

Annan endorses Indian stand on J&K

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H S Rao in Islamabad (Rediff.com)

In a firm endorsement of India's stand, United Nation's Secretary General Kofi Annan has said the Lahore Declaration and not UN resolutions could pave the way for a solution to the Kashmir issue.

"I call upon both India and Pakistan to retain the spirit of the Lahore declaration. This will require restraint, wisdom and constructive steps from both sides," Annan told newsmen at the Chaklala airbase on his arrival in Pakistan on the first leg of his four-nation visit to South Asia late Saturday night.

Responding to a question on why the UN resolution on Kashmir could not be implemented on the lines of the resolution on East Timor, Annan said there were two types of UN resolutions.

"The UN resolutions that come under chapter seven of the charter were self-enforcing like those related to East Timor and Iraq. The second type of resolutions which do not fall in the purview of chapter seven needed co-operation of the concerned parties for their implementation.

"The UN resolutions on Kashmir do not fall in the category of chapter seven and hence require co-operation of the concerned parties for their implementation and in this case it is lacking," he said.