

Kashmir situation an 'ongoing humanitarian crisis', says Nawaz Sharif

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Two days after Home Minister Rajnath Singh asked Pakistan to stop glorifying terrorists as "martyrs", Islamabad described the Kashmir situation as an "ongoing humanitarian crisis" and vow to offer aid to those injured in the clashes in the Valley after July 8 killing of Hizbul militant Nawaz Sharif.

Nawaz Sharif

In a statement on Saturday, Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif called upon the international community to call on India to allow Pakistan to arrange for the medical treatment of Kashmiris who had been injured or maimed during the clashes in the region.

Sharif said, the Dawn reported, Pakistan wants to provide medical treatment to the injured, particularly those who had been hit by the pellet guns being used by security forces in the area.

"Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has called upon the international community to immediately help arrange medical treatment for the victims in Kashmir, especially for treatment of eye injuries resulting from use of pellet guns by the Indian forces," a Pakistan Foreign Office statement said.

"The Prime Minister conveyed Pakistan's unequivocal support in arranging best available medical facilities to these injured people, anywhere in the world," it added.

The Pakistani administration also accused Indian security forces of targeting hospitals and ambulances providing healthcare to the "peaceful and defenceless protesters".

"Pakistan will continue to support them morally, politically and diplomatically," Sharif maintained in the statement.

Earlier this week, India's Home Minister had delivered a powerful speech at SAARC meeting in Islamabad. He had asked Pakistan to stop "glorification" of terrorists and also called for "strongest action" against nations supporting terrorism and their isolation.

Without mincing any words amid the strain in Indo-Pak relations, Singh said mere condemnation of terrorism and terrorists is not enough and that there are "no good terrorists or bad terrorists".

Singh's comments came against the backdrop of Sharif's praise of Burhan Wani who was killed in an encounter in Jammu and Kashmir on July 8 and his description of Hizbul Mujahideen commander as a martyr, much to India's ire.