

UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/6998
7 December 1965

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 6 DECEMBER 1965 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF PAKISTAN ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

In continuation of my letter of 2 December 1965 (S/6987), I have the honour to enclose a copy of a further protest note dated 1 December 1965, addressed to the High Commission of India in Pakistan on the continued harassment and maltreatment to which the officers and staff of the Deputy High Commission for Pakistan in Calcutta are being subjected in spite of the cease-fire which was effected on 23 September 1965.

2. The Government of India further did not reciprocate the action taken by the Government of Pakistan in unfreezing the official and personal bank accounts of the High Commission of India in Pakistan in Karachi, Islamabad and Dacca and the account of the Pakistan Deputy High Commission in Calcutta remained frozen. A copy of the aide mémoire handed over to the Acting High Commissioner of India on this subject is also enclosed.

3. I shall be grateful if this letter with its enclosures is circulated as a Security Council document.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Syed AMJAD ALI
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Pakistan
to the United Nations

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
ISLAMABAD

1 December 1965

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the High Commission of India in Pakistan and has the honour to state that according to information now received, the officers and staff of the Deputy High Commission for Pakistan in India are still being subjected to harassment and restrictions by the authorities in West Bengal. These breaches of diplomatic practice have already been protested against by the Deputy High Commission for Pakistan in India to the State Government of West Bengal but without any result:

(1) The State Government's police officials in plain clothes cluster around the gate of the Chancery and stop and interrogate the officials of Pakistan Mission. On 18 November 1965, at 9 a.m. a number of officials of Pakistan Mission while entering the gate of the Mission were stopped and asked to prove their identity in a most rude manner. Again, on 23 November 1965, officials of the Mission were checked by a group of D.I.B. (Director of Intelligence Bureau) men who demanded that they must produce their identity cards before entering the Mission. When an official protested against this treatment, one of the D.I.B. men used abusive language and threatened all the officials of dire consequences if they protest again. The fact that these D.I.B. personnel chase, insult and harass the officials of Pakistan Mission goes to prove that such actions are deliberate and resorted to with a view to provoke incidents.

(2) The Pakistan Mission continues to be denied the essential services. On 8 November 1965, about 10 a.m. a plumber, who had been called for repair work in the Mission was stopped at the gate by the D.I.B. men in plain clothes. He was subjected to prolonged interrogation and was turned away from the gate with a stern warning not to accept any work from the Pakistan Mission.

(3) Foreign visitors calling on Pakistan Mission for consular assistance are being subjected to prolonged questioning and harassment. Since 15 November 1965, two American and one Egyptian tourists were subjected to this harassment.

(4) Indian nationals calling on Pakistan Mission for consular queries are also stopped at the gate and after having been subjected to questioning turned away.

(5) Pakistani nationals trying to enter Pakistan Mission for consular assistance are continued to be stopped at the gate and harassed. Some are being taken into custody and in the absence of any contact with these Pakistanis, it is presumed that they have been interned. Others are turned away with the warning not to come again. Out of the fear of being persecuted the Pakistan nationals are now avoiding to call on Pakistan Mission.

(6) The D.I.B. men in plain clothes continue to call on Pakistan nationals at their residences and ask for illegal gratification. Those who pay are spared of further harassment for the time being but others who cannot afford to pay are being maltreated and tortured.

(7) Movements of the officers are watched round the clock and they are being followed while coming to office, returning home, going for a walk or to a library, thereby causing great embarrassment and humiliation to them.

(8) A car No. WBE-8828 has been permanently detailed at the Taxi Stand in front of the residence of the Pakistan Deputy High Commission at 3, Suhrawardy Avenue, Calcutta, to follow the Deputy High Commissioner whenever he goes out. Similarly, a car No. WBE-9421 has been following the First Secretary of Pakistan Deputy High Commission wherever he goes.

(9) The personal servants of diplomatic officers and staff are being repeatedly subjected to questioning and harassment, so much so that they have become panicky and frightened. In fact many of them have left their services and others are on the point of doing so.

(10) When the Third Secretary of Pakistan Mission arrived at Dum Dum by air at 3.30 a.m. on 16 October 1965 from Rangoon, Pakistan Mission was not allowed to send its staff car to the airport to bring him although it was given in the Press that the car was allowed.

(11) The diplomatic couriers are being followed by the plain clothesmen in cars to and from the Dum Dum airport on the way to and return from East Pakistan. In fact, when the diplomatic cargo was sent to the UBA town office on 28 October 1965, the staff car was followed by the D.I.B. police car. On 6 November 1965, when the First Secretary returned from East Pakistan he was followed from the Dum Dum airport by two cars.

(12) Remittances through money orders on account of passport and visa fees from persons seeking consular assistance are not being delivered to Pakistan Mission with the result that great inconvenience and hardship are being caused to the applicants thereby obstructing the smooth and normal functioning of Pakistan Mission.

(13) The Visa Office of the Deputy High Commission for Pakistan in Calcutta was unsealed on 2 November 1965, at 10.30 a.m. Three officers of the Deputy High Commission's Office accompanied by a party of police officers including the Assistant Commissioner of Police Mr. S.B. Sarkar opened the office gate. It was observed that the doors of the room containing the office key board had been broken as also the key board itself which indicated that the keys from the board had been taken out obviously to open the rooms. This was pointed out to the Assistant Commissioner of Police, who did not make any comments. On further examination the records in the Almirahs were found in disorder which went to prove that the rooms were actually opened and records searched. These incidents occurred following the forcible take-over of the Pakistan Visa Office.

2. The Government of Pakistan must lodge an emphatic protest with the Government of India for the aggressive manner in which the authorities in West Bengal are still subjecting the members of the Deputy High Commission for Pakistan in India to humiliating treatment which contrasts sharply with the courteous treatment in Pakistan. In spite of repeated protests to the State Government of West Bengal, the Police authorities have been continuing their crude and clumsy surveillance of the officials of the Pakistan Deputy High Commission in India. Again, the Government of Pakistan views with grave concern the continued harassment of the Pakistan nationals, as well as foreign nationals seeking consular assistance, carried on by the police officials of the West Bengal Government in flagrant violation of diplomatic practice and international conventions. It would appear that the Government of the State of West Bengal are not disposed towards honouring the assurances being given by the Indian Government in New Delhi. The Government of Pakistan demands that the Government of India should immediately take remedial measures in order to enable the Deputy High Commission for Pakistan in India to function normally.

3. The Government of Pakistan further strongly protests against the forcible entry into the Visa Office by the West Bengal authorities and searching its records in deliberate violations of international diplomatic usage and practice.

The Ministry avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the High Commission the assurance of its highest consideration.

The High Commission of India
in Pakistan
Islamabad.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
ISLAMABAD

AIDE MEMOIRE

1. The High Commission of India in Pakistan is aware that the Government of Pakistan have already unfrozen their bank accounts both official and personal in Karachi, Islamabad and Dacca. In sharp contrast to this, the Government of Pakistan regrets very much to note that the Government of India has not reciprocated in spite of repeated requests by unfreezing the bank accounts of the Pakistan Deputy High Commission Calcutta - both official and personal, with the Millat Bank of Calcutta. This is not in accord with the Indian Government's declaration that it wants normalcy restored between the two sides so far as functioning of diplomatic missions is concerned. Unless these accounts can be unfrozen immediately, there will be no option for the Pakistan Government but to take counter measures.
2. It has also been brought to the notice of the Government of Pakistan that the High Commission of India has stopped the payment of pensions to Indian pensioners residing in Pakistan. As a result of this, the pensioners are facing great hardships in their old age. The Government of Pakistan would once again request that payment of pensions be resumed immediately.

Dated 23 November 1965

