



Checked against delivery

National Statement delivered by Mr. Jawad Ali, Minister, during Interactive Dialogue on the Annual Report of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

59th session of the UN Human Rights Council

(Geneva, 17 June 2025)

Mr. President,

We thank the High Commissioner for presenting the Annual Report and reaffirm our support for his mandate.

Mr. High Commissioner,

We thank you for joining the resounding chorus against Israel's genocidal campaign in illegally occupied Palestine, including East Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza.

Israel's reckless pursuit of domination and complete disregard for international law pose a grave risk to the entire region, severely undermining the human rights of all, starting from their right to peace and right to life.

While most states have come to see Israel for what it is, a country in South Asia has instead drawn inspiration from Israel's criminal acts.

In April this year, India reacted to an attack in illegally occupied Jammu & Kashmir with widespread collective punishment against the Kashmiri people under occupation. Its weapons of choice: mass arbitrary arrests, home demolitions, disappearances, killings and torture.

India's brutal crackdown was followed by unprovoked and unjustifiable military aggression against Pakistan. Civilian structures, hydropower infrastructure and places of worship were deliberately targeted. The 161 victims killed and injured included 17 women and 42 children.

India has also attempted to undermine the Indus Waters Treaty of 1960 by weaponising the shared waters in the Indus River system against riparian people in Pakistan. Such threats to the human rights and dignity of our people can never be tolerated.

This latest crime spree is the consequence of India's Hindutva-infused extremist ideology and refusal to implement UN Security Council resolutions on the right to self-determination of the people of Indian illegally occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK).

Mr. President,

We appreciate the High Commissioner's attention to the ceasefire and water-sharing arrangements.

But a resolution of the Jammu & Kashmir dispute in accordance with the aspirations of the Kashmiri people and UN Security Council resolutions remains essential for lasting peace.

We request the Office to resume reporting on Jammu & Kashmir and address the human rights impact of India's failed military misadventures and misguided attempts to weaponise water in direct contravention of international law.

Thank you.

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