

**PERMANENT MISSION OF PAKISTAN TO THE UNITED
NATIONS**

40th Session of the Human Rights Council

Right of Reply (Agenda Item-3)

8 March 2019

Mr. President,

Pakistan is exercising this right of reply in response to India's right of reply.

2. The 'Disinformation News Agency of the world' continues to peddle the most absurd arguments in an effort to distract attention from their reprehensible human rights record. Let's take their arguments one by one.

3. First, India has a habit of maligning Pakistan for anything and everything that is wrong in India, as knee jerk response. India uses the same rhetoric that is used by occupying forces throughout the history i.e ignoring the facts and labelling the just resistance of people as terrorism, being instigated externally. Children, who were blinded by indiscriminate use of pellet guns by Indian security forces were not terrorists. India ignores the fact that unremitting, persistent state repression has led to this situation in IOK. IOK has no government for nearly a year, not even India's puppets installed in Srinagar.

4. Second, the Indian delegation has again tried to twis the facts by claiming Jammu and Kashmir to be its integral part and regarding the matter as internal.

Mr. President,

5. Kashmir is an internationally recognized dispute according to UN Security Council resolutions that ask for a free and fair plebiscite in Jammu & Kashmir- a decision accepted by Indian leaders like Mr. Nehru.India, acting as 'Disinformation Agency of the world', has yet again tried to spread false information by referring to UN Security Council resolutions as time bound.

These resolutions are not time bound and we urge the Indian delegation to read the text of these resolutions before making such absurd claims.

6. Third, India's narrative against Pakistan on account of alleged "cross border terrorism" remains self-serving and is motivated by a deliberate design to project the legitimate indigenous struggle for self-determination in Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir as "terrorism". Pakistan itself is a victim of terrorism and has suffered immensely in last 4 decades. Part of this terrorism has emanated from entities supported by India. The sacrifices of our people and security forces in the fight against terrorism are well known and acknowledged by the international community.

Mr. President,

7. Kashmir is an unfinished business of decolonization and therefore even the narrowest definition of self-determination, as elaborated by my Indian colleague, applies to it.

8. True democracies do not blind children with pellet guns. They do not rape women as part of State policy of repression. They do not give impunity to their armed forces as enjoyed by Indian security forces in Kashmir and other regions. They do not orchestrate genocides of minorities, as done by India in anti-Sikh riots of 1984 and Muslim Gujrat killings of 2002. Even Supreme Court of India is powerless against Indian security agencies as reported by the OHCHR in the case of extra-judicial killings in Uttar Pradesh.

9. India should introspect and do course correction of its dangerous trajectory and discourse rather than hurling unfounded allegations and proving itself as the "Disinformation Agency of the world".

I thank you.