



EMBASSY of THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN in WASHINGTON DC



MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR JILANI

June has been a momentous month for Pakistan. We had the honour of hosting Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry on his first official visit to Washington, DC where he co-chaired the seventh round of US-Pakistan Security, Strategic Stability, and Nonproliferation (SSS&NP) Working Group under the auspices of the US-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue. The U.S. side, led by Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security Rose Gottemoeller, was appreciative of Pakistan's efforts to harmonize its strategic trade controls with those of the Nuclear Suppliers Group and other multilateral export control

regimes. Pakistan reiterated the need for access to peaceful nuclear technology as a socioeconomic imperative.

Another significant achievement was the signing of the 2nd Fiscally Sustainable & Inclusive Growth Development Policy Credit worth \$500 million. This agreement is an acknowledgement of the tremendous progress that Pakistan's economy has made.

Continuing streaks of achievement in Pakistan's economic revival, I am happy to share that the Karachi Stock Exchange has gained 72% since the 2013 election and Pakistan's improving prospects are increasingly being recognized internationally. In June Pakistan's dollar bonds climbed the most since April and stocks advanced after Moody's Investors Service upgraded the Pakistan's sovereign credit ratings for the first time since 2008. Standard & Poor's also raised its credit outlook on Pakistan's debt to positive from stable this year while New York based MSCI Inc. said that Pakistan will be included in its 2016 review of equity indices for potential reclassification as an emerging market.

I hope Ramadan has been a blessed month for you all and that everyone had a wonderful Eid. Eid Mubarak!

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US-PAKISTAN SECURITY, STRATEGIC STABILITY, AND NONPROLIFERATION (SSS&NP) WORKING GROUP MEETS IN WASHINGTON, DC

Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry and Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security Rose Gottemoeller, co-chaired the seventh round of the U.S.-Pakistan Security, Strategic Stability, and Nonproliferation (SSS&NP) Working Group in Washington, DC under the auspices of the U.S.-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue. The U.S. delegation welcomed Pakistan's efforts to harmonize its strategic trade controls with those of the Nuclear Suppliers Group and other multilateral export control regimes. Both sides emphasized the desirability of continued outreach to integrate Pakistan into the international nonproliferation regime. Pakistan stressed the need for access to peaceful nuclear technology as a socioeconomic imperative. Both sides recognized their shared interest in strategic stability in the region. The United States welcomed Prime Minister Sharif's 2014 statement to the United Nations General Assembly in which he noted that, to promote stability, Pakistan is prepared to explore new confidence building measures. Reaffirming that statement of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, Pakistan reiterated its longstanding proposal of pursuing nuclear restraint, conventional equilibrium and conflict resolution in South Asia. Pakistan also reiterated its commitment to Credible Minimum Deterrence and to pursue measures in the region aimed at building confidence and lessening the risk of armed conflict. The delegations discussed international efforts aimed at improving nuclear security with a central role of IAEA including through the high level focus by the Nuclear Security Summit process and the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism.

FOREIGN SECRETARY MEETS US DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE, TONY BLINKEN

Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry met with Deputy Secretary of State, Tony Blinken. The two sides reviewed the state of bilateral relationship and expressed satisfaction over its growing momentum and positive trajectory. The two sides acknowledged that the Working Groups constituted under the rubric of the Strategic Dialogue have contributed significantly in strengthening bilateral cooperation on economy, regional stability, and countering extremism and terrorism. The Foreign Secretary apprised the Deputy Secretary on Pakistan's effort to address the threat of terrorism. Deputy Secretary Blinken appreciated Pakistan's stabilizing role in the region and commended Pakistan's efforts against terrorism. Mr. Blinken assured the Foreign Secretary for continued US engagement in the region. He also lauded the Prime Minister's efforts to reach out to Pakistan's neighbours and hoped that his initiatives would help bring prosperity to the people of the region. Deputy Secretary Blinken noted the improved mutual trust and positive relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

FOREIGN SECRETARY MEETS U.S. DEPUTY NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR, AVRIL HAINES

Foreign Secretary and US Deputy National Security Adviser reviewed the entire gamut of Pak-U.S. relationship and expressed satisfaction on the overall positive trajectory in the bilateral cooperation. Both sides underscored their mutual desire to work towards a broad-based and comprehensive Pakistan-U.S. partnership aimed at achieving peace, security and prosperity for the two peoples. Deputy NSA Haines appreciated the economic progress made by Pakistan and the role played by Pakistan in promoting peace and security in the region. Both sides recognized the need for both countries to closely work together for securing peace, stability and sustainable development in the region.



Above: Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry and Ambassador Jilani with U.S. Deputy National Security Adviser Avril Haines at the White House, prior to their meeting

FOREIGN SECRETARY MEETS US UNDERSECRETARY FOR TREASURY, ADAM J. SZUBIN

Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry met with the US Undersecretary for Treasury Adam J. Szubin. The Foreign Secretary briefed Undersecretary Szubin on various legislative and administrative steps taken by the government in the domain of Anti Money Laundering and Countering Terrorist Financing. Sharing the key points of the Prime Minister's National Action Plan (NAP), the Foreign Secretary highlighted the various measures undertaken to implement NAP, in particular, the steps taken towards countering financing for terrorism. Undersecretary Szubin lauded Pakistan's efforts to combat terrorism in line with the priorities set out in the National Action Plan. Praising Pakistan's dedication and sacrifices in the fight against terrorism, he noted the significant success achieved by the ongoing military operations in FATA.



Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry and Ambassador Jilani with U.S. Deputy National Security Adviser Avril Haines at the White House, prior to their meeting

Undersecretary Szubin also appreciated the positive steps taken by the Government of Pakistan to meet international financial standards to monitor and interdict suspicious transactions.

FOREIGN SECRETARY MEETS US UNDERSECRETARY OF DEFENSE, CHRISTINE WORMUTH



Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry shaking hand with US Undersecretary of Defense, Christine Wormuth

Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry met with US Undersecretary of Defense, Christine Wormuth. During the meeting, both sides discussed a wide range of issues related to bilateral defence cooperation. The Foreign Secretary expressed satisfaction that bilateral defence partnership has maintained robust momentum and remains on an upward trajectory. It was agreed to continue high level exchanges and regular dialogues between defence communities of Pakistan and the United States. The Foreign Secretary appreciated support by the United States in assisting Pakistan in its counter-terrorism campaign. He reiterated Pakistan's strong resolve to defeat terrorist networks on its soil.

FOREIGN SECRETARY MEETS THE ACTING ADMINISTRATOR USAID, ALFONSO LENHARDT

Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry met with Acting Administrator USAID Alfonso Lenhardt. The two reviewed the state of economic collaboration and USAID work and assistance projects in Pakistan. The Foreign Secretary expressed deep appreciation for the US cooperation particularly in the economic and social sectors. He also thanked the US for its timely commitment to help Pakistan with the return and rehabilitation of temporarily dislocated people in North Waziristan. Terming the US assistance as an investment in the future of the relationship, the Foreign Secretary particularly appreciated USAID projects in the energy sector and road infrastructure. Acting Administrator Lenhardt renewed the U.S. commitment to help Pakistan in overcoming energy crisis and appreciated the economic reforms undertaken by the Government. Both sides exchanged views on optimally utilizing USAID's funding for projects in Pakistan and resulting in macro-economic stability in Pakistan. Mr. Lenhardt said that the U.S. would closely work with all stakeholders on projects which could lead to sustainable development of Pakistan.

FOREIGN SECRETARY AT THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL

Speaking at the Atlantic Council, Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry discussed how Pakistan is positioning itself in its quest for regional peace, security, and enduring development. He remarked that the Government's focus is competing to find room among the new emerging markets and achieve social and economic indicators that could represent the country's true potential. The Foreign Secretary said that to achieve enduring peace, security and beneficial development for the people of Pakistan, the government



Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry speaking at the Atlantic Council

has aimed for a conscious and well-considered strategic shift pivoting the policy on internal stability, regional security, a rebalancing between geo-strategic and geo-economic priorities with a sharper focus on economic diplomacy, and on strengthening partnerships with governments, international organizations and overseas communities. He highlighted Pakistan's growing economic stability and improved internal security situation as a concrete manifestation of this policy shift. The Foreign Secretary expressed hope for a stronger relationship with the US based on trade, investment, education, research and people-to-people exchanges as its driving links. He also reiterated Pakistan's support for an Afghan lead reconciliation as a path to enduring peace.

Video Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g-qXmT7_9U&feature=youtu.be

US-PAKISTAN EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY WORKING GROUP

UNITED STATES AND PAKISTAN ADVANCE ECONOMIC AND EDUCATION COOPERATION AT INAUGURAL EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY WORKING GROUP MEETING

Minister of Planning, Development, and Reform Ahsan Iqbal and U.S. Under Secretary for Public Affairs and Public Diplomacy Richard Stengel convened the inaugural meeting of the Education, Science, and Technology Working Group under the U.S.-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue at the Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform in Islamabad. The Education, Science, and Technology Working Group is the sixth and newest working group under the U.S.-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue. The delegations discussed ways to build sustainability into ongoing university linkages and extend the benefits to universities across Pakistan. The U.S. delegation highlighted educational cooperation and exchange programs that support Pakistan's development goals. The Working Group also strategized ways to connect higher education and science and technology research with the private sector to promote innovation, trade and investment, including strengthening intellectual



Minister for Planning, Development, & Reforms Ahsan Iqbal & U.S. Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy & Public Affairs Richard Stengel presiding over the inaugural session of the U.S.-Pakistan Education, Science, and Technology Working Group
Source: http://islamabad.usembassy.gov/pr_060315.html

property rights and building public-private partnerships. Speaking on the occasion Minister Ahsan Iqbal remarked that Pakistan looks forward for expanded cooperation from the US in the development sector and in areas of education, science and technology. He briefed the US delegation about various initiatives the government has taken to target the education, science and technology areas. US Under Secretary of Public Affairs & Public Diplomacy Richard Stengel commended the Vision 2025 of government and appreciated the efforts being taken to promote higher education, skill development, science and technology in the country.

AMBASSADOR JILANI AND ANNETTE DIXON, VICE PREISDENT, WORLD BANK SOUTH ASIA SIGN THE 2ND FISCALLY SUSTAINABLE & INCLUSIVE GROWTH DEVELOPMENT POLICY CREDIT

Ambassador Jilani and Annette Dixon, Vice President, World Bank South Asia signed the 2nd Fiscally Sustainable & Inclusive Growth Development Policy Credit worth \$500 million. Acknowledging the tremendous progress that Pakistan’s economy has made Annette Dixon said that the government seemed poised to achieve its goal of alleviating poverty from the country. She added that board members that attended the meeting lauded the tremendous progress in Pakistan’s economy and were very optimistic that the present government would be able to achieve its goal in implementing microeconomic policies and to accelerate poverty reduction in the country. The first Fiscal Sustainable and Inclusive Growth (FSIG-I) single-tranche policy credit addressed critical institutional and regulatory changes needed to jump start the reforms, whereas the second credit will bring depth and sustainability to most actions of the first credit, while addressing new reforms on inclusion and governance



Ambassador Jilani and Annette Dixon, Vice President, World Bank South Asia Region signing the 2nd Fiscally Sustainable & Inclusive Growth DPC

CONGRESSIONAL OUTREACH

AMBASSADOR JILANI WITH REP. GREGORY MEEKS (D-NY)



AMBASSADOR JILANI WITH REP. DARRELL ISSA (R-CA)



EMBASSY EVENTS

AMBASSADOR JILANI INAUGURATES THE MACHINE READABLE PASSPORTS (MRPS) FACILITY

Ambassador Jilani inaugurated the machine readable passport facility at the embassy. In accordance with the Prime Minister’s vision and instructions to upgrade and improve the quality of services extended to the Pakistani community, Embassy of Pakistan in Washington DC and Pakistan’s Consulates General in Chicago and Houston have started processing Machine Readable Passports (MRPs). All Pakistan missions in the United States will now be issuing MRPs. This step will go a long way in facilitating the Pakistani community and protecting their interests since foreign governments will grant visa or entry only to persons possessing MRPs after 24 November 2015 in pursuance of the standards and recommended practices of International Civil Aviation Organization.



Ambassador Jilani cutting the ribbon at the MRPS inauguration ceremony

AMBASSADOR JILANI MEETS A GROUP OF PAKISTANI JOURNALISTS



Ambassador Jilani with a group of Pakistani journalists visiting the embassy along with Joe Foote, Dean of the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication

ALSO PAKISTAN

While the mainstream media often focuses on the problems Pakistan faces and the challenges confronted by our government and society, there is a substantial amount of good news coming out of Pakistan. We are pleased to share these stories of achievement with you as we redefine a narrative for Pakistan based on the values of equity, democracy, pluralism, rule of law and transparent governance.

PAKISTAN IN LINE FOR UPGRADE TO EMERGING MARKET STATUS

Index provider MSCI has revealed it plans to consider upgrading Pakistan from frontier- to emerging-market status next year. Citing “a number of positive developments over the course of the past 12 to 18 months,” MSCI said it would include Pakistan on its 2016 review list. Pakistan has already achieved recognition among frontier-markets analysts, including Renaissance Capital, which describes the country as “the best undiscovered investment opportunity in emerging or frontier markets.”

<http://blogs.wsj.com/frontiers/2015/06/10/pakistan-in-line-for-upgrade-to-emerging-market-status>

SACRAMENTO REPUBLIC FC SIGN PAKISTAN CAPTION KALEEMULLAH

Sacramento Republic FC have agreed to a contract with Pakistan forward Kaleemullah Khan. The Pakistan Men’s National Team captain is believed to be the first Pakistani-born player to sign a contract with a professional U.S.-based soccer club, based on current record keeping.

<http://www.sacrepublicfc.com/players/kaleemullah>





The Embassy of Pakistan welcomes your feedback.
Please send your comments to newsletter@embassyofpakistanusa.org
or visit www.embassyofpakistanusa.org
