

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 15 June 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 14 June 2021 addressed to you by Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Pakistan, regarding the situation in the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Munir Akram



Annex to the letter dated 15 June 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

This is in continuation of my previous letters of 1, 6, 13 and 26 August, 16 September, 31 October and 12 December 2019; 9 March, 10 April, 21 May, 1 August, 18 September and 20 November 2020; and 1 February 2021 regarding the situation in the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Since its illegal and unilateral actions of 5 August 2019 designed to perpetuate Indian occupation of the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir and changing its distinct Kashmiri identity, India has mounted a massive campaign of repression, including gross and systematic violations of human rights – conducted with impunity by an occupation force of over 900,000 troops – to suppress the Kashmiris' demand for freedom and impose its rule by force on the people of the occupied territory.

The Indian steps in the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir have been vocally and vigorously rejected by the people of Jammu and Kashmir and by the Government and people of Pakistan. It is therefore a matter of grave concern that, according to reports, India may be contemplating the imposition of further illegal and unilateral measures in the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir, including division, bifurcation and demographic changes in the occupied territory.

In the military siege, which has now lasted over 22 months, hundreds of Kashmiris have been killed, most often in staged “encounters”, where innocent Kashmiri youth are summarily executed by depicting them as terrorists. Over 3,700 Kashmiris have been injured, nearly 15,000 have been arbitrarily arrested, hundreds have been tortured and collective punishments have been imposed on Kashmiris by the wanton destruction of entire neighbourhoods and villages.

Almost all of the Kashmiri leadership is either detained in crowded jails and detention centres or under house arrest, including the entire Hurriyet leadership, aged and ailing leaders like Syed Ali Shah Geelani, Yasin Malik and Asiya Andrabi. As a result, Mr. Ashraf Sehrai, a veteran political leader and Chairman of the Tehreek-e-Hurriyet, died in Indian detention on 5 May 2021.

According to reports, in the midst of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, essential life-saving equipment such as oxygen kits and cylinders have been deliberately diverted from the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir to various parts of India.

In order to foreclose the exercise of the right to self-determination of the Kashmiri people – promised to them by resolutions of the Security Council – the Indian Government has introduced domicile rules and land laws in the occupied territory with the aim of converting its Muslim majority into a Hindu majority. India has illegally issued over 3.4 million fake domicile certificates in the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir under the so-called “Jammu and Kashmir Grant of Domicile Certificate (Procedure) Rules, 2020”.

The Indian attempt to impose a new demographic reality on the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir is a clear violation of international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, relevant Security Council resolutions and the Fourth Geneva Convention.

Security Council resolutions [91 \(1951\)](#) and [122 \(1957\)](#) stipulated that “the convening of a constituent assembly as recommended by the General Council of the ‘All Jammu and Kashmir National Conference’ and any action that assembly might attempt to take to determine the future shape and affiliation of the entire State or any

part thereof would not constitute a disposition of the State in accordance with the above principle [of a plebiscite]”.

Let me be very clear: all the unilateral and illegal actions taken by India in the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir since 1951, including the measures initiated on and after 5 August 2019, and any additional unilateral changes that India may introduce in the future, are violations of international law, including the Security Council resolutions and the Fourth Geneva Convention, and ipso facto null and void.

Pakistan desires peaceful relations with all its neighbours, including India. A just settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions and the wishes of the Kashmiri people, is essential for durable peace and stability in South Asia.

The February 2021 understanding reached between the Directors General (Military Operations) of Pakistan and India to fully implement the 2003 ceasefire understanding along the line of control was a manifestation of Pakistan’s commitment to preventing a dangerous escalation and preventing the loss of innocent civilian lives being targeted by India along the line of control. The Secretary-General welcomed the “positive step” and hoped that this would “provide an opportunity for further dialogue.”

India vitiated the prospects for a dialogue through its illegal and unilateral actions of 5 August 2019. The onus, therefore, is on India to create an enabling environment for result-oriented engagement. The Security Council must fulfil its obligation to ensure the full implementation of its resolutions guaranteeing the exercise of Kashmiris’ right to self-determination. The Council must also call upon India to end its campaign of repression in the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir and reverse all its illegal actions, including those initiated on and after 5 August 2019, and to cease and desist from imposing any additional unilateral changes in the occupied territory.

(Signed) Makhdoom Shah Mahmood **Qureshi**
