Front For Trilateral Resolution Of Jammu-Kashmir Problem

Roadmap For Resolving Jammu-Kashmir Problem

I. Approach

We firmly believe that the issue of Jammu-Kashmir is a human issue, in general, not cultural, ethnic, national or religious. In particular, it is a trilateral issue between India, Pakistan and the people of Jammu-Kashmir.

The above perception is based on the fact that the emergence of a new global reality of the inter-dependence of countries has made all inter-nation disputes as human concerns, while turning all traditional identity-defining forms (like ethnic, cultural, national and religious) either as irrelevant or partially relevant. For example, the factor of religion which was highly dominant in pre-partition India has today become irrelevant both in India and Pakistan. The recent rejection of the Politics of Hindutva in India and the non-relevance of all types of communal parties in the entire political process of Pakistan provide more than sufficient evidence in this regard. The recent rejection of the US traditional military unilateralism is another evidence of the emergence of a new process of the global order.

Going by the human nature of the issue of Jammu-Kashmir in general and its trilateral character in particular, a realistic, rational and just solution of Jammu-Kashmir Problem demands the taking of the following steps in an integrated way after proper discussions between the three parties concerned (i.e., India, Pakistan and the people of Jammu-Kashmir).

A) For Achieving A Broad Consensus Among All Pro Dispute Groups

To make an appeal to all those groups (including two factions of Hurriyat Conference) who accept Jammu-Kashmir as a disputed issue and stand for resolving it on a just and rational basis (despite their respective differences on goals) to constitute a broad united front and to make every effort to carry out this task.

B) For Establishing Normalcy In Jammu-Kashmir, Particularly In The Valley

(a) Unilateral ceasefire by India in regard to militancy; (b) Release of all political prisoners in Jammu-Kashmir; (c) Stoppage of all human rights violations in Jammu-Kashmir by all forces, particularly those of India; (d) Withdrawal of a part of Indian forces deployed in Kashmir Valley to the barracks; (e) Appointment of a jointly agreed Indo-Pak Commission to investigate into the complaints of human rights violations committed by three sides, i.e., India, Pakistan and the militant groups and to recommend proper compensation to all victims or, in case of their deaths, to their families by the concerned violator or offender and in case of violations by militant groups, the compensation to be paid by India and Pakistan jointly.

C) For Establishing Normalcy In Indo-Pak Relations

(a) To extend the present Indo-Pak ceasefire on the border; (b) Withdrawal of the forces of the two sides one kilometer behind the Line of Control; (c) Joint patrolling by the contingents of the two military forces. (d) Signing of the three agreements on Siachen, Wullar Barrage and Sir Creek, which had been preliminary approved by India and Pakistan some five years ago. (e) Opening of some closed routes between India and Pakistan and between Jammu-Kashmir and Azad Kashmir, e.g., Munnavao-Khokharapar, Fazilka-its opposite point, Amritsar-Lahore (since restored), Poonch-Palandri (via Rawalakot), Jammu-Sialkot (via Suchetgarh), Srinagar-Muzaffarabad, Poonch-Uri Road via Haji Peer and Kargil-Askardu Road; (f) In the entire disengaged area, Indo-Pak friendship parks and trade centers be set up; (g) On the vacated Siachen Mountain, a jointly-run Indo-Pak Scientific Research Center be established.

II. Setting Forth Modalities For Resolving Jammu-Kashmir Problem

(a) Rejecting of all military forms and adoption of a peaceful path by signing a No War Indo-Pak Pact; (b) Maintaining the unity and integrity of the three states, involved in the dispute, i.e., India, Pakistan and Jammu-Kashmir; (c) Discarding of all communal and divisive proposals; (d) Getting rid of all preconceived notions, like Jammu-Kashmir as an integral part of India or Jammu-Kashmir as the jugular vein of Pakistan; (e) Keeping in view the same genetic code of the people of India, Pakistan and Jammu-Kashmir; (f) Taking into account the similar current problems, like poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, etc.—faced by the people of the two countries; and (g) Adopting the perspective of a common future for the people of India, Pakistan and Jammu-Kashmir.

III. A Humanistic Proposal

Proceeding from the above modalities, the most important task before the three parties concerned is to sort out a compromising solution to the problem of Jammu-Kashmir, a solution that reconciles the aspirations and the interests of the three parties concerned, defends their respective national honour and opens for them the high gates of a prosperous future.

On Our behalf, we suggest the following three point proposal for a humanistic solution. The proposal holds: (a) That the foreign and defence matters of Jammu-Kashmir be handed jointly by India and Pakistan or by an Indo-Pak condominium; (b) That the state of Jammu-Kashmir be an independent state, with sovereign powers in all matters except defence and foreign affairs (to be handled by Indo-Pak condominium); and (c) That all ethnic communities in Jammu-Kashmir be given maximum-possible autonomy.