Pakistan's Right of Reply delivered by Mr. Danyal Hasnain, Second Secretary during General Debate Item 4
57ᵗʰ HRC Session
26ᵗʰ September 2024

Mr. President,

One delegation, today, once again made some spurious allusions and assertions.

Ironically, this delegation claimed to be sensitive to the valuable time of this Council.

We hope and pray that this delegation may also become sensitive to the lives that suffer under its illegal occupation.

Even a slight mention of the illegality of its occupation of Jammu and Kashmir unnerves this delegation for the fear of getting exposed.

I would be brief in our response and would just state some facts for the record.

One, this delegation repeats, ad nauseam, the so-called unprecedented development in the occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

We know that all colonial enterprises hide behind glittering but misleading advertisement of development in the territories they occupy.

We also know that colonial projects have only ended in perpetuating exploitation, abuse and creating intergenerational inequalities.

The motives of this occupation regime in Jammu & Kashmir are no different.

Two, the delegation again tried to deflect the conversation from the right to self-determination of the people of occupied Jammu & Kashmir.

The UN Security Council committed to the people of Jammu & Kashmir this inalienable right through various resolutions.

The UN Secretary General has also affirmed the applicability of these resolutions.

For over over seven decades, occupied Kashmiris have been denied this right in utter defiance of international law, especially Article 25 of the UN Charter.

Three, this delegation attempted to mislead this Council about the farcical elections in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Any activity with the appearance of an election in an illegally occupied territory, with overwhelming military footprint, after banning political parties, incarcerating political leaders and torturing and killing thousands is only a farce with no legitimacy – not an election.

I thank you!