

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **AIKS delegation calls on Registrar General (Census) - demand distinct identity for Kashmiri Pandits**

A delegation of All India Kashmiri Samaj Regd. led by its President Ravinder Pandita, Called on Registrar General Census in Govt. of India In New Delhi. The delegation demanded that during the next census to be undertaken by Govt. of India in next year, the community may be counted as Distinct identity as displaced person. " We should be treated as reverse minority as Kashmiri Pandit community is termed as majority in country while as it is minority in the state. The census with distinct identity will help us in getting exact figure of displaced community which has faced exodus in 1990 and prior to that . It will also help in Return & rehabilitation schemes for Government as well", said Ravinder Pandita.

The Registrar General accompanied by senior officials assured the delegation that the demand will be looked into as per norms and in the meantime asked the community to garner a consensus on terminology of Kashmiri Pandits as ' Migrants', "displaced" or " refugees'.

The nomenclature or terminology will have to be fixed by the community said Mritunjay Kumar Narayan, Registrar General GOI.

The AIKS delegation also included its General Secretary Sunil Koul, Vice Presidents Arun Shali & Rajinder Premi, besides Kusum Shishoo Women's wing and activist Amit Raina.

**Ravinder Pandita**

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