

Briefing Note for Members of the British Parliament

Urgent UK Parliamentary Action Required: Human Rights and Humanitarian Protection Emergency in Pakistan-administered Azad Jammu and Kashmir

Date: 23 June 2026

Prepared for	Members of the UK Parliament, Peers, APPG on Kashmir, Joint Committee on Human Rights, Foreign Affairs Committee members, and constituency MPs representing British Kashmiri communities
Prepared by	JKJAAC Human Rights Cell / British Kashmiri civil society representatives
Issue	Communications blackout, humanitarian blockade, mass detentions, reported killings, disappearances, repression of peaceful assembly, and risks to British nationals and families in Azad Jammu and Kashmir — AJK.
Core request	Immediate parliamentary, diplomatic and consular action by the UK Government.
Supporting documents	Third Consolidated Human Rights Situation Report — AJK — 23 June 2026; Memorandum to UK Prime Minister submitted at 10 Downing Street — 21 June 2026

1. Purpose of this Briefing

This briefing asks Members of Parliament to take urgent parliamentary, diplomatic and consular action in response to the worsening human rights and humanitarian protection emergency in Pakistan-administered Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

British Kashmiri communities across the UK are deeply concerned because many have family members in AJK whom they have been unable to contact since the reported shutdown of internet, mobile phone, and communications services from 6 June 2026.

The situation is no longer only a local protest-rights issue; it has become a serious humanitarian, consular and human-rights concern affecting UK residents, British citizens, and families across British Kashmiri communities.

2. Key Facts MPs Should Know

A. Communications blackout affecting British families

Since 6 June 2026, all internet, mobile-phone and communications services across Pakistan-administered AJK have reportedly been shut down, leaving British Kashmiris unable to contact parents, children, siblings and close relatives in Mirpur, Rawalakot, Kotli, Bagh, Pallandri/Sudhnoti and other parts of AJK.

The human rights report records that internet and mobile restrictions have obstructed emergency communication, limited journalism and prevented independent verification of casualties, detentions and missing-person allegations.

B. British nationals reportedly trapped

Community reports indicate that an estimated over 5,000 British nationals may be trapped in Mirpur Division and other parts of AJK due to road blockades, curfew-like restrictions and obstruction of food, medicines and essential supplies.

Many British nationals reportedly travelled to AJK for holidays, family visits, weddings, funerals, business trips or charitable work and are now unable to move freely or reliably contact the British High Commission.

C. Reported detention of British nationals and family-based reprisals

The memorandum to the Prime Minister records community concerns that British nationals visiting AJK have been involuntarily detained or targeted because their family members support the civil-rights movement.

It also records allegations that Pakistani security agencies are arresting or intimidating family members of British Kashmiri human rights activists in AJK to pressure UK-based activists not to participate in peaceful protests in London.

D. Mass arrests, missing persons and lack of custody lists

The consolidated human rights report records that official/police material reportedly refers to 425 arrests, 81 criminal cases and 15 accused produced before an anti-terrorism court, but no complete named custody list has been publicly issued.

The report records missing or involuntary detention cases, including Bilal Ashraf, Sanan Hafeez and Mr Amjid Khan, also known as “Aaray,” whose case illustrates the extreme vulnerability of disabled persons in detention where family access, medical assessment and communication support are absent.

E. Humanitarian blockade and vulnerable groups

The human rights report states that, as of 23 June 2026, restrictions on food, medicines, milk, baby formula, public transport, and access to health services are reported to continue.

The report warns that the blockade affects disabled people, people with long-term medical conditions, pregnant women, newborns, children, older people, daily-wage workers and families already under economic stress.

F. Political repression and criminalisation of peaceful assembly

The AJK Government has reportedly proscribed the Jammu Kashmir Joint Awami Action Committee — JKJAAC — without credible publicly disclosed evidence, while more than 150 leading members from all 10 districts of AJK have reportedly been placed on Schedule 4, with approximately 250 more at risk.

The consolidated report records that 114 names were transcribed from supplied Home Department notification screenshots dated 18 June 2026 relating to Fourth Schedule restrictions, with serious implications for liberty, movement, reputation, employment, travel, banking, political participation and family life.

3. Why This Matters to the UK Parliament

1. British nationals may be trapped, detained or unable to access consular support in AJK.
2. Over one million British Kashmiris with roots in AJK are affected by the inability to contact family members due to the communications blackout.
3. Reports of family-based reprisals may amount to transnational repression, affecting the rights of UK residents to protest peacefully in Britain without fear for relatives abroad.
4. The UK is a permanent member of the UN Security Council and is being asked to raise urgent concerns about civilian protection, humanitarian access, arbitrary detention, communications shutdowns and repression of peaceful assembly.

4. Our Asks for Members of Parliament

Ask 1 — Raise the issue urgently with the Foreign Secretary

We respectfully ask MPs to write to the Foreign Secretary asking what steps the FCDO has taken to protect British nationals in AJK, restore communications, seek humanitarian access, and raise the situation with Pakistan.

Suggested wording: “Will the Foreign Secretary urgently confirm what representations have been made to the Government of Pakistan regarding the communications blackout, road blockades, reported detention of British nationals, humanitarian restrictions and repression of peaceful assembly in Pakistan-administered Azad Jammu and Kashmir?”

Ask 2 — Demand emergency consular support

We respectfully ask MPs to request that the British High Commission in Islamabad establish an urgent AJK consular response desk for British nationals in Mirpur Division, Rawalakot, Kotli, Bagh, Pallandri/Sudhnoti and other affected areas.

MPs should ask the FCDO to seek a verified list of British nationals detained, injured, missing, hospitalised or prevented from leaving AJK.

Ask 3 — Table Written Parliamentary Questions

We respectfully ask MPs to table Written Questions asking:

5. What assessment has the FCDO made of the reported communications blackout in AJK since 6 June 2026?
6. What steps has the British High Commission in Islamabad taken to contact British nationals reportedly trapped in AJK?
7. Has the UK Government requested a list from Pakistan of British nationals detained, injured, missing or prevented from leaving AJK?
8. What representations has the UK made regarding humanitarian access, including food, medicines, milk, baby formula and medical treatment?
9. What assessment has the FCDO made of reports of transnational repression affecting British Kashmiri activists and their families?
10. What discussions has the UK had with UN Special Procedures or OHCHR regarding the situation in AJK?

Ask 4 — Seek an Urgent Question or Westminster Hall Debate

We respectfully ask MPs to seek an Urgent Question to the Foreign Secretary or request a Westminster Hall debate on: “Protection of British nationals and human rights in Pakistan-administered Azad Jammu and Kashmir.” The debate should address consular protection, communications blackout, humanitarian access, mass detentions, missing persons, repression of peaceful assembly and family-based reprisals against UK-based activists.

Ask 5 — Write jointly to the Pakistan High Commissioner

We respectfully ask MPs to send a cross-party letter to the Pakistan High Commissioner in London requesting:

- Immediate restoration of internet, mobile and phone services across AJK.
- Opening of humanitarian corridors for food, medicines, milk, baby formula and ambulances.
- Publication of verified lists of all dead, injured, detained and missing persons.
- Access to British nationals.
- Release or court production of peaceful detainees.
- Withdrawal of anti-terror measures against peaceful civil-rights activists.
- Guarantees that families of British Kashmiri activists will not be targeted in retaliation for lawful protest in the UK.

Ask 6 — Engage UK parliamentary committees

We respectfully ask MPs to request scrutiny by:

- Foreign Affairs Committee — UK diplomatic response, consular protection and Pakistan engagement.
- Joint Committee on Human Rights — transnational repression, rights of UK residents and peaceful protest.
- APPG on Kashmir — urgent evidence session with British Kashmiri families, human rights defenders and legal experts.
- Women and Equalities Committee — disability, pregnancy, children and vulnerable-person impacts where appropriate.

Ask 7 — Support UN and international action

We respectfully ask MPs to urge the UK Government to support urgent engagement by OHCHR and relevant UN Special Procedures, including mandates on peaceful assembly and association, freedom of expression, extrajudicial executions, torture, human rights defenders, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, disability rights and health.

The UK should use its position at the UN to call for independent access, evidence preservation, publication of custody lists and humanitarian monitoring.

4. Suggested Immediate Parliamentary Actions — Next 72 Hours

11. Send urgent letters to the Foreign Secretary and Minister for South Asia.
12. Request an urgent FCDO briefing for MPs with large British Kashmiri constituencies.
13. Table Written Parliamentary Questions on consular protection, blackout, humanitarian access and detentions.
14. Seek an Urgent Question or Westminster Hall debate.
15. Write jointly to the Pakistan High Commissioner requesting immediate humanitarian and communications access.
16. Ask the British High Commission in Islamabad to establish a dedicated AJK consular response mechanism.
17. Meet British Kashmiri families affected by communications blackout, trapped relatives, detention fears and reprisals.

5. Our Core Message for MPs

British Kashmiris are not asking Parliament to take sides in a political dispute. They are asking Parliament to protect British nationals, uphold human rights, defend the right to peaceful protest, oppose transnational repression, and help prevent a humanitarian protection emergency from worsening.

The immediate priorities are simple: restore communications, protect British nationals, open humanitarian access, publish detainee and missing-person lists, stop reprisals, and press for peaceful negotiations.

6. Dear Members of Parliament

- This is a consular-protection issue for British nationals, not only a foreign-policy concern.
- British Kashmiri families have been unable to contact relatives since the reported communications shutdown from 6 June 2026.
- Reports of family-based reprisals against relatives of UK activists must be treated as potential transnational repression.
- Humanitarian access for food, medicines, milk, baby formula and ambulances must be opened immediately.
- The UK should press for verified lists of the dead, injured, detained and missing.
- Peaceful civil-rights mobilisation should not be criminalised through anti-terror measures.
- The UK should use its diplomatic influence and UN Security Council position to press for de-escalation, accountability and negotiations.

7. Contact

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