MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR JILANI

The month of September was a busy time for the Embassy. Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif visited New York for the 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. The Prime Minister held wide ranging discussions on all aspects of bilateral cooperation with the Vice President of the US, Joe Biden. In their meeting both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen the bilateral security partnership. Vice President Biden spoke highly of the Prime Minister’s success, adding that his “success as democratically elected leader of the country of such consequence is very important.” He also said that “The United States has a great interest in Pakistan’s success.”

The Prime Minister also met with President World Bank, Jim Yong Kim who praised the Government’s efforts to reform and strengthening Pakistan’s economy. The Prime Minister specifically noted World Bank’s support to Dasu Power Project as an important milestone.

Pakistan’s relationship with the United States continues on an upward trajectory and is gaining strength through sincere efforts of the leadership, as well as the dedication of both Pakistani and US officials. I too have continued outreach to the US congress and senate in an effort to foster a better understanding of the bilateral relationship on all fronts. I am hopeful that Pakistan-US bilateral ties will continue to deepen and strengthen in the months ahead.

The Embassy held a reception on the occasion of Pakistan’s 48th Defense Day to honor the services of Armed Forces of Pakistan towards defence and security of the Country and to pay homage to the brave Pakistani men and women who laid down their lives in the service of their homeland.

I am also pleased to share with you all that the Embassy won the 2014 Ambassador’s Cricket Cup Tournament.

PRIME MINISTER’S FLOOD RELIEF FUND

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PRIME MINISTER MUHAMMAD NAWAZ SHARIF MEETS WITH VICE PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN

The US Vice President, Joe Biden called on the Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif on the sidelines of 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. During the meeting, the two leaders discussed a wide range of issues in Pakistan-US relationship and expressed satisfaction on the positive momentum in the growth of bilateral cooperation. The Prime Minister appreciated US contribution to Pakistan’s economic development. The Prime Minister and Vice President Biden agreed that terrorism was a common threat to Pakistan and the United States. The Prime Minister reviewed notable successes achieved by Pakistan security forces recently in degrading terrorist networks and said that Pakistan’s resolve to defeat terrorism on its soil remains unswerving. The leaders reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen bilateral security partnership viewing it as a factor of regional stability. Both sides recognized the constructive role of Pakistan-US strategic dialogue in strengthening bilateral partnership in a broad range of areas including energy, finance and economy and defence. The two leaders expressed satisfaction that second round of meetings of Working Groups under the rubric of strategic dialogue are scheduled to start in near future. The Prime Minister’s initiatives, to have good neighbourly relations with all its neighbours, were appreciated by the US Vice President. Both leaders noted that peace, security and stability in the region was a shared objective and a robust Pakistan-US partnership was critical in achieving these goals.

Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif meeting with President World Bank, Jim Yong Kim

Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif met with Jim Yong Kim, President, World Bank on the sidelines of the 69th session of the United Nations General Assembly. The Prime Minister outlined the efforts made by his government in pursuing its reform agenda, building national economy, improving social indicators and enhancing regional connectivity. He appreciated President Kim’s leadership in raising the level of World Bank’s contribution to development and growth in Pakistan to unprecedented levels. The Prime Minister specifically noted World Bank’s support to Dasu Power Project as an important milestone. PM Sharif stated that the Government was resolutely focused on dealing with immediate challenges of providing relief to victims of recent floods, and rehabilitation of people displaced due to counter-terrorism operations in North Waziristan. President Kim appreciated the steps taken by the government to strengthen and reform Pakistan’s economy, including the measures taken to overcome the energy crises. He expressed interest in enhancing World Bank’s investments in projects vital for growth and prosperity of Pakistan and the region. The government’s plans for development in the health sector and improving disaster management were also discussed.

PRIME MINISTER MUHAMMAD NAWAZ SHARIF MEETS WITH JIM YONG KIM, PRESIDENT WORLD BANK

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Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif meeting with President World Bank, Jim Yong Kim

Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif with Vice President Joe Biden meeting on the sidelines of the UNGA

ADVISER ON NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SARTAJ AZIZ, SPEAKS AT THE COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, NEW YORK

The Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Sartaj Aziz spoke at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), New York on "Promoting US-Pakistan Relations. Future Challenges and Opportunities”. Highlighting the importance Pakistan attaches to stronger Pakistan-US cooperation, the Adviser noted that substantial progress has been made in the bilateral relationship especially since the visit of the Prime Minister to Washington last year. The two sides are closely cooperating for bringing peace and stability in Afghanistan. The United States has appreciated Pakistan’s positive role and contribution for enabling Afghanistan to hold the recent Presidential election in a peaceful manner. He stressed that an enduring US-Pakistan partnership is vital to regional and international security. On the future prospects of Pakistan-US relations, Mr. Aziz stated that using the revived Strategic Dialogue process as the main platform, the two countries can move towards a broad based, comprehensive and strategic partnership. He highlighted US assistance in energy sector, especially on Diamer-Bhasha and Dasu Dams and enhanced market access for Pakistani exporters in the US market as two key areas of interest for Pakistan. Mr. Aziz added that cooperation

Adviser on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Sartaj Aziz at the Council on Foreign Relations
in the defence and security sectors will remain an important plank of the bilateral ties. He also hoped that other areas of mutual interests like education, science and technology, and scientific research will also remain as areas of priority in the context of bilateral cooperation. In the regional context, Mr. Aziz said that close cooperation and coordination on the developments in Afghanistan will continue to be a key priority. Fighting terrorism and extremism will remain a shared objective of the two countries. The Advisor stressed that Pakistan is willing to play a constructive role for maintaining peace and tranquility in the region and beyond.

CONGRESSIONAL OUTREACH

AMBASSADOR JILANI MEETS SENATOR TIM JOHNSON (D–SD)
Ambassador Jalil Abbas Jilani met with Senator Tim Johnson, member of the Appropriations and Energy and Natural Resources Committees. Ambassador Jilani informed him that the two countries were engaged in wide ranging cooperation in the fields of economy and trade, defence, security and counter-terrorism under the Strategic Dialogue Framework. Ambassador Jilani also briefed the Senator on the ongoing military operation in North Waziristan which was aimed at eliminating all the terrorists from the Pakistani soil without any discrimination and destroying their communication and operational bases. Senator Johnson fondly recalled the positive contribution and support of the Pakistani-American community in strengthening the important relationship between Pakistan and the United States. He assured cooperation with the government of Pakistan to realize common objectives including defeating terrorism from the region and building a peaceful neighbourhood.

Right. Ambassador Jilani with Senator Tim Johnson (D–SD)

AMBASSADOR JILANI MEETS WITH SENATOR BENJAMIN CARDIN (D–MD)
Ambassador Jilani, met with Senator Benjamin Cardin, member of the Environment and Public Works (EPW), Finance, Foreign Relations, and Small Business & Entrepreneurship committees. The Ambassador thanked Senator Cardin for his consistent support for Pakistan and briefed him on the state of play and recent developments in the bilateral relationship which has seen increased cooperation in the fields of economy, trade, defence, security and counter-terrorism. Senator Cardin took note of the sacrifices of the people of Pakistan in the war against terrorism and reiterated his support and commitment to work for enhancing the US engagement with Pakistan. He also appreciated the efforts of the Pakistani government to revive the economy and improve law and order situation in the country. Peace and stability in the region including the situation in Afghanistan were also discussed in the meeting.

Right. Ambassador Jilani with Senator Benjamin Cardin (D–MD)

EMBASSY OUTREACH

AMBASSADOR JILANI’S ADDRESS AT THE STANFORD UNIVERSITY
Ambassador Jilani spoke at the Stanford University on “The Dynamics of Pakistan–US relations and its impact on South Asian Security”. Ambassador Jilani noted that despite the occasional challenges, the relationship between Pakistan and the US has continued to grow because of its inherent strength and realization that a mutually beneficial partnership was in the interest of both the countries. The Ambassador added that the revival of the Strategic Dialogue framework had in particular provided a platform to further intensify cooperation in the whole range of areas covering economy and finance, defence, counter-terrorism, energy and non-proliferation. Explaining the emerging threats to peace and security in South Asia, Ambassador Jilani argued that a mutually beneficial relationship between Pakistan and the US is also critical to promoting peace and stability in the region and beyond. In the post 9/11 context, he underlined that Pakistan's unprecedented sacrifices in the war against terrorism, its efforts to eradicate terrorism from the region through the ongoing military operation in North Waziristan, consistent support for the democratic process and peaceful transition in Afghanistan and positive overtures to improve relations with India were a manifestation of Pakistan's sincere commitment to strive for peace and stability in the region. Highlighting multiple areas of convergence between the two countries in socio-economic development, peace and stability in the region, Ambassador Jilani stressed the need for continued cooperation between Pakistan and the US on the basis of mutuality of trust and interests to sustain the positive momentum in the relationship. The event was co-chaired by former Secretary of State George Shultz and former Secretary of Defence William Perry.
THE EMBASSY HOSTS A RECEPTION ON THE 48TH DEFENCE DAY OF PAKISTAN

The Embassy hosted a reception on the 48th Defence Day of Pakistan to honor the services of Armed Forces of Pakistan towards defence and security of the Country and to pay homage to brave Pakistani men and women who laid down their lives in the service of their homeland. Ambassador Jilani, paid special tribute to the martyred men and women as well as their families. He reiterated resolve of the Pakistani nation to overcome all challenges confronting the country and emphasized the desire for good neighborly relations as the bedrock of Pakistan's foreign policy. Ambassador Jilani also commended contributions and sacrifices of Armed Forces in the on-going operation Zarb-e-Azb and underscored Pakistan's unwavering commitment to defeat terrorism on its soil. A robust Pakistan–US defence partnership continues to remain a factor for stability and security in the region, Ambassador Jilani noted. The event was attended by senior representatives of the United States Government including Department of Defence, Department of State, Think tanks as well as military attachés from the diplomatic community.

US ARMY DELEGATION VISITS THE EMBASSY

Left, Ambassador Jilani addressing the US Army Delegation at the Embassy

PAKISTAN WINS THE 2014 AMBASSADOR'S CRICKET CUP

Pakistan won the 2014 Ambassador's Cricket Cup Trophy. The Ambassadors’ Cricket Cup is an annual cricket tournament (since 2013) hosted in Washington, DC by embassies of cricket-playing nations. Teams representing the local diaspora communities of Australia, Bangladesh, India, New Zealand, South Africa, Sri Lanka, the United Kingdom and the West Indies participated in the tournament for a day-long “Ambassadors’ Cricket Cup”.

Left. Ambassador Jilani with the winning Pakistani team
A GROUP OF FEMALE PROSECUTORS VISITS THE EMBASSY

Ambassador Jilani with a group of female prosecutors visiting from Pakistan

ANNOUNCEMENT

PRIME MINISTER'S FLOOD RELIEF FUND

The recent floods in Pakistan have affected large areas of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Gilgit-Baltistan and Punjab. Around one million people have been affected by the floods, hundreds have lost their lives and tens of thousands have been deprived of their houses, properties, crops and livestock. The Government of Pakistan has launched a massive relief and rehabilitation operation and all possible assistance is being provided to those affected. The Prime Minister's Flood Relief Fund—2014 has been created to collect donations from both domestic and international donors. Cash contributions to the Fund can be deposited to the ‘Prime Minister's Flood Relief Fund’, account number 1001003943 at the National Bank of Pakistan branch located at 1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20009 (Tel. 202-462-7373, Fax. 202-667-2515).

Due to logistical difficulties in the flood affected areas assistance in kind is not being collected from abroad.

ALSO PAKISTAN

is a substantial amount of good news coming out of Pakistan.

PAKISTAN WINS WOMEN’S TWENTY20 CRICKET GOLD MEDAL AT THE ASIAN GAMES

Pakistan retained the women’s Twenty20 cricket gold medal at the Asian Games on Friday by defeating spirited Bangladesh in a rain-affected final, as Sri Lanka took home the bronze.
The Embassy of Pakistan welcomes your feedback.

Please send your comments to newsletter@embassyofpakistanusa.org
or visit www.embassyofpakistanusa.org