



1st Global Conclave: Emerging Kashmir - Beyond Boundaries



Mr. Vikrant Kuthiala, Chairman, J&K Committee, PHD Chamber; Mr. Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, PHD Chamber; Mr. Farooq Ahmad Shah, IAS, Secretary Tourism, J&K Government; Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad Chaya, Co - Chairman, J&K Committee, PHD Chamber; Mr. Chander Parkash Ganga, Hon'ble Minister for Industries and Commerce, J&K Government; Dr. Nirmal Kumar Singh, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, J&K Government; Mr. Alok B. Shriram, President, PHD Chamber; Dr. Haseeb Drabu, Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Labour & Employment and Culture, J&K Government

PHD Chamber in association with the Directorate of Tourism, Government of Jammu & Kashmir organized the 1st Global Conclave: 'Emerging Kashmir - Beyond Boundaries' at Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC), Srinagar on August 27, 2015. Telangana was the Partner State of the Conclave.

Dr. Nirmal Kumar Singh, Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir



Dr. Nirmal Kumar Singh, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, J&K Government addressing the audience

Government inaugurated the Global Conclave. Other eminent guests who participated in the inaugural session were Dr. Haseeb Drabu, Minister for Finance, Labour & Employment and Culture, Government of J & K, Mr. Chander Parkash Ganga, Minister for Industries & Commerce, Government of J & K, Mr. Khurshid Ahmad Ganai

IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of J & K, Mr. Farooq Ahmad Shah IAS, Secretary Tourism, Government of J & K, Mr. B. Venkatesham IAS, Secretary, Youth Advancement, Tourism & Culture Department, Government of Telangana along with the leadership of PHD Chamber.

In his inaugural address, Dr. Nirmal Kumar Singh, emphasized that whatever best is possible for the government of the day to accommodate in the industrial policy, all efforts would be directed towards it by all arms of the government to enable Jammu & Kashmir to make a mark on the global map. The Deputy

Chief Minister held certain sections of media responsible for flaring up certain happenings along the line of control out of proportion, pointing out that such negativism brings in bad name for the state.

Dr Haseeb Drabu endorsed the observations made by the Deputy Chief Minister and appealed to the media to observe restraint while reporting the violent activities across the line of control as such reporting creates adverse perceptions about the state.

Dr Drabu was of the view that the government of the day does not need to resell the state of Jammu & Kashmir and its tourism potential as it is already sold off. Rather the



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concentration of the government should be to reverse the order and minimize its interruptions and interventions so far as approvals for industry are concerned. He admitted that safety was one of the issues for the people of Jammu & Kashmir. If safety is ensured, the issue becomes non relevant for those that visit and intend to visit the state.

Mr. Chander Parkash Ganga, Minister for Industries & Commerce, Government of J & K appreciated the efforts of PHD Chamber and Directorate of Tourism in organizing the Conclave while reiterating the commitment of the government in offering a facilitative environment in the state for the development of the tourism industry.

Mr. Khurshid Ahmad Ganai IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of J & K stated that the state government will continue with its incentive package of 2005 for industry until the Goods and Service Tax is (GST) is enacted. He also indicated that its new industrial policy would be notified in November 2015 subject to Cabinet approval which will aim at creating close to 10 lakhs of direct and indirect employment opportunities for the youth of the state by 2025.

Mr. Ganai stipulated that 2.5 lakhs of direct employment opportunities would be created for the youth and indirect jobs to an extent of 7.5 lakhs people in the next ten years. He



Mr. Sumedha Ponnampuruma, Minister Counselor, High-Commission of Sri Lanka; Mr Saurabh Sanyal, Secretary General, PHD Chamber; Mr. Sanjay Pandey, Additional Director, Dept. of Tourism, Govt of Rajasthan; Ms. Alike Koutsomitopoulou, First Counselor & Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Greece; Mr. B Venkatesham, IAS, Secretary to Government of Telangana, Youth Advancement Tourism & Culture Department; Dr. R. Kannan, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary & Chairman, TTDC, Government of Tamil Nadu; H. E. Mr. Oleksandr Shevchenko, The Ambassador, Embassy of Ukraine; Mr. Vikrant Kuthiala, Chairman, J & K Committee, PHD Chamber; Ms. Magdalena Cruz Yabar, Dy. Head of Mission, Embassy of Spain

projected that employment prospects would arise mostly in the private as well as the government sector through industrial activities generated on future investments from both the sectors.

The inaugural session was presided over by the President of PHD Chamber of Commerce & industry, Mr. Alok B. Shiram. The Chairman & Co Chairman of the J & K Committee of the Chamber, Mr. Vikrant Kuthiala and Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad Chaya respectively were also present. Their consensus approach was that the government should be concerned with the issue of governance alone and leave the responsibility of building the state to the industry with its bear minimum interventions. Secretary General of the Chamber, Mr. Saurabh Sanyal announced that the Chamber would keep organizing such conclaves in J&K to promote its industrial potential.

The panel discussion on 'Destination J & K - Sharing International & National Best Practices' was addressed by

distinguished speakers which included H. E. Mr. Oleksandr Shevchenko, Ambassador of the Embassy of Ukraine, Ms. Alike Koutsomitopoulou, First Counselor and Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Greece, Ms. Magdalena Cruz Yabar, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Spain, Mr. Sumedha Ponnampuruma, Minister Counselor, High Commission of Sri Lanka, Dr. R. Kannan, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary & Chairman, TTDC, Government of Tamil Nadu, Mr. B Venkatesham, IAS, Secretary to Government of Telangana, Youth Advancement Tourism & Culture Department and Mr. Sanjay Pandey, Additional Director, Dept. of Tourism, Govt of Rajasthan.

The second panel Discussion on 'Sustainable & Eco Friendly Way Forward for J & K Tourism' was chaired by Dr. Deepankar Sen Gupta, HOD, Department of Economics, Jammu University. Eminent speakers of this session were Mr. Akshay Kumar, President, Adventure Tour Operators Association of India, Mr. G. M Dug, President, Kashmir Hotel and Restaurant Association, Mr. Rauf Trambo, President, Adventure Tour Operators Association of Kashmir, Mr. Amit Amla, Managing Director, Broadway Enterprises, Mr. Nasir Shah, Head- Operations, Culture and Nature Expeditions and Mr. S K Sethi Vice President, Insurance Foundation of India and Mr. Muhammad Yousuf Chapri, President, Kashmir House Boat Owner's Association.



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Glimpses of the Dinner in honor of International Diplomats and State Ministers

