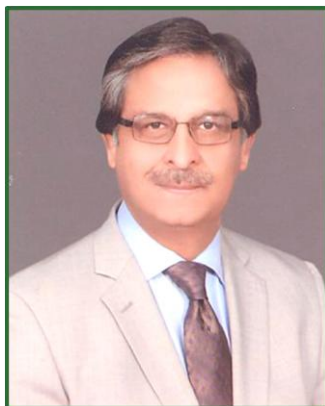




EMBASSY of THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN in WASHINGTON DC



MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR JILANI

I am pleased to share with you that as a result of the government's focused approach, Pakistan's economy is showing improvement and this fact has been recognized by the IMF and the World Bank as well.

The month of February witnessed continued growth and vigor in Pakistan-U.S. relations. This was manifested by a healthy number of high level visits between the two countries. I have also continued my interaction with the U.S. Administration and the U.S. Congress. During all these interactions, I have noticed an across the board

appreciation of the importance of long-term strategic partnership between Pakistan and the United States.

I am confident that the upcoming interactions under the Strategic Dialogue process will lead to a strong and mutually beneficial partnership between Pakistan and the U.S. as visualized by the leadership of the two countries during Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's visit to Washington, D.C. last year.

Since my arrival in Washington D.C., I have been particularly focused on ensuring timely and effective provision of services to the Pakistani-American community by the Embassy and the Consulates. This area will remain my top priority in future as well.

While I have been extensively interacting with the Pakistani-American community in Washington D.C., my visit to Los Angeles in February provided me an important opportunity to meet the Pakistani community there as well. During these interactions both here in Washington D.C. and in Los Angeles, I have been deeply touched by the community's strong sense of patriotism and their desire to contribute towards Pakistan's progress and stronger Pakistan-U.S. ties. I firmly believe that the Pakistani diaspora has a critical role in improving Pakistan's image in the U.S. and building bridges between the two countries. I assure you that the Embassy and the Consulates will always be there to assist you in performing this important role.

IN THIS ISSUE...

- 2- ***PAKISTAN AT THE 8TH TRILATERAL SUMMIT & VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL FORA***
- 3- ***PAK-US RELATIONS***
- 4- ***CONGRESSIONAL OUTREACH***
- 4-5 ***EMBASSY OUTREACH***
- 6- ***ALSO PAKISTAN***
- 6- ***IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING EMERGENCY CONSULAR SERVICES***

KASHMIR SOLIDARITY DAY



On the occasion of the Kashmir Solidarity Day, a special event was organized at the Embassy of Pakistan in Washington DC attended by a large cross-section of the Pakistani and Kashmiri Diaspora in Washington D.C. Speaking on the occasion Ambassador Jalil Abbas Jilani reaffirmed Pakistan's firm support to the people of Kashmir in their just struggle for seeking their right of self-determination in accordance with the UN resolutions. He emphasised Pakistan's commitment to seeking a just and peaceful settlement of the Kashmir dispute in accordance with the aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Ambassador (R) Touqir Hussain in his key note address on the occasion explained the background, history and the current status of the Kashmir dispute. He noted that the dispute had moral, political, diplomatic, and economic dimensions and in his view Pakistan must remain engaged with the Kashmiri struggle - morally, politically and diplomatically.

Video:

http://embassyofpakistanusa.org/Kashmir_Da_y_02052014_video_1.php

PAKISTAN AT THE EIGHTH TRILATERAL SUMMIT

JOINT STATEMENT ADOPTED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE EIGHTH TRILATERAL SUMMIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY AND THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

His Excellency Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, His Excellency Hamid Karzai, President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and His Excellency Abdullah Gül, President of the Republic of Turkey held their eighth Trilateral Summit Meeting in Ankara, on 13 February 2014. On the occasion of the Trilateral Summit, the three leaders, together with His Excellency Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey, held fruitful and comprehensive talks on regional and international security issues.

Text of the Joint Statement issued on this occasion can be accessed at <http://pid.gov.pk/joint%20statement%202013-2-2014.doc>



Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif with Trukish Prime Minister, Recap Tayyip Erdogan, Afghan President, Hamid Karzai and Turkish President, Abdullah Gul expressing solidarity at the 8th Afghanistan-Pakistan-Turkey Trialateral Summit in Ankara, Turkey on February 13, 2014

PAKISTAN PARTICIPATES IN THE CASA-1000 PROJECT AGREEMENT DISCUSSIONS

MINISTER FOR WATER AND POWER, KHAWAJA MUHAMMAD ASIF AND THE ENERGY MINISTERS OF AFGHANISTAN, KYRGYZSTAN AND TAJIKISTAN DISCUSS THE CASA-1000 PROJECT AGREEMENT IN WASHINGTON, DC

The Minister for Water and Power, Khawaja Muhammad Asif and the Energy Ministers of Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan convened in Washington, DC to discuss the CASA-1000 Project Agreement. The meeting was organized by the World Bank which is supporting the Project in addition to IDB and USAID. The parties agreed, in principle, on the terms and conditions of the Power Purchase Agreement, conducted negotiations on the Master Agreement and at the same time initiated negotiations on electricity pricing. The consultations round concluded with the signing of a resolution approving, in principle, the terms and conditions of the power purchase between the parties.



Minister for Water and Power Khawaja Muhammad Asif at the CASA-1000 Project Agreement Discussions held in Washington, DC

PAKISTAN AT THE 2ND GLOBE CLIMATE LEGISLATION SUMMIT

PAKISTAN PARTICIPATES IN THE 2ND GLOBE CLIMATE LEGISLATION SUMMIT IN WASHINGTON, DC

Pakistan joined the delegations of sixty countries from across the globe at the opening session of the 2nd Globe Climate Legislation Summit in Washington, DC. Led by the Deputy Chairman Senate, Senator Sabir Ali Baluch, Pakistan delegation included MNA Mariam Aurangzeb, MNA Muhammad Tallal Badar and MNA Muhammad Shahbaz Babar Choudhry. In the country presentations during the High Level Segment, Member National Assembly of Pakistan Mariam Aurangzeb highlighted the several policy initiatives undertaken by the Government of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to address the challenges of climate change. Recalling the severe floods and changed precipitation patterns adversely impacting Pakistan, Ms. Aurangzeb informed the audience that the newly established Climate Change Division in Islamabad was coordinating the national efforts and had launched a target oriented Work Program for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in Pakistan since February 2014 to implement the National Climate Change Policy of 2013. Ms. Aurangzeb stressed that the government was not only committed to improve the existing legislation on climate change but was also taking measures to strengthen its implementation and monitoring mechanism as a key priority involving the research institutions, civil society as well as media.



MNA Muhammad Tallal Badar, MNA Mariam Aurangzeb, Senator Sabir Ali Baloch, and MNA Muhammad Shahbaz Babar Choudhry at the 2nd Globe Climate Legislation Summit in Washington, DC.

PAKISTAN-US RELATIONS

CALL ON THE SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRIME MINISTER, TARIQ FATEMI BY PRINCIPAL DEPUTY SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN, AMBASSADOR BETH JONES

The US Principal Deputy Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, Ambassador Beth Jones called on the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, Tariq Fatemi. The Special Assistant highlighted the present Government's commitment to combating terrorism and extremism in all its forms, in a comprehensive and consensus based approach. He further expressed the Government's strong desire to move forward by taking along all concerned stakeholders. Ambassador Jones appreciated Pakistan's role in supporting peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan. Furthermore, she appreciated Pakistan's stabilizing role in the region. Both sides noted the successful holding of Strategic Dialogue Ministerial Review in Washington on 27-28 January 2014 which demonstrated cooperation in a wide range of bilateral and regional issue.



Special Assistant to the PM, Syed Tariq Fatemi in a meeting with US Deputy Special Representative for Afghanistan & Pakistan, Beth Jones

US CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION MEETS FOREIGN SECRETARY, AIZAZ AHMED CHAUDHRY

A four member bipartisan delegation of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense visited Pakistan. The delegation was led by sub-committee Chairman Representative Rodney P. Frelinghuysen and included Congressman Representative Peter Visclosky, Representative James Moran and Representative Kenneth Calvert accompanied by US Ambassador to Pakistan Richard Olson. The delegation met with Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmed Chaudhry and discussed Pakistan-US bilateral relations as well as economic, security and counter-terrorism issues. The Foreign Secretary highlighted the Government's focus on economy and energy sectors. Pakistan's commitment to promote relations with its neighbours for regional security and stability was also underscored. The Foreign Secretary stressed on the importance of Pakistan's relations with the US and appreciated American assistance to Pakistan in support of its counter-terrorism efforts.



Foreign Secretary, Aizaz Ahmed Chaudhry in meeting with US Congressional Delegation

The visiting Congressmen acknowledged the importance of Pakistan-US relationship especially in the current international environment and reiterated support to the consolidation of democracy in Pakistan. The US side also appreciated Pakistan's efforts for countering terrorism and its role in the promotion of regional peace and prosperity, especially in the backdrop of US forces drawdown from Afghanistan during the current year.

PAKISTAN AND THE US TO STRENGTHEN MARITIME COOPERATION – AMBASSADOR JALIL ABBAS JILANI MEETS WITH US SECRETARY OF NAVY, RAY MABUS

Ambassador Jalil Abbas Jilani met with US Secretary of Navy Mr. Ray Mabus. Matters related to bilateral cooperation in maritime security were discussed. Ambassador Jilani expressed satisfaction that Pakistan Navy had made valuable contributions to multilateral efforts to degrade sea piracy that threatened security of the sea lanes in the region. He also noted successes in interdiction of drugs along the sea routes achieved through joint efforts. Secretary Mabus appreciated the role played by Pakistan Navy in bolstering multilateral efforts to defeat piracy. He also stated that Pakistan's contributions in this area had been remarkable and the US enjoyed excellent cooperation with Pakistan in ensuring safety and security along the sea lines of communication.

US CENTCOM COMMANDER, GENERAL LLOYD J. AUSTIN III, MEETS WITH PAKISTANI MILITARY LEADERSHIP

General Lloyd J. Austin III, Commander of U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM), visited Pakistan, where he held meetings with senior military officials. General Austin discussed a wide range of security issues of mutual interest with Defense Secretary Asif Yasin Malik, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, General Rashad Mahmood, and Chief of Army Staff, General Raheel Sharif, along with other senior military officials. General Austin and his counterparts reaffirmed the importance of the US-Pakistan security relationship for regional stability resolved to continue efforts in order to build a stronger partnership and further common objectives.



Chief of Army Staff General Raheel Sharif with General Lloyd J. Austin, Commander United States Central Command (CENTCOM)

DEFENSE RESOURCING CONFERENCE, WASHINGTON, DC – FEBRUARY 25-27, 2014

A Military delegation from Pakistan, comprising members of the three Services, headed by Lieutenant General Muhammad Asif, Director General, Joint Staff Headquarters, arrived in Washington, DC for a three day Defense Resourcing Conference held in Washington, DC on 25-27 February 2014. The Conference is a part of regular consultations between Pakistan and the US militaries under the Strategic Dialogue umbrella and is a continuation of the positive tone set in the relationship between the two countries during Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's successful visit to the US last October. The two sides reviewed the implementation of decisions taken during the Defense Consultative Group meetings.

CONGRESSIONAL OUTREACH

AMBASSADOR JILANI MEETS WITH SENATOR JOE MANCHIN (D-WV)



Ambassador Jilil Abbas Jilani and Defence Secretary Lt General (Retd.) Asif Yasin Malik with Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV)

Ambassador Jilil Abbas Jilani, accompanied by Defence Secretary Lt General (Retd.) Asif Yasin Malik, met with Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) who serves at four important Committees of the Senate, including the Armed Services Committee and the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. Ambassador Jilani briefed the Senator on the state of bilateral

relationship and recent high level exchanges including the Ministerial Review of the Strategic Dialogue. Ambassador Jilani thanked the Senator for US assistance in the energy sector that has helped to add over 1700 MW of electricity to the national grid. Ambassador Jilani shared the various initiatives undertaken by the government of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to address the energy shortage as well as the revival of the economy. Senator Manchin assured Ambassador Jilani of continued cooperation with Pakistan in meeting its energy challenges.

AMBASSADOR JILIL ABBAS JILANI MEETS WITH CONGRESSMAN RODNEY FRELINGHUYSEN (R- NJ), CHAIRMAN DEFENCE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE



Ambassador Jilil Abbas Jilani with Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ), Chairman Defence Appropriations Subcommittee

Ambassador Jilil Abbas Jilani met with Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen (R- NJ), Chairman Defence Appropriations Subcommittee. Both had a wide ranging discussion on Pakistan – US bilateral cooperation. Congressman Frelinghuysen appreciated Pakistan's sacrifices in the fight against terrorism. He also noted that a vibrant Pakistani American Community in New Jersey was playing an active role in strengthening the bilateral relationship.

EMBASSY OUTREACH

AMBASSADOR JILIL ABBAS JILANI SPEAKS AT THE CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE MIDDLE EAST INSTITUTE

Ambassador Jilil Abbas Jilani spoke at an event held at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace under the auspices of the Middle East Institute, on "Pakistan-U.S. relations and Pakistan's perspective on the regional situation". This was a featured event in the Middle East Institute's Louis R. Hughes Lecture Series. In his remarks, Ambassador Jilani said that he was representing a new Pakistan where democracy had taken roots, where free media and independent judiciary were contributing to an effective system of checks and balances and where all state institutions were working within constitutional parameters. Ambassador Jilani also dealt in detail with the contours of Pakistan-U.S. bilateral ties. On the way forward, Ambassador Jilani said that both sides had realized the need to respect each other's priorities, concerns and comfort space. The focus was now on moving towards a broad based, comprehensive and strategic partnership through the Strategic Dialogue process. He also emphasized the need to effectively address the irritants like unilateral US drone strikes. In the regional context, Ambassador Jilani said that international community's focus on economic development and building the capacity of the Afghan security forces would be of crucial importance. He reiterated Pakistan's full support for an Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process. On Pakistan-India relations, Ambassador Jilani reaffirmed Pakistan's desire to resolve all outstanding issues including the core issue of Jammu and Kashmir through a sustained, result oriented and meaningful dialogue and expressed the hope that India will reciprocate Pakistan's sincere gestures.



Ambassador Jilil Abbas Jilani at the Carnegie Institute, Washington, DC

Video Link: http://embassyofpakistanusa.org/Ambassador_Carnegie%20Endowment_02272014V.php

AMBASSADOR JILANI SPEAKS AT THE GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY ASIAN STUDIES PROGRAM 'LUNCH WITH AN AMBASSADOR SERIES'

The George Town University hosted Ambassador Jalil Abbas Jilani as part of the Asian Studies Program at the Intercultural Center. Speaking to a gathering of academia, experts and students at the Georgetown University, Ambassador Jilani said that Pakistan and the United States are working cooperatively to advance their wide-ranging relationship, which is now back on track with the resumption of the strategic dialogue. Ambassador Jilani also apprised the gathering about Pakistan's democratic milestones, independence of judiciary and freedom of Press adding that the country's progress in the key areas bodes well for its future even as it confronts economic and security challenges. He pointed out that Pakistan has suffered the most at the hands of terrorism in the post-9/11 era and though the menace took a toll on economic growth, Islamabad is now fully focused on achieving an economic turnaround with a host of much-needed reforms.



Ambassador Jalil Abbas Jilani with Professor Victor Cha, Director of the Asian Studies Program at Georgetown University

AMBASSADOR JALIL ABBAS JILANI ATTENDS A DINNER HOSTED BY PAL-C AND COUNCIL ON PAKISTAN RELATIONS



Ambassador Jalil Abbas Jilani with members of PAL-C and Council on Pakistan Relations

Continuing his outreach to the Pakistani-American community, Ambassador Jalil Abbas Jilani attended a meeting organized by Mr. & Mrs. Mossadaq Chughtai. Mr. Ashraf Qazi, Chairman Council on Pakistan Relations briefed the Ambassador about efforts made by the organizations and the initiatives undertaken to promote interests of the Pakistani Diaspora in the US. Ambassador Jilani opined that organized and collective efforts of the Pakistani-American community in the US can go a long way in earning benefits not only for the Pakistani community in the US but also in achieving goals like Preferred Trade Agreement, trade concessions and attracting investments from the US. Pakistan, he said, is a natural destination for investors owing to its cheap labor force and natural resources. The Ambassador announced that he intends to establish a regular contact with the Pakistani diaspora through emails to keep them informed about the government's decisions and initiatives on various issues.

AMBASSADOR JALIL ABBAS JILANI VISITS LOS ANGELES, CA

Ambassador Jalil Abbas Jilani visited Los Angeles where he held meetings with business executives, representatives of trade bodies, and members of the Pakistani community. He interacted with local and US media and also met with the President and other executives of LA Chamber of Commerce and briefed them on the current economic outlook of the country. He highlighted government's policy of deregulation, liberalization and privatization. He elucidated the trade & investment friendly environment and policy incentives for foreign investors. A reception was also organized in honour of the Ambassador by the Acting Consul General of Pakistan, Los Angeles with collaboration of the Pakistani community. Addressing the gathering, Ambassador Jilani urged the Pakistani community to play a more active role in the socio-political milieu of the US. He urged them to participate in the American mainstream by associating with local political and public causes. He opined that parochialism would serve no purpose other than to divide and dissipate energies. Amongst other engagements the board members of Council of Pakistan American Affairs (COPAA) called on the Ambassador and briefed him about the activities of the Organization. He had an off the record interaction with editors and writers of the Los Angeles Times whom he briefed on regional and bilateral issues. A delegation of Pakistan-American Chamber of Commerce also called on the Ambassador. The delegation briefed him about successful organization of Pakistan Independence Day parades in downtown Los Angeles by 'PACC' and 'Pakistan Link' with active support of the Consulate General of Pakistan.



Ambassador Jalil Abbas Jilani with Acting CG Muhammad Khalid Ejaz and members of the community in Los Angeles, CA

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 equitable democratic and social entitlements, pluralism, rule of law and transparent governance.

NINE PAKISTANI STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INTEL INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING AND FAIR

Nine students from Pakistan will represent the country at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) 2014 in Los Angeles in May. The students will participate in the week-long celebration of science, technology, engineering and math. These students also compete for more than US\$4 million in awards and scholarships.



Pakistani participants of the 2014 Intel International Science Fair

LARGEST HUMAN FLAG: 29,040 YOUNGSTERS MAKE WORLD RECORD

A total of 29,040 Pakistani youngsters assembled at the National Hockey Stadium with green and white placards on their heads to set a new Guinness World Record (GWR) for the largest human flag. Pakistan has snatched this title from Bangladesh's 27,117 youngsters. Earlier, Pakistan had beaten Singapore in 2012 by forming human flag of 24,210 youngsters.



Pakistan sets new Guinness World Record for largest human flag

EMERGENCY CONSULAR SERVICES

EMBASSY OF PAKISTAN, WASHINGTON, DC AND CONSULATES TO OFFER EMERGENCY CONSULAR SERVICES

On special instructions of Ambassador Jalil Abbas Jilani, the Embassy and other consulates will now offer consular services on weekends and holidays to handle death related emergency cases.

Emergency contacts for consular services are:

Washington, DC

Mr. Attaullah
Consular Attache
Ph: 703 609 5851

Mr. Sajid Bilal
Counselor
Ph: 202 486 2017

Houston

Ph1: 832 877 7475
Ph2: 281 704 0448

Chicago

Ph: 773 312 0994

Los Angeles

Email: consul@pakconsulatela.org
support@pakconsulatela.org

Ph: 310 592 2356



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