



FOREIGN MINISTER

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Islamabad, Pakistan

06 August 2019

Excellency,

I write to you on a matter of utmost urgency, in continuation of my earlier letter dated 1 August 2019, where I drew your attention to the Indian designs in Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOK) and Pakistan's concerns about Indian attempts to perpetuate its illegal occupation of the territory.

In a further and grave violation of the UNSC Resolutions, on 5 August 2019 the Indian Government scrapped Article 370 of the Indian Constitution and provision 35A. This pre-meditated action is meant not only to strengthen India's illegal occupation of IOK by abrogating the special status of the occupied territory, it is in fact tantamount to its unlawful annexation.

As I had underscored in my letter of 1 August, the abolishment of Article 370 was preceded by a massive security clamp down in IOK last week through deployment of additional 38,000 para-military forces (bringing the number of additional forces deployed in the recent months to 180,000), imposition of curfew, house arrest of Kashmiri leaders and a total communication lock down. Cumulatively, an iron curtain has been placed on IOK to push through the illegal and unlawful actions, in deliberate defiance of international legality. These actions have heightened the deep sense of fear and insecurity among the Kashmiri population.

India is attempting to change the demography of IOK with a clear objective to undermine the UN plebiscite envisaged in the relevant UNSC Resolutions as a solemn commitment to the people of Jammu & Kashmir and to Pakistan and India. This constitutes a grave violation of the UNSC Resolutions and international law.

Since 1989, around 100,000 Kashmiris have been martyred, more than 22,000 women widowed, 108,000 children orphaned and more than 12,000 women raped by Indian occupation forces in IOK. India continues to try to divert the attention of the international community from the deteriorating human rights and humanitarian situation in IOK by escalating tensions along the Line of Control (LoC) /Working Boundary (WB), including through recent use of cluster munitions targeting civilians. These Indian actions pose a grave and destabilizing threat to the already volatile situation in South Asia.

Jammu and Kashmir remains an internationally recognized dispute, pending on the agenda of the UN Security Council. A number of relevant UN Security Council Resolutions state that the final disposition of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute will be made in accordance with the will of the people expressed through the democratic method of a free and impartial plebiscite under the auspices of the United Nations.

In line with the United Nations Security Council Resolution 38 of 1948 which calls upon India and Pakistan to inform the Council immediately of any material change in the situation which occurs or appears to either of them to be about to occur while the matter is

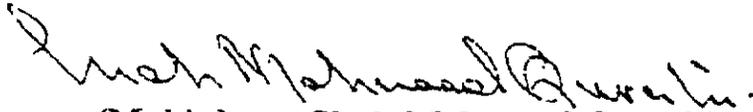
under consideration by the Council, and consult with the Council thereon.' I bring to your urgent attention these Indian actions. The UN Security Council has the responsibility to ensure that the substance and spirit of its resolutions are not violated by any party to the dispute.

Pakistan condemns and rejects these illegal actions including the Indian attempts to willfully undermine the internationally recognized disputed status of Jammu & Kashmir and deny the inalienable right to self-determination to the Kashmiri people, as affirmed by international law and UNSC resolutions.

As mandated by the UN Security Council Resolutions, Pakistan remains willing to hold a fair, free and transparent plebiscite under the auspices of the UN to ascertain the wishes of the Kashmiri people. It is Indian intransigence which continues to hold hostage, peace and development, of more than 1.5 billion people in South Asia. Pakistan will continue to extend political, diplomatic and moral support to the indigenous, legitimate Kashmiri struggle for the realization of the right to self-determination granted to them by the UN Security Council.

Given the gravity of the situation arising from the Indian actions that constitute deliberate breach of UN Security Council resolutions and carry serious implications for peace and security in South Asia, I urge you to bring these developments to the attention of the UN Security Council. The Security Council has a primary responsibility for maintenance of international peace and security as well as to ensure full compliance with its resolutions. I further call upon you and the UN Security Council to take all necessary steps, as provided in the UN Charter, to ensure that India returns to full compliance of relevant UNSC resolutions by reversing all steps that interfere with the settlement of the Jammu & Kashmir dispute.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


(Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi)

His Excellency Mr. Antonio Guterres,
Secretary General to the United Nations,
New York

The President United Nations Security Council
New York

Her Excellency Ms. Maria Fernanda Espinosa Garces,
President, UN General Assembly,
New York