

PERMANENT MISSION OF PAKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Second Right of Reply delivered by Qazi Saleem, First Secretary

General Debate – Agenda Item 8

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Mr. President,

We are making this right of reply to India's right of reply.

2. Does Indian democracy follow the same set of moral standards as the rest of the world? Do draconian laws such as Armed Forces Special Powers Act and Public Safety Act exist in other functioning democracies? The last nail in the coffin is the current Indian regime that has a narrow hindutva mindset, a fascist agenda against Muslims, Dalit, Sikhs, Adihavasis and Christian, and elaborate doctrine of state sponsored terrorism against Pakistan openly presented by its National Security Advisor called as Doval doctrine. It is the product of the militant, hate driven ideological parent known as Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) which commits hate crimes against minorities. This is the recipe for destruction. No wonder freedom movements are in full swing in 13 Indian states.

2. India must know that real 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 India security forces. They do not orchestrate genocides of minorities and lynch them alive. The State institutions especially higher judiciary do not become associates of extremists and mass murderers. All these things happen only in the Indian sham democracy. Over 40% of lawmakers in India's parliament face criminal charges that would put them behind bars in any civilized country.

4. The vulnerable groups especially minorities and women are not safe in India. As per figures of the India's National Crime Records Bureau, more than 35,000 incidents of rape had occurred just in three years in India and almost 93 rapes were committed in the country each day. According to Amnesty International around 218 rapes were registered just in 2018 in India making it quote "**the rape capital of the world**" Unquote. The Indian Ministry of Home Affairs presented data in the lower house of parliament showing a 9 percent increase in incidents of religious violence from 2015 to 2017. In 2017, there were 822 incidents alone, resulting in 111 deaths and 2,384 injuries. Prosecution Relief reported 477 incidents of violence against Christians in its 2018 annual report, compared with 440 in in 2017. Churches were allegedly targeted by Hindu nationalist resulting in disrupted worship services, harassment of pastors and worshippers, and the arrest or detention of pastors and lay Christians.

5. We would urge India to stop its policy of spreading disinformation and fake news. It should do introspection and do course correction of its dangerous trajectory and discourse.

I thank you.