## Analysis of Kashmiri Pandit Census Data Completed by the KPSS in 2009-2010 (June 2010)

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- The present population of Pandits living year around in the valley is dwindling and under 4.000:
  - 26% of the population lives in the Srinagar district
  - 24% of the population lives in the Anantnag district
  - 21% of the population lives in the Pulwama district
  - The remaining 29% is distributed in remaining 7 districts in the valley
- In terms of gender and age:
  - 41% of the population is adult males
  - 39% are adult females
  - 20% are children (male and female) under 16 years of age
- In terms of employment, 66% of the population had jobs, have jobs or are seeking jobs:
  - 34% have government jobs
  - 16% are retired from government service
  - 10% are in agriculture sector (farming, etc.)
  - 7% are in small business (stores, etc.)
  - 7% have contract employment from the government under Sampoorna Gram Rozgar Yojna (SGRY)
  - 26% are unemployed (one-quarter of those seeking jobs have exceeded normal age limit for government service 37 years)
- Since 1990, at least 653 marriages have been performed:
  - 25% took place in the Anantnag district
  - 23% took place in the Srinagar district
  - 22% took place in the Pulwama district
  - The remaining 30% took place in remaining 7 districts in the valley
- Since 1990, at least 600 births have been reported in the valley:
  - 29% in the Anantnag district
  - 25% in the Srinagar district
  - 18% in the Pulwama district
- Since 1990, at least 277 deaths have been reported in the valley:
  - 26% in the Anantnag district
  - 26% in the Srinagar district
  - 22% in the Pulwama district

- In 1989-1990, there is a record of at least 397 people being killed by acts of violence:
  - Only 8 relatives of the deceased continue to live in the valley
  - 6 in Sangrampura, Budgam district
  - 1 in Qampora, Baramulla district
  - 1 in Alura Muttan, Anantnag district

## • BOTTOM LINE:

- Numbers of Kashmiri Pandits (KP's) living in the valley is miniscule, but life as we know it (births, marriages, deaths) continues normally among the miniscule minority
- If there would not be further trickling out of these people from the valley, the trend is favorable in terms of growing a "critical mass" again as evident from births exceeding deaths by a factor of 2
- Unemployment among the employable age (both educated/skilled and non-skilled) is abnormally high
- Acute indifference of the State Government is reflected by the disproportionately high numbers of unemployed youth who have exceeded the age bar for government employment
- Government jobs are the mainstay, but a few are in farming and trading sectors

## • RECOMMENDATIONS:

- KP Diaspora must unite and create an integrated financial, cultural, and political strategy to retain KP's in the valley and treat their plight, condition, and inadequate human rights as the center-piece in any advocacy programs initiated outside of the Vale of Kashmir
- The indifference shown by the State Government towards valley based Pandits contradicts its official position and exposes its insincerity towards minorities in Kashmir. This fact must be highlighted in all meetings with the Central government in New Delhi and beyond.