

# SHAUKAT AZIZ KASHMIR-INDIA

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## PRESS RELEASE

Rao Muhammad Akhtar - Private Secretary

26 Oct 2004

PROF. KHURSHID AHMAD

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**Member Senate of Pakistan**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

Prof. Khurshid dismayed over PM's statement

Islamabad, (October 26, 2004) Senator Prof. Khurshid Ahmad has expressed his utter disappointment on Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz's new thesis about creating "mutual dependencies between India and Pakistan".

He observed that without progress for the resolution of the Kashmir issue, and India reciprocating Pakistan's "flexibility", peace cannot be established in the region, nor could relations between Pakistan and India be found on stable grounds. He said these are the basic parameters for Indo-Pakistan relations and without taking care of these any talk about mutual dependencies is not only unrealistic but detrimental to the resolution of Indo-Pakistan conflicts. He wondered as to under what compulsions the "technocrat Prime Minister" is throwing these feelers, which have no relation to the vital interests of Pakistan, the aspirations of the people and their vision of Pakistan as an independent, self-reliance state, bringing dignity to the Muslim world and ensuring balance of power in the region.

"The whole issue of Indo-Pakistan relationship is getting more and more confused and murky and I demand that the Parliament should discuss it threadbare and lay down detailed guidelines for the executive to pursue," he demanded.

Prof. Khurshid said that Confidence Building Measures and dialogue between India and Pakistan are good, though mostly being one-sided – i.e. Pakistan doing all, while the Indian attitude towards Pakistan and the major issues, particularly Kashmir, remains unchanged despite all the "flexibility" shown by Pakistani leadership.

He noted that the relationship between India and Pakistan cannot be normalized unless the issue of Jammu and Kashmir is resolved on the basis of Justice, earlier commitments and the wishes of the people of Jammu and Kashmir who have suffered and sacrificed most. Moreover, Indian hegemonistic designs in the region have to be contained and countered, he said and added only then peace in the region can reign.

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