



London Institute of Peace Research

February 2021 Newsletter

Women take a leading role in the India's farmers' protest to demand equality

The prominent presence of women in farmer's rally in India is perhaps the world's largest ongoing protest movement, and certainly the biggest domestic challenge facing Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government. This has put a spotlight on the important role women play in agriculture in India and proves to be a milestone in women's struggle for equality, and their leadership of non-violent movements.

Women participating in the farmers' protest worry that besides their livelihoods, the new laws threaten the lives of their male relatives and their own future and that of their families. In 2018 and 2019, more than 10,000 male farmers committed suicide in each year, according to a 2019 report by the National Crime



Records Bureau of India. Financial hardship is partly to blame for farmers' suicides. Widows left behind have to fend for themselves and carry the heavy burden of providing food, shelter, healthcare and education for their families.

South Sudan again divided from 10 to 32 States

In the midst of protracted violence and large-scale displacement, South Sudan reintroduced 10 sub-national states, in place of the 32 states controversially created in 2017.

The creation of first 28, and then 32, states disrupted the state-level power-sharing arrangements of the peace agreement then in effect. The subsequent



peace deal in 2018 on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan, also provides for power-sharing at the state level. After much delay, new governors were appointed, although whether these appointees are sufficiently autonomous from the Central Government or can govern effectively are open questions.

UK Government broke equalities law' says Equalities Watchdog

The home office's 'hostile environment' immigration measures were a breach of the ministry's public sector equality duty under the Equality Act 2010. That was the conclusion of the British government's own equality and human rights commission.

The EHRC report found that the home office failed in its legal duties towards black Britons, with the harsh effects of the 'hostile environment' crackdown 'repeatedly ignored, dismissed, or their severity



disregarded'. Hundreds were wrongly detained, deported and denied legal rights because they could not produce official documents they had never

needed before, when this was demanded under ‘hostile environment’ policies. The Home Office has renamed its hostile environment measures as ‘compliant environment’ policies.

The EHRC has asked the ministry to ensure the policies are line with equality legislation, particularly with regard to race.

Kashmir issue can only be resolved through dialogues: PM Imran



Prime Minister of Pakistan (PM) Imran Khan has said that the long standing issue of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) can only be resolved through negotiations.

While addressing a trade and investment conference in Colombo, Mr. Imran Khan said that Pakistan is

willing to resolve all the conflicts in the Sub-Continent through dialogue. We had contacted Indian authorities to de-escalate hostility and resume trade ties but Indian PM Narendra Modi rejected the offer, he said.

We cannot prosper until all disputes among us are resolved, he asserted.

Turkey raises Kashmir dispute at UNHRC

Turkey has raised the Kashmir dispute at the United Nations Human Rights Council, with a call for resolving the decades-old dispute on the basis of UN resolutions and the “legitimate” expectations of Kashmiri people who are struggling for their right of self-determination.

“We reiterate our call to the Government of India to ease current restrictions in Jammu and Kashmir,” Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu told the 47-member Council in Geneva.

“We wish for the resolution of the



issue through peaceful means on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions and the legitimate expectations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir,” the Turkish foreign added.

The Council on Monday began its month-long, 46th session, which is being held almost entirely remotely to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

UN human rights chief expresses concern over situation in IIOJK

The UN human rights chief Michelle Bachelet has expressed her continuing concern over the deteriorating human rights situation in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, expressed this concern while updating the 46th session of the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Geneva on human rights issues in more than 50 countries.



The High Commissioner said the UNHRC is continuing to monitor the situation in IIOJK “where restrictions on communications, and clampdowns on civil society activists, remain of concern”. She said that despite recent restoration of 4G access

for mobile phones, the communications blockade has seriously hampered civic participation, as well as business, livelihoods, education, and access to healthcare and medical information.

US urges India, Pakistan to hold direct talks on Kashmir; welcomes joint statement on LoC ceasefire



In its first statement on occupied Kashmir, the Biden administration has urged India and Pakistan to hold direct talks on the issue, and welcomed an agreement between the two neighbours to de-escalate tensions along the Line of Control (LoC).

Both India and Pakistan announced on Thursday that their senior military commanders

have agreed to strictly observe all agreements, understandings and ceasefire along the LoC and other sectors, with effect from midnight on Wednesday.

In Washington, US State Department spokesman Ned Price mentioned this agreement in his opening statement at the Thursday afternoon news briefing.

Germany refuses to supply arms to India over human rights abuses in IIOJK



India has suffered another humiliation over its poor human rights record in the illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir as Germany has declined license to two firms planning small arms export.

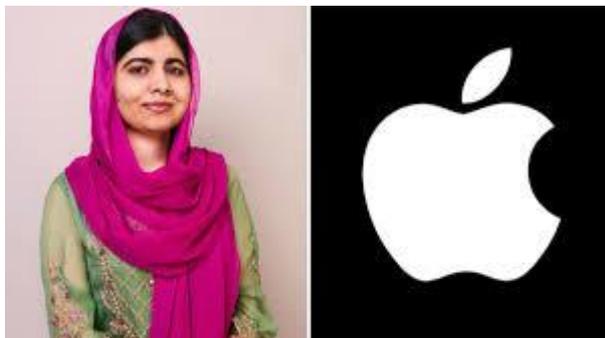
The European country is India's sixth-largest buying and selling associate and its

largest buying and selling associate from the EU, it feared that the weaponry may be used towards the civilian in IIOJK.

Human rights violations since August 2019 including communication blackout, false incrimination of the harmless civilians have raised serious concerns.

Malala signs deal with Apple TV

Pakistani activist Malala Yousafzai, who won the Nobel Peace Prize as a teenager after surviving a Taliban assassination attempt, has signed a deal with Apple TV+ that will see her produce dramas and documentaries that focus on women and children.



The multi-year partnership would "draw on her ability to inspire people around the world", the company said in a statement, adding that content would also include animation and children's series. "I'm grateful for the opportunity to support women, young people, writers, and artists in reflecting the

world as they see it," the 23-year-old was quoted as saying.



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