

Embassy of Pakistan

NEWSLETTER

March 2020



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Dr. Asad M. Khan, Ambassador of Pakistan to the United States

Dear Friends,

The month of March took a heavy toll on us through the COVID-19 pandemic. All of us have felt the destructive nature of this highly contagious disease. My thoughts and prayers go out to those who lost their loved ones and I pray for quick recovery of those who are sick.

In this troubling time, the Embassy and Consulates General at New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and Houston have been working hard to deal with emergencies related to the COVID-19 outbreak. We are facilitating passengers stranded at US airports due to closure of air traffic into Pakistan. Many community members have also come forward to help them.

In partnership with many community organizations, particularly Association of Physicians of Pakistani-descent of North America (APPNA) we are making efforts to mobilize funds and raise awareness within the Pakistani-American community. I must commend the inspiring role of Pakistani-American physicians who are at the front lines in the current crisis. To channelize the philanthropic spirit of our citizens, the Prime Minister has set up the "PM's Relief Fund for COVID-19." Pakistani Americans can contribute to this Fund through account details which are on our website as well as in this Newsletter.

We are also trying to urgently arrange essential medical supplies including life-saving equipment, screening kits and protective gears to send to Pakistan. A number of organizations and individuals are also sending funds and donating equipment to Pakistan. Locally, they are donating to food pantries and supplying cooked meals to those in need.

On the economic front, the IMF mission to Pakistan was successful and we hope that the next tranche of our IMF program will be released soon. We have also sought additional IMF financing to meet enhanced economic needs as a result of COVID-19. The World Bank has also provided funds to the tune of over US\$ 200 million to bolster Pakistan's COVID-19 efforts. The U.S. Government has pledged US\$ 2 million as well.

Before the virus hit us with full force, I presented my credentials to the Governor General of Jamaica as Pakistan's High Commissioner – a charge that I hold concurrently. Pakistan and Jamaica cooperate in multilateral forums although our people to people exchanges and trade remain limited. I hope to build on this relationship as well.

Here in Washington, we celebrated Pakistan Day (23 March) with a sober and simple flag hoisting ceremony. Other engagements, including coordination with the White House, State Department, U.S. Congress and media have been ongoing but mostly in teleconference and video format. We have been talking to U.S. companies, including US Pakistan Business Council on expanding trade and investment in Pakistan. Once the current situation subsides, we hope to resume this conversation as well as enhancing IT, agriculture, tourism and education exchanges.

As we enter the month of April, I once again request all of you to exercise caution and protect yourself and those around you by staying safe and at home as much as you can. The Embassy and Consulates General are here to support you. Together, I am hopeful we can overcome COVID-19!



EMBASSY HOLDS PAKISTAN DAY FLAG HOISTING CEREMONY



Ambassador Dr. Asad M. Khan hoisting the National flag at the Pakistan Day ceremony held at the Embassy of Pakistan on 23 March 2020.



Ambassador Dr. Asad M. Khan felicitated Pakistanis all over the world, including the US on the occasion of Pakistan Day. He advised members of the Pakistani-American community to stay safe by following health advisories and practicing social distancing in these difficult times. He hoped that Pakistanis will defeat COVID-19 by coming together as one nation.

AMBASSADOR'S MESSAGE TO THE PAKISTAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY



EMBASSY OF PAKISTAN
3517 International Court, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008

March 17, 2020

Dear community member,

We are witnessing a rapid outbreak of Coronavirus (COVID-19) all over the world. A national emergency has been declared across the United States. Federal, State and local authorities are issuing daily advisories, and limits have been placed on public travel and gatherings.

In these extraordinary circumstances, I strongly urge our community members to closely follow the guidelines of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html> and World Health Organization (WHO). <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

Those of you intending to travel to Pakistan are also advised to carefully read the National Institute of Health (NIH) guidelines. <https://www.nih.org.pk/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov/>

In case you or any of your family members develop symptoms, please contact your health care provider immediately. If advised to observe self-quarantine, please do so accordingly.

The Embassy and our Consulates General are operating at regular office hours to facilitate the community. Any changes will be notified accordingly, subject to local conditions. Please keep visiting our websites and follow us on Twitter for updates. The Embassy and Consulates General have designated focal points for Coronavirus related matters who can be contacted for any queries. Their names and contact details are available on our websites.

While we continue to provide regular consular services at our Consulates and here in the Embassy, I want to highlight the following:

- For visa, applicants are encouraged to apply via the E-Visa system. You can apply for an e-visa via visa.nadra.gov.pk and the Embassy will process your visa expeditiously. You will get your electronic visa in your email.
- For passport renewal, you may apply online on the e-Services portal of Dte. Gen. IMPASS: onlinemrp.dgip.gov.pk Please note that this facility is only for "renewal" of existing machine-readable passports and not if you are applying for a first-ever Pakistani passport

Once again, I urge you to stay safe and healthy by observing social distancing, limiting your outdoor movements and by following all instructions issued by the U.S. health authorities.

I am confident that together, we will be able to overcome this challenge.


(Dr. Asad M. Khan)
Ambassador

AMBASSADOR'S MESSAGE TO THE PAKISTAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY



EMBASSY OF PAKISTAN
3517 International Court, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008
Tel: (202) 243-6500

April 1, 2020.

Dear Community member,

I write to you at a time when the world is facing an unprecedented threat in the form of COVID-19, or Coronavirus as it is commonly known.

In the last few weeks, the Coronavirus outbreak has changed the way we think, act and go about our daily lives. No nation, no ethnicity, no age group nor any person is immune to this contagion. I extend my deepest condolences to those who have lost their loved ones and pray for early recovery of all those who are affected.

While you must be exercising caution, I urge you once again to strictly follow the local public health guidelines as well as those given by the CDC and WHO on a daily basis.

At this critical moment, let me assure you that the Embassy and our Consulates General at New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and Houston have been working hard to facilitate the community. We are in touch with the stranded Pakistanis who missed their flights due to the sudden closure of air traffic to Pakistan on March 21. We remain available to facilitate them until the flights resume. We are also thankful to all those community members who have come forward to help the stranded Pakistanis in these difficult times.

To ensure continuity of consular services, the Embassy and Consulates General remain open for essential consular services during the time of lockdown. While our offices are being kept open wherever we can, I urge community members to visit only when absolutely essential and to rely as much as possible on online services. Emergency help lines of the Embassy and Consulates General are available to provide guidance.

I have received many phone calls and inquiries from our community members with offers to assist with relief efforts including providing medical equipment for combating COVID-19 in Pakistan. I am particularly grateful to the Association of Physicians of Pakistani descent in North America (APPNA) which has been very generous and forthcoming in mobilizing resources. We can take great pride in our doctors, who are at the forefront of this battle against COVID-19. I also want to acknowledge individual community members as well as organizations across America who are arranging and/or contributing to food drives to serve their local communities and charities in Pakistan.

Pakistan remains determined to overcome the COVID-19 outbreak. Through timely measures taken by the Government, we have so far been able to limit the spread of the Coronavirus to around 2000 cases with 28 deaths.

**AMBASSADOR'S MESSAGE TO THE PAKISTAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
(Continued)**

While the Government is utilizing its limited resources to the fullest, Pakistanis within the country and from all over the world, have offered to help in whatever way they can. To channelize this philanthropic spirit, the Prime Minister has established the "Prime Minister's Relief Fund for COVID-19". Community members and organizations are encouraged to contribute generously to the Fund. Details for the donation account are as follows:

Account Title: PM Relief Fund for COVID-19
Account No.: 4162786786
IBAN: PK11NBPA0002004162786786
SWIFT Code: NBPAPKKAMBR
Bank Name: National Bank of Pakistan
Branch: Main Branch, I.I. Chundrigar Road, Karachi, Pakistan.

As we pass through this difficult phase, my thoughts and prayers are for your continued health and safety as well as for your loved ones. Let us pray that humanity can come out of this challenge stronger and more united. I am confident that, God willing, we can defeat COVID-19 together!


(Dr. Asad M. Khan)
Ambassador

ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR PRIME MINISTER'S COVID-19 PANDEMIC RELIEF FUND - 2020

THE PRIME MINISTER'S COVID-19 PANDEMIC RELIEF FUND-2020

Donate to help Pakistan's efforts to combat COVID-19 pandemic.

1 BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR DONATIONS IN PAKISTAN ARE AS UNDER:

PM'S COVID-19 PANDEMIC RELIEF FUND-2020. (DONATIONS ACCEPTED IN PKR BANK ACCOUNT IN PAKISTAN)	
Bank	Account Details
NATIONAL BANK OF PAKISTAN MAIN BRANCH, I.I. CHUNDRIGAR ROAD, KARACHI, PAKISTAN	Account Title: Prime Minister's COVID-19 Pandemic Relief Fund 2020. Account No.: 4162786786 IBAN: PK11NBPA0002004162786786 SWIFT Code: NBPAPKKAMBR

Donations can be made through wire-transfer or bank-to-bank transfers directly to this account.

2. DEBIT/CREDIT CARD USERS CAN MAKE DIRECT PAYMENTS BY CLICKING THE LINK:

<https://e-payment.nbp.com.pk>

Simply click on this link and enter your debit/credit card details along with donation amount. The payment is sent directly to the Fund Account in Karachi.

3. BANK TRANSFERS/CHEQUES CAN BE MADE TO THE FOLLOWING U.S. BANK ACCOUNTS:

PM'S COVID-19 PANDEMIC RELIEF FUND-2020 (DONATIONS ACCEPTED IN USD IN FOLLOWING U.S. BANKS)	
Bank	Account Details
NATIONAL BANK OF PAKISTAN, NEW YORK	Account No. 005640-4607 IBAN/Routing No. Federal Reserve Bank NY, Routing No. 026004721 SWIFT Code: NBPAUS33 Intermediary Bank: Federal Reserve Bank NY, Routing No. 026004721 SWIFT Code (Intermediary): FRNYUS33
CITIBANK N.A.	Account No. 10934579 SWIFT Code: CITIUS33
STANDARD CHARTERED BANK NEW YORK	Account No. 3582021231001 SWIFT Code: SCBLUS33
JP MORGAN CHASE MANHATTAN BANK	Account No. 001 1 683760 SWIFT Code: CHASUS33

Thank you for your generosity. Lets defeat COVID-19 together!

EMBASSY OF PAKISTAN, WASHINGTON D.C.

AMBASSADOR TWEETS REGARDING CORONAVIRUS

 **Asad M. Khan** 
@asadm17

A big shout-out to the Pakistani Americans who are helping out their communities in this difficult time. APPNA doctors are of course at the forefront in the war against #Covid_19. Pak-American restaurant owners are also doing their part by giving out free meals to those in need.

 **Asad M. Khan** 
@asadm17



Those who wish to donate equipment/materials to combat COVID-19 in Pakistan can send in cash donations to @ndmapk at:
US Dollar A/C NBP Main Branch Islamabad.
IBAN No. PK83NBPA0341004035244483.
Pl keep Embassy/consulates also posted on your donations. @PakEmbassyDC

 **Asad M. Khan** 
@asadm17

1/2 Wish everyone good health and hope you are taking care of yourself and your loved ones. Please avoid crowded places and work from home if possible. Just a reminder that we @PakEmbassyDC do accept online/mail applications for visas/NICOPs/passports. #Covid_19

 **Asad M. Khan** 
@asadm17

2/2 Meanwhile #Covid_19 taking its toll on our work at the Embassy also. Had to cancel visits to Seattle, Cleveland, involving extensive local business and community engagements and the Embassy event on 'Pakistani Women in Business and Entrepreneurship', all scheduled this month.

 **Asad M. Khan** 
@asadm17

Sending documents by mail is just an additional option. Embassy is open for business and will also continue to offer consular services.

 **Asad M. Khan** 
@asadm17

While the Embassy & our Consulates remain open & continue to provide Con Services, I again urge all to use online facilities for visa & passport renewal & send in visa requests by mail. For the safety of all in this national emergency pl visit Embassy only if absolutely essential

AMBASSADOR HOLDS A VIDEO CONFERENCE ON COVID-19 PANDEMIC WITH ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS OF PAKISTANI DESCENT OF NORTH AMERICA (APPNA)



Ambassador Dr. Asad M. Khan held a video link conference with the leadership of the Association of Pakistani Physicians of North America (APPNA) to discuss the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and its impact on Pakistan.

Ambassador Khan apprised about the latest situation in Pakistan and efforts of the government in dealing with the crisis. He urged the APPNA leadership to extend their support and cooperation to complement Government of Pakistan's efforts in fighting the Covid-19 crisis. He particularly emphasized the need for technical experts to advise the Pakistani government.

Ambassador Khan also shared a list of equipment that the government needs as it continues to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic.

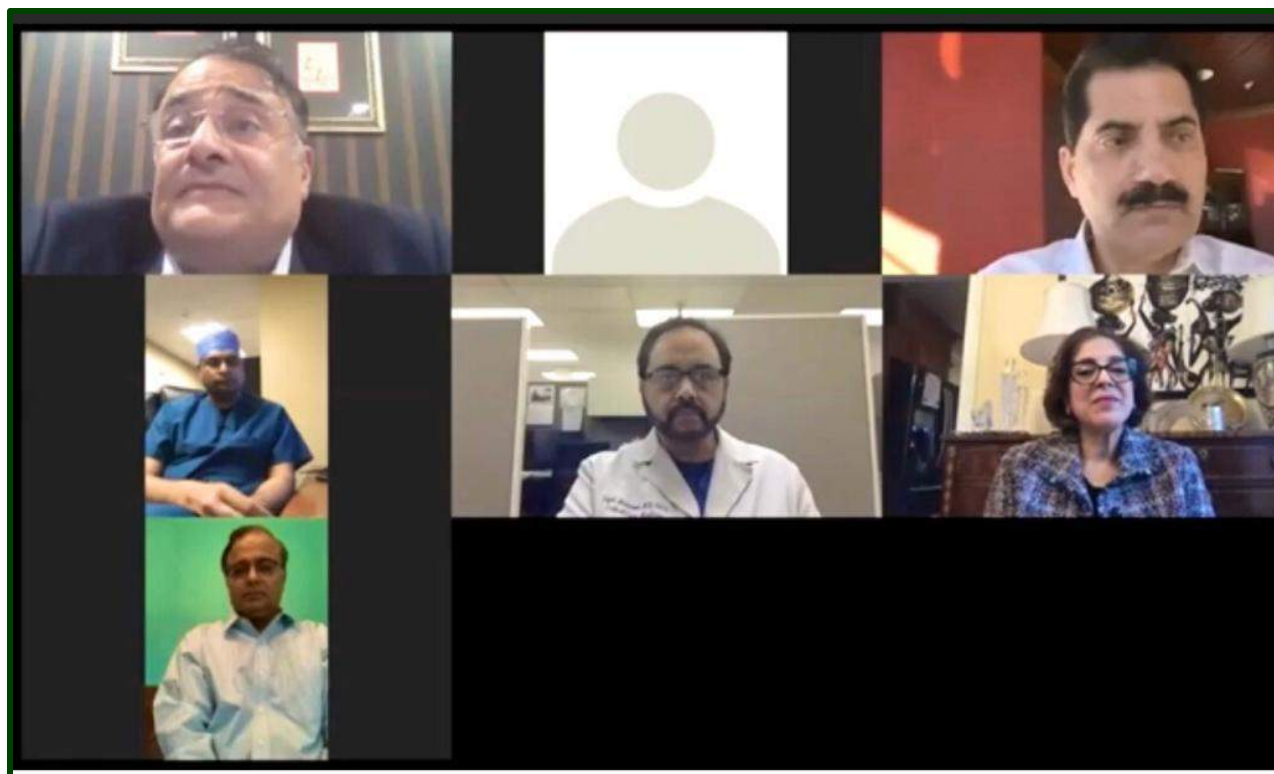
APPNA leadership assured the honorable Ambassador of complete cooperation on behalf of their organization.

The Embassy and our Consulates General at New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and Houston have been working closely with the Pakistani-American community to combat the COVID-19 outbreak.

Ambassador Dr. Asad M. Khan has been in regular contact with leading community organizations, particularly the Association of Physicians of Pakistani-descent of North America (APPNA) to coordinate joint efforts to mobilize funds, raise awareness and donate both in cash as well as in kind for medical equipment both in the U.S. as well as Pakistan. Ambassador Khan held a video conference and numerous teleconferences with APPNA leadership.

At this time of need, the Pakistani-American community is also leading in community service. Many community organizations including American Pakistan Foundation (APF), Organization of Pakistani American Entrepreneurs of North America (OPEN), Pakistani American Society of Greater Houston (PAGH) are partnering with local restaurant owners to raise funds and provide cooked meals as well as dry food rations to the Pakistani American community affected by the lock down as well as raising funds for relief efforts back in Pakistan. In the Washington D.C. tri-state area as well as in New York, Houston, Chicago and Los Angeles, a number of community organizations are collaborating with local restaurants and have launched food pantries that are distributing dry food rations among the Pakistani-American and local communities. [Read more here](#)

AMBASSADOR ADDRESSES A WEBINAR HELD BY ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS OF PAKISTANI DESCENT OF NORTH AMERICA (APPNA)



Ambassador Dr. Asad M. Khan addressed a Webinar held by APPNA on March 29. APPNA's Task Force on COVID-19 is working in collaboration with the Embassy and Consuls General to procure much needed medical items including protective medical clothing, ventilators and diagnostic kits for use in Pakistan. A number of items have already been ordered by them both inside Pakistan and from other sources.

In the wake of Covid-19 related emergency measures announced by the U.S. government and to ensure the safety of all, we are urging everyone to use the online consular services and visit the embassy only if it is absolutely essential.

In this regard, consular services hours for the Embassy of Pakistan, Washington DC are being reduced and only essential staff will be available to meet the emergency needs from 09-1230 hours.

For consular queries please contact:

1. Muhammad Adnan | Consular Attaché | 571-242-9329
2. Abdul Hafeez | Consular Assistant | 202-243-3267
3. Imtiaz Abbasi | AD, MRP (passports only) | 202-679-8141

EMBASSY AND CONSULATE COVID-19 HELPLINES:

Embassy of Pakistan, Washington DC

1. Syed Mansoor Ali | Executive Officer | 202-436-4585
2. Muhammad Adnan | Consular Attaché | 571-242-9329

Consulate general of Pakistan, New York

Naeem Iqbal Cheema | Consul/HOC | 718-406-5999

Consulate General of Pakistan, Los Angeles

Atif Aziz | Trade & Investment Counselor | 424-439-8417

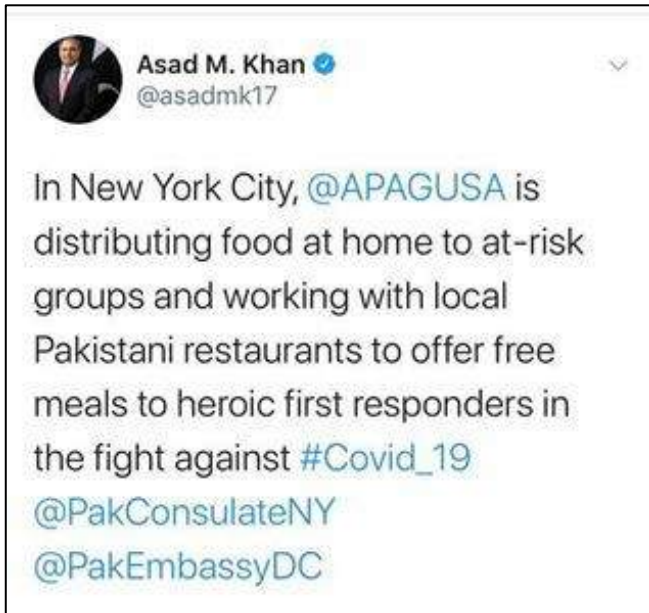
Consulate General of Pakistan, Chicago

Consulate helpline | 847-986-8779

Consulate General of Pakistan, Houston

COVID-19 Help line | 832-989-4208

PAKISTANI BUSINESSES COLLABORATE TO PROVIDE HELP TO THE COMMUNITY



Asad M. Khan @asadmk17

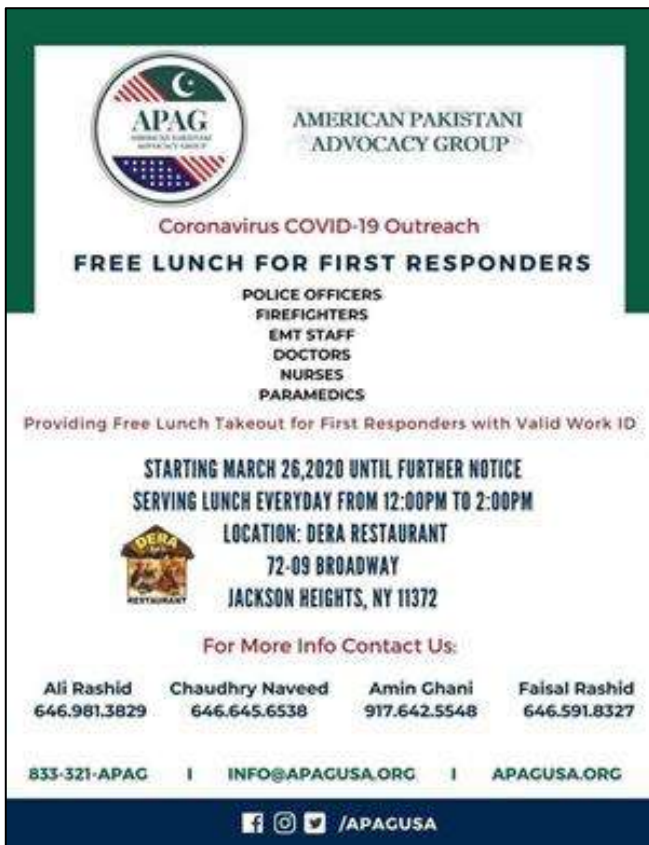
In New York City, @APAGUSA is distributing food at home to at-risk groups and working with local Pakistani restaurants to offer free meals to heroic first responders in the fight against #Covid_19

@PakConsulateNY
@PakEmbassyDC



Asad M. Khan @asadmk17

In Houston, a "Food Pantry" has been set up by Pakistan Association of Greater Houston and Alliance for Disaster Relief in collaboration with @pkconsulhouston that will provide prepackaged food to those in need between 12pm-6pm.



APAG AMERICAN PAKISTANI ADVOCACY GROUP

Coronavirus COVID-19 Outreach

FREE LUNCH FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

POLICE OFFICERS
FIREFIGHTERS
EMT STAFF
DOCTORS
NURSES
PARAMEDICS

Providing Free Lunch Takeout for First Responders with Valid Work ID

STARTING MARCH 26, 2020 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
SERVING LUNCH EVERYDAY FROM 12:00PM TO 2:00PM

LOCATION: DERA RESTAURANT
72-09 BROADWAY
JACKSON HEIGHTS, NY 11372

For More Info Contact Us:

Ali Rashid 646.981.3829	Chaudhry Naveed 646.645.6538	Amin Ghani 917.642.5548	Faisal Rashid 646.591.8327
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833-321-APAG | INFO@APAGUSA.ORG | APAGUSA.ORG

f i t /APACUSA



"COVID 19 RELIEF EFFORTS"

PAKISTAN CENTER FOOD PANTRY

OPEN DAILY 12PM TO 6PM

CORONAVIRUS

PAKISTAN CENTER
12638 BISSONNET ST, SUITE-A
HOUSTON, TX 77099

A UNITED COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE OF:

- CONSULATE GENERAL OF PAKISTAN-HOUSTON
- PAKISTAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER HOUSTON (PAGH)
- ALLIANCE FOR DISASTER RELIEF

FOR INFORMATION & DONATIONS:
713-922-8456 281-948-1840

PAKISTANI BUSINESSES COLLABORATE TO PROVIDE HELP TO THE COMMUNITY



Asad M. Khan @asadm17

Pakistani American doctors are at the forefront against COVID-19. We salute your contributions.

@APPNA_Central is playing a laudable role by mobilizing funds, raising awareness, distributing food and donating in cash & in kind for COVID-19 affected in US & Pakistan

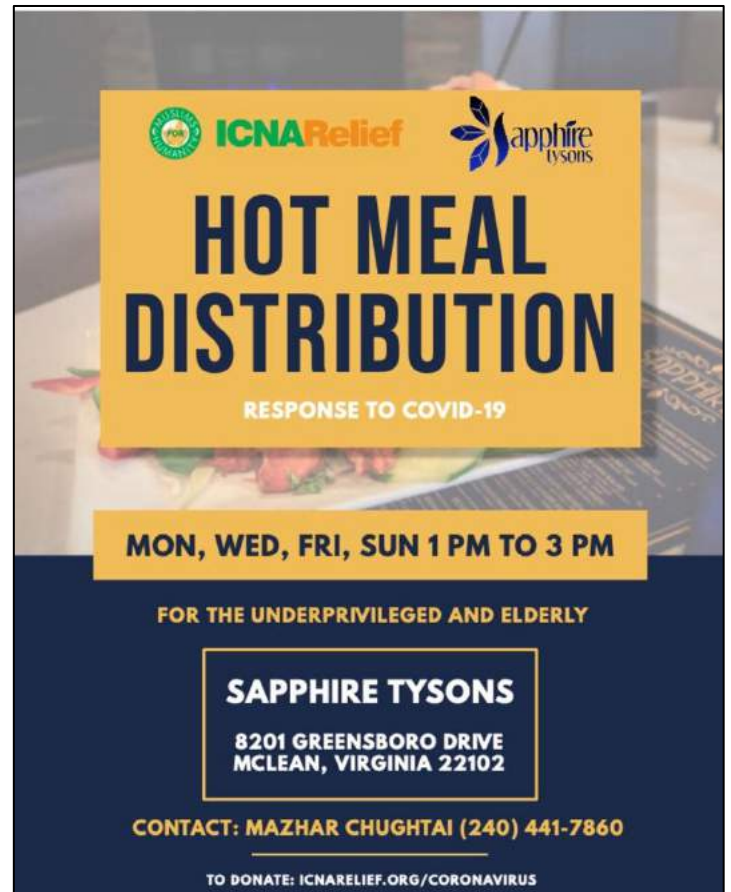
@PakEmbassyDC



Asad M. Khan @asadm17

Proud of our community for demonstrating traditional Pakistani spirit of generosity and sacrifice in the face of adversity. A great example is @SapphireTysons that has teamed up with ICNA Relief to distribute food in the DMV area.

@PakEmbassyDC @ForeignOfficePk



ICNA Relief | Sapphire Tysons

HOT MEAL DISTRIBUTION

RESPONSE TO COVID-19

MON, WED, FRI, SUN 1 PM TO 3 PM

FOR THE UNDERPRIVILEGED AND ELDERLY

SAPPHIRE TYSONS
8201 GREENSBORO DRIVE
MCLEAN, VIRGINIA 22102

CONTACT: MAZHAR CHUGHTAI (240) 441-7860

TO DONATE: ICNARELIEF.ORG/CORONAVIRUS

PAKISTANI BUSINESSES COLLABORATE TO PROVIDE HELP TO THE COMMUNITY



#PakistanUnitedAgainstCorona

NPR: As The Coronavirus Spreads In Pakistan, Volunteers Rush Out to Help



“Until last week, Ahsan Pirzada ran a law firm in the Pakistani capital. But on March 22, when businesses shut down across Islamabad and thousands of low-wage Pakistanis lost their jobs, he decided to act.

He raised thousands of dollars through his friends and Facebook acquaintances to buy food. He converted his office into a storehouse and made ration packs with flour, rice, sugar, lentils, milk and cooking oil.”

[Read more here.](#)

Voice of America: Pakistan Railway Converts Train Cars Into COVID-19 Isolation Units



“With train service suspended in the country, Pakistan railway officials have begun converting air-conditioned sleeper and business class cars into medical wards for COVID-19 virus patients.

Pakistan Railway medical officer Dr. Abdula Samad tells the Associated Press news agency the sleeper and business class cars they converted can each hold about 36 patients, and they also can be adapted for isolation.”

[Read more here.](#)

Washington Post: Pakistan Screened Us For Coronavirus. Nobody Checked Us When We Got Back To JFK



“With train service suspended in the country, Pakistan railway officials have begun converting air-conditioned sleeper and business class cars into medical wards for COVID-19 virus patients.

Pakistan Railway medical officer Dr. Abdula Samad tells the Associated Press news agency the sleeper and business class cars they converted can each hold about 36 patients, and they also can be adapted for isolation.”

[Read more here.](#)

PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCES HEFTY RELIEF PACKAGE TO TACKLE ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN FROM COVID-19

Prime Minister Imran Khan announced a relief package aimed at providing financial support to different sectors of economy affected by the economic slowdown caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) all over the globe.

Reiterating that the country could not afford a complete lockdown with the imposition of curfew, Prime Minister said the situation in the country so far did not warrant for resorting to that last step. Provincial governments after the 18th Constitutional Amendment are free to take their own decisions.



Imran Khan  @ImranKhanPTI · Mar 14

I want to inform the nation I am personally overseeing measures to deal with COVID 19 & will address the nation soon. I would advise people to follow safety instructions issued by our govt. While there is a need for caution there is no need for panic.

 2.5K

 8.2K

 38.5K



Imran Khan  @ImranKhanPTI · Mar 14

We are alert to the dangers & have put in place sufficient protocols for the safety and health of our people. The WHO has commended our efforts as being amongst the best in the world.

[Read more here.](#)

PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCES HEFTY RELIEF PACKAGE TO TACKLE ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN FROM COVID-19



WE HAVE TAKEN
FOLLOWING DECISIONS

FOR POOR FAMILIES

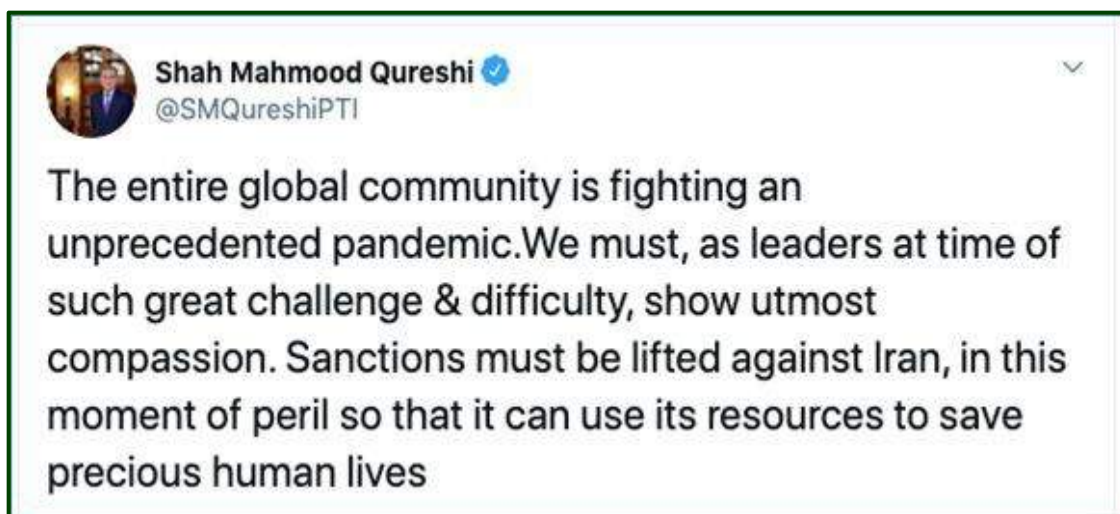
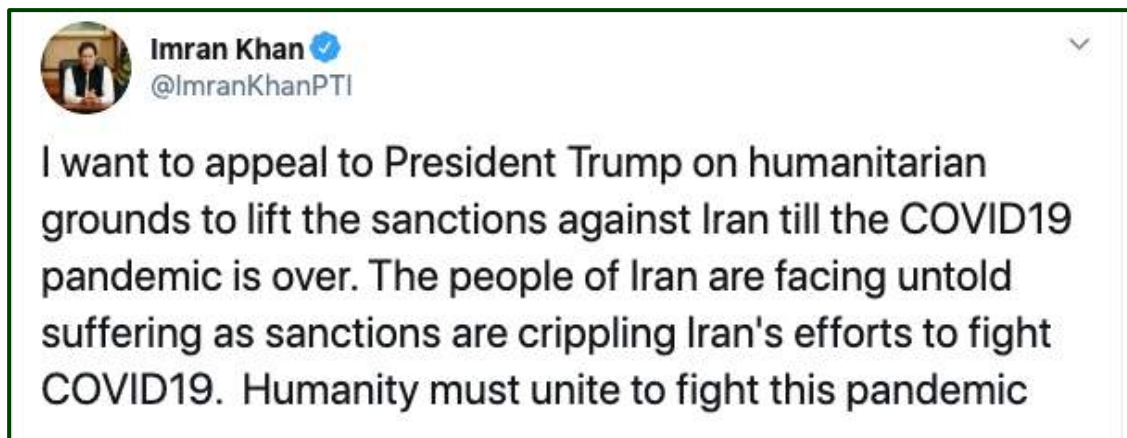
we have come up with a 4 months plan.
We will be giving 3K per month – a total of

RS. 2.5 BILLION

Package so they can purchase
daily life commodities.



PAKISTAN REMAINS COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC



PM FOR FIGHTING COVID-19 WITH UNITY, SAGACITY; ANNOUNCES RELIEF FUND, YOUTH FORCE



Prime Minister Imran Khan stressing on the need of fighting war against Coronavirus with unity and sagacity on Monday announced “PM’s Relief Fund for COVID-19” and a youth force to effectively tackle the situation arising out of the deadly contagion which has so far killed over 30,000 people across the world.

Addressing the nation over radio and television, he urged people including the Overseas Pakistanis to contribute generously in the PM’s Relief Fund for COVID-19 for which an account “NBPAPKKAMBR-4162786786” had been opened at the main branch of National Bank of Pakistan Karachi and would be operative from April 1.

The prime minister also announced “Corona Tiger Force” to help the government and institutions to reach out to the poor people affected by the lockdown in the wake of COVID-19 and provide them with food and other essential items.

[Read more here.](#)

FOREIGN MINISTER TWEETS ON THE COVID-19 RESPONSE

Shah Mahmood Qureshi @SMQureshiPTI

At the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, we have galvanised a Crisis Management Unit, working around the clock since the #Covid_19 outbreak to look after all Pakistani passengers stranded abroad and to coordinate COVID-19 updates to reach our Diaspora through our Missions.



Shah Mahmood Qureshi @SMQureshiPTI

I reiterate PM's call for alleviating this financial burden to protect the most vulnerable already struggling to cope with the challenge with limited resources & infrastructure to fight this pandemic (Covid-19).

Shah Mahmood Qureshi @SMQureshiPTI · Mar 21

The UN SG has highlighted the msg of Global Solidarity & focusing on protecting most vulnerable. PM Imran Khan has also underscored the imp of relieving the burden of debt-ridden developing countries in order to ensure resource allocation for saving lives & stemming eco decline.

Information Ministry @MoIB_Official

The government has enhanced testing facilities and a total of 35,875 tests have so far been conducted. Isolation facilities have been established in 462 hospitals across Pakistan with a capacity of 7,295 beds.



GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES WEBSITE TO SEE REALTIME PAKISTAN & WORLDWIDE COVID-19 SITUATION



Government of Pakistan has launched an official website to keep masses updated about statistics of coronavirus in real time.

[Read more here.](#)

PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT COVID-19 HELPLINE INFORMATION

COVID 19
WHATSAPP HELPLINE

SEND "HI" TO +92-300-111-1166

UPDATES - CORONA RISK ASSESSMENT - NEAREST LAB

IN **7** LANGUAGES

ENGLISH - URDU - PUNJABI
PASHTO - SINDHI - BALOCHI - KASHMIRI

#PakistanFightsCorona

PAKISTAN SUSPENDS OPERATION OF ALL INTERNATIONAL PASSENGER, CHARTERED AND PRIVATE FLIGHTS TO PAKISTAN



Aviation Division Government of Pakistan

PRESS RELEASE
AVIATION DIVISION
21-03-2020

TRAVEL ADVISORY - NOVEL CORONA VIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

ISLAMABAD () The WHO has declared COVID-19 a pandemic. Most of the countries have now reported cases of COVID-19. The Government is making all-out efforts to deal with a rapidly evolving situation which is a challenge, not only for Pakistan but the whole world. Proactive, comprehensive and coordinated steps continue to be taken to curtail the spread of COVID-19, with a view to ensuring safety and security of our nationals and people traveling to and from Pakistan.

2. As the situation evolves, the Government continues to review the measures/ arrangements in place, including the WHO recommendations to keep its population safe.

3. Against this backdrop and after carefully examining all options, the Government of Pakistan has decided to suspend operation of all international passenger, chartered and private

flights to Pakistan, effective from 21st March 2020 (2000 hrs PST) to 4th April 2020 (2000 hrs PST). This is a temporary suspension imposed due to exceptional circumstances. Upon resumption of international passenger, chartered and private flights to Pakistan, RT-PCR test certification from points of origin will not be mandatory.

4. Diplomats and special/ cargo aircrafts are exempted from the conditions above. However, they will be subjected to appropriate health screenings on arrival. They can also be isolated / quarantined as per advice of health professionals.

5. The Government of Pakistan is fully committed to ensuring the safety and security of its people. COVID-19 is a global challenge entailing a global response. Individual responsibility is critical for collective security. Your safety lies in keeping others safe.

Abdul Sattar Khokhar
Senior Joint Secretary
Spokesman
Aviation Division

PAKISTAN-U.S. PARTNERS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

U.S. Embassy & Consulates
in Pakistan

The United States stands with Pakistan against Coronavirus

Islamabad, March 26, 2020 – Pakistan and the United States are partners in the fight against coronavirus. In a video message released on the U.S. Mission to Pakistan's social media platforms today, Ambassador Paul Jones highlighted the support the United States is providing Pakistan, our commitment to deepen our collaboration with new technologies and resources, and guidance for American citizens in Pakistan. In particular, Ambassador Jones encouraged American Citizens in Pakistan to register for the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program to receive security and health alerts at: <http://step.state.gov>

Ambassador Jones noted, "We've made Pakistan a priority country for emergency coronavirus assistance. We redirected \$1 million in existing funding, and provided \$1 million in new funding for lab and emergency supplies and to enable communities to identify potential coronavirus outbreaks...The United States and Pakistan are longstanding partners in tackling global health challenges, and this partnership has been critical as we work together against coronavirus...to achieve our shared goals of health and prosperity of our peoples."

Ambassador Jones' message, with both English and Urdu subtitles, is available [here](#),

U.S. Embassy Islamabad @usembislamabad · 13h
 #Pakistan & the U.S. are partners in the fight against #coronavirus. #AmbJones highlights support to Pakistan, our collaboration w/new technologies & resources, & guidance for #USCitizens in Pakistan. Watch it now:
youtube.com/watch?v=ee-PyK...

#COVID2019 #COVID #COVID19 #USPAK



State_SCA @State_SCA

Just one example of how @USAID's strong record of assistance and partnership with #Pakistan is helping Pakistan with the fight against #COVID19. AGW

US ConsulatePeshawar @USC... · 12h

#DYK: The United States provided 11 state-of-the-art ambulances to health authorities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa this year. These fully-equipped ambulances will assist the #KP Department of Health to combat the spread of #COVID19.

#Partners4Prosperity #COVID2019 #coronavirus #USAID



State_SCA @State_SCA · Mar 19, 2020
 The U.S.-Pakistan government partnership is helping fight #COVID19. The U.S. government is responding to #COVID-19 in #Pakistan with initial \$1 million in @USAID_Pakistan funding to bolster monitoring & rapid response.

State_SCA @State_SCA

And the U.S. and #Pakistan are longstanding partners in tackling global health challenges. There are 100+ recent Pakistani graduates of @CDCgov's epidemiology lab training on the ground investigating #COVID19 cases in #GilgitBaltistan & #Punjab right now. AGW #Partners4Prosperity

“The United States and Pakistan are long standing partners.”

-Ambassador Jones, U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan

UNITED STATES CENSUS 2020

For Pakistani Americans

U.S. Census is sending requests at home through mail. Kindly go to option of **“Other Asians”** and write **“Pakistani-American.”**

UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF DEFENSE CALLS CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF GENERAL QAMAR JAVED BAJWA

United States Secretary of Defence Dr Mark T Esper reaffirmed long-term, mutually beneficial security partnership with Pakistan in a phone call to Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa on 19 March, 2020.

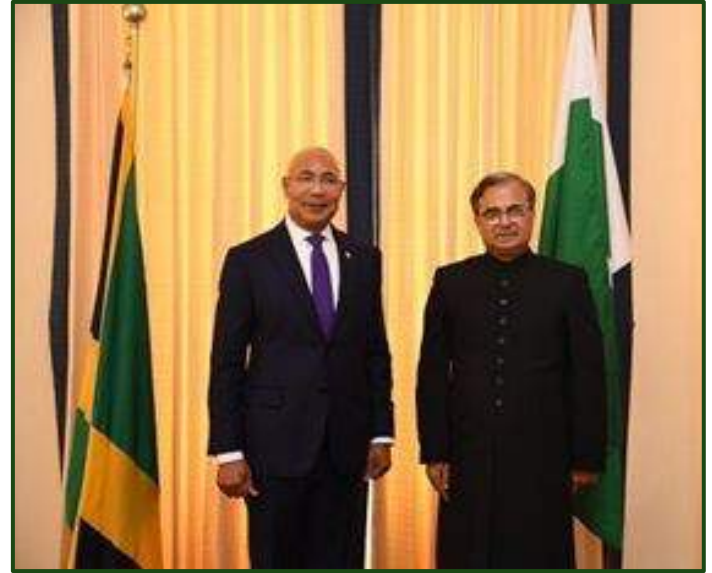
Secretary Esper reaffirmed US Defence Department's "commitment to a long-term, mutually beneficial security partnership with the government of Pakistan". Secretary Esper expressed his appreciation for Pakistan's support to the Afghanistan reconciliation process following February 29, 2020, US-Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Joint Declaration and signing of the US-Taliban Agreement. He also welcomed continued close cooperation with Pakistan in the future.

FEDERAL MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MEETS WITH US DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PAKISTAN AFFAIRS



Ervin Massinga, US Deputy Assistant Secretary for Pakistan Affairs called on the Federal Minister for Science & Technology Fawad Chaudhry during official visit to the U.S. Ambassador Dr. Asad M. Khan was also present on the occasion.

AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF JAMAICA



Ambassador Dr. Asad M. Khan presented credentials to His Excellency The Most Honourable Sir Patrick Linton Allen, the Governor General as Pakistan's High Commissioner to Jamaica on 02 March 2020.



AP: PRIME MINISTER IMRAN KHAN GIVES A DETAILED INTERVIEW TO 'THE ASSOCIATED PRESS'



Prime minister Imran Khan gave a detailed interview to Kathy Gannon of 'The Associated Press' on 16 March, 2020. In the interview Prime Minister expressed concern that the new coronavirus will devastate economies of developing nations, and warned richer economies to prepare to write off the debts of the world's poorer countries. He also raised concern over India's worst Hindu-Muslim violence in decades, saying the Indian prime minister's Hindu nationalist-led government threatens to disenfranchise hundreds of millions of people through a controversial new citizenship law.

[Read more here.](#)

AMBASSADOR GIVES AN INTERVIEW TO 'THE STAR'



Ambassador Dr. Asad M. Khan gave a detailed interview to 'The Star' a Jamaican newspaper, on 05 March, 2020. Ambassador Khan expressed a desire have Usain Bolt, the eight-time Jamaican Olympic gold medalist. He said that Usain Bolt will be a great ambassador for Jamaica in Pakistan and the two countries could benefit a lot through sporting exchanges, coaching and sport goods.

[Read more here.](#)

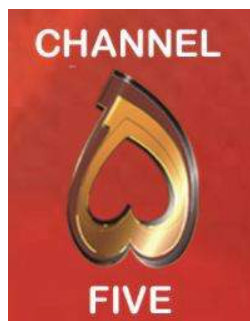


AMBASSADOR GIVES A DETAILED INTERVIEW TO 'THE GLEANER'



Ambassador Dr. Asad M. Khan gave a detailed interview to 'The Gleaner', a Jamaican newspaper on 06 March, 2020. In his interview he said that opportunities for Pakistan-Jamacia trade, cultural and sporting collaboration, as well as high-level political exchanges, will be atop his list of priority achievements. He also expressed the need for high-level political exchanges for greater cooperation.

[Read more here.](#)



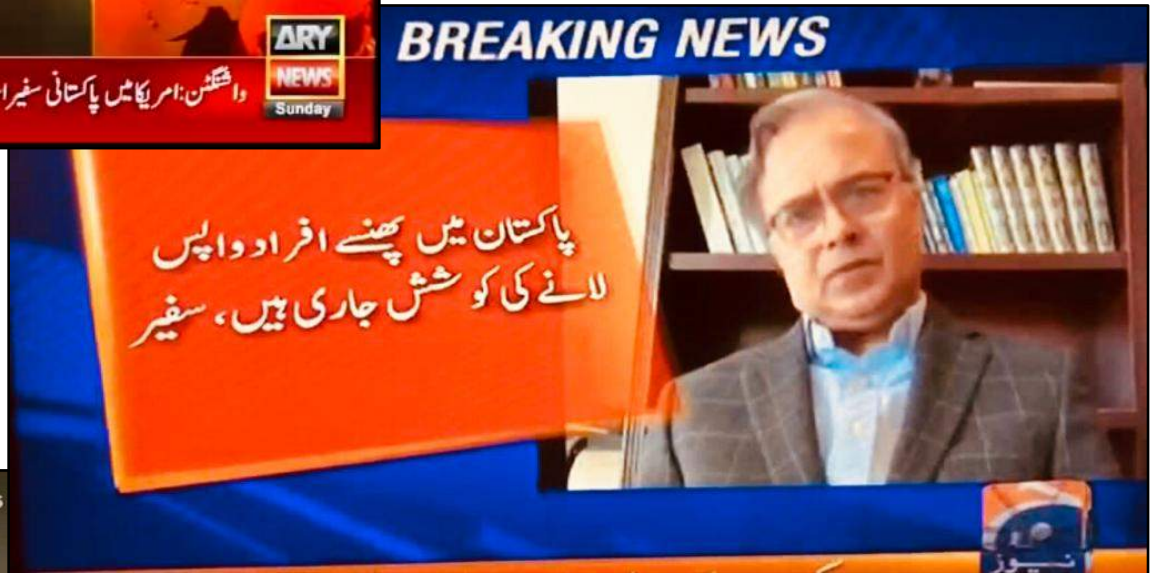
AMBASSADOR GIVES AN INTERVIEW TO 'CHANNEL 5'

Ambassador Dr. Asad M. Khan gave a detailed interview to Muqem Ahmed of 'Channel 5' on 06 March, 2020.



AMBASSADOR UPDATES PAKISTANI TV CHANNELS

Ambassador Dr. Asad M. Khan updated Pakistani channels about the measures taken by the Embassy of Pakistan and Consul Generals during COVID-19 crisis.





MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

OIC SECRETARY GENERAL'S SPECIAL ENVOY FOR JAMMU AND KASHMIR CALLS ON THE PRIME MINISTER

OIC Secretary General's Special Envoy for Jammu and Kashmir, Ambassador Yousef M. Al Dobeay, along with a high level delegation, called on Prime Minister Imran Khan.

Prime Minister welcomed the timely visit of the OIC delegation to Pakistan and AJK. He lauded OIC for extending unwavering support to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, particularly in the aftermath of India's unilateral and illegal actions of 5 August 2019.

Highlighting his commitment to the Kashmir cause as the Special Envoy, Ambassador Al Dobeay reiterated OIC's principled position on the internationally recognized Jammu and Kashmir dispute, which called for its peaceful settlement in accordance with the relevant UNSC resolutions and the wishes of the Kashmiri people.

Read more [here](#).

FOREIGN MINISTER SPEAKS TO OIC SECRETARY GENERAL ABOUT COVID-19 AND DEVELOPMENTS IN IOJ&K

Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi had a telephone conversation with Secretary General OIC, Dr. Yousef A. Al-Othaimen, today. The exchange covered the situation arising out of Covid-19 pandemic, OIC's responses, and developments in the Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJ&K).

Stressing that the pandemic posed a grave challenge to the entire humanity, including OIC member States, the Foreign Minister endorsed the Secretary General's call on Members to bring together governments, scientists and research institutions to contribute to efforts for finding solutions.

The Foreign Minister further underscored that, as already called for by Prime Minister Imran Khan, the current crisis made for a compelling case for debt relief and restructuring for developing States, as a means to enable them to divert resources to save lives and shore up economies. The OIC, together with the Islamic Development Bank, needed to play an effective role in helping members cope with the challenges.

Read More here

**PAKISTAN CALLS FOR
RELEASE OF KASHMIRI
PRISONERS AND
LIFTING OF
RESTRICTIONS IN IOJK
AS COVID-19 PANDEMIC
POSES DIFFICULTIES**

[Read more here.](#)



Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Government of Pakistan



**Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(Spokesperson's Office)**

No.135/2020

PRESS RELEASE

**Pakistan calls for release of Kashmiri
prisoners and lifting of restrictions in
IOJ&K as COVID-19 Pandemic poses
new difficulties**

Pakistan is deeply concerned over continued restrictions in the Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IoJ&K), despite so many confirmed cases and two deaths due to COVID-19. Thousands of Kashmiri youth, members of civil society, journalists and Kashmiri leaders remain incarcerated in Indian prisons, many of them at undisclosed locations and away from their families. The Indian forces continue to operate in the occupied territory with complete impunity under draconian laws such as Public Safety Act (PSA) and Armed Forces Special Power Act (AFSPA).



Asad M. Khan  @asadm17 · Mar 29

The int'l community must urge India to allow full medical and essential supplies into IOJK to deal with #Covid_19 crisis. India must also be asked to restore full internet facility in Occupied Jammu & Kashmir, release political prisoners including APHC leadership. @PakEmbassyDC

PAKISTAN EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER THE HEALTH CONDITION OF YASIN MALIK



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

PAKISTAN DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER THE HEALTH CONDITION OF APHC LEADER YASIN MALIK

Pakistan is deeply concerned over deteriorating health condition of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) leader Muhammad Yasin Malik, who is incarcerated in Tihar jail.

The reports of Kashmiri leader's announcement of going on an indefinite hunger strike from 1 April 2020 in protest against the false charge sheet framed by the Indian government against him under the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (TADA) Court in a 30 year old case are worrisome. The victimisation of a political leader to suppress the voice of Kashmiris is highly condemnable.

The international community, including the United Nations, Human Rights organisations and the global media must take notice of Indian government's inhuman treatment of the Kashmiri leader who has been leading a peaceful freedom struggle for decades. India must be urged to immediately release Yasin Malik and withdraw all false charges against him.



[Read more here.](#)



Imran Khan 
@ImranKhanPTI



Pakistan is moving on the road to development with accelerated development spending; rupee stable; current account deficit down by 73 percent; exports growing; cement sales up.



**“PAKISTAN IS
MOVING ON THE
ROAD TO
DEVELOPMENT.”
– PRIME
MINISTER
IMRAN KHAN**

[Watch more
here.](#)

PM CITIZEN PORTAL APPLICATION CROSSES 1.5 MN USERS



Imran Khan  @ImranKhanPTI · Mar 5



PM Citizen Portal application crosses mark of 1.5 mn users within 15 mths, with 92% resolution of public complaints. This result is unprecedented in Pak & I commend my team for bridging the gap between citizens & govt depts. This is actual citizens' empowerment.

[#PCP](#) [#PMhazirHay](#)

UN WORLD HAPPINESS INDEX: PAKISTAN No. 66

According to the United Nations (UN) 2020 World Happiness Report Pakistan has been ranked 66 with a score of 5.693 while India was at a dismal 144 rank of a total 156 nations surveyed.

The data used to compile this ranking was collected in the years 2018 and 2019. For the report, researchers asked people to evaluate their own levels of happiness, and took into account measures such as GDP, social support, personal freedom and levels of corruption to give their own nation a happiness score.

[Read more here.](#)

Editors: John F. Helliwell, Richard Layard, Jeffrey D. Sachs, and Jan-Emmanuel De Neve
Associate Editors: Lara B. Akin, Haifang Huang, and Shun Wang

2020

WHR
World Happiness Report



EMBASSY OF PAKISTAN, WASHINGTON, D.C.

