

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir

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Press Release

Plebiscite is the key of all problems in Kashmir in accordance with UN Resolutions: Syed Fakhar Imam.

A delegation of APHC lead by Syed Abdullah Gillani met the Chairman Syed Fakhar Imam on Thursday 25th April, 2019 at Parliament House, Islamabad. During the meeting the APHC leader apprised the Chairman about the latest situation in the Indian held Kashmir particularly regarding the Human Rights violation and the resistance movement against the continued repression of the Indian Armed forces. He further said that All Party Hurriyat Conference also boycotted the election 2019 as a principle policy of the Kashmiris that elections are not an alternative of the plebiscite guaranteed by the Security Council resolutions seventy two years ago, therefore, the present general elections are also irrelevant for the Kashmiris. The delegation also congratulated him on his unanimous election for the position of the Chairman Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir and also expressed their high hopes to carry out the onerous task of Parliamentary Kashmir Committee.

2. The Honourable Chairman Parliamentary Kashmir Committee said that we reiterate our unwavering moral, diplomatic and political support to the people of Jammu and Kashmir in their just struggle for their inalienable right to self determination. It is only through the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions that the Kashmir issue will be amicably resolved. He further said that the right of self determination is a revered principle of international law but even after more than 72 years this fundamental right is being denied to the people of Kashmir despite the fact that this right was promised to them by UN in its numerous resolutions.

3. While praising the courage and firmness of the oppressed people of Jammu and Kashmir who have continued their long and strenuous struggle despite all odds. In the course they have under gone unimaginable suffering and inhuman treatment by the occupational forces to crush their will.

4. The Chairman also referred to the reports of the Human Right Committee of the European Parliament, OIC Human Rights Commission and the report of the UN Human Rights Council last year in which it was recommended to constitute a fact finding Commission to further investigate the Human Rights violation in Indian Held Kashmir without any further delay. We also urge the international community to wake up on the Kashmir issue and take notice of the gross Human Rights violations occurring in the Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. Now, it is the responsibility of the international community particularly the P-5 countries to fulfill its promise to the Kashmiries of granting them right of self determination through a free and fair plebiscite in the light of the UN resolutions. The international community must not compromise the principles of international law and canons of justice for the sake of their economic interest in India. There is also a dire need for the world to demonstrate that there is difference between the struggle for freedom and of terrorism.

5. The Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir said that the Pakistan is committed to build a peaceful neighborhood as it is the only way forward for a durable peace in the region and does not need war as articulated by the Prime Minister in his speech in Joint Session of the Parliament last month. He further said that the right of self determination to the people of Jammu and Kashmir is the birth right of the Kashmiris as enunciated by several resolutions passed in the Security Council.

6. Plebiscite is the key/panacea of all problems in Kashmir. Moreover, it is now the responsibility of the international community to activate multilateral diplomacy for the implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions on the dispute or find new ways to explore common grounds for a win win/ amicable solution acceptable all

stakeholders. In the past decade, the freedom movement in occupied Kashmir has assumed a more assertive and aggressive approach especially by the youth as approach to confront the brutalities and atrocities being committed by the occupying Indian forces. Being the torch bearer/ custodian/ promoters of human rights the world community (big powers P-5) must see the Kashmir as a matter of human rights, self determination and international humanitarian law and not through the prism of real politik.

7. Humiliating Kashmiri people every day is now unfortunately become the norm of the occupational forces contrary to the arrangement agreed in the United Nation's regarding the peaceful resolution of the Kashmir dispute. We strongly condemn all black laws enforced by the occupational forces for crackdowns, making arrests, issuing summons and sending political and religious leaders and cadres to jails to suppress the voice of people of Kashmir. We also appeal to the world community to look into the reports of the OIC Human Rights Commission, European Union Committee for Human Rights and last year (2018) the United Nations Human Rights Commission issued a comprehensive report about the Human Rights violation in the Indian held Kashmir which needs further implementation particularly regarding the constitution of a Commission to investigate the Human Rights violation in the India held Kashmir. He also strongly condemned the attitude of Indian authorities, the way they are mishandling the Hurriyat leaders like Malik Yasin who is a prisoner of conscience and being treated as criminal.

8. On the issue of suspension of trade, the Chairman said that the suspension of LoC trade between Srinagar and Muzaffarabad is also a step backward which will increase the economic suffering of the people of Kashmir on both sides of the border as this trade was the only window providing economic benefits for the poor people of Kashmir. Since, the trade is stopped by the Indian side unilaterally, therefore, we must urge the concerned authorities of India to reconsider their decision in the best interest of people living across the border.

9. The Chairman said unfortunately, after Pulwama attack the confrontation between India and Pakistan has pushed the two nuclear armed neighbors to the brink of war resulting deteriorating law and order situation in Kashmir. Unfortunately, now the world is looking at the situation through the prism of nuclear and security paradime. He further said the Ajit Doval doctrine of "offensive defense" has miserably failed but BJP and their hawkish elements are still promoting the idea of Hinduata through use of brutal force to strengthen numerical majority. However, the people of Jammu & Kashmir and Pakistan hold the moral high ground on Kashmir issue whereas India has always mislead the world throughout the history of 72 years and deliberately playing negative tactics like pending the dispute in order to change the demography of the disputed territory through coercion or state terrorism to subjugate the Kashmiri people.

10. It is the need of the hour that the political leadership of the both countries should sit together for the betterment of their future generations while overlooking the past in order to provide better living standards to the people of both countries. In his concluding remarks the Chairman assured the visiting delegates that the present Committee will actively play their role considering it as a sacred responsibility and national cause.

Director (IT)


(NASIM KHALID)
Director General (KE)