

Message of the Prime Minister on Kashmir Black Day
(27 October 2020)

We are observing this day to condemn Indian illegal occupation and to reiterate our unwavering support to the Kashmiri people. The Kashmir Black Day represents a dark chapter in the human history when, 73 years ago, Indian forces landed in Srinagar to forcibly occupy the territory and subjugate people of Jammu and Kashmir.

The illegal occupation of parts of Jammu and Kashmir by India represents an international dispute, the solution of which is firmly anchored in the relevant United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions in accordance with the UN Charter.

Despite unabated Indian atrocities for more than seven decades posing an existential threat, India is unable to break the will of the Kashmiri people. International community bears witness that Indian state-terrorism, extra-judicial killing of innocent Kashmiris, unprecedented restrictions in freedom of speech, fake encounters, cordon-and-search operations, custodial torture and deaths, enforced disappearances, incarceration of Kashmiri leadership and youth, use of pellet guns, destruction and burning of houses to inflict 'collective punishment' on the Kashmiri communities and other methods of subjugation have failed to shake the resolve of the Kashmiri people in their just struggle for the inalienable right to self-determination.

India's unilateral actions, military siege and communication blockade accompanied by illegal measures to bring about demographic change in IIOJK since 5th August 2019, expose yet another dimension of RSS-inspired 'Hindutva' ideology. The dangerous mix of extremist ideology (Hindutva) and hegemonic designs (Akhand Bharat) is imperiling regional peace and stability.

The international legitimacy of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute is enshrined in the UNSC resolutions, which are binding. It is the collective responsibility of all member states to ensure compliance by India of its international obligations. Pakistan urges the international community to take practical steps to stop India from using state-terrorism as a tool to destabilize the region and to work for peaceful

resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the relevant UNSC Resolutions and wishes of the Kashmiri people. This is the only way durable peace and stability can be ensured in South Asia.

For its part, Pakistan will continue to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the Kashmiri people and extend all possible support to them until they realize their legitimate right to self-determination.
