

SAI STAR Society Participates in International Conference

KTS NEWS SERVICE: Nov 19. Billawar. J&K Sai Star Society, a Rural Development NGO located at Nagrota Gujroo participated in “India and Sustainability Standers: International Dialogues and Conference 2015” held at New Delhi from 18 to 20 Nov 15. Shri Suresh Prabhu, Hon’ble Minister of Railways was Guest of Honour and the Conference was held under of Centre of Responsible Business. Sustainability Standards are growing in relevance all over the world. Voluntary Sustainability Standards and Collaborative Sustainability Initiatives have become a regular and important feature in the international marketplace. Companies in industries such as apparel, cotton, food, beverage, automotive, electronics and mining to services and public sectors, all commonly leverage and seek standards and are part of collaborative initiatives. These standards and collaborations are receiving growing attention from governments, business, and NGOs globally. Sustainability Standards will grow faster in the Indian marketplace India faces major environmental and social challenges, such as poverty, pollution, education, health, resource distribution, and inequality.

Brigadier Amarjit Singh Randwal, President of Sai Star Society, which is also a NGO Member of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) was special invitee to the Conference. He mentioned that last year Prime Minister Modi launched the “Make in India” Campaign aimed at driving economic growth by positioning and establishing India as a new centre for global production. The growing economy and pace of production and consumption makes India a global marketplace as well as a key stakeholder in sustainability challenges and solutions. Stakeholders within and outside India are increasingly looking to how to make standards effective in India and bring Indian perspectives into global standards. Smt Vimal Thakur, General Secretary of the Society added that the moment has come for key stakeholders within and outside India to come together to take stock of the current situations and plot a course for how large companies and SMEs in India use voluntary sustainability standards and collaborative initiatives so that India becomes a preferred location for new manufacturing. A thought leader on sustainability standards in India, Centre for Responsible Business (CRB) has been pioneering the promotion and supporting the uptake of sustainability standards and collective sustainability initiatives in India since 2010.

Shri Kalraj Mishra, Union Minister for MSM, who was the Chief Guest also addressed the Conference. He said that his Ministry is making all out efforts to assist Micro, Small, Medium Enterprises (MSME) to realise their full potential. Registration has been made simple and online, consequently more than twenty thousand Enterprises have got themselves registered in last few days. ***(News published at Page 10 of The Kashmir Times Dated 20 Nov 2015)***