

Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the United Nations

Second Right of Reply

General Debate – Agenda Item 3

41th Session of the Human Rights Council

1 July 2019

Mr. President,

We are making this right of reply in response to India's Right of Reply.

2. Regrettably, India continues to spread malicious propaganda against Pakistan ignoring its own deplorable human rights record. India's drift towards rank communalism are having serious consequences on enjoyment of human rights and peace and security. Whilst in Pakistan, a sitting minister was removed due to distasteful comments against a minority, in today's India, killing minorities and inciting hatred against them is a merit for those aspiring political office. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister is one such example. In India, a parliamentarian is made Minister for supporting rape of minor girl AsifaBano in a Hindu temple in Jammu.

3. Let us apprise the Council of what the minorities are facing in India:

- The Religious Liberty Commission of the Evangelical Fellowship of India (EFI-RLC) documented 325 cases of violence and attacks against Christians and churches during 2018, compared with 351 in 2017 and 247 in 2016.
- Nine of the 29 India states have laws restricting religious conversion and violators especially missionaries are subject to prison sentences.
- In its World Report covering 2018, Human Rights Watch said the government failed to "prevent or credibly investigate" mob attacks on religious minorities, marginalized communities and actually BJP officials supported them publically.
- Over 40% of lawmakers in India's parliament face criminal charges. The BJP leadership has been found directly involved in the Gujraat massacre of 2002. The Supreme Court of India is releasing rapist and mass killers like BabuBajrangi and Colonoel Prasad Shrikant, the main accused of Samjhota Express blast. It speaks volumes of the sham Indian democracy.

4. The list goes on. We would urge India to stop being the 'Disinformation News Agency of the world' and think for the peace and stability of the region. We urge India to give peace a chance.