

Country/entity	India Pakistan
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Joint Statement, issued in New York as on 23 September 1998
Date	23 Sep 1998
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Interstate/interstate conflict India-Pakistan Conflict (1947 -) and the Pakistani Taliban (2001 -)

Two distinct contexts have generated agreements.

India-Pakistan Conflict (1947 -)

The roots of the India-Pakistan Conflict lay in the partition of the British Indian Empire following the end of World War II, and the creation of the predominately Muslim Dominion of Pakistan (now Pakistan and Bangladesh) and the Union of India in 1947. Fuelled by Hindu and Muslim nationalism, the political partition spurred the largest mass migration as minorities sought refuge among their communal majorities. Retaliatory violence on both sides led to the deaths of 200,000 to 500,000 people.

A few weeks following the partition, Pakistan sent tribal militias into the Princely State of Jammu and Kashmir, sparking the Indo-Pakistan War of 1947. Two other wars broke out in 1965 and in 1991, as well as a number of skirmishes over the Siachen Glacier. The conflict has seen less casualties since the announcement of a ceasefire in 2003, despite frequent violations by both sides. Public unrest remains sporadic and there has been occasional actions by Islamic militants. In addition, despite a decrease in human rights conditions by occupying forces on both sides, abuses are still documented.

Another dimension of the conflict developed in 1997, after Pakistan announced a successful nuclear test. Since then there has been a proliferation of treaties ensuring clear lines of communication in regards to nuclear testing and accidents to deter accidental escalation.

Pakistan-Afghanistan-US Conflict (2001 -)

Since the 2000s, the Afghanistan war had a noticeable spill-over effect to Pakistan. The Afghan Taliban maintain several strongholds in the western parts of Pakistan, especially in the Northwest Tribal Region. Native Islamist guerrilla outfits also remain active in the region and in 2007 they formed the umbrella organisation known as the Pakistan Taliban until it splintered into four different groups in 2014.

Close

India-Pakistan Conflict (1947 -) and the Pakistani Taliban (2001 -)

Stage	Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature	Territory
Peace process	India-Pakistan border and related process
Parties	The Foreign Secretary of India, Shri K. Raghunath, and the Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, Mr. Shamshad Ahmad, met in New York on 23rd September, 1998.
Third parties	-
Description	-

Agreement document [IN_PK_980924_Joint Statement issued in NY.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/youth	No specific mention.
Disabled persons	No specific mention.
Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.
Racial/ethnic/ national group	No specific mention.
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/displaced persons	No specific mention.
Social class	No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender No specific mention.

Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general) No specific mention.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/secession No specific mention.

Accession/unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed) No specific mention.

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society Page 1, iii. All outstanding issues shall be dealt with at the levels indicated below:-
... h. Promotion of Friendly exchanges in various fields - Secretaries, Culture

... The remaining six subjects i.e. (c) Siachen (d) Wuller Barrage/Tulbul Navigation Project, (e) Sir Creek, (f) Terrorism and Drug Trafficking, (g) Economic and Commercial Cooperation, and (h) Promotion of friendly exchanges in various fields, shall be taken up in substantive and separate meetings in New Delhi in the first half of November, 1998. The cycle of meetings of the Foreign Secretaries and other concerned officials on the subjects in the agreed agenda will be continued on this pattern on agreed dates.

Traditional/religious leaders No specific mention.

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing No specific mention.

Territorial power sharing No specific mention.

Economic power sharing No specific mention.

Military power sharing No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general No specific mention.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation No specific mention.

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

Protection measures No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts No specific mention.

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction No specific mention.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds No specific mention.

Business Page 1, iii. All outstanding issues shall be dealt with at the levels indicated below:-
... g. Economic and Commercial Cooperation - Commerce Secretaries

...The remaining six subjects i.e. (c) Siachen (d) Wuller Barrage/Tulbul Navigation Project, (e) Sir Creek, (f) Terrorism and Drug Trafficking, (g) Economic and Commercial Cooperation, and (h) Promotion of friendly exchanges in various fields, shall be taken up in substantive and separate meetings in New Delhi in the first half of November, 1998. The cycle of meetings of the Foreign Secretaries and other concerned officials on the subjects in the agreed agenda will be continued on this pattern on agreed dates.

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights No specific mention.

**Pastoralist/
nomadism rights** No specific mention.

Cultural heritage No specific mention.

Environment No specific mention.

**Water or riparian
rights or access** Page 1, iii. All outstanding issues shall be dealt with at the levels indicated below:-
...c. Siachen [Glacier] - Defence Secretaries
d. Wuller Barrage/Tulbul Navigation Project - Secretaries, Water & Power
e. Sir Creek - Additional Secretary (Defence)/Surveyors General

... The remaining six subjects i.e. (c) Siachen (d) Wuller Barrage/Tulbul Navigation Project, (e) Sir Creek, (f) Terrorism and Drug Trafficking, (g) Economic and Commercial Cooperation, and (h) Promotion of friendly exchanges in various fields, shall be taken up in substantive and separate meetings in New Delhi in the first half of November, 1998. The cycle of meetings of the Foreign Secretaries and other concerned officials on the subjects in the agreed agenda will be continued on this pattern on agreed dates.

Security sector

**Security
Guarantees** Page 1, iii. All outstanding issues shall be dealt with at the levels indicated below:-
a. Peace and Security including CBMs - Foreign Secretaries
b. Jammu and Kashmir - Foreign Secretaries
c. Siachen [Glacier] - Defence Secretaries

... The dates of these meetings will be determined by mutual consent. At the each round; the Foreign Secretaries will hold separate meetings on (a) Peace and Security including CBMs and (b) Jammu and Kashmir and review the progress of the dialogue process.

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces No specific mention.

DDR No specific mention.

**Intelligence
services** No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	No specific mention.
Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
Corruption	No specific mention.
Crime/organised crime	No specific mention.
Drugs	<p>Page 1, iii. All outstanding issues shall be dealt with at the levels indicated below:- ... f. Terrorism and Drug Trafficking - Home/Interior Secretaries</p> <p>...The remaining six subjects i.e. (c) Siachen (d) Wuller Barrage/Tulbul Navigation Project, (e) Sir Creek, (f) Terrorism and Drug Trafficking, (g) Economic and Commercial Cooperation, and (h) Promotion of friendly exchanges in various fields, shall be taken up in substantive and separate meetings in New Delhi in the first half of November, 1998. The cycle of meetings of the Foreign Secretaries and other concerned officials on the subjects in the agreed agenda will be continued on this pattern on agreed dates.</p>
Terrorism	<p>Page 1, iii. All outstanding issues shall be dealt with at the levels indicated below:- ... f. Terrorism and Drug Trafficking - Home/Interior Secretaries</p> <p>...The remaining six subjects i.e. ...(f) Terrorism and Drug Trafficking ...</p>

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general	No specific mention.
Amnesty/pardon	No specific mention.
Courts	No specific mention.
Mechanism	No specific mention.
Prisoner release	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	No specific mention.

Reparations No specific mention.

Reconciliation No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.
