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## India asks Pakistan to vacate all areas in J&K

## **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

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LODGING A diplomatic protest, India on Monday asked Pakistan to immediately vacate all areas in Jammu and Kashmir under its illegal occupation.

"The Government of India has conveyed a strong protest, through diplomatic channels, to-day against the so-called 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir Interim Constitution (13th Amendment) Act 2018'," a statement issued by the Ministry of External Affairs said.

"It was clearly conveyed that the entire state of Jammu and Kashmir, which also includes the so-called 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir', is an integral part of India by virtue of its accession in 1947. Any action to alter the status of any part of the territory under forcible and illegal occupation of Pakistan has no legal basis whatsoever, and is completely unacceptable. Instead of seeking to alter the status of occupied territories, the Pakistan should immediately vacate all areas under its illegal occupation," the MEA statement said.