

Message from Mr. Asif Ali Zardari,
President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan
(On the occasion of “Youm-e-Istehsal Kashmir” - 5th August, 2026)

Today, we observe Youm-e-Istehsal Kashmir to reaffirm our unwavering solidarity with the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). We pay tribute to their courage, resilience and commitment to their just struggle for the realization of their inalienable right to self-determination.

Seven years have passed since India’s illegal and unilateral actions of 5 August 2019, which sought to alter the internationally recognized disputed status of Jammu and Kashmir in violation of international law and the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions. These actions cannot change the legal status of the dispute, nor can they weaken the resolve of the Kashmiri people.

For seven years, millions of Kashmiris have continued to live under severe restrictions that have affected every aspect of daily life. Families have endured uncertainty; young people have seen their opportunities constrained and entire communities have continued to bear the burden of prolonged conflict and instability. Despite these hardships, the people of Jammu and Kashmir have remained steadfast in their pursuit of justice and their legitimate right to determine their own future.

Pakistan remains unwavering in its moral, political and diplomatic support for the people of IIOJK. We will continue to raise our voice at every international forum until the Jammu and Kashmir dispute is resolved in accordance with the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people.

A just and lasting peace in South Asia is closely linked to the peaceful resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute. I urge the international community, particularly the United Nations, to play its role in addressing the grave human rights situation in IIOJK and in advancing a just and peaceful settlement of this longstanding dispute.

To my Kashmiri brothers and sisters, I say: Pakistan stands firmly with you. Your courage in the face of adversity inspires us. You are not alone. The people of Pakistan will continue to stand by you until your legitimate right to self-determination is realized.

May Allah Almighty grant the people of Jammu and Kashmir strength, patience and steadfastness, and bless them with justice and lasting peace.

Pakistan Zindabad!
