti to the Commission. — PTI

Cond leader



Kashmiri Pandits demonstrate in Delhi on Monday against the recent killings of by militants in Anantnag district of Jammu and Kashmir.

— Photo: Sondeep Shankar

CHAMAN LAL GADOO REPORTS IN KASHUR SAMACHAR

Namaskar. The situation in our State, particularly in the Kashmir Valley, is getting more and more alarming with each passing day and with each passing month. If it was Telwani in February, it was Chatti Singhpora in March. The massacre of thirty-six innocent Sikhs in this village on the auspicious Holi festival had its parallel in the massacre of twenty-three innocent Kashmiri Pandits in Wondhama on the eve of the Republic Day of 1998. The extent of barbarity of the two massacres was more or less similar, except that it was the Sikh males alone who were gunned down in Chatti Singhpora while neither women nor children, including an infant, were spared at Wondhama. What a monstrosity? All this in the name of Allah, the "merciful" and the "compassionate". It is abundantly clear that these hired flagbearers of the Islamic faith, of the name of Allah, these mercenaries know neither "mercy" nor "compassion". They have only been taught to kill the Kafirs, the infidels, the unbelievers and achieve the status of "ghaziz" of the "faith", the "true faith" of Islam. And if they die in action or reaction, they become "martyrs" (shaheed), in the service of the "true faith".

Bloody March

So much for the Chatti Singhpora massacre. But the March of this year has been bloodier than any previous month. This year's March started with the gunning down at point-blank range, of five non-Muslim truck drivers, Hindus of Jammu, at Wanpoh village on National Highway No.1. Later, on the morrow of Shivaratri, a Kashmiri Pandit couple was killed in their house in a village near Dayalgam in Anantanag district. This apart, brutal killings by terrorists have also taken place in the Jammu division of the State.

Shock Waves

The massacre at Chatti Singhpora sent shock-waves among the Sikh community, throughout the country, in Punjab particularly. Forgetting the past, Kashmiri Samiti Delhi swung into action immediately. I, on your behalf, condemned these merciless killings by militarized Pan-Islamic terrorists on March 21 itself and warned the authorities that the massacre exposed the Central/State government's tall claims that Kashmir situation was under effective control, as hollow and misleading.

A dharna was organised by your Samiti at Jantar Mantar on March 22 to protest against these killings. This was followed by another dharna on March 23 at the Teenmurti Chowk in coordination with the office bearers of the Prabandhak Committees of various Sikh Gurdwaras in Delhi. It was presided over by Shri Madan Lal Khurana, M.P. A Memorandum was later presented to President Clinton of the USA through the US Embassy demanding that Pakistan be declared a terrorist State.

The same evening, a letter was sent to various SGPCs in the country suggesting joint action to organise public awakening meetings throughout the country to galvanize the support of all the countrymen for effectively countering the menace of terrorism in all its forms, unleashed by Pakistan and its ISI, in various parts of our country. Kashmiri Samiti is expecting a positive response to the suggestion after which a comprehensive action plan will be evolved for the purpose.

Kashmiri Samiti Delhi also filed a case in the National Human Rights Commission in order to bring the monstrosity committed at Chatti Singhpora to its notice. The Commission has been requested to depute a fact-finding team to Kashmir to study and analyse the deteriorating situation in the Valley for its consideration.

CHATTISING PURA MASSACRE MARCH 20, 2000



दूरभाष : ६४६५२५०
फैक्स : ९१-११-६२१८१२१
(Att. KSD)



Tel. : 64652
Fax : 91-11-6218
(Att. KS)

कश्मीरी समिति, दिल्ली (रजि०)

कश्मीरी भवन, कश्मीरी भवन मार्ग, अमर कॉलोनी, लाजपत नगर-४, नई दिल्ली-२४
KASHMIRI SAMITI, DELHI (REGD.)
KASHMIRI BHAWAN, KASHMIRI BHAWAN MARG, AMAR COLONY,
LAJPAT NAGAR-IV, NEW DELHI-110024
(NODAL AGENCY FOR DISPLACED KASHMIRIS)

Ref.No.: KSD/44/P/2000

Date: 27.04.2000

OPEN LETTER

To

Shri. L.K. Advani,
Hon'ble Home Minister of India,
New Delhi.

Respected Sir,

For some time in the recent past, a few official or other pronouncements and reports have been noticed in the media which bear on the displaced Kashmiri Pandits in particular and other KP's in general. The resettlement of the displaced Kashmiris is of course of the primary concern. Almost the entire bulk of genuine refugees happen to be Kashmiri Pandits. The massacre recently at Chhati-Singhpura has, of course, added a few more over the last couple of weeks. It is, therefore, understandable that we, the most effected Kashmiri Pandits, should feel upset at the implications of what has been let out officially.

You, Sir, the Home Minister has repeatedly stated in Parliament only the other day that it is not the policy of Government to resettle them outside their home in the Valley. Needless to say that neither do we accept that proposition nor are we sure about the basis of your scheme of things. Your pronouncement, however, raises fundamental questions of when and how would their rehabilitation happen at all in such a case ?

Making a policy statement of this nature by no less than the Hon.Home Minister of India creates an atmosphere and complications which are bound adversely to affect the very ostensible purpose of bringing about normalcy in the strife-torn J&K State. Already, in the valley, blood letting and unbelievable torture and cruelties on the minorities continue to be the order on an increasing scale. Can it be any body's argument, belief or hope that the return of the exiles will stem this tide. On the contrary it would inflame those overwhelming elements who had originally planned and executed the policy of eliminating the KPs who are taken as agents of the hated "Indian Raj". We were no agents of anybody though, but certainly we are and will ever remain the most patriotic Indians at whatever cost. And this fact is well understood by those enemy elements who will stop at nothing

Contd.....2.

दूरभाष : ६४६५२५०
फैक्स : ९१-११-६२१८१२१
(Att. KSD)



Tel. : 6465280
Fax : 91-11-6218121
(Att. KSD)

कश्मीरी समिति, दिल्ली (रजि०)

कश्मीरी भवन, कश्मीरी भवन मार्ग, अमर कॉलोनी, लाजपत नगर-4, नई दिल्ली-24
KASHMIRI SAMITI, DELHI (REGD.)
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- 2 -

to keep us out. So whenever we return it will be at a great peril to us which we would certainly undertake if we are sure of the Govt. of India guaranteeing our lives and honour and property and freedom in the short and long term.

It is not a matter of the return only of those who were forced to leave in 1989-90 onwards. It concerns as much, and certainly more, our generations to come who would strive to live a respectable, honest and progressive life there, as equal citizens of the state.

Secondly long before a credible Government were to move in the actual return process, it would take immense efforts to make the necessary plans and estimates of the diverse directions and costs of it all. For example, has any thought been given to making an inventory of the lives cost; of the personal and commercial property looted and destroyed; of the present day value of it all; of the places or worship, damaged destroyed, deserted; of the time and resources it will take to bring back normal conditions even of a minimum necessary standard. Or it that we would have to go and start all over again and after a generation or two hope to reach to some approximation of what we have been and would have been if there was no 1989-90 calamity ?

And are we, the affected, and therefore, the Central party, only some plaything to be put at stake and never to be taken into confidence in discussions about our future ?

From the days of the 1940's through the half Century and more of freedom of the country, we, the KPs, have been taken for granted at every stage in respect of our life and rights. We may be insignificant in numbers. But are we any the less an equal part of the great Indian democratic, secular society ? We took our woes silently as a continuation of the sacrifices that the common people of India had made in the name of freedom.

We remained silent but produced and offered alert and precious sentinels in the service of the country all through. The silence was our part of sacrifice to help

Contd.....3.

दूरभाष : ६४६५२५०
फैक्स : ९१-११-६२१८१२१
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Tel. : 6465280
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कश्मीरी समिति, दिल्ली (रजि०)

कश्मीरी भवन, कश्मीरी भवन मार्ग, अमर कॉलोनी, लाजपत नगर - 4, नई दिल्ली - 24
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- 3 -

the Kashmir imbroglio to come to an end, which had been created by the repeated follies and bunglings by our Country's leaders and successive Governments from day one of Independence.


It seems that the nation's recent history is being repeated today when insurgents and murderers are treated as VIPs and feted in the most comfortable places as 'detainees' and then freed only to indulge again in whatever they may fancy including their infidelity to the nation.

The insurgents and double - dealers prize seems to be "Autonomy", now about to be handed on a platter. It means nothing to the powers-that-be that half a million suffering patriots are helplessly wilting away.

And above all the country's constitution, of which so much is being made on trifles, its integrity and its basic beliefs and values are being bartered in some misbelief. We apprehend that once again those responsible for it would, eventually fall face down but perhaps later than some harm comes the country's way.

We address this concise open letter to you, Sir, in the fond hope and belief that you, knowing and understanding the actualities and the ground realities more than others, will give it a calm and serious consideration and save the country unanticipated problems and embarrassments and incalculable permanent damages.

Yours sincerely,


(C.L. GADOO)
President

Kashmiri bodies condemn killings

By A Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI: Kashmiri organisations in the Capital minced no words in condemning the killings in Kashmir.

The Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, is shocked, quoted a press release. No words are enough to condemn the dastardly attack by armed Kashmiri desperadoes on a peaceful gathering of pilgrims bound for Amarnath cave. These fanatical hordes are sponsored by anti-India forces across the border.

For the Samiti, "what causes dismay and horror is the utter carelessness of the state government which has been trumpeting its so-called security measures for the Yatra for more than two months now." The same is true of the cold-blooded murder of 22 agricultural labourers at a village near Qazigund in south Kashmir. "The barbarity of the fanatics is crystal clear from the way sleeping labourers were woken up and gunned down in front of their wives and children."

Panun Kashmir, a frontline group of displaced Kashmiri Pandits, also condemned the "brutal and inhuman" killings of Amarnath pilgrims.

TIMES OF INDIA
August 22, 2000

HINDUSTAN TIMES
August 16, 2000

TIMES OF INDIA

Pandits reject plan

The Times of India News Service
NEW DELHI: Kashmiri Pandits have rejected an action plan approved by the Jammu and Kashmir government on the return of the displaced people, saying the migrants could not afford to go back to the Valley in the present circumstances. Leaders of Panun Kashmir, Kashmiri Samiti and All-India Kashmiri Pandit Conference on Monday reacted sharply to the plan recommended by M L Kaul Committee, which proposes setting up of transit settlement camps in the Kashmir Valley.

Plea to declare Pak a terrorist state

THE KASHMIRI Samiti, Delhi, the representative organisation of exiled Kashmiri pandits here, has demanded that Pakistan be declared a terrorist state for its unwarranted intervention in Jammu and Kashmir and its sabotage of the peace initiatives of the Government of India.

HTC, New Delhi

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2000 5

Balidan Divas

By A Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI: Kashmiri Samiti, an organisation of displaced people from the troubled state of Jammu and Kashmir, observed September 14 as 'Balidan Divas'. On this day in 1989, an eminent BJP leader's gunning down is believed to be the beginning of militancy in the Valley.

In a statement issued by Samiti president CL Gadoo, the government of Jammu and Kashmir was blamed for failing to provide adequate security to them. He expressed regret at the killings of members of a particular community at regular intervals by militants.

The displaced Kashmiri Pandits expressed sorrow at the looting and destruction of their property in the state. "There was a complete ethnic cleansing and more than 300,000 Kashmiri Pandits were forced to leave their ancestral homes," the statement said.

The Samiti requested the National Human Rights Commission to launch a thorough probe into their "human rights violation".

NHRC VERDICT ON TELWANI KILLINGS

The National Human Rights Commission castigated the government of Jammu and Kashmir on August 31, 2000, for not producing sufficient material to show that there was no negligence on its part in the killing of some Kashmiri Pandits in Telwani in the Anantnag district of Kashmir.

It, however, granted one last opportunity to the Advocate-General of the state government for producing all material to the Commission within 8 weeks to support their version in the matter.

The case had been filed by the Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, through its President, Shri C.L.Gadoo.

The following is the text of the verdict:

We are not satisfied with the material produced so far by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir in response to the notice issued in this matter. There can be no doubt that the burden is on the State Government to show that there was no negligence nor any culpability attributable to any of its agencies with respect to any of the killings. This can be done by producing sufficient material to shift the onus from it since the presumption is against it by the very nature of the incidents. The learned Advocate-General rightly appreciates this position and requests for grant of one last opportunity to enable production of all available material to support the government's version that none of its agencies or its men can be held liable for any of the killings.

This matter relates to the killing of some Kashmiri Pandits in Telwani and subsequent action of State agencies resulting in the killing of four persons alleged to be militants. It need hardly be added that it is incumbent on the government to show by production of credible material that the deceased were either militants with criminal background or were killed by militants for which the State cannot be held liable. In view of the plea taken by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, it would also be necessary to show some rational nexus between those killed subsequently and the earlier killing of the civilians in Telwani.

At the request of the learned Advocate-General, eight week's further time as a last chance is given for production of all the available relevant records to support the version of the government that it cannot be held liable for any of the killings. □

Kashmiris in Delhi numb with fear after every blast

By Smeeta Mishra Pandey

NEW DELHI: When Delhi-based M.L. Pattoo heard of the Srinagar blast on Thursday, his thoughts went back to his brother. The blast had occurred on the Srinagar Residency Road. And his brother took the same route to and from office every day.

The retired J&K PWD official could not manage to get any information about the blast and its impact till late afternoon. "All kinds of thoughts came to my mind," says Pattoo. "The television news confirmed that the blast took place around 12.30 pm and that nine people had been killed and 38 others injured. But the news reader wasn't giving out any names. For a long time, I could not trace the whereabouts of my brother."

Pattoo is not the only one. Those having a loved one in Srinagar and other violence-prone areas in J&K, go through hell whenever a crisis occurs, due to the absence of flow of information to Delhi about mishaps. Whether its militants shooting down people or blasts in the heart of Srinagar, nobody in Delhi ever learns enough to give necessary information to the tense relatives.

In fact, one place that gives out some information on such crises

is the information desk at the J&K House. And, they have limited resources, say the J & K officials. "We got news of the blast only after 3 pm on Thursday," says a senior information official at J&K House. "Thereafter, we learnt of the number of people killed. And, we got the list of names much later. We are not equipped to handle this kind of thing," he says.

It was no different during the Pahalgam shootout earlier this month. People struggled for information on the dead and the injured. And, many just wanted some assurance that their near and dear ones had been lucky and had somehow escaped the bullets. But there was no one to tell them anything definite.

"Every time there's a crisis, people panic because there is no information flowing out of there," says Kashmiri Samiti president C.L. Gadoo.

"The entire experience is unsettling," says H.M. Kaul. "I learnt of the blast in the afternoon while I was sitting in the J&K tourist office."

Coming back to Pattoo, he says: "For the time being, I can only reassure myself that my brother should have been in office at the time of the blast as it happened in the afternoon. But one never knows..."

Kashmiri Samiti observes black day on August 14

Cracking gun culture should be the foremost task

THE Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, the representative Organisation of the exiled Kashmiri Pandit community in the Capital, has demanded that Pakistan should be declared a terrorist State for its unwarranted armed intervention in Jammu & Kashmir and sabotage of peace initiatives of the Government of India.

In a resolution adopted on the Black Day, being observed by the Samiti on August 14 every year since 1990, the Samiti also demanded that a Judicial commission be appointed forthwith to investigate and probe the origin of the armed militancy that raised its ugly head in Kashmir in 1989, leading to the wholesale forced exodus of the peaceful Kashmiri Pandit Community from its ancient land of birth. The Samiti has been observing the Black Day on August 14, the independence Day of Pakistan, right since 1990 when

ISI sponsored terrorism reached its peak in the Valley leading to death, distraction, loot and rape of innocent citizens.

The Samiti has noted with concern the upsurge in terrorist activities in Jammu & Kashmir immediately after the breakdown recently, at the instance of Pakistan, of the latest efforts of the Central Government to usher in a process of peace in Kashmir.

The Samiti has made a strong plea to the Government of India to crack armed insurgency in Kashmir with a heavy hand before any more peace efforts are initiated. The Samiti strongly feels that no peace effort will be allowed to succeed by Pakistan till the back of armed desperados and mercenaries sponsored by ISI is broken. The first task, therefore, should be to crack the gun-culture promoted by Pakistan in Kashmir and adjacent areas. The end of

this culture, Samiti feels, would automatically become the starting point of any further peace process.

Save Kashmir yatra

Madhya Pradesh BJP restarts

THE Madhya Pradesh BJP has launched a five-night-long yatra from August 10 to 20 on motorcycles from Indore to Srinagar in order to create public opinion against the despicable measures of annexation in the Kashmir valley by Pakistani Agents. The march commenced on August 10 from Indore.

Young BJP workers on motor cycles will cover the nearly 700 km yatra in ten days ending at Srinagar on August 21. The yatra participants will start at night at Bhopal, Shriyampur, Dharwad, Madhya, Delhi, Patna, Ludhiana, Patna, Utkalpur and Varanasi.

At Srinagar the participants will call on the Government of Jammu & Kashmir.

September 1-15, 2000 • BJP TODAY 15

HINDUSTAN TIMES REPORTS

Pandits question ceasefire offer

HT Correspondent
New Delhi, December 25

EXPRESSING SERIOUS doubts over the success of the Centre's peace initiatives on Jammu and Kashmir, the displaced Kashmiri Pandit community feels that this unilateral act would instead strengthen the secessionist elements while demoralising those who have been resisting terrorism.

Talking to media-persons here today, at the end of the two-day conference of the community, its leaders questioned the validity of the ceasefire offer which to date

had been reciprocated only by two out of the 18 main terrorist outfits operating in the Valley. The conference discussed the future course of action if the government ignored the minority and ethnic groups of the troubled State while initiating a peace process.

A resolution adopted by the representatives of seven organisations of Kashmiri Pandits who attended the conference, stated: "The five-lakh strong minority community of Kashmir will not remain silent if it was kept out of any peace process as they are the main victims of the decade-long militance. We would

do everything possible to put the Kashmir scenario in a proper perspective before the country".

The other organisations which took part in the conference were the All India Kashmiri Pandit Conference, All State Kashmiri Pandit Conference, All India Kashmiri Samaj, Kashmiri Pandit Sabha (Jammu), Chandigarh-based Kashmiri Sahayak Sabha and Bangalore-based Kashmiri Visthapit Seva Samiti.

Kashmiri Samiti chief C.L. Gadoo alleged that the government was "bowing before the wishes and fancies" of the separatists.

KPs conclave for restating Kashmir problem

KT NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, Dec 25: In a 2-day conclave of the Hindus of Kashmir, organised by the Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, deliberations have been made upon the escalation of violence in the State, the initiative of peace the Indian government has undertaken and the future of the Hindu community of Kashmir which is living in exile for the last eleven years.

The representatives of the regional Kashmiri Hindu organisations in the country and the Kashmiri Hindu organisations abroad, participated in the deliberations.

The conclave emphasised the necessity to restate the Kashmir problem, which due to inept handling of the successive governments of India has been internationalised by the war of attrition, the militant secessionist forces in the state and Pakistan. The conclave reiterated the stand of the Hindus of Kashmir that the claim laid by Pakistan to the Jammu and Kashmir State on the basis of the Muslim majority character of its population is historically untenable.

It was clarified that the partition of India was confined to the Muslim majority regions of the British India and the Indian princely states including Jammu and Kashmir, were not brought within the scope of the partition. Therefore, the claim of Pakistan to complete the unfinished task of the partition is a travesty of history, the conclave resolved.

It was emphasized that the policy of the Indian government to deal with the Jammu and Kashmir State as a Muslim majority identity, in isolation from the rest of the country has led to the consolidations of the Muslim separatist and secessionist forces in the state and paved the ground for Pakistan and other foreign powers to intervene in

Kashmir. The policy of the government of India has also prepared the ground for foreign powers to mount pressure on the government of India, which compromise the sovereignty of the Indian state and limit its independence to ineffectively against the separatist and the secessionist forces operating in the state.

The conclave rejected the isolation of the state on the basis of its Muslim majority population into an autonomous Muslim identity and warned that the so-called autonomy of the Jammu and Kashmir state is in conflict with the secular, social and political organisation of India and is bound to jeopardise the future of the Hindu, Sikh and Buddhists minorities in the state constituting as much as 40 per cent of the population of the state.

It was made it clear that the independence of the state is in no way different from the unification of the State with Pakistan as both, the independence of the state as well as its unification with Pakistan, are ideologically committed to the cessation of the state from India in furtherance of the Muslim crusade.

The conclave cautioned the government of India that both the independence of Jammu and Kashmir or its cessation to Pakistan will lead to the second partition of India. The conclave denounced all overt and covert attempts to rationalise independence of Azadi under a condominium, as an alternative to the accession of the State to Pakistan. It also denounced all attempts to view Muslim separatist and secessionism as well as autonomy as a part of the Indian commitment to secularism.

The conclave expressed grave apprehension of the peace initiative the government of India has undertaken and the offer of a cease-fire and negotiations to the representatives of the

militant regimes without any precondition.

The conclave has expressed its fears that the India peace initiative can lead to further consolidation of the Muslim secessionist forces in the State and the demoralisation of all the forces which have so far been in the front line of resistance against the militant forces and terrorism in the State. The conclave expressed doubts about the possibility of Pakistan accepting any preliminary agreement reached with the militant regimes and the Indian state. The conclave has pointed out that out of the eighteen active militant regimes, operating in the state at present only two have accepted the ceasefire, while the rest of the militant regimes are savaging the state more than ever. It is feared that the peace initiative will increase the bargaining power of Pakistan to pressure India to give more concessions and keep its options to slam the India 'peace-process' any time.

The papers prepared for the occasion and generally discussed in detail stated that the minority community would be happy if a complete and permanent peace, acceptable to all, were to be established in the state as early as possible. At the same time the discussions pointedly, laid stress on the community's serious apprehension and concern about the style and steps the government has taken so far, in as much as it has exhibited an unseemingly earnestness in achieving the objective. The adversary is keeping his cards close to the chest. The militants and their masters across the border are taking it as weakness on its part.

In this connection the convention also called upon all patriotic Indians to share out concern, for a united, democratic and egalitarian India, where terrorism and attempts at concessions to terror brokers are defeated.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2000

DAILY EXCELSIOR

KPs apprehensive of peace initiative

Excelsior Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Dec 25: Expressing scepticism over the success of the Government's peace initiative in Jammu and Kashmir, the Kashmiri Pandits today criticised the Centre's move to hold talks with separatists who do not recognise the Indian constitution "ignoring" the minority in the State.

Seven organisations of Kashmiri Pandits, at a conclave here, adopted a resolution asserting that "the five-lakh strong minority community of Kashmir will not remain a silent spectator if it was not involved in talks on the future of the Valley."

"The conclave denounced all attempts to view Muslim separatism and secessionism as well as autonomy as a part of the Indian commitment to secularism," leaders of Kashmiri Samiti

is. All India Kashmiri Pandit Conference (AIKPC), All State Kashmiri Pandit Conference (ASKPC), All India Kashmiri Samiti (AIKS), Jammu-based Kashmiri Pandit Sabha, Chandigarh-based Kashmiri Sahayak Sabha and Bangalore-based Kashmiri Visthapani Seva Samiti told a press conference here.

Kashmiri Samiti president C. L. Gadoo said the Pandits were yearning for return of peace in Kashmir but were sceptic about the success of the ceasefire and "negotiations with representatives of militant groups without any preconditions."

Gadoo said the conclave "expressed fears that the peace initiative can lead to consolidation of the secessionist forces in the state and demoralisation of forces fighting the terrorism."

Alleging that the Government was "conceding the wishes and fancies" of

the separatists, particularly the Hurriyat Conference, he said "this conglomerate (Hurriyat) of self-appointed committees of diametrically opposite political aspirations is so embedded as to assert that no parleys would be possible under the Indian Constitution."

The leaders regretted that the Central Government had "not till now sought our views, since we are the main victims of terrorism in Kashmir and have been thrown out by the same people whom the Government wants to talk."

Referring to Union Home Minister I. K. Advani's statement that the Government would hold talks with all sections of Jammu and Kashmir, Gadoo regretted that he had not named Kashmiri Pandits.

They, however, refused to spell out their future course of action, citing

that neither the separatists nor the Government had done so. "We are watching the situation," he said.

He said the conclave also termed as "historically untenable" Pakistan's claim on Jammu and Kashmir on the basis of its Muslim majority character.

The conclave clarified that the partition of India was confined to the Muslim majority regions of British India and the Indian Princely States including Jammu and Kashmir were not brought within the scope of the partition. "Therefore, the claim of Pakistan to complete the unfinished task of partition is a travesty of history," it was asserted.

The conclave regretted that the policy of the Indian Government to deal with J&K as a Muslim majority identity, in isolation from the rest of the country, has led to the conditions (Contd. on page 11 Col. 2)

KPs apprehensive...

(From page 1)

of Muslim separatist and secessionist forces in the State and paved the ground for Pakistan and other foreign powers to intervene in Kashmir.

The conclave further expressed the fear that Indian peace initiative can lead to further consolidation of Muslim secessionist forces in the State and demoralisation of all the forces which have so far been in the front line of resistance against the militant groups.

The convention felt that the present was in fluid and future shape and structure cannot be divined at this stage. "So we have to be careful, watchful and prepared for the unforeseen", the KP leaders said.

The conclave further called upon all patriotic Indians to share the concern for a united, democratic and egalitarian India, where terrorism and attempts at concessions to terror brokers are defeated.

Govts flayed for treating J&K on religious lines

By A Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI: The two-day conclave of Kashmiri Pandits held in Delhi on Monday flayed successive Indian governments that have allegedly seen Kashmir as a problem of Muslim majority identity and overlooked the plight of Hindu minority in the state.

The conclave, organised by the Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, and which began on Sunday, emphasised the necessity to review the Kashmir problem. It reiterated the stand of Hindu pundits of Kashmir that the claims laid by Pakistan on the J&K on the basis of its large Muslim population were historically untenable. The conclave also alleged that the policy of the Indian government to deal with J&K as a Muslim-dominated state and in isolation with the rest of India has led to the consolidation of the Muslim separatism in the state.

EXPRESS Newsline

NEW DELHI ■ THURSDAY ■ DECEMBER 28, 2000

Kashmiri Pandits hold two-day meet

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

A TWO-day meeting organised by the Kashmiri Samiti was held at the Kashmir Bhawan on December 24 and 25. During the meeting, Kashmiri Pandits spoke about the escalation of violence in the state and the future of the Hindu community of Kashmir, which has been living in exile for the last 11 years.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the regional Kashmiri Hindu organisations as well as the Kashmiri Hindu Organisations abroad. During the meeting, it was emphasised that Pakistan's claim over the state is historically untenable because the Partition was confined to the Muslim majority regions of British India and the Princely states (including Jammu and Kashmir) were not within its scope.

The Indian government was blamed for internationalising the Kashmir issue through dealing

with the state as a Muslim majority one in isolation from the rest of the country.

This, the Kashmiri Pandits believe, has led to the consolidation of the Muslim separatist and secessionist forces in the state and has allowed Pakistani as well as other foreign players to intervene in Kashmir.

During the meeting, the representatives warned the Indian government that both the "independence" of Jammu and Kashmir or its cessation to Pakistan will "lead to a second partition of India". They also expressed their fears of the Indian peace initiatives leading to further consolidation of the Muslim secessionist forces in the state.

They highlighted that out of 18 active militant regimes operating in the state only two had accepted the ceasefire.

The Kashmiri Pandits expressed their concerns over the approach and attitude of the Indian government.

SAHARA JANUARY 21, 2001

वार्ता में कश्मीरी पंडितों को भी शामिल किया जाये : खुराना

सहारा समाचार

नयी दिल्ली, 20 जनवरी

भारतीय जनता पार्टी के राष्ट्रीय उपाध्यक्ष व सांसद मदनलाल खुराना ने कहा कि कश्मीर से संबंधित किसी भी वार्ता में कश्मीरी पंडितों को शामिल किया जाना चाहिए। उन्होंने कहा कि कश्मीर की शांति प्रक्रिया तब तक सफल नहीं हो सकती जब तक उसमें कश्मीरी पंडितों का मुद्दा अनिवार्य रूप से जुड़ा न हो। श्री खुराना ने यह बात 'कश्मीरी हिंदू का भविष्य' विषय पर आयोजित संगोष्ठी में कही। संगोष्ठी कश्मीरी समिति ने आयोजित की थी।

श्री खुराना ने कहा कि कश्मीरी हिंदू पिछले बारह वर्षों से अपने देश में शरणार्थी होने की सजा भुगत रहे हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि जब आतंकवादी संगठनों से बात की जा सकती है तो उसमें कश्मीरी पंडितों को शामिल करने में हर्ज ही क्या है। उन्होंने शीला सरकार से कहा कि वह विस्थापित कश्मीरी शिक्षकों को नियमित करें तथा उनके रोजगार के लिए सभी संभव सुविधा

उपलब्ध कराये।

इस मौके पर केन्द्र सरकार की नीति की आलोचना करते हुए डा. ब्रह्म चेलानी ने कहा कि यह सरकार राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा व एकता जैसे संवेदनशील मुद्दों पर भावनाओं से खेल रही है। उन्होंने कहा कि भाजपा नेतृत्व वाली राजग सरकार कश्मीर मुसलै पर अब तक कांग्रेस सरकार की चूकों को पानी पीकर कोसती रही है। अफसोस की बात यह है कि अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी ने सत्ता में आने के बाद कश्मीर समस्या के समाधान के लिए कांग्रेस से भी बड़ी भूल की है। हाल के वर्षों में हमारी राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा और संप्रभुता को पाकिस्तान और उसके द्वारा प्रायोजित आतंकवादियों ने चुनौती दी है। अजीब स्थिति है कि शांति प्रक्रिया की बहाली की शर्तें आतंकवादी तय कर रहे हैं और सरकार उन्हें स्वीकार कर रही है।

कश्मीरी समिति के अध्यक्ष सीएल गड्डू ने कहा कि कश्मीरी पंडितों को राष्ट्र भक्त और शांतिप्रिय होने की सजा दी जा रही है।

KUSHAR SAMACHAR REPORTS

**SYMPOSIUM ON FUTURE OF KASHMIRI HINDUS
PICTORIAL GLIMPSES**



Shri C.L. Gadoo, President K.S.D, Shri Madan Lal Khurana, MP and Former Chief Minister Delhi, Prof C.L. Gupta, Minister of State Civil Aviation and Shri J.N. Kaul



Dr. Brahma Chellaney
Eminent Political Analyst



Shri Indresh Kumar
R.S.S. Chief Northern Region



Shri Bhim Singh
President Panthers Party



Dr. M.K. Teng
Eminent Political Analyst



A section of the Audience at the constitution club

'Give Kashmiri Hindus their due'

By Our Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, JAN. 20. The Bharatiya Janata Party national vice-president, Mr. Madan Lal Khurana, today suggested that Kashmiri Hindus be nominated to Parliament and the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly in order to ensure their proper representation in the national mainstream.

Speaking at a symposium on "Future of Kashmiri Hindus", organised by the Kashmir Samiti to mark the "Twelfth Holocaust Day" commemorating the mass exodus of Kashmiri Hindus from the Valley, Mr. Khurana said any peace initiative to solve the Kashmir problem without involving the Kashmiri Hindus would be meaningless.

"It should be a pre-condition. Militants and separatist forces should be told that before any talks, Kashmiri Hindus who have been living as refugees should be sent back to their homes," he said, adding that situation could be termed as normal only when these displaced people return. Mr. Khurana asked the Centre and the Delhi Government to address the grievances of Kashmiri refugees on priority.

Speaking on the occasion, defence analyst, Mr. Brahma Chellaney, underlined the need for organisation of Kashmiri Hindus as a political force in the Indian landscape.

"Be an organised force having an impact on political arena, then only you can influence public opinion," he exhorted. Put pressure on all political parties to

jointly come forward to take up their case, he added. Stating that the central defining factor of India's history has been Kashmir, Dr. Chellaney lamented that "we have always been diplomatically defensive".

Remarking that with his peace initiatives, the Prime Minister, Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee, was on a path of elusive peace, he said such initiatives work only when ground situation was under control. "Peace will come only through political will and clear objectives. Our policy on Kashmir is driven by sentiments and not by harsh reality."

Dr. Chellaney said India and Pakistan were at "mortal combat" in which only one party survives. "Even if we give Kashmir to Pakistan on a platter, it will not change its prime motive — Balkanisation of India."

The Kashmir Samiti president, Mr. C.L.Gadoo, said the Union Government should realise that it cannot use the Kashmiri Hindus as cannon fodder for its experiment and appeasement. He demanded that before the Centre opens peace negotiations, it must first talk to the Hindus of Kashmir.

TIMES OF INDIA, EXCELSIOR JANUARY 4, 2001 REPORT

J&K leaders appeal to Govt

The Times of India News Service

NEW DELHI: A Coordination Committee comprising leaders and intellectuals of Jammu and Kashmir has appealed to the government to include genuine representatives from all three parts of the state in the proposed peace talks.

In a meeting held on Wednesday, the Coordination Committee resolved to send its delegation to Pakistan occupied Kashmir to talk to the genuine "representatives of the two million citizens of the state" who they said have been suffering under the authoritarian rule of the Pakistani dictators.

The meeting had 60 representatives participating from different political and social organisations working in the three main regions of the state — the valley, Jammu and Ladakh; has cautioned the Centre from talking to terrorist and militant groups in Pakistan as it felt they were working for Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence.

While welcoming the Centre initiated peace process, the coordination committee said the government must ensure that "genuine representatives of all political and social groups from all the three regions of J&K should be associated with the talks." Prime Minister Vajpayee must ensure genuine representatives for the talks in order to achieve comprehensive resolution of all the issues including that of the re-organisation of the state," the Committee resolved. Some of the prominent participants were secretary to the chairman of the All Party Hurriyat Conference Altaf Ahmed Masoodi.

Centre urged to involve leaders of all political parties in talks

NEW DELHI, Jan 3:

Representatives of various political parties and groups of Jammu and Kashmir have urged the Government to involve leaders of all the three regions of the state in the dialogue process in order to achieve comprehensive resolution to the Kashmir problem.

Welcoming the Centre's peace initiative in the state, they rejected division of the State, stating such proposals are aimed at destabilising the region.

The representatives met here last evening at the Constitution Club and it was attended by C L Gadoo,

president Kashmir Simiti, Dr Shakir Bhan, Hasan Commander, Mr Ashraf Bhan, Prof Bhim Singh and Mr P M Jalali, besides Altaf Ahmed Masoodi secretary to the Hurriyat chief.

They decided to send a delegation to the Pakistan occupied Kashmir for talks with genuine representatives of that area, which is under unauthorised Pakistan rule.

They also rejected Hurriyat's suggestion about talks to the militant groups, stating they are working as mercenaries of the ISI. Prof Bhim Singh presided over the meeting, which during its marathon sessions, deliberated on the political and security situation in the state. (UNI)

TIMES OF INDIA, HINDUSTAN TIMES JANUARY 6, 2001 REPORT

Farooq optimistic about Indo-Pak talks

The Times of India News Service

NEW DELHI: Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Farooq Abdullah said he was optimistic about the possibility of talks soon between India and Pakistan, provided the latter controlled mercenaries on their side.

"The next step to the peace initiative would be holding of talks by the two countries" to resolve several issues including Kashmir, Abdullah said speaking at the Foreign Correspondents Club of South Asia here on Friday.

Abdullah, quite unexpectedly, said he wished Hurriyat Conference well on its proposed trip to Pakistan. However, he wondered how the Hurriyat could claim representation for the whole of Kashmir and as to what they would talk there. He asked Hurriyat leaders to come forward and prove their strength by participating in the Panchayat elections. "Saying that they were representatives of people of Kashmir is like building castles in air," Abdullah remarked.

Coming down heavily on the criticism from former home minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed's daughter Mehbooba Mufti (who was also one of the invitees), that he indulged in misgovernance, Abdullah said, "When I had taken over in 1996, the bank overdraft during the President's rule was Rs 700 crore, including an additional burden of Rs 700 crore due to implementation of the fifth Pay Commission." "The situation as of today is that the overdraft is only Rs 100 crore, besides the collection of power tariff has increased to Rs 300 crore from Rs 48 crore. The tax revenue has increased from Rs 150 crore to Rs 700 crore," Abdullah said. "If this is what is called misgovernance, then I am happy with it."

Mehbooba, who charged Abdullah's administration with gross violation of human rights, misgovernance and disregard for the people of the state, was supported by Kashmir Simiti president Chamsal Lal Gadoo and chairman of All India Kashmiri Samaj J N Kaul, who were also present.

Farooq hopeful of early talks

HT Correspondent
New Delhi, January 5

JAMMU AND Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah today expressed optimism on an early resumption of talks with Pakistan on all bilateral issues, including Kashmir.

"We have to wait and see how Pakistan's Chief Executive General Pervez Musharraf tackles the fundamentalist elements within his army and also in his country," Dr Farooq said at a "meet-the-press" programme organised by the Foreign Correspondents Club of South Asia (FCC) here this afternoon. Tipped in a clash of titans, the programme turned out to be a one-sided affair with Abdullah hitting out at his detractors, especially, the Hurriyat. The Centre too came in for some criticism for what Abdullah perceived as its failure to extend financial back-up to revive the state's military-ravaged economy.

Despite confirming his intent to share stage with Dr Abdullah in the morning, senior Hurriyat leader Abdul Ghani Lone stayed away leaving Mehbooba Mufti Sayeed of the J&K Peoples' Democratic Party to cross swords with the Chief Minister.

Two Kashmiri Pandit leaders — C L Gadoo and Dwarkanath Manshi — livened the discussions with brief interventions.

Release of militants in exchange for Rubaiya Sayeed, daughter of the then Union Home Minister



Mufti Mohd Sayeed, led to heated exchange with Mehbooba Sayeed accusing Abdullah's Government of non-governance.

The debate was triggered by a query to Sayeed whether she approved release of militants in lieu of her sister's (Rubaiya's) safe return. While disapproving the swap, the J&K PDP leader, however justified the release in the light of the then Farooq's Government's move to set free 170 militants prior to the kidnapping.

Provoked, Dr Abdullah said the militants were released at the behest of the then two Union Ministers, I K Gujral and Arif Mohd Khan. "They came to Srinagar and threatened me with dismissal if I did not go along with the directive which they claimed had the PM's sanction," he charged while asserting that all these discussions were on record. He said that 170 militants were freed following instructions from the then Union Home Secretary and IB Chief.

While wishing good luck to Hurriyat leaders for their proposed Pak visit, he hastened to add that he would rather keep silent lest things go awry. Stating that the Hurriyat leaders didn't enjoy popular support, the Chief Minister challenged them to seek people's mandate even under Governor's rule.

"The Hurriyat leaders can go any where, including Pakistan, and let us see how they brave the wrath of the people both here and in Pakistan. They have ruined Kashmir by their misdeeds," he charged.

'Major hurdle'

FORMER PRIME Minister of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir Sartar Abdul Qayyum Khan has dubbed foreign militant groups as a "major hurdle" in the negotiated settlement of the Kashmir issue, as several other leaders of the area urged militant outfits to support the peace process initiated by Prime Minister Vajpayee.

PTI, Islamabad



FACE TO FACE



I weaned KPs away from Congress to the BJP— Chaman Lal Gadoo

His soft-spoken and mild mannered nature cannot but charm you. Yet behind this soft exterior lies a shrewd mind. A rare combination, indeed. It is perhaps this personal attribute of Shri Chaman Lal Gadoo which helped him sail through the rough and tumble of community politics during its most turbulent phase of 90s, when he was at the helm of KSD affairs. 'The itch of an activist and concern for community drew me towards the community politics, though at the cost of my business and family life.'

Claiming a technical educational background, yet politics remains his full-time calling today. He recently took over, a second time, as President Delhi BJP Kashmir Cell. Starting out with trade union activism in early seventies, Shri Gadoo seems to have made an easy ideological switchover from Left to Right. 'My politics is my survival, my survival my politics,' leaps Shri Gadoo to his defence.

Shri Gadoo, who is credited with a long stint as President of Kashmir Samiti Delhi at a critical time when it became the hub of all social and political activities, is often blamed for leaving a legacy of a vitiated work atmosphere and a bad work culture in Samiti. He is also accused of playing the divisive politics by floating J&K Sangam more aimed at undermining the significance of KSD. Given below are some excerpts of an interview with Koshur Samachar's Alka Lahori Handoo.

KS: With a trade union background, how could you make a convenient switchover to Right-wing politics ?

CLG: In very strange circumstances. As first secretary of AITUC I would organize bandhs etc. But migration changed it all. As displaced community we became politically

orphaned. As an activist of the leftist leaning my first instinct was to go to my parent organization for political patronage. I even went to the Congress, but their response varied from outright rejection to royal snub. So as a last resort we went to the BJP who more than welcomed us into their political fold. We needed a party which could espouse our cause, and BJP did more than that. I remember in one of the demonstrations, BJP MPs outnumbered the community members.

KS: But in introspection many community leaders today feel that it was not a wise decision as a community to have allied with BJP and closed our political options?

CLG: The community owes its existence outside the valley to BJP. The party gave us both moral and material support. Kedarnath Sahni, Madan Lal Khurana, L.K.Advani visited many camps personally. And if we had kept our options

open we would have ended up as a rolling stone which gathers no moss and lost our political edge and credibility. And as the victims of Muslim fundamentalism we had to be doubly sure of our existence. And yes, I claim the credit of weaning KPs away from their traditional party, Congress and flocking enmass to BJP fold.

KS: Fingers are pointed at you that during your Presidentship you turned KSD into a veritable branch of BJP, how would you react to that ?

CLG: That was the necessity of the time. The party was in power in Delhi and Madan Lal Khurana its Chief Minister. We got nearly 754 Teh Bazaris sanctioned by him, 254 teachers were absorbed in Delhi Administration and another 100 in MCD run

Q & A

Only by joining mainstream politics can KPs become a politically viable force



schools. They helped us in cash relief as well. In fact, what ever help has come to migrants so far, it came during that period only. It was during that period that the Chief minister's of BJP-ruled states met in Delhi and gave us a pledge that they will give our wards admissions in their schools and colleges. Even the J&K Sangam, which I ran for a brief period when out of Samiti politics and stands disbanded today, was an off-shoot of the BJP.

KS: what exactly went wrong with your much publicised plans of turning Kashmir Bhavan into a commercial centre ?

CLG: Yes, I had envisaged a grand plan for the KB. I wanted to rebuild the structure and start a professional college for community children in it, but unfortunately, the formalities were not completed within time. It entailed hectic and cumbersome paper work where Samiti was still registered as Kashmiri Sahitya Samiti. The change of land use had to be done. And by the time that came through, my term in KSD was over.

KS: Coming to more specifics, there is a general feeling among Kashmiri Pandits that BJP let them down and did nothing concrete for them?

CLG: I do not agree with this viewpoint because BJP is not the government, it is only a major factor in the NDA dispensation. Even within those constraints the party has done a lot for the community.

KS: Many reckon that you harbour the ambition of becoming an MLA?

CLG: What is so big deal about becoming an MLA. I would have been an MLA long time back had I wished so. But I am more comfortable doing the service to the community. What I really feel today is that as community we do not constitute a vote bank, we should be more involved with politics and make ourselves politically a viable force.

KS: How do you analyse the defeat of BJP even in Jammu, its traditional stranglehold ?

CLG: Yes, it has been a cause of great concern for us in the party and we are trying to analyse the factors responsible for it. In fact an introspection within the party is going on. I have just been from Jammu in that context.

KS: What does the party offer to KPs in future?

CLG: I am there to watch the interests of my community and will see to it that they rise to the occasion when called upon. As a matter of fact, its Kashmir Cell is a step towards that direction. Now we as a community also have to reassess our programmes and priorities as a lot of water has flown down the bridge since 1990 when we came as migrants. We should rise above individual interests and care more about community welfare.

KS: The general perception among KPs is that BJP is no different from Congress?

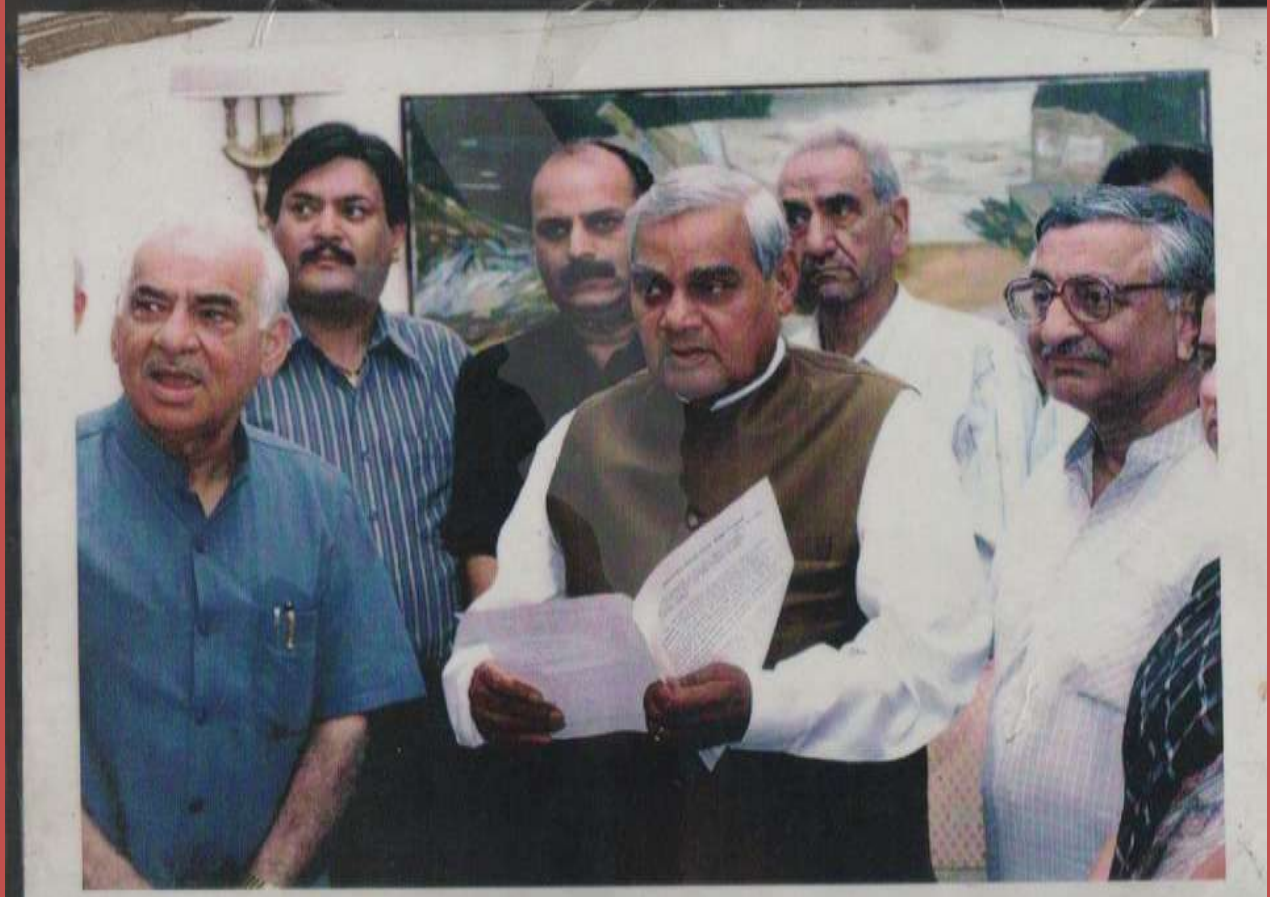
CLG: Fault does not lie with the party but with our political system. But still BJP is the party with a difference. Congress represents a rotten culture, beset with scams and scandals.

KS: What about these contractual teachers which is most humiliating ?

CLG: It is very unfortunate that the teachers continue to be on contract. However, BJP is poised to come back to power in Delhi, and I will see to it that their problems are mitigated.

KS: Looking back, what do you think have been the high points and achievements of KSD under your stewardship?

CLG: I vividly remember the migration phase when Kashmir Bhavan came alive with a changed profile. It turned into a huge migrant camp and hectic activity that ensued to relocate the migrants in various community centers. We were able to set-up 14 camps across the city. The relief work, community kitchen and negotiations with the government on all aspects of the relief work. And then setting up the political agenda for displaced community.



C.L.Gadoo with PM Sh.A.B.Vajpayee, and Sh. Madan Lal Khurana BJP Delhi chief



A delegation of Kashmiri Pandits submitting a memorandum to Prime Minister Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee in Delhi on Tuesday.

Compensation announced **PM's assurance to KPs**

NEW DELHI, Mar 25:

Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee today assured Kashmiri Pandits staying in Kashmir valley that all steps will be taken to ensure that attacks on the community will not be allowed to recur.

The Government will also soon come out with a "rehabilitation policy", including a financial package for the Kashmiri migrants, displaced more than a decade back due to militancy in the Valley, Vajpayee was quoted as assuring a Kashmiri Pandit delegation that called on him here.

"Vajpayee assured us that after the return of Deputy Prime Minister I. K. Advani, on a visit to yesterday's massacre site, the matter will be taken up with Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mufti Sayeed and the Government will ensure that in future such incidents against Kashmiri Pandits will not be repeated," Delhi BJP president Madan Lal Khurana told reporters here.

The Prime Minister also assured the delegation that the Government would soon consider a policy for rehabilitation of Kashmiri migrants, Khurana said.

The delegation expressed its concern over the security of Pandits staying in the Valley in wake of yesterday's massacre.

Khurana said "we requested the Prime Minister for proper rehabilitation of Kashmiri migrants and also demanded adequate security for the Pandits staying in the Valley at present."

Presenting a memorandum demanding an inquiry into attacks on Pandits, the delegation, comprising head of BJP cell on Kashmir C L Gadoo, also rejected the Government's proposal of creating "special secure places" for migrants in the Valley.

Meanwhile Prime Minister Vajpayee today announced a compensation of Rs one lakh each to the next of kin of the 24 Kashmiri Pandits killed yesterday in the Valley.

"Vajpayee has announced a compensation of Rs one lakh each from the PM's relief fund to the families of 24 Pandits, including 11 women, who were massacred yesterday," Delhi BJP president Madan Lal Khurana, who led a delegation of Kashmiri Pandits to Vajpayee to express their anguish over Pulwama massacre, told reporters here. (AGENCIES)

Khurana for war against Pak.

By Our Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, MARCH 25. Hundreds of BJP workers from Delhi demonstrated and courted arrest near the Pakistan Embassy here today in protest against Monday's massacre of Kashmiri Pandits in the Valley. Raising anti-Pakistan slogans, they demanded launch of a war against the neighbouring country for abetting terrorism.

Led by the Delhi BJP chief, Madan Lal Khurana, and accompanied by several party MPs, MLAs, Councillors and senior party leaders, they burnt an effigy of the Pakistan President, Pervez Musharraf, and tried to break the police cordon and march towards the Pakistan High Commission where they courted arrests.

Addressing the protesters, Mr. Khurana appealed to the BJP-led NDA Government to launch a war against Pakistan which was the only way to end terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. It was a well-established fact that Pakistan was training terrorists in its camps for a decade and all diplomatic efforts to persuade Pakistan had failed, so now the Government should break the restraint being observed against Pakistan and wage an all out war, he added.



A delegation led by the BJP leader, Madan Lal Khurana (second from left), submitting a memorandum condemning the massacre of Kashmiri Pandits in Nadimarg, to the Prime Minister, Atal Behari Vajpayee, in New Delhi on Tuesday. — Photo: V. Sudershan

The attack on Parliament, Akshardham and Raghunath temple carnage could not be pardoned and if the Govern-

ment continued with the policy, the terror tactics would continue to harm us, he said, alleging that the State Government's soft policy on terrorism was responsible for the recent killings of innocent people. The State Chief Minister, Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, should either act firmly against them or quit, he added.

राष्ट्रीय रंगमंच...

26 मार्च, 2003 ♦ पंचाब केसरी, दिव्य

3



पद विहीन में भारतीय को दिखते हुए अल्पसंख्यक सदस्य लाल सुब्रह्मण्य के नेतृत्व में कश्मीरी पंडितों के प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने पार्टी में पंडितों को सुरक्षा की मांग को लेकर उपचारविहीन अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी को ज्ञापन दिया।



कश्मीरी पंडितों के जलसा और इलाक़ का अल्पसंख्यक सदस्य लाल सुब्रह्मण्य ने राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन परियोजना के कार्यक्रमों पर राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा और अल्पसंख्यक सुरक्षा का ज्ञापन प्रकृत किया।

सुरक्षा खाामी का नतीजा है कश्मीरी पंडितों का नरसंहार

जम्मू, (भाषा) : गुजरात में नंदीमर्ग में हुए नरसंहार के बाद जब यह स्पष्ट हो चुका है कि यह घटना सुरक्षा खाामी का नतीजा थी क्योंकि पिछले साल पार्टी में एक ही कश्मीरी पंडितों को सुरक्षा कर्म कर दी गई थी।

समाजवादी पार्टी ने आज यहां बताया कि पार्टी में 271 जगहों पर एक ही कश्मीरी पंडितों को सुरक्षा कर्म कर दी गई थी। पिछले साल अल्पसंख्यक में सुरक्षा की विधि को खरीब के बाद यह फैसला किया गया था। उन्होंने बताया कि पार्टी में विश्वासघात चुनाव से पहले कश्मीरी पंडितों को सुरक्षा में तैयार था। ये पंच प्रतिनिधिमंडल तथा विशेष सुरक्षा अधिकारी हटा दिए गए थे। कुछ कश्मीरी पंडितों को सुरक्षा कर्म कर दी गई थी। नंदीमर्ग गांव में 27 कश्मीरी पंडित रहते हैं। यहां 28 प्रतिनिधिमंडलों की फैसले को नहीं की लेकिन चुनावों से पहले इनमें से 19 को हटा दिया गया था और इन पंडितों को सुरक्षा का विचार किया ही प्रतिनिधिमंडल संभाल रहे थे।

पार्टी ने बताया कि पार्टी में कश्मीरी पंडितों के 1535 परिवार रहते हैं। इनमें संघर्ष

की कुल संख्या 7823 है।

26 जनवरी 1997 को गंदीमल में 25 पंडितों की हत्या के बाद पूर्व की फैसला करके संसद ने उन सभी जगहों पर सुरक्षा लगा दी थी। जहां कश्मीरी पंडित रह रहे थे। बाद में सुरक्षा का दर्जा बढ़ा भी दिया गया था। प्रदेश कांग्रेस कमेटी के अध्यक्ष लाल सुब्रह्मण्य ने सोशलदरमार्जों को बताया, 'पुलिस को और से सुरक्षा खाामी की और हम इस बात की मांग कर रहे हैं कि पंडितों को सुरक्षा में खमी कर्मी की गई।'

नरसंहार से जम्मू-कश्मीर सरकार द्वारा कश्मीरी पंडितों को पार्टी की प्रक्रिया शुरू करने की महत्वाकांक्षी योजना को जमा गुजरात में हुए नरसंहार से धारी झटका लगा है।

कश्मीर के विधायक पंडितों ने इस घटना पर तीखी प्रतिक्रिया व्यक्त की है। उन्होंने

● चुनाव पूर्व सुरक्षाकर्मियों में भारी कमी

► सुरक्षा कर्मी घटाई गई, इसकी जांच होगी। गुजरात नहीं आजाद

► पार्टी में पंडितों के 1535 परिवार

► कश्मीर के परिवारों को एक-एक लाख रु. मुआवजे की घोषणा

कश्मीरी पंडित 1997 में पार्टी से चले गये थे। वह आजादवाद की मुआवजा का टोल था। सुरक्षा की योजना उनको अल्पसंख्यक 24 कश्मीरी पंडितों को बर्बर हत्या ने और मुद्दा करा दिया है। कश्मीरी समाज के अध्यक्ष लाल सुब्रह्मण्य ने यह दिल्ली में कहा कि राज्य सरकार विधायकों की पार्टी की योजना बना रही है जबकि यह पार्टी में रह रहे उन कश्मीरी पंडितों की आर-पार की विचार करने में विफल रही है। जिन्होंने पार्टी में ही जाने का फैसला किया। नंदीमर्ग नरसंहार इस बात को साबित करता है।

कश्मीरी पंडित गुजरात में अल्पसंख्यक की एक, खबर ने कहा कि कश्मीरी हत्या में नरसंहार का जम्मू सरकार का एक एक बार फिर खोजना सचिब हुआ।

एक-लाख रुपये मुआवजा : उपचारविहीन अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी ने कहा पार्टी में पंडित 24 कश्मीरी पंडितों के परिवारों को एक-

एक लाख रुपये मुआवजा देने की घोषणा की है। भारतीय जनता पार्टी की दिल्ली इकाई के अध्यक्ष लाल सुब्रह्मण्य ने आज बताया, वाजपेयी ने 24 पंडितों के परिवारों में से प्रत्येक की प्रधानमंत्री रहने कोष से एक-एक लाख रुपये मुआवजा देने की घोषणा की है। लाल सुब्रह्मण्य पंडितों का एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल लेकर प्रधानमंत्री से मिलने गए थे। प्रतिनिधिमंडल में भाजपा सांसद लाल बिहारी वाजपेयी, अल्पसंख्यक और कश्मीर मामलों पर भाजपा प्रकोष्ठ के प्रमुख सी.एल. गानू शामिल थे।

बहुत हो चुका, अब पाकिस्तान को सबक सिखाए भारत : खुराना

एजेंसियां, नई दिल्ली
भाजपा नेता मदनलाल खुराना ने मंगलवार को कहा कि नंदीमर्ग में 24 कश्मीरी पंडितों के नरसंहार के बाद सरकार को अब संयम त्याग कर पाकिस्तान पर

हमलों के लिए पाकिस्तान को माफ नहीं करना चाहिए। सरकार अगर अपनी इस नीति पर कायम रही तो पाकिस्तान को आतंक फैलाने की रणनीति चलती ही रहेगी। उन्होंने कहा कि अमेरिका से भारत

यह आस न लगाए कि वह पाकिस्तान पर सीमा पार से चलाए जा रहे आतंकवाद को रोकने का दबाव बनाएगा। उन्होंने कहा कि इराक युद्ध में अमेरिका को पाकिस्तान की जरूरत है।

■ पाकिस्तान पर दबाव डालने की अमेरिका से आशा न करें

हमला कर देना चाहिए। दिल्ली भाजपा के अध्यक्ष खुराना ने इस नरसंहार के खिलाफ यहां पाकिस्तानी उच्चायोग के समीप प्रदर्शनकारियों को संबोधित करते हुए कहा कि बहुत हो चुका। अब समय आ गया है कि सरकार पाकिस्तान के प्रति बसे जा रहे अपने संयम को तोड़ दे क्योंकि पाकिस्तान के विरुद्ध पूर्णरूपेण युद्ध से ही आतंकवाद को रोका जा सकता है। खुराना ने कहा कि पाकिस्तान को सबक सिखाने के लिए हम आखिर कितना और इंतजार करेंगे? हमें संसद व गुजरात के अक्षरधाम मंदिर पर हुए



■ दिल्ली में रह रहे कश्मीरी पंडितों ने नंदीमर्ग नरसंहार को लेकर प्रधानमंत्री वाजपेयी से मुलाकात की और ज्ञापन दिया। इस दौरान भौजूद प्रदेश (दिल्ली) भाजपा अध्यक्ष मदनलाल खुराना व सांसद अनिता आर्बे।

जागरण

राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा विविध

नवी दिल्ली, बुधवार, 26 मार्च, 2003

7

कश्मीरी पंडितों को पूर्ण सुरक्षा का भरोसा दिलाया प्रधानमंत्री ने



भाषा

नवी दिल्ली, 25 मार्च

प्रधानमंत्री अटलबिहारी वाजपेयी ने आज कश्मीरी पंडितों को आश्वासन दिया कि कश्मीर घाटी में उनकी सुरक्षा के लिए व्यापक कदम उठाए जाएंगे और निर्दिष्ट किया जाएगा कि आगे उन पर हमले न हों। इसके अलावा लाल घाटी में मारे गये सभी 24 कश्मीरी पंडितों के रिजर्वों को प्रधानमंत्री राहत से एक-एक लाख रुपये मुआवजा देने की घोषणा की गयी है।

कश्मीरी पंडितों का एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल आज प्रधानमंत्री से मिलने गया था। प्रधानमंत्री ने इन लोगों से भरोसा दिलाया कि सरकार घाटी में आतंकवाद के कारण विस्थापित हुए लोगों के लिए शिलीय पैकेज समेत

पुनर्वास नीति भी बनायेगी।

प्रतिनिधिमंडल के साथ गए पाजपा के दिल्ली प्रदेश अध्यक्ष मदनलाल खुराना ने संवाददाताओं को यह जानकारी दी। खुराना के अनुसार वाजपेयी ने आश्वासन दिया कि परन्तुस्थल नदीमर्ग का दौरा करने गये उपप्रधानमंत्री सत्यनारायण जट्टवाणी के वाक्य अर्थात् ही

प्रधानमंत्री राहत कोष से मृतकों के आश्रितों को एक-एक लाख मिलेगा

इस मुद्दे पर जम्मू कश्मीर के मुख्यमंत्री मुक्ती मोहम्मद रईस से बात की जाएगी। सरकार यह सुनिश्चित करेगी कि कश्मीरी पंडितों पर ऐसे हमले आने न हों।

उल्लेखनीय है कि नदीमर्ग में शनिवार देर रात आतंकवादियों ने 24 कश्मीरी पंडितों की हत्या कर दी थी। प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने प्रधानमंत्री को ज्ञापन

देकर कश्मीरी विस्थापितों के समुचित पुनर्वास और घाटी में रह रहे पंडितों की सुरक्षा के लिए व्यापक कदम उठाए जाने की मांग की। इस दल में मदनलाल खुराना के अलावा पार्टी की कश्मीरी सेल के अध्यक्ष सीएल गार्डर, पार्टी सांसद उमरीत आर्य व लालबिहारी विजयरी शामिल थे। इन लोगों ने

विस्थापितों के लिए घाटी में विविध सुरक्षा क्षेत्र बनाने के सरकार के प्रस्ताव को खारिज कर दिया। इसके अलावा प्रधानमंत्री अटलबिहारी वाजपेयी ने लाल घाटी में मारे गये 24 कश्मीरी पंडितों के परिवारों को एक-एक लाख रुपये मुआवजा देने की घोषणा की है। श्री खुराना ने बताया कि वाजपेयी ने 24 पंडितों के परिवारों में से प्रत्येक को प्रधानमंत्री राहत कोष से एक-एक लाख रुपये मुआवजा देने की घोषणा की है।

केन्द्र : राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा विविध
पंतलवार को कश्मीरी पंडितों का प्रतिनिधिमंडल प्रधानमंत्री अटलबिहारी वाजपेयी से मिला। साथ में हैं दिल्ली प्रदेश अध्यक्ष मदनलाल खुराना व पार्टी सांसद अनिता आर्बे।

BJP J&K Cell presents memorandum to PM

KG CORRESPONDENT

New Delhi, The Bhartiya Janata Party, Delhi Pradesh, J and K Cell presented a Memorandum to Prime Minister Mr Atal behari Vajpayee highlighting some immediate steps needed for the relief and rehabilitation of Kashmiri Displaced Hindu community.

In the Memorandum the J and K Cell has raised many important issues confronting the community needing immediate Government attention including better hygienic conditions in refugee camps in Delhi and Jammu, medical facilities, treatment of boys and girls suffering from serious diseases, financial loans to uprooted businessmen besides education and job opportunities to the un-educated youth.

The BJP J and K Cell laments that their issues are pending with the Central Government for the last many years and blamed the leaders for failing to solve the displaced communities problems.

The Cell has criticised the Central Government for treating the Kashmiri displaced Hindu community as second class citizens. The Memorandum adds that for Gujarat Victims the Government acted immediately and sanctioned thousands of crores of Rupees for relief and rehabilitation schemes but for Kashmiri Hindus the decision is still awaited.

The memorandum is signed by Messers C.L. Gadoo President, N.N. Zijoo, M.L. Malla, Sansar Singh Kotwal and P.K. Raina (Vice-Presidents) S.K. Kaul-General Secretary, M.K.Kaul and Shiv Kumar Bhat (Secretaries) and its copies submitted to all Cabinet Ministers and senior BJP leaders.

The Jammu and Kashmir BJP Cell has submitted the following demands to the PM for immediate orders:

1. Till we return back, sanction two room housing facilities in Delhi, Jammu, Faridabad, Noida, Gurgaon etc for displaced families.
2. Provide loan/ finance facilities (without interest) recoverable in 15 years for the people who want to re-establish their business and other units.
3. Free education both technical and non-technical for the wards of displaced families. Education loans for higher studies (interest free) recoverable in 15 years and waiver of interest for those who have mortgaged every thing for the higher education of their wards.
4. Reservation of seats in all streams in medical and technical college throughout the country for the displaced community.
5. Grant refugee status in favour of Kashmiri displaced families.

families not registered after 1992 although having left the valley be registered directly by MHA and relief etc. be sanctioned in their favour.

7. an Ex-gratia relief of Rs 5 lakhs to all displaced Kashmiri families for the marriage of girls and boys, education of children widowed/Handicapped and destitutes and fire sufferers

8. Fix Quota for Kashmiri displaced families in jobs and an employment drive for displaced Kashmiri families in central state government establishments/Banks/undertakings/Corporations and MNC's may be ordered.

9. Teh- Bazari Shops be given permanent shops in and around markets presently existing in Delhi and a loan of Rs. Five lakhs be sanctioned in their favour for establishing their business.

10. Distress sales of land and houses be declared null and void by an ordinance of president of India.

11. Forcible occupation of houses and holy Shrines by the majority community be restored back to Kashmiri displaced families and shrines boards/ committees.

12. Registration/ Identity cards be issued directly by the ministry of Home affairs by opening counters at Jammu, Delhi and Lucknow. These cards should be issued to all Kashmiri displaced families who have left the valley in 1931, 1947, 1962, 1965, 1971, 1986 and finally in 1990 (Totaling approximately 20 lakh Hindus living in valley who had to migrate at different times because of wars and riots in the valley) These card-holders be treated as permanent state-subjects of Kashmir Valley.

13. Promotion/time bound promotion/ rent allowances to displaced Kashmiri employees in state Govt and public sector undertaking be allowed in post migration period as is where is basis

14 Kashmiri Pandits have no representation in the Parliament. We demand two representatives each in Rajya Sabha and Jammu & Kashmir legislative council and five seats be declared constituencies in exile for Kashmiri displaced persons in Jammu & Kashmir assembly so that our problems can be highlighted effectively by our representatives.

15. Relief Commissioner and staff be posted directly by MHA in Jammu or Delhi and distribution of relief/rehabilitation/ loans etc. to Kashmiri displaced families be brought under their control as has been done in case of Gujarat victims. This will save us from delays and dependence on State Govt. directives which are sometimes biased.

16. 50% concessional tickets in air

BJP J&K Cell observes "Balidan Diwas"



Mr C L Gadoo, President, BJP, J&K Cell, Pt. Amar Nath Vashnavi, President ASKPYS and Mr Vijay Kumar Malhotra MP addressing the gathering at Balidan Diwas

KG CORRESPONDENT

New Delhi : The Bharatiya Janata Party, J & K Cell, Delhi Pradesh organised a meeting to observe "BALIDAN DIVAS" in memory of Martyr's who laid their lives in Jammu & Kashmir since 1989. The day coincides with the Martyrdom of senior BJP Vice President (J & K State) Late Mr Tika Lal Taploo who was gunned down by terrorists in Srinagar on 14th September, 1989.

In view of "Parivartan Yatra" in Delhi Mr Madan Lal Khurana and other party functionaries could not attend the function and instead central leadership of BJP deputed Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, M.P. (Chief Spokesman - BJP Parliamentary Party) to pay homage to Martyr's.

Speaking to Jam-packed audience inspite of heavy downpour, Prof. Malhotra said that the way Pakistani sponsored terrorists have killed thousands of Hindus in Kashmir by in-human torture disfiguring their bodies are un-heaved of in the annuals of world civilisation. Prof. Malhotra promised that nobody will push Kashmiri Pandits back to valley till normal peace will not return in Kashmir and that BJP is quite aware of the problems being faced by the Kashmiri Pandits and various steps are being taken to solve them. He exposed the sedeo secular nature of Congress and left parties for not denouncing the fundamentalist and secessionist Muslim organisations operating in valley who are responsible for the exodus of 4-lakh Kashmiri Pandits and instead made hue and cry in Parliament when a single Muslim family of Gujarat migrated to West Bengal.

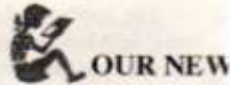
Introducing Prof. Malhotra, President (BJP J&K Cell), Delhi Pradesh, Mr C.L. Gadoo gave details of how some BJP leaders like Shri K. N.Sahani, Madan Lal Khurana and Prof. Malhotra helped the community since 1990 on Education Employment and Relief Fronts. The party solidly stood behind the community and are apprised of some immediate steps needed

community and that the party has recommended to the Central Government to prepare a Special Package for Kashmiri Pandits covering Housing, Employment, Education, Loan Facilities and Health Care etc. BJP (J & K Cell, Delhi) have on war footing taken these problems with PMO and MHA and recently a high level meeting was convened by top officials of Home Ministry to discuss in detail the various steps needed to be taken for the betterment of the community and a detailed Memorandum submitted by BJP J & K Cell to Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble Dy. Prime Minister was discussed in length in the valley lasted for two and a half hours.

Paying tributes to the Martyr's Mr A.N. Vaishnavi, Senior leader of Kashmiri Pandits and President (ASKPYS) dealt in length the problems faced by the community in Jammu, particularly in camps. He was critical of J & K Governments apathy towards Kashmiri Pandits. Mr Vaishnavi promised that the sacrifices made by our community members should not go waste and that we must unitedly see that our social, cultural and political value should not erode at this time of great crisis.

Others who paid their glowing tributes to the Martyr's were Messers S.S. Kotwal of (Doda Vihar Manch) Sh M.L. Malla of (BJP J & K Cell), Dr. Romesh Raina (General Secretary, Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi), Sh. Shiban Dudha of (AIKS), Sh M.L. Wali (President, KPWA, Rohini), Sh. Shiban Ambaradar, Advocate, General Secretary (K.P Migrant Welfare Association, Noida), Sh Ashtosh Taploo (Son of late Mr Tika Lal Taploo), Dr. Utpal Koul (Senior J & K RSS Leader), Sh M.L. Labroo (Former President Dilshad Garden, KPWA), Sh. Piary Lal Maltoo (President, Kashmiri Samiti, Shalimar Garden) and Shri T.N. Gurtoo (Secretary, Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi).

Wreaths were laid on the photographs of Late Mr Tika Lal Taploo, Mr Prem Nath Bhat and victims of WANDHAMA massacre by the leaders and also by Mr T.N. Wanchoo, Mr P.K. Raina and Mr



FROM THE CAPITAL

BJP Kashmir Cell Approaches P.M.

The J & K Cell of the Delhi Pradesh, Bharatiya Janata Party submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister, on June 21 last, suggesting to him that till the Kashmiri migrants are able to return to the Valley, they should be provided with two-room housing facilities. The Cell has also asked for loans, or financial facilities, without interest, recoverable in 15 years, to migrants who want to re-start businesses. The memorandum further seeks free education, technical and non-technical, for the wards of the displaced families and educational loans for higher studies, which should be interest-free. The Cell demanded reservation of seats in all streams of medical and technical colleges, throughout the country, for the displaced community.

The signatories to the memorandum are the President of the Cell, Shri C. L. Gadoo, its Vice-Presidents Shri M. L. Malla, Shri N. N. Zijoo, Shri Sansar Singh Kotwal and Shri P. K. Raina, its General Secretary, Shri S. K. Koul and Secretaries Shri M. K. Kaul and Shri Shiv Kumar Bhatt.

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Interface / Interaction with BJP leadership

on 31st Jan.2004

.....By Surinder Razdan

BJP J&K Cell Delhi Pradesh organized an interface/interaction with Central and State leadership of BJP in view of the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections in the afternoon of 31st Jan. 2004 at BJP Delhi State office, 14 Pt. Pant Marg, New Delhi.

The galaxy of KP leadership present included Sh. A N Vaishnavi, Sh. C L Gadoo, Sh. D N Munshi, Sh. Shibani Duda and others. BJP Central leadership was represented by Dr. Harshvardhan and Sh. Jagdish Mukhi. Other invitees including Sh. Jagmohan could not make it because of the sad demise of Sh. Jagmohan's brother whose Kriya coincided with the meeting.

The meeting started with Sh. Gadoo emphasizing upon the need to reach a consensus in having a dialogue with political parties and the J&K Govt. whenever held. He invited Sh. Saraf, advocate, to express his views who criticized the healing touch policy of Mufti Sayeed. After him Sh. Shibani Duda of AIKS took over and referred to successive election manifestoes of BJP (1998) and NDA (1999) wherein, he stated, that Kashmiri Pandits was ignored completely. There was no mention of any relief or rehabilitation measures for a displaced KP. Sh. Duda asked Sh. Gadoo to take up this point with the central leadership of BJP so that the accountability regarding the promises made can be fixed at a later stage. He also declared, to the irk of Sh. Jagdish Mukhi, that KPs did not get anything more from BJP than what we did not get from Congress either. He also criticized Mufti Govt. over the forced orders issued to J&K Govt. KP employees asking them to report for duties in the trouble-torn valley.

Sh. D N Munshi agreed with the views expressed by Sh. Duda and Sh. Saraf and asked KPs to be prepared for sacrifices. At this stage Dr. Harshvardhan arrived to give company to Sh. Jagdish Mukhi. A two-minute silence was observed on account of Sh. Jagmohan's brother. Sh. C L Gadoo

thanked Dr. Harshvardhan for the appointment of KP teachers and Sh. Mukhi for all the help rendered. He referred to BJP conclave held in April 03 wherein Mr. Venkaiah Naidu had assured various concessions and sops for KPs. He also talked about the "feel good" factor and assured the central leadership of all the help in campaigning like we had been doing in the past. Mr. Gadoo wondered how the beginning of peace talks held between Sh. L K Advani and Hurriyat leadership transformed into complete peace the very next day and the displaced KP employees were handed over marching orders. He also assailed the Govt. for repealing the orders for income tax exemption given to KP state gov't. employees besides talking about the harassment to relief-seekers and Tehbazari people.

Dr. Harshvardhan equated the representation by Sh. A B Vajpayee and Sh. L K Advani as that of KPs in talks with Hurriyat/Pakistan. He said that BJP is most honest about Kashmir, Kashmiris and especially KPs. He appreciated the role of Sh. C L Gadoo in highlighting the plight of KPs. He added that Sh. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee's sacrifices will not go waste. With all humility he downplayed the appointment of teachers as no gratitude to the community and said that the top leadership is not unaware of our miseries. He also mentioned about the unflinching support our community has been getting over the years from Sh. K N Sahni which was responded by an applause as an affirmation. He ended his speech by referring to the various forecasts made either by astrologers or those who carry opinion polls who have painted a very bright future for the country, of course with BJP at the helm of affairs.

Sh. Jagdish Mukhi said that earlier on KP community opposed the

repealment of Article 370 and now he was surprised when he heard Sh. Duda saying that KPs did not get anything more from BJP than they did not get from Congress either. He also referred to Sh. Kedar Nath Sahni's role in getting succour for the displaced community and counted on the welfare measures undertaken by the then BJP State gov't. including appointments which, otherwise, it was not empowered to do. He said that his feelings had got hurt to which the community members responded by saying that all present did not agree with what had been said earlier on. He also praised the role of Sh. C L Gadoo in highlighting the problems of KPs. Sh. Mukhi said that it was not for vote-bank politics that a Kashmir Cell was created as, to be frank, no such KP vote-bank exists. It was created only because the party realizes that the KP community has seen many a mishaps and misfortunes. At the end he also painted a bright future for the country and made a reference to the "feel good" factor. When he ended his speech, he was corrected that not all KPs opposed abrogation of Article 370 as people like Sh. Makhan Lal Harkar and others had started Kashmir Agitation against the special status. Regarding his remark that almost all KPs were Congress supporters prior to migration, one member pointed out that like Sh. Jagmohan, who once was a congress loyalist but now a staunch BJP supporter, all the Pandits were avowed BJP cadres.

At the end, Sh. A N Vaishnavi, a contemporary of Sh. A B Vajpayee, thanked the party leadership and sought a clear mandate for BJP. He attacked pseudo-secularism policy of other parties. He expressed his reservations against the forced sending of employees and said that we will gauge the situation and return when the atmosphere is conducive.

**SHRI ASHOK SINGHAL PRESIDENT VISHVA HINDU PARISHAD AND
SHRI B.L.SHARMA (PREM) Founder AKHAND HINDUSTAN MORCHA**



A document regarding Ram Janma Bhoomi, produced by Dr. V.P. Sharma, Advocate, Vishwa Hindu Parishad, in Supreme Court of India.

SRI RAM TEMPLE MOVEMENT (12-12-2004)

By Dr. M.K.Teng & C.L.Gadoo

“It is important to note here that Hindu temples are the abodes of God. They are not prayer houses. In the Hindu temples Param Parmeshwara is worshipped in the forms. He assumed with the evolution of the Sanskrit civilization of India as the manifestation of the unity of universal existence and the embodiment of creation. Sri Ram Janma Bhoomi was worshipped as the abode of the incarnation of lord Vishnu. The construction of the Muslim mosque over the Ram temple was therefore, a civilisational overlap...

Sri Ram took birth in Ayodhya as the incarnation of Sri Vishnu and trod the sacred ground there. History has an intrinsic quality of truth. All logical reductionism is a negation of history and the truth in its womb. The tradition handed down from one generation to another generation of the Hindus who lived and died under the subjection of the Muslim rule is an inseparable part of the history of the Indian civilization. The struggle for the reclamation of the Ram Janma Bhoomi is also an inseparable part of the history of the Indian civilization.”

Return plan runs into rough weather

From B L Kak

NEW DELHI, June 14: The Jammu and Kashmir Government has triggered anger and aversion from a majority of Kashmiri Pandit groups and organisations following the official talk of "a beginning of process" with regard to the return to the Kashmir valley of the displaced Kashmiri Pandits. The talk, in fact, gained currency with the recent visit of the Chief Minister, Mufti Mohammed Sayeed, to Mattan in south Kashmir, and his interaction with a group of the minority community in support of the Hindu migrants' return to the township.

These groups and organisations in Jammu and Kashmir and in Delhi may differ with one another on several issues, but they seem to be united on one thing—that is, not to allow any Kashmiri Pandit migrant to return to the Valley as per the requirements of and conditions from the J&K administration. "Kashmiri Pandits (KPs) will return to the valley of and on their own, without permitting the State Government to dictate terms and conditions to them", asserted CL Gadoo, head of

the Jammu and Kashmir cell at the BJP headquarters in the Union capital.

Gadoo told the EXCELSIOR that in absence of a proper dialogue with KP representatives on the "vital" issue concerning their future, the question of "our return to the Valley in the given situation just does not arise".

HN Jattu, president of All India Kashmiri Pandit Conference (AIKPC), appeared highly bitter while reacting to the talk of the ongoing effort to bring about the return to Mattan township of over two dozen migrant Hindu families, to begin with. "Time is not ripe for the KPs' return to the Valley", he said and cautioned: "Discretion is better part of the valour.

Jattu, in fact ruled out the possibility of the return of KPs in large numbers "at a time when neither the gun culture has been totally terminated nor has the security scenario in Valley been rid of threats and challenges from the enemy of secularism". He questioned the State Government's intentions as he made a pointed reference to the absence of confidence-building measures (CBMs) at the official and political level for the "depressed and deprived" mass-

es of KPs.

Jattu, observed: "Any talk of the KPs' return to the Valley will bear fruit only after the settlement of the Kashmir issue in accordance with the wishes of Kashmiri Pandits. KPs will have to be involved in any dialogue on hammering out a durable solution to the Kashmir problem". When asked for his views on the Mufti Government's plan to re-settle the displaced KPs in the two specific sectors of the Valley, Jattu threw up two questions: Does Mufti Sayeed want KPs to live in the Valley with begging bowls in their hands? After having ignored KPs all these years particularly in the field of recruitment to Government services, does the J&K administration want the displaced community to get placed on the debris of doubts?

Equally bitter is Shiban Dudha, political advisor of All India Kashmiri Samaj (AIKS), on the move and motive of the Mufti Government in relation to the return of the KP migrants to the Valley. He made a pointed reference to what he termed as "languishing KPs" in various dwellings in Srinagar and said that the Government's plan

to bring about the migrants' return to the Valley would prove counter-productive if two basic requirements were not taken cognizance of—-one, the will of the Kashmiri Pandits, and, two, a dialogue with the affected population of KPs well before paving the way for their return journey to the Valley.

All India Kashmiri Samaj, Shiban Dudha pointed out, had already opposed the plan of rehabilitating the KP migrants in Sheikhpora and Mattan areas of Kashmir. The Srinagar-based Hindu Welfare Society of Kashmir, a constituent of the AIKS, Dudha said, had, on more than one occasion, rejected the Government's return formula. Coercing or undue favours will not pay, as, to quote Shiban Dudha, the average Kashmiri Pandit has to be fully ensured that "a suitable environment" has been created by the authorities for the KPs' return and rehabilitation.

And even as the Union Home Ministry's official stand is in favour of the J&K Government's 'return module', the plan of bringing about the KPs' return to the Valley has run into rough weather, at least for the time being.

वापस नहीं भेजे जाएंगे कश्मीरी पंडित : पाटिल

विशेष संवाददाता

नई दिल्ली : सरकार ने ऐलान किया है कि जम्मू-कश्मीर से विस्थापित होकर आए कश्मीरी पंडितों को कश्मीर लौटने के लिए मजबूर नहीं किया जाएगा। सोमवार को पेश एक ध्यानाकर्षण प्रस्ताव के जवाब में गृह मंत्री शिवराज पाटिल ने भरोसा दिलाया कि कश्मीरी पंडितों को सरकार की तरफ से दी जा रही सहायता बंद नहीं की जाएगी। मगर सरकार के जवाब से असंतुष्ट बीजेपी और एनडीए के चटक दलों ने सदन से वॉकआउट कर दिया।

बीजेपी के विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा ने ध्यानाकर्षण प्रस्ताव पेश किया था। पाटिल ने कहा कि न तो कश्मीरी पंडितों को वापस जाने के लिए मजबूर करने का सवाल उठता है और न ही उन्हें दी जा रही सरकारी मदद को बंद करने का। उन्होंने बिपक्ष से कहा कि वे यह बता दें कि एनडीए की सरकार ने 6 साल में कश्मीरी पंडितों के लिए क्या किया?

पाटिल ने कहा कि बिपक्ष का यह कहना भी सही नहीं है कि आतंकवादियों ने कश्मीर में किसी मंदिर को ध्वस्त कर उस पर कब्जा कर लिया है। गृह मंत्री ने कश्मीर को हाल ही में दिए गए 2

खरब 40 अरब रुपये के विशेष पैकेज का जिक्र किया और कहा कि अंतर-मंत्रालय समूह ने सिफारिश की है कि कश्मीरी पंडितों की वापसी के लिए आधारभूत ढांचा तैयार किया जाए, दो कमरे वाले मकान बनाए जाएं, एक हजार नई नौकरियां सृजित की जाएं और एक हजार कुटीर उद्योग स्थापित किए जाएं।

गृह मंत्री ने सदन को बताया कि 1990 के दशक में कश्मीर में आतंकवाद की

जवाब से असंतुष्ट विपक्ष ने वॉकआउट किया

जगह से कश्मीरी पंडितों को कश्मीर घाटी से पलायन करना पड़ा और वे जम्मू और दिल्ली के अलावा बाकी राज्यों में जाकर रहने लगे।

उन्होंने कहा कि ऐसे प्रवासी परिवारों की संख्या 33 हजार 476 है। इन परिवारों में से 34 हजार 88 जम्मू में, 19 हजार 338 दिल्ली में और 2 हजार 50 देश के अन्य राज्यों में रह रहे हैं। पाटिल ने कहा कि प्रवासी परिवारों में से 5 हजार 778 जम्मू के सरकारी शिविरों में रह रहे हैं और 230 परिवार दिल्ली के सरकारी शिविरों में हैं। गृह मंत्री ने सदन को जानकारी दी

कि सरकार कश्मीर के प्रवासी परिवारों की मदद कर रही है। उन्होंने बताया कि जम्मू में रह रहे प्रवासी परिवारों को 3 हजार रुपये महीने के अलावा राशन मुहैया कराया जा रहा है।

दिल्ली में सरकारी शिविरों में रहने वाले कश्मीरी परिवारों को 2400 रुपये महीने और राशन दिया जा रहा है और शिविरों से बाहर रहे रहे परिवारों को 3200 रुपये महीने की मदद दी जा रही है। पाटिल ने कहा कि जम्मू में रह रहे प्रवासी परिवारों को नकद सहायता और राशन देने पर 50 करोड़ रुपये सालाना खर्च किए जा रहे हैं। दिल्ली में रहने वाले कश्मीरी परिवारों को दिल्ली सरकार आर्थिक मदद देती है और इस पर 15 करोड़ रुपये सालाना खर्च होता है। उन्होंने कहा कि 1990 से अब तक कश्मीरी प्रवासी परिवारों को राहत देने पर सरकार 5 अरब 86 करोड़ 37 लाख रुपये खर्च कर चुकी है।

ध्यानाकर्षण प्रस्ताव पेश करते हुए मल्होत्रा ने इल्जाम लगाया था कि सरकार कश्मीरी पंडितों पर दबाव डाल रही है कि वे अपने घर वापस जाएं। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि सरकार कश्मीरी पंडितों की डीक से मदद नहीं कर रही है।

विभागाध्यक्ष

30-8-2005

Spade A Spade Reports

Dear Editor,

We should oppose the demand for autonomy to J&K as it will go half way to substantiate Pakistan's claim on Kashmir. With stone-pelters in forefront and terrorist guns booming in the background, India will, sooner or later, be forced to accept a settlement which is acceptable to Pakistan.

In 1990, terrorists and fundamentalists targeted Kashmiri Hindus, looted, burnt and destroyed their properties and shrines, forcing about four lakh Kashmiri Hindus to flee from the valley. The state government's own estimates say about 30,000 Pandits remained in far flung areas of the valley, dwindling to 10,000 in 1996 and about 3000 in 2010. The National Human Rights Commission accepted that "acts akin to genocide have occurred in respect of Kashmiri Pandits" whose houses were destroyed and women raped and who are still languishing in camps and rented houses all over the country. Recently a state minister said 170 temples were damaged by Muslim fundamentalists over the last 20 years. Now, another minority, Sikhs, are being targeted.

No fresh recruitment of Kashmiri Hindus has taken place since the Hindus' exile began, though 90 per cent of the employees retired. After 20 years the Centre announced an employment package for 6000 displaced persons in 2008 but the state government delayed notification on the recruitment till the NHRC intervened.

The demand for 'greater autonomy' was by vested interests after 35 years of the Indira Gandhi- Sheikh Abdulla accord, exposing the machination and double talk of National Conference. A whole generation of Muslim youth was indoctrinated to seek freedom from India and unification with Pakistan. The Central Government pumped in thousands of crores of rupees into the state, which received 10 to 12 % of all grants disbursed to states. The bulk of this is spent in the valley which is less than 1% of India's population though Kashmir has lowest poverty ratio of 3.5 % against national average of 26.1%.

The Hindus and Sikhs of the State and the Buddhists of Ladakh have expressed sharp disapproval of any compromise with National Conference on the issue of autonomy

— C L Gadoo, Co-Chairman, Joint Human Rights Committee, New Delhi

NAAD Reports

Amateur Journalist Award function for the year 2017, was organized by Shaheed Pandit Prem Nath Bhat Memorial Trust (PNBMT), in which a large section of people participated. They belonged to various literary, social, legal and cultural fields. The function was presided over by Shri B. S. Salathia, Senior Advocate and President Bar Association, Jammu. Hon'ble MLC, G. L. Raina, was the Chief Guest and Dr. (Padamshree) K. N. Pandita, the Guest of Honor.

S/Sh. C. L. Gadoo and Lalit Gupta were selected for the current year's award.

S/Sh. C. L. Gadoo, former Vice President AIKS, has been writing regularly in different magazines. He has authored several books. His two books "Kashmir- Hindu Shrines" and "Hindu Religious Culture", has been welcomed by a large number of readers. Lalit Gupta, an art and cultural columnist, has Directed 16 Documentaries entitled 'Urdu-Raftar aur Samat' for DD Srinagar. He has produced and directed several documentaries, such as "Sacred Springs of Duggar", "Virasat Ke Satoon" and 'Duggar Sanskriti Ke Pratik.' He has also written Radio features on art and culture. Citation of honor for both the awardees were read out by C. L. Pandita and Dr. B. L. Handoo respectively. Shri M. K. Jalali received the award on behalf of Shri C. L. Gadoo who could not personally make it to the venue and Shri U. K. Jalali, former Advocate General received the award on behalf of Shri Lalit Gupta who was not in the town due to official assignment.

Needless to add, the Amateur Journalist Award is bestowed upon two journalists every year for their outstanding contribution in the field of journalism and in the service of the community, since 1990, in memory of Pt. Prem Nath Bhat who was martyred by terrorists in 1989, and who, besides being a leading Advocate, was a prolific writer and a fearless journalist.



Give another chance to KP candidates: NHRC

BY SAS CORRESPONDENT

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued fresh directives to J&K Government to give one more opportunity to those migrant candidates who could not join their duties in Kashmir Valley due to various reasons and urged them to indicate a separate date for unfilled posts.

The NHRC passed these directives while hearing the application of C L Gadoo, co-chairman of Joint Human Rights Committee. The NHRC while directing the State Government authorities to issue one more notice to the remaining candidates who failed initially to join the job,

The waiting list candidates be given the appointment orders and in case the posts still remain unfilled the authorities should be at liberty to call for fresh applications, the commission noted.

These directives were passed by the

Commission led by Justice K G Balakrishnan, chairperson. The other members included Justice G P Mathur, Justice B C Patel and P C Sharma.

The NHRC also issued directives to State Government to make elaborate security arrangements for these employees and urged the district administration to take right steps in this direction. Besides these employees as far as possible be posted near district Headquarters where all the facilities including medical facilities would be made available to them.

The Commission also issued directives to the Government for allotment of quarters to these employee so that they don't feel insecure and urged it to make all security arrangements in this regard.

The Commission has also asked the Government to submit the status report in two weeks time before the next date of hearing to see that the PM's package is wholly implemented.

Mr. Gadoo had earlier given a memorandum to NHRC, drawing its attention on some issues, including employment of KP youth. Four years have passed, this scheme has not been fully implemented despite Relief Commissioner's assurances to the commission on previous occasions. The delaying tactics of Government has rendered many aspirant candidates as over-aged, for recruitment of Government jobs.

No proper accommodation has been provided to selected employees in the valley. Over-crowded accommodation with lack of sanitation and other facilities are provided to a section of employees and the rest have to manage of their own. Actually, they have to undergo lot of hardships especially the women employees. Salaries to these employees are also not paid on time which adds to their miseries.

Mr. Gadoo had also sought the intervention of the Commission to direct the State Government to furnish the status report on the conditions prevailing at present of our religious places and shrines especially regarding Shri Vatal Bhairav Astapan, Motiyar, Rainawari, Srinagar (Kashmir). Secondly status report of our left over educational institutions in the valley.



CL Gadoo



APPENDIX I
RESERVATION OF DISPLACED STUDENTS

दूरभाष : ६४६५२५०
फैक्स : ९१-११-६२१८१२१
(Att. KSD)



Tel. : 6465280
Fax : 91-11-6218121
(Att. KSD)

कश्मीरी समिति, दिल्ली (रजि०)

कश्मीर भवन, कश्मीर भवन मार्ग, अमर कॉलोनी, लाजपत नगर-४, नई दिल्ली-२४

KASHMIRI SAMITI, DELHI (REGD.)

KASHMIR BHAWAN, KASHMIR BHAWAN MARG, AMAR COLONY,
LAJPAT NAGAR-IV, NEW DELHI-110024

(NODAL AGENCY FOR DISPLACED KASHMIRIS)

<p>President C.L. GADOO</p> <p>• • •</p> <p>Vice President SUNIL SHAKDHER DR. SHAKTI BHAN</p> <p>• • •</p> <p>Gen. Secretary NANAJEE RAINA</p> <p>• • •</p> <p>Treasurer M.L. PUTTOO</p> <p>• • •</p> <p>Secretaries T.N. GURTOO RAKESH RAZDAN</p>	<p>Ref. No. : KSD</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Date <u>20.5.3/2000</u></p> <p>Respected Joshi Ji, Namaskar.</p> <p>As I have brought to your kind notice earlier, the Union Government, the Delhi administration and some State Governments have for the past few years been extending the concession of reservations to Kashmiri Pandit boys and girls in the matter of admissions to professional / vocational colleges in different parts of the country. These states include Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, and Gujrat earlier.</p> <p>You are also fully aware of the tragedy that struck the Kashmiri Pandit community of Kashmir in 1990 and thereafter due to the undeclared proxy war of Pakistan against India. The first direct victims of this proxy war have been the Kashmiri Pandits who are now scattered all over India. They have had to abandon all their material possessions back in their birthland and are now loitering around in the country, trying to find sustenance. They are refugees in their own country.</p> <p>The greatest loss suffered by the Community has been in the field of education of their children which has been very dear to their hearts. It is to this acute problem of the dispossessed and dispersed community that my present submission is related. I earnestly request you to kindly spare some precious time to consider the following request in this connection :-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Reservation for dispossessed boys and girls in all Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country.2. Reservation for these youngsters for graduation and post-graduation courses in all Universities in the country.3. Reservation for admission to all management / medical / technical / vocational institutions in the country at both graduate / post-graduate levels.4. Grant of Scholarships to the needy boys and girls of the community to enable them to pursue their educational courses. <p>I may record here, Sir, that the education of our progeny has been our only asset even while we were living in Kashmir and it would be all over for us if we lose this asset also along with our other worldly possessions lost in the Valley. I and my colleagues in this Samiti, the Nodal Agency for the victimised community, would be highly grateful if you kindly consider this genuine request and issue appropriate directions to the concerned authorities in this behalf.</p> <p>With best regards,</p> <p>Dr. Murl Manohar Joshi, M/o HRD & M/o Sci. & Tech. 6, Raisena Road, New Delhi</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Yours faithfully <i>Chavahil</i> C.L. Gadoo President.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>tc</i></p>
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MOST IMMEDIATE

महाराज कृष्ण काव
Maharaj Krishen Kaw
Tel : 3386451
Fax : 3385807

D.O.No.F.10-1/96-Desk(U)

सचिव
भारत सरकार
मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय
शिक्षा विभाग
नई दिल्ली - 110 001

SECRETARY
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Education
New Delhi - 110 001

May 6, 2000

Dear

The hardships being faced by the Kashmiri migrants and the need to provide them assistance in the matter of admission to educational institutions in other parts of the country has been engaging the attention of this Ministry for quite some time.

2. On the advice of this Ministry, institutions such as KVS, Central Universities and several State Governments have been providing some concessions. However, it has been felt that these measures have not been adequate.

3. Through this letter, I seek your personal intervention in the matter to ensure that adequate concessions are granted to mitigate the problems of the Kashmiri migrants relating to admissions in educational institutions. Specifically, the following concessions may be extended for admissions in schools and Under Graduate/Post Graduate Programmes in Universities for the wards of Kashmiris displaced from their homes:

- Extension in date of admission (by about 30 days)
- Relaxation in cut off percentage (subject to minimum eligibility requirements) (upto 10%)
- Increase in intake capacity (upto 10%)

4. The State Governments may also positively consider provision of reservation for at least one seat in the merit quota in technical/professional institutions for the Kashmiri migrant students. The state of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh have already taken a lead in this. Besides this, waiving of domicile requirement and facilitation of migration in second and subsequent years in higher education courses will also go a long way in providing some relief to this community.

Contd..2/-

5. I shall highly appreciate if concessions as suggested above are extended to the young girls and boys who have been uprooted from their homes in the Kashmir Valley and the Ministry of Human Resource Development is kept informed of the measures being taken.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(Maharaj Krishen Kaw)

1. Secretary (Hr.Edn.) and Secy. (Tech. Edn.) of all States/UTs
2. VCs of all Central and State Universities

Copy for necessary action to:

1. Secretary (Health), Government of India for extending similar benefits in respect of medical and other admissions.
2. Secretary, Deptt. of Agricultural Research & Education, Ministry of Agriculture, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi, for extending similar benefits in respect of Agriculture Universities.
3. Medical Council of India
4. ICAR

Sd/:

(Maharaj Krishen Kaw)

Copy for information to:

1. Ministry of Home Affairs (Attn: Shri T.R. Kakkar, Special Secretary)
2. Resident Commissioner, Govt. of J&K, New Delhi
3. Chairman, UGC

Sd/:

(Maharaj Krishen Kaw)

Copy to:

- ✓ 1. Shri C.L. Gadoo, President, Kashmiri Samiti (Delhi), Kashmir Bhavan, Amar Colony, Lajpat Nagar -IV, New Delhi : 110 024.
2. President, All India Kashmiri Samaj, D-90, Saorjini Nagar, New Delhi : 110 023.

gok

(Maharaj Krishen Kaw)

Mrs. Madhu Arora
Deputy Secretary
338 8632 (O); 3381355, 338 2947(F)
E-mail: marora.edu@sb.nic.in

D.O.No.F.10-1/96-Desk(U)

25th September, 2000

Dear

Kindly find enclosed a copy of the representation received in the Ministry from Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, regarding certain difficulties in admission of Kashmiri Migrant students in your University. In this connection, I would like to draw your kind attention to letter from Shri M. K. Kaw, Union Education Secretary (Secondary Education & Higher Education) for grant of concession in admissions to the wards of Kashmiri Migrants in view of the hardships being faced by this community.

You are requested to kindly issue the necessary instructions to ensure that eligible Kashmiri Migrants are given admission in the University.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Madhu Arora)

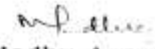
Maj. Gen. (Retd) Bhim S. Suhag
Vice-Chancellor
Maharaja Dayanand University
Rohtak - 124 001
Haryana

Copy to - Shri C. L. Gadoo, President, Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, Kashmir Bhawan,
Kashmir Bhawan Marg, Amar Colony, Lajpat Nagar-IV, New Delhi - 110024



महाराज कृष्ण काव
Maharaj Krishen Kaw
Tel. : 3386451
Fax : 3385807

D.O.No.F.10-1/96-Desk(U)


(Madhu Arora)
सचिव
भारत सरकार
मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय
सांख्यिक और उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग
नई दिल्ली - 110001
SECRETARY
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Secondary & Higher Education
New Delhi - 110 001
September 23, 2000

Dear

I am writing to you in connection with Kashmiri migrant students in various institutions/technical colleges in the State of Maharashtra. The State Government has been indeed very helpful and receptive to the needs of this community and has provided the much needed assistance through concessions in grant of admission to Kashmiri migrants in various institutions around the State.

2. However, there have been some problems regarding fees being charged to such migrant students who have completed diploma courses from Maharashtra and have sought admission in second year B.E. course. I shall be grateful if you could personally intervene in the matter and arrange for issuance of necessary instructions so that the Kashmiri migrant students are charged the same fees as are being charged from Maharashtra students.


With kind regards,


Yours sincerely,


(Maharaj Krishen Kaw)

Shri B.P. Raja
Addl. Chief Secretary (Tech. Edn.)
Government of Maharashtra
Mantralaya
Mumbai : 400 032.

Copy to:

1.  Shri M. K. Kaw, Director, Technical Education, Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, with the same request.
2. Shri C.L. Gadoo, President, Kashmiri Samiti Delhi (Regd.) Delhi, for information.


(Maharaj Krishen Kaw)

APPENDIX II REHABILITATION OF J&K MIGRANTS

PREFACE

1. the Chairperson of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs having been authorised by the Committee to submit the report on its behalf, do hereby present this One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Report on Rehabilitation of J&K Migrants.
2. The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs constituted a sub-Committee on Civil Defence and Rehabilitation of J&K Migrants of on 13th April 2007 for in-depth examination of the subject. The sub-Committee was reconstituted on 9th August, 2007.
3. The sub-Committee heard the official presentation of the representatives of the Ministry of Home Affairs on 2nd August 2007. The Secretary, Border Management gave a detailed account of various schemes implemented by the Government for rehabilitation of J&K Migrants. The Secretary, Border Management informed the sub-Committee about the major initiatives taken for rehabilitation of J&K Migrants like enhancement in cash relief to Kashmiri Migrants periodically; payment of ex-gratia relief of Rs. One lakh to the kins of victims of militancy; initiatives to protect and restrain the distress sales of properties of migrants left in the valley, by enacting J&K Migrants Immovable Properties (Preservation, Protection & Rehabilitation of Distress Sales) Act 1997 and J&K Migrants (Stay of Proceedings) Act, 1997; restoration of temples in the valley, etc. The sub-Committee was informed that an inter-ministerial team was constituted to prepare a plan to rehabilitate Kashmiri Migrants as announced by Prime Minister during his visit to J&K in November, 2004. The inter-ministerial team recommended for construction of two-room tenements at Jammu to accommodate migrants' families living in various camps/government/semi-government accommodation at Jammu.
4. The sub-Committee thereafter decided to hear the representatives of Kashmiri Migrants and also the organizations representing them on the subject. In pursuance thereof, the sub-Committee in its sitting held on 30 October heard the oral evidence of Shri C.L. Gadoo, a journalist and on 7 November 2007, heard the representatives of All India Kashmiri Samaj, All States Kashmiri Pandit Conference, Panun Kashmir, Kashmiri Samiti, All India Kashmiri Pandit Conference, Jammu Kashmir Vichar Manch, Kashmir Sikh Migrants Forum, Kashmiri Pandit Sabha and Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party.
5. The sub-Committee while preparing its report relied on the following:-
 - (i) detailed background note furnished by the Ministry of Home Affairs;
 - (ii) the official presentation of the representatives of Ministry of Home Affairs;

- (iii) oral- evidence of non-official witnesses;
- (iv) replies to the queries of members raised during its sittings; and
- (v) report of an Inter-ministerial team headed by Ms Sushma Choudhury constituted by the Prime Minister during his visit to Jammu & Kashmir in November 2004, to prepare a rehabilitation plan for Kashmiri migrants.

6. The sub-Committee considered and adopted its report in its sitting held on 11th April, 2008 and the convenor of the sub-Committee presented the report to the Chairperson of the DRPSC on Home Affairs for its consideration and adoption.

7. The Committee in its sitting held on 10th February, 2009 considered and adopted the present report.

8. For facility of reference and convenience, observations and recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the body of the Report.

New Delhi
February, 2009

Sushma Swaraj
Chairperson
Department-related Parliamentary Standing
Committee on Home Affairs



PARLIAMENT OF INDIA
RAJYA SABHA

13

DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOME AFFAIRS

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SEVENTH REPORT
ON

REHABILITATION OF J & K MIGRANTS

(PRESENTED TO RAJYA SABHA ON 13 FEBRUARY, 2009)
(LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA ON 13 FEBRUARY, 2009)

RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
FEBRUARY, 2009 (MAGHA, 1930 (SAKA))

JOINT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

WA-88, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092.

Res. Tel. 011-22547672, O.Tel. 011-22517672

CHAMAN LAL GADOO

(Co- Chairman, JHRC) & (patron)

Kashmiri Visthapit Sangharsh Samiti

No. JHRC-2007

Dated 30th Oct. 2007

Memorandum submitted to Parliamentary Standing Sub-committee on Civil-Defence and Rehabilitation of J & K Migrants

We are grateful to you all for sparing some time, in the midst of your important schedules, to meet us and receive this memorandum.

As you are all aware of the prevailing situation in the state of Jammu & Kashmir, we need not to repeat the countless miseries of brutal massacre, loot, arson, rape and genocide inflicted upon this hapless minority for one single fault of being true patriots. Quest for Pakistan is an ideological commitment which is origin of Muslim militancy in Kashmir.

We, quote from the 'White Paper On Kashmir', that the Joint Human Rights Committee, published a decade ago; "The militant violence in Kashmir is an ideological struggle which is fundamentalist in outlook and basically communal in character and which is aimed to ;

(i) disengage the State from India and secure its integration with the Muslim homeland of Pakistan.

(ii) demolish the secular, social and political organization of the State and convert it into a Muslim theocracy governed by the precept and precedent of Islam."

The Kashmiri Pandits offered the only resistance to the Muslim Jihad and therefore, the first bullets were fired upon them besides the men of Indian security organizations. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in its ruling on June 11, 1999, stated, "The commission is constrained to observe that acts akin to genocide have occurred with respect to Kashmiri Pandits." We, quote further from the 'White Paper';

" The Hindus and other minorities were eliminated because;

- (a) they form the frontline of the resistance to the secession of the State from India and its integration with Pakistan;
- (b) they do not accept that Jammu and Kashmir forms a part in the Muslim homeland of Pakistan;
- (c) they do not accept the reorganization of State of Jammu and Kashmir on the basis of Muslim law and precedent into a Muslim polity of Nizam-e-Mustafa;
- d) they are not prepared to subject themselves to the social, religious , economic and political pre-eminence of the Muslim majority in the State;
- (e) they refuse to participate in the Jihad against India." (Unquote)

Some people have strong notion that poverty breeds violence. In India, 35 per cent of world's poor live and more than half of the India's poor live in states like Orissa, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Utter Pradesh. The National Sample Survey of 1999-2000 shows that Kashmir has lowest poverty ratio of 3.5 percent inspite of violence, against national average of 26.1 percent, whereas Orissa has highest poverty ratio of 47.2 percent. Even prosperous states like Maharashtra contains 10 of India's 100 poorest districts and has the highest rate of farmer suicide. During 2006, 1452 farmers committed suicide in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra alone! But that is not in Kashmir. Thousands of people in cities sleep on footpaths without any shelter, but every Kashmiri owns a house.

APPENDIX IV
REPRESENTATION BEFORE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

No.12013/9/2003-K.V
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs
J&K Division
(K.II Branch)

Room No.92-A,
North Block, New Delhi.

September 9, 2003

To


Shri C.L. Gadoo
President, BJP J&K Cell
Delhi Pradesh
14, Pandit Pant Marg
New Delhi - 110001

Subject: **Minutes of the meeting held with BJP Delhi Pradesh (J&K Cell) on 29.8.2003 in the Chamber of SS(JKA)**

Sir,

I am directed to enclose a copy of the above minutes.

Yours faithfully,


(K.M. Kutty)
Under Secretary(K-V)
925 23002002

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING WITH BJP DELHI PRADESH (J&K CELL)
ON 29.8.2003 AT 4.00 P.M. IN THE CHAMBER OF SS(JKA)**

1. The following were present –

From Ministry of Home Affairs

- 1) Shri B.B. Mishra, Special Secretary(JKA), on Chair.
- 2) Shri Rakesh Hooja, Joint Secretary(K.I)
- 3) Shri H.S. Brahma, Joint Secretary(K.II)
- 4) Smt. Rashmi Goel, Director(K.II)
- 5) Shri K.M. Kutty, Under Secretary(K.V)

From BJP Delhi Pradesh (J&K Cell)

- 1) Shri C.L. Gadoo, President, BJP Delhi Pradesh
- 2) Shri Amarnath Vaishnavi
- 3) Shri Motilal Malla
- 4) Shri Subhash Dhar

2. Initiating the discussions, SS(JKA) informed the delegation that the State Government is likely to constitute a high level Committee to take a comprehensive look at the problems and recommend measures required to be taken towards return and rehabilitation of Kashmiri Migrants. Shri C.L. Gadoo stated that BJP, Delhi Pradesh (J&K Cell) had presented a white paper on the genocide of Kashmiri Pandits in the Valley in the National Executive Meeting of the BJP held on 4-5th August 2003 at Indore. A memorandum containing various issues pertaining to Kashmiri Pandits required to be considered by the Government was also presented to SS(JKA). Shri Gadoo demanded that the registration of Kashmiri Migrants all over India should be entrusted to BJP, J&K Cell (Delhi). He stated that there is a deliberate attempt on the part of the State Government to deprive citizenship to the Kashmiri Pandits. There are clear

instances where records pertaining to the citizenship status, property, etc. of Kashmiri Pandits were destroyed. It is therefore necessary that each and every Kashmiri Pandit be issued with an Identity Card to establish their identity.

3. Shri Amarnath Vaishnavi deplored the condition of camps particularly that of Muthi Phase-II in Jammu which needs a lot of improvement. He stated that bifurcation of families for the purpose of relief and ration is very important considering the fact that many employees have since retired and they are unable to support their families which include their married wards. Another demand put forth by Shri Vaishnavi was that temples and shrines in the Valley should be protected/renovated/reconstructed and encroachers evicted.

4. SS(JKA) stated that Government of India is doing everything possible to mitigate the sufferings of the Migrants. Prime Minister is likely to announce enhancement of cash relief for Migrants in Jammu and assigning funds for improvement of facilities including construction of new one-room tenements(ORTs) in Jammu.

5. As regards registration, it was clarified that on repeated claims of Kashmiri Samiti, data regarding such Migrants had been asked for and that there is no proposal for registration so far as Government is concerned.

6. After discussion of the general points, various demands contained in the memorandum submitted to the Prime Minister were discussed point-wise –

(i) As regards the demand for housing facilities in Delhi, JS(K.II) explained that Government of NCT of Delhi has been requested to take up the matter with Delhi Development Authority to bring out a subsidized scheme of housing for Kashmiri Migrants.

(ii) On the issue of demands for providing loans/finance facilities, free education and reservation of seats in medical/technical colleges, etc., many State Governments have already made such reservations in

page 2 of 4

(viii) Similarly, the demand for ex-gratia relief of Rs.5 lakhs to the Migrant families for the marriage of girls and boys was considered not possible to accept because of the huge financial implications.

The other points discussed viz. permanent State Subject Status, time-bound promotion to employees, representation in Parliament, looking after the affairs of the Migrants directly by the Central Government, etc. were considered to be issues that need to be solved either by the State Government or need intervention at the highest level. The matter regarding concessional tickets for Migrants for rail journey to Jammu from Delhi with Ministry of Railways may be taken up by the BJP Delhi Pradesh.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

APPENDIX V
PETITIONS BEFORE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Historical verdict of the NHRC
Protection of Human Rights of Internally Displaced Kashmiri Pandits

First, we introduce to you the All India Kashmiri Samaj (AIKS) which is addressing this communication. The AIKS is the representative apex body of Kashmir's mostly Pandits of the Valley of Jammu & Kashmir State living in (forced exile) in various parts of India, and also in USA, UK, Germany and other parts of the world. Kashmiri Pandit community is a millennia old original inhabitant community with recorded and written history of 5000 years.

This internally displaced community today faces threat of survival, extinction and dismemberment, thanks to the policy of apathy and neglect of various Central and State Govts (including the present one), towards them. The displaced community is given the epithet of "Migrants" by the Government.

In 1993, when the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) was established in India, Kashmiri Pandits for the first time found a forum where its miserable plight may find redress. In its petition and reports to NHRC the displaced community pleaded before it regarding its genocide, exodus and apartheid treatment.

The three-member bench of National Human Rights Commission comprising Justice M N Venkatachaliah, Chairperson; Justice V S Malimath, Member and Shri Virendra Dayal, Member, after 5 years long deliberations in an unanimous verdict pronounced on 11 June 1999, *inter-alia* made the following observations:

(A) To the complainants submission that Kashmiri Pandit Community was subjected to vilification campaign of disinformation as a cover to fundamentalistic (and terroristic) character of so-called freedom struggle in reality is a religious crusade for annexing Kashmir for Pakistan, the

dimension of *Jehad* being added to justify the extermination (of the community) the Hon'ble Commission pronounced (Clause 14, p8, Case No 1181/94-95/NHRC.) that:

- (1) "Primary intent of killers... has been to try to achieve the secession of the State and its possible annexation by Pakistan. This has been the principal purpose and objective of insurgency of terrorism" (Point 61, p 33; case, *ibid.*)
- (2) "300,000 Kashmiri Pandits have had to leave the Valley for reasons of terror unleashed in their home State and conditions of insecurity that they experience as a result". (Point 58, p 31, case 1181/94-95/ NHRC).
- (3) "That killing and ethnic cleansing of Kashmiri Pandits must be seen with the deeper intent to secure secession of State of Jammu & Kashmir. The crimes committed against Kashmiri Pandits are by any yardstick, deserving of the strongest condemnation. And there can be no gain saying the acute suffering caused to the community." (Point 62 p 34, *ibid.*)

(B) On the Genocide plea, the Hon'ble Commission held that:

"But against the stern definition of the Genocide convention the commission is constrained to observe... that the acts akin to genocide have occurred in respect of Kashmiri Pandits and that indeed in the minds and utterances of some of the militants a genocide type design may exist..." (Point 62, pp 34, *ibid*)

(C) On the petitioners' plea of apathy and neglect by the Government towards the victim community, the

Hon'ble Commission expressed:

- (1) "Its empathy for this feeling" and recommended "establishment of a high level committee which includes a nominee of the Commission, to go into full range of practical problems facing the Pandits" — as the Hon'ble Commission proposes to continue to monitor developments in regard to Pandits "on regular basis" ... "in relation to...listing" protection and "restoration of properties" and other breach of rights and liberties brought to its notice". (Point 64, p 35, *ibid.*)
- (2) its "willingness to examine and take action upon complaints relating to specific matters" praying for "an enquiry to be held into the causes and circumstances leading to the complainants present suffering". (Point 64, p 35, *ibid.*)

(D) By a separate order of the same date the Hon'ble Commission over ruled the objection of the J&K Government as to the jurisdiction of the Commission to entertain the matters pertaining to the applicabilities of a Central Law, i.e. Protection of Human Rights Act 1993, in view of the fact that the State of the J&K has enacted the J&K Protection of Human Rights Act 1997 (Case No. 802-94-94/NHRC).

Marriage Bureau Formed in Lucknow

'Marriage Bureau' has been established under supervision of Shri J L Raina, General Secretary, Kashmiri Association Lucknow (KAL). All members of *Biradari* are requested to send their matrimonials to undersigned with full details/*Tekni/Biodata/Kolawali* etc with the registration fees of Rs. 50/-.

Address:

B-49, Sector-H, Aliganj
 Lucknow-226024
 Phone: 320864

KSD'S PETITION BEFORE N H R C

Notice

The Chief Secretary,
Govt. of J & K, Jammu

Whereas the complaint/intimation received from Shri C. L. Gadoo, President, Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi, was placed before the Commission on 7th February, 2000, and whereas, upon pursuing the complaint, the Commission has passed the following order :

Issue notice to the Chief Secretary and Director-General, Jammu and Kashmir, for a respond within two weeks. Meanwhile, the Governor of the state would also ensure the provision of necessary security to the Kashmiri Pandits in the Valley as directed in the proceedings dated 27-01-98 in case No. 490/9/97 -98.

Connect this matter with it now, therefore, take notice that you are required to submit the requisite information/report on or before 22nd February, 2000.

Take further notice that in default, the Commission may proceed to take such actions as it deems proper.

Given under my hand and seal of the Commission this day of 7th February, 2000.

Enclosed copy of the complaint

(by order)

(Signature)

Assistant Registrar.

Note: The information /report shall be furnished only by the authority which is called upon to do so.

KOSHUR SAMACHAR January 1999 REPORTS

Human Rights Commission

The National Human Rights Commission held a hearing on December 15, 1998, on our petition for safeguarding our properties in Kashmir when the Jammu and Kashmir Government presented to the commission a list of the properties left behind by our dispossessed community in the Valley. It was just a one-page outline of the total number of houses owned by the community (16,979), subverted (5,608), damaged naturally (2,872) and standing (8,499) and other such details, besides 68,953 kanals of land, alienation's sanctioned officially, etc. We demanded tehsil and district-wise lists of all such properties. The state government has promised to display such lists for public information at the offices of the Relief Commissioner Jammu and the Resident Commissioner, New Delhi, and also to present these to the NHRC. We feel these lists and the state's claim of having already paid a hefty sum of Rs. 28,62,93,680 to owners of damaged properties lead us nowhere. We must demand lists of our properties based on the claims submitted by the community in 1992 and full details of the recipients of relief. This will naturally be a long-drawn process but we propose to stand firm on this demand of ours.

KSD's Petition before National Human Rights Commission

Amplification of earlier complaint

May it please Your Honour, the complainant submits as under :

That the complainant in amplification of the pending complaint urges upon the Commission to kindly probe and inquire into the following violations of the human rights of the Kashmiri Pandits, which are briefly submitted as under :-

1. That the terrorists have unleashed an organized violence and sustained campaign to exterminate and eliminate the Hindus in Kashmir supported by foreign mercenaries resulting in the killings of thousands of Hindus, men and women and children, continuously for the last 10 years, thus contravening the basic principles of equality, life and due process of law which underline the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, constitutes the "GROSS VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF MINORITIES."

2. That there have been attacks, molestations, kidnappings, gang rape of the women-folk and mass massacre of men, women, children and even infants were not spared by the terrorists and mercenaries. To these killings and violation of the human rights, the state government and its police force and also the central government has been the silent spectator and have not taken any serious and purposeful measure.

3. That thousands of houses belonging to Hindus have been burnt down. The looting and destruction of properties and household goods left behind by the Hindus are still continuing. In most of the areas, the houses, establishments, land, orchards, etc of Hindus have been taken over by Muslims and terrorists to ensure that the Hindus do not return to their own homeland.

4. That a large number of temples and other historical and cultural places and institutions have been demolished and burnt down. By unleashing the eth-

nic cleansing, the terrorists and mercenaries are thrusting an alien way of life in the Kashmir Valley. The society of Kashmir has only two components of population, i.e. the Muslims and Pandits. By forcing the Kashmiri Pandits out from Kashmir Valley, the terrorists are changing the demographic and civilizational character of Kashmir Valley which is known for its pluralistic and peace-loving socio-cultural ethos.

5. That the State of Jammu and Kashmir has failed to fulfil its constitutional duties and international obligations of protecting life, liberty, property and religious sanctity of the Hindu minority. The Union Government and the Government of Jammu and Kashmir have failed and defaulted in providing security against the assaults of terrorists and have failed to provide help and assistance regarding proper accommodation, sanitary facilities, health care, educational facilities and adequate financial assistance and other basic amenities to the Hindu refugees in consonance with the international standard of such relief and facilities.

6. That a large number of Hindu employees working in the state government have been pushed out as a result of exodus from Kashmir and the Muslim employees have been appointed and confirmed on the posts of these migrant employees. This has created a new vested interest of employees who work hard for the non-return of Hindus of the Valley. The student community of Hindu refugees have segregated from others and are being refused admissions in government schools, colleges, university and in the professional colleges. The unemployed educated youth of Kashmiri Pandits are being deprived of any employees working in government and corporate bodies funded by state government and the Hindu teachers of Kashmir University have been pushed out of services as a result of migration.

The complainant urges the NHRC to appoint an administrator as a statutory custodian to manage, and

look after the immovable properties left behind by migrants and to free such properties from the clutches of trespassers and grabbers and make payments of compensation for the properties destroyed by the on-going militant violence.

That the complainant craves indulgence of the NHRC to direct the Central Government-Delhi government and the J&K government to register the migrants who have migrated from Kashmir to Jammu and those who have migrated to Delhi in the recent years and also direct the Delhi government to pay the monthly relief @ Rs. 2500 forthwith from the date of Central Government enhanced to Rs. 5,000 per month. It is, therefore, most respectfully prayed:-

That the violations of the human rights inflicted on the Kashmiri Pandit community may be characterised as "GROSS VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AGAINST THE MINORITIES" and the NHRC may fix the responsibility of such violations on the people, groups, the state and Central Governments and others who are responsible for inflicting the violations of the human rights on this community, after thoroughly probing and inquiring into the whole gamut of the violations.

And further the state government may be directed to prepare a comprehensive policy and a viable plan for the return of the displaced Kashmiri Pandit community to their homeland. The state government as well as Central Government may be directed not to stay complacent in the matter of relief, rehabilitation and return of displaced Kashmiri Pandits to Kashmir Valley and take immediate and appropriate measures in this direction.

—C.L.Gadoo
President.

**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND
KASHMIR—N.H.R.C**

**Registrar, National Human Rights Commission
New Delhi.**

Subject : Return of Migrants.

No: Rev (MR) HRC/PK/95-97

Dated - 25-06-1999.

Sir,

Kindly refer to the proceedings of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on the complaint of the Kashmiri Samiti Delhi, case NO. 490/9/97-98 dated 12.5.1999 wherein the Hon'ble Commission has been pleased to consolidate a Law and Parliamentary Affairs, Chief Secretary, Advocate General, Prpl. Secy. To Planning & Dev. Deptt. And Relief Commr. (M) Jammu to look into all aspects of the problems of the Kashmiri persons and explore avenues of their satisfactory solution.

2. The safe and honourable return of migrants has been on the top of the agenda of the State Government. A number of steps, as detailed below, have already been taken to facilitate this most difficult part of the exercise.

A) An Apex Level Committee headed by the Revenue Minister was constituted to identify the day to day problems of these migrants and find a solution as early on 19-12-1996 thereto. The said Apex Level Committee was also to frame an Action Plan for the safe and honourable return of these migrants to the Valley.

A Sub-Committee constituted by the said Apex Committee furnished its interim report on 24-7-1997 indicating a relief and rehabilitation package involving a cost of about Rs. 2800 crores for the purpose. A copy of this report was given to the Union Home Secretary who accompanied Shri I. K.Gujral, the then Prime Minister of India, on his visit to the State on 26/27-7-1997.

B) The stupendous job of inventorisation of the immovable property (house/lands) left behind in the Kashmir Valley by the migrants has been completed (village and district wise). According to this the total number of structures belonging to the migrants in the Valley is 16,979 out of which 8,735 structures are intact, and 5870 structures have been gutted or damaged. Ex-gratia relief for 4952 gutted or damaged houses of migrants have been settled and 918 cases are yet to be

JOINT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

71, SUNDER BLOCK, SHAKARPUR, DELHI---110092

Email; cl.gadoo@gmail.com, blog; www.clgadoo.blogspot.com

Tel. 011-22547672

Mob.9891297912

Chairman,
National human Rights Commission,
Faridkot House,
New Delhi.

Dated: 10-4-2012

Ref: Case No: 490/1997-1998

Hon. Sir,

We would like to draw your kind attention towards following facts;
During April 2008, Hon. PM announced a package for employment
for Kashmiri migrant youth, which reads as follows;

“(v) Employment:

It has been decided to provide employment opportunities to 15,000 unemployed migrant youth. Out of which, 6000 youth will be accommodated in State Government jobs. The Central Government will bear the cost towards salary for about 3000 youth. Remaining 9000 unemployed youth would be facilitated to get financial assistance to come up with self-employment/ business ventures. For this purpose one-time assistance of Rs.5.00 lakh in each case will be provided out of which 50% will be grant & 50% as loan.”

Sir, full four years have passed, but unfortunately this scheme has not been fully implemented, although time and again, Relief Commissioner has assured the commission on various occasions for necessary and timely action. The delaying tactics of Government has rendered many aspirant candidates as over-aged, for recruitment of Government jobs.

No proper accommodation has been provided to selected employees in the valley. Over-crowded accommodation with lack of sanitation and other facilities are provided to a section of employees and the rest have to manage of their own. Actually, they have to undergo lot of hardships especially the women employees. Salaries to these employees are also not paid on time which adds to their miseries.

On 2nd April 2008, Hon. Commission was kind enough to direct the State Government to furnish the following information, which is still pending;

“(i) A statement giving details of all criminal cases registered at various Police Stations in regard to terrorist violence, the number of victims, the number of persons arrested in such cases and the status of investigation of all such cases.

Cont....2

(2)

(ii) A statement giving the number of Government employees belonging to the Pandit community at the commencement of terrorist violence in 1990 and the number of Pandit employees in various departments at present. The reasons for decline, if any, in the number of Government employees belonging to the Pandit community may also be given.

(iii) A comprehensive statement giving details of all the schemes for unemployed youths and specifying as to how many of the migrant Kashmiri youths can be accommodated in each such schemes. The State Government shall also inform whether it proposes to appoint a Nodal Agency for coordination between the migrant youths and the officers controlling such schemes.

(iv) A statement giving details of the migrant Kashmiri Pandits who have been registered. The State Government shall also inform what steps it is going to take for registration of the remaining Kashmiri Pandits and provision of relief to them; and,

(v) What arrangement the State Government is going to make for scrutiny of objections which may be made against the authenticated inventory of migrant properties and necessary action for correction of records.”

Again on 13th April 2010, Hon. Commission pointed out the second part of clause(2)and (4) of the J&k Migrants (special Drive)Recruitment Rules 2009 for further clarification, which are as under:

“(2) The appointee shall be eligible for confirmation on the basis of his performance, merit and uninterrupted/continuous stay in valley.

(4)The appointee shall have to execute an agreement with the Government on the Form, that he will serve in the valley against the post on which he is appointed and at a place where he will be posted. In case the appointee migrates from valley again for any reason whatsoever, he shall lose the job without any notice and shall stand terminated.”

No action has been taken in this regard so far.

We further submit for your kind intervention and request you to kindly direct the State Government to furnish the status report on the conditions prevailing at present of our religious places and shrines especially regarding Shri Vatal Bhairav Astapan, Motiyar, Rainawari, Srinagar (Kashmir). Secondly status report of our left over educational institutions in the valley.

We pray for your kind consideration of our submissions and just orders by your good self.

Thanking You.

Yours Faithfully,



C.L.Gadoo

(Co-Chairman)

Before the Human Rights Commission, New Delhi.

Case No: 490/9/97-98/ F.C. /Court Case.

In the case of:

Complaint from Shri C.L.Gadoo, President Kashmiri Samiti.

And

In the matter of:

Affidavit in compliance of directions passed by National Human Rights Commission on 18-04-2017 in the above titled case.

I, Y.P.Suman aged 57 years presently posted as Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (Migrants) Jammu do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that I am the Respondent in the above titled case. I am fully conversant with the facts and circumstances of the case and as such am competent to swear this affidavit on the basis of record available in my office. I do hereby solemnly affirm and declare on the basis of record available as under:

1. That a comprehensive package was announced by the government of India in April, 2008 for Return and Rehabilitation of Kashmiri Migrants in Valley.
2. That among other incentives provided to Kashmiri Migrants in the package, sanction was also accorded for employment of Kashmiri migrants to 3000 posts. Accordingly 3000 supernumerary posts were created by the state government for appointment of Kashmiri Migrants.
3. That in first phase, 1446 employees had joined their services in valley upto 2010-11 and are presently serving in valley.
4. That in the second phase, for remaining 1554 posts, 1443 posts were referred to the recruiting agency viz. J&KSSRB (Jammu and Kashmir Service Selection Recruitment Board) for inviting application from the eligible kashmiri migrants candidates for their appointment against these posts. For the remaining 111 posts, the

Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner (M)
Jammu & Kashmir Govt
Jammu



MAY 2017

answering respondent was authorized to make selections only for Class-IV/Lab-bearer posts.

5. That J&KSSRB, further made selections to the aforementioned 1443 posts in two phases.
6. That in Ist Phase, out of 649 posts, 439 candidates were selected and 210 posts remained unfilled due to non-availability of suitable candidates.
7. That in IInd Phase, out of 794 posts, 488 candidates were selected, which are categorized as under:

Name of post	No. of candidates selected
Teacher	403
EDP Supervisor	3
Data Entry Operator	19
Lab Assistant	23
Junior Librarian	1
Social Worker	39
Total	488

It is further submitted that during second phase of selections by the J&KSSRB, 220 posts could not be filled due to filing of various writ petitions by the Kashmiri migrant candidates before the Hon'ble High Court of Jammu and Kashmir. Moreover, remaining 86 posts are under tabulation with JKSSRB.

8. That among the aforementioned 488 selected candidates, 4 candidates were given appointment orders. Among these 4 appointed candidates, 2 candidates were appointed against the posts of EDP Supervisor and joined their services. However, among 2 candidates appointed against the post of Data Entry Operator, only 1 candidate joined his service.
9. That as of now, out of 1443 posts, selections has been made against 927 posts, 220 posts are kept reserved due to filing of various writ petitions by the Kashmiri migrant candidates before the Hon'ble High Court of Jammu and Kashmir, 210 posts are

Jammu & Kashmir
 Government
 Public Service Commission



unfilled due to non-availability of suitable candidates for different categories of posts and 86 posts are under tabulation with JKSSRB.

10. That it is respectfully submitted that the Relief Organisation is strictly implementing and adhering to the directions of the Human Rights Commission and genuine migrant candidates have already been selected and appointed against the posts by the recruiting agencies.

Deponent
 Jammu

Verification:

Verified on 22nd of May, 2017 at Jammu, that the statements made herein above are true and correct to my knowledge and information derived from official record.

Deponent
 Jammu



I solemnly affirmed under oath before me
 Notary Public, Jammu
 NOTARY JAMMU

22 MAY 2017

KOSHUR SAMACHAR REPORTS
Protest against killings of Amarnath Yatris



KOSHUR SAMACHAR REPORTS
Protest against killings of Amarnath Yatris

**PROTEST
DEMONSTRATION
BY
AMARNATH
SANGHARSH
SAMITI DELHI
AT
JANTAR MANTAR**



Brief Profile of Chaman Lal Gadoo---Social Activist & Prolific Writer

Chaman Lal Gadoo born in a middle class Brahmin family in 1937 at Srinagar, Kashmir and after completing his early education at Srinagar moved to Delhi for further technical education. He chose engineering as his profession. He took active participation in student and youth movements. He took active part in organizing the student rally, first of its kind at Srinagar on June 23, 1953 on the Martyrdom of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukharjee; ever since he never looked back and the zeal to the voice of the sufferers still keeps him working on the cause even as an octogenarian. He became National Council Member, of National Youth Organization (NYO) at New Delhi, and associate Editor of its monthly youth magazine 'Lion Roar' in the year 1963.

Gadoo took keen interest in Trade Union activities, represented Tata Group Unions, Mercantile Unions and Federation of Radio & Electrical Employees Unions of Delhi State for more than a decade as its General Secretary and launched 'Workers News' in the year 1971. He organized workers of Electronics Industry in the capital and represented Radio Industrial workers in its first wage-board appointed by the Delhi Government in 1973.

Gadoo also served the cause of unapproved colonies of Delhi, as Vice President of East-South Welfare Association (Regd.) in 1976 and again in 1982 as General Secretary of Laxmi Nagar-Shakarpur Welfare Association which played a key role in getting Laxmi Nagar and Shakarpur colonies regularized.

Chaman Lal Gadoo has spent more than last thirty years in community welfare activities, ever since there was first attempt by communal forces in South Kashmir to annihilate Kashmiri Hindus, way back in 1986. Politically, he is an ardent supporter of Hindu nationalism and deeply involved in the Hindu resistance movement, against Muslim separatism in Kashmir. He has been in the midst of the relief and rehabilitation of the Hindus of Kashmir, displaced in the aftermath of the militant violence in Kashmir during 1990. He has worked for unemployed youth, reservation for displaced students in various universities and now working for Healthcare of elderly and on many more burning issues like return to homeland. He has always been sensitive to the needy.

Gadoo worked diligently for the Kashmiri Hindus' cause, first as the President of Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi and then President, Bharatiya Janta Party, J&K cell, Delhi Pradesh, for more than two decades. He moved a first time resolution at a BJP meet presided by Sh. K.N.Sahani in presence of Sh. L.K.Advani, Smt. Sushma Suraj and other BJP leaders for abrogation of Art.370 on 28th Nov. 1995, which was unanimously approved by the full house.

Gadoo has been also President of J&K Sangam, and Kashur Sumchar, Vice-President of All India Kashmiri Samaj for a long time. He is associated with many other organizations like 'The Kashmir Education, Culture and Science Society' and

others. He was also Vice-President of Nirmal Vedant Prachar Mandal/ Nirmal Sadhana Ashram, Delhi. He is Co-Chairman, Joint Human Rights committee, New Delhi and Chairman, Vidya Gauri Gadoo Research Centre, New Delhi.

Apart from working with BJP stalwarts, Gadoo worked in tandem with other stalwarts like Shri. Ashok Singhal, President, Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) who appreciated the booklet 'Sri Ram Temple Movement' and distributed the same to leading group of lawyers who produced it as a document in Supreme Court. Gadoo also worked with Prof. Balraj Madhok, founder Akil Bharatiya Jan Sangh, and Shri B.L.Sharma (Prem), founder Akhand Hindustan Morcha. He was associated with English section of its mouth-piece, Aabay Bharat, for a long time.

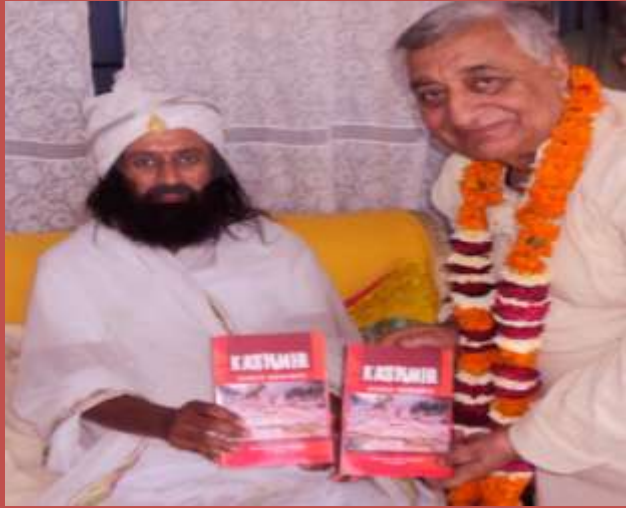
Chaman Lal Gadoo has organized many protest rallies, demonstrations, seminars and press conferences to highlight genocide, ethnic cleansing and plight of Kashmiri Hindus in exile. He has widely traveled and represented Kashmiri Hindus at many national and international foras. He attended Kashmiri Pandit Summit held in Hendon, London, from 18th –21st June 1997. The purpose of the Summit was to evolve a common platform for the unified voice of all Kashmiri Pandits. He was elected as Director of Press and Publicity & Director of Inter- Party Affairs (National Parties) at the meet. During November 1998, he participated in a seminar at the House of Commons, London. He also attended a meeting with lawmakers of Indian Caucus (USA) at Washington DC on Kashmir and on plight of Kashmiri Pandits in exile during 1998. He represented Kashmiri Hindus at 'First Vishva Saraswat Samelan' during December 1999 at Mangalore.

Gadoo was invited by Hurriyat Conference leaders to hold deliberations on Kashmiri migrants, during January 2000 but rejected the proposal, as it felt Hurriyat was responsible for militancy in Jammu and Kashmir, killings of hundreds of innocents, and for the ethnic cleansing of Kashmiri Pandits.

For more than twenty years Gadoo has been raising different issues with the National Human Rights Commission like genocide and Human Rights Violations of displaced Hindus. On his insistence before the commission, an inventory report of left over migrant properties in the valley was furnished by J&K Government during 2008. He also raised problems faced by displaced Hindus before Standing Parliamentary Committee on Rehabilitation of J&K Migrants during 2007.

Gadoo's research papers appear regularly in different magazines all over India and abroad. He has authored several books and was associated with Dr. M.K.Teng during the drafting of the 'White Paper on Kashmir' which was released by Sh. K. N. Sahani, in 1996. Sh. Atal Bihari Vajpayee personally distributed the booklet on "Human Rights Violations in Kashmir" at an event at UNHRC session in Geneva during March 1994, which he had earlier released on 28th Oct. 1993 at a symposium on Terrorism in Kashmir and Violation of Human Rights, organized by Kashmiri Samiti, Delhi.

KASHMIR HINDU SHRINES BY CHAMAN LAL GADOO



Swami Sri Sri Ravishankar & Swami Ramdev Releasing Book Kashmir-Hindu Shrines



C.L.Gadoo, with President Smt. PRATIBHA PATIL & Smt. SUSHMA SAWARAJ



**C.L.Gadoo with Sh. Kidarnath Sahani,
Former Governor of Goa**



**C.L.Gadoo with Sh. B.P.Singh,
Former Governor of Sikkim**



Smt. Vidya Gauri Gadoo, w/o Chaman Lal Gadoo veteran social activist. My Guide who stood, supported and guided during struggle for survival movement, for displaced Kashmiri Hindus led by Kashmiri Samiti Delhi, till her last. In recognition of most exceptional services to the Girl Guides Movement, in Delhi, Smt. Vidya Gauri Gadoo, was presented with the highest Award of Bharat Scouts Guides, Silver Elephant Award, by then President of India, Hon. Sh. K.R. Narayan, in Dec.1997.