



## CENTRE for AEROSPACE & SECURITY STUDIES

### CASS Webinar Press Release

#### **“INDIAN CHRONICLES: INDIA’S DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN AGAINST PAKISTAN”**

***Should a rogue state, like India, be part of the UN Security Council?***

***Indian Chronicles is just the tip of the iceberg. Pakistan has irrefutable evidence of RAW and the Indian state’s implicit involvement in spreading disinformation campaign against Pakistan. This has been a full-fledged attack on Pakistan short of war.***

**- Dr Moeed Yusaf**

23 January 2021



The Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies organized a webinar entitled “*Indian Chronicles: India’s disinformation campaign against Pakistan*”, here in the capital.

In his *Opening Remarks*, President CASS **Air Chief Marshal Kaleem Saadat** underscored the risks of multi-domain hybrid war being waged against Pakistan. He noted that despite the fact that Pakistan had been drawing attention towards this issue, the world had paid no heed to it; even after the disclosure of this network by the EU Disinfo lab report, the world still remained unmoved. He added that the unrelenting obsession of Hindutva-driven India to harm Pakistan was incomprehensible and stressed that India could live, and let live Pakistan in peace, but it cannot and would not. He cautioned that the consequences of these tactics would be an “unstable, insecure and underdeveloped neighborhood.”



The *Keynote Speaker*, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on National Security and Strategic



Policy Planning, **Dr Moeed Yusuf** said that Pakistan is a country squarely focused on the economic security paradigm. In contrast, India was pursuing Hindutva ideology with an expansionist agenda, and had a conflict with every single neighbor, and had broken all international law obligations – the classic example of a rogue state.

Listing down the challenges of the disinformation campaign, he maintained that India has been ahead of Pakistan in the game of perceptions and narrative building which had been bought by the US and the Western world: “With the help of this narrative, they always get away with their malicious activities against Pakistan, including terrorism.” He stressed that the malicious campaign against Pakistan had been going on even before the latest revelations of “Indian Chronicles” which was just the tip of the iceberg.

Although the DisinfoLab report did not categorically implicate the Indian state, Dr Yusuf shared that Pakistan has irrefutable evidence of RAW and Indian government’s involvement. He further added that India’s activities were not just unethical, they were crimes under the law from identity theft to defamation, and the perpetrators were liable for prosecution under multiple jurisdictions.

Talking about Islamabad’s response, he informed that Pakistan had written to the EU Parliament and investigations were already underway. He said that this was a failure of the UN system that allowed such fake NGOs to function, and questioned whether a country, like India should even be sitting on the UN Security Council. “This has been a full-fledged attack on Pakistan short of war,” he remarked. Dr Yusuf further added that the dossier presented by Pakistan established clear links regarding India’s involvement in terror financing and using this disinformation campaign to cover that.

India must stop its subversive activities against Pakistan and resolve the Kashmir issue under the international law to bring peace in the region as there was no scope for peace under the current circumstances. He criticized India’s kneejerk responses to Pakistan and stated that Pakistan would continue to take down Indian lies pragmatically and unapologetically and act as a responsible state.



Other speakers in the webinar included **Mr Ejaz Haider**, Executive Editor Indus TV, **Ms Ramsha Jahangir**, a journalist and research scholar and **Mr Oves Anwar**, Director at the Research Society of International Law.

According to **Mr Ejaz Haider**, the nature of warfare had not changed, its means had. It had now become a sum-total of kinetic and non-kinetic actions that can be taken to target an adversary's socio-political, cultural, economic and military spheres. Disinformation, espionage, psychological warfare is not a new phenomenon. The KGB is utilized such means, so did the CIA. States use misinformation as a policy tool domestically and globally, and Pakistan should also be prepared for this.



**Mr Oves Anwar** urged that Pakistan needs to be at the forefront of developing and shaping the narrative against fake news and disinformation campaigns and also look at the dangerous role the media has played in this area in India, while **Ms Ramsha Jahangir** recommended that it is also important to conduct evidence-based research to take this forward, especially from Pakistan in terms of how disinformation is defined and its long-term and deep repercussions. The webinar was moderated by **Ms Sitara Noor**, Senior Researcher at CASS.

