



Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN **Geneva**

Statement

Pakistan's Right of Reply against Indian Right of Reply **at the 43rd session Human Rights Council**

15 June 2020

Madam President,

My delegation rejects the insinuations made by Indian delegate.

Indian tactics of deflecting criticism are well-known.

I wish the Indian delegate was in the room to listen to wide-ranging concerns that were expressed by several NGOs from different geographical regions over Indian human rights violations.

Madam President,

The fact is that India 'window-dresses' its credentials of being a democratic State, but then hides behind the iron curtain imposed on Jammu and Kashmir under which it carries out human rights abuses. On the metrics of rule of law, democracy and human rights, Indian track record is abysmal.

Indian Government claims that it changed the status of Jammu&Kashmir through a constitutional process. The fact is that none of the Kashmiris were consulted before such a legislative change. Instead, the entire Kashmiri political leadership was put in jail. That is the kind of fake democracy which India has.

On rule of law, there are a dozen UN Security Council resolutions, which clearly establish that Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJ&K) is a disputed territory. Yet, India sent over a million occupation forces in IOJ&K; attacked human rights defenders; and violated basic rights of Kashmiri people. This is the kind of premium which India places on rule of law.

On human rights, Indian atrocities in IOJ&K are well-documented by OHCHR, independent human rights organizations and international media.

It is time India acts like a democracy; and not indulge in diversionary tactics to shield itself from the criticism over the human rights crisis that it has unleashed in IOJ&K.

I thank you, Madam President.