



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

Pakistan's Right of Reply against India, delivered by Mr. Junaid Suleman, Second Secretary, during the General Debate under Agenda item no. 2 at the 45th session of Human Rights Council

(15 September 2020)

Mr. Vice President,

India's artful jugglery of words is a poor attempt to avoid Council's scrutiny of its outrageous, and industrial scale human rights abuses against people of occupied Jammu & Kashmir.

We have stated the facts about the dire situation in IIOJ&K before the Council, which have been widely recorded by the UN human rights machinery, civil society, and global media.

Yet, response by Indian delegate continues to be one of chronic denial, deceit and deflection.

This is hardly surprising.

India continues to deny basic human rights and fundamental freedom to Kashmiri people, by blatant use of force under total impunity deceiving the international community and deflecting its attention under the smokescreen of so-called cross border terrorism and bogus claims of quote unquote "integral part".

At last, India is a country where over 40 percent of its ruling elite has been implicated in different criminal cases; where sitting Prime Minister and Chief Ministers have organized pogroms in Gujaraat and Delhi to win votes; where public leaders openly de-humanize their own minorities through hate speech; and where discriminatory citizenship law and policies have rendered over 2 million people belonging to a minority group stateless.

In view of time constraints, and for benefit of this honourable gathering, we demand Indian delegation to answer the following questions, which are widely being asked by the global human rights community:

Why peaceful activists such as Dr. Kafeel Khan and Ms. Safoora, have remained under illegal detention for months while the instigators of Delhi pogrom, Kapil Mishra, Aurang Thakur and Parvesh Verma still roam free?

Why the Prime Minister of world's so-called largest, secular democracy laid stone for a Ram Temple at a site, where a historical mosque was criminally vandalized by a fanatic Hindutva gang with full support by the State?

Why not a single Hindutva goon, involved in recent public lynching of 25-years old Luqman Khan, and 45-years old cab driver Aftab have been brought to justice and in fact, of



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hundreds of other Muslims, Christians, and Dalits and awarded by laurels by appointing them local leaders by “Sangh Parivar”?

Why families of victims in occupied Kashmir have yet to get justice for extra-judicial execution of their near and dear ones in the Shopian district this year, and in the past in Machhil, Padroo and Pathribal fake encounters?

Why pellet gunshots were used against peaceful religious gathering in Srinagar last month which injured at least 40 innocent people, and blinded several of them for life?

Why thousands of unmarked, mass grave sites exist in North Kashmir, as count of enforced disappearance continues to increase constantly in IIOJ&K?

Mr. Vice-President,

The only form of development, which the international community has seen since last August, is more human rights violations inflicted by India against Kashmiri people under the iron curtain of a smothering physical and digital lockdown.

India can no longer hide its dismal human rights record through rhetoric and grandstanding.

India should open itself for international monitoring and reporting by the UN human rights system. We ask Indian delegation is his country ready for such an objective scrutiny?

I thank you.