

The United Nations Strongly Condemns Blast on Jalozai Camp for IDPs in Nowshera

21 March 2013, Islamabad : The United Nations strongly condemns today's bombing, targeting innocent civilians and aid workers in Jalozai camp for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Nowshera.

We express our deep condolences and sympathy with the families of all those who lost their lives or were injured in the brutal terror attack, and is urging the Government to take immediate steps in order to ensure the safety and security of IDPs and humanitarian workers alike.

"We are deeply saddened by the loss of precious lives in the blast; such attacks are inhuman and totally unjustifiable. On behalf of the UN System, I offer my heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims," said Timo Pakkala, Resident / Humanitarian Coordinator, United Nations Pakistan.

Mr. Pakkala reaffirmed the UN's commitment to continue assisting uprooted people. However, he maintained that an insecure working environment could impede the provision of assistance to the most needy.

"The safety and security of the people we serve, of our staff and our implementing partners are of utmost importance to us," he said, "We therefore request that the Government of Pakistan and law enforcement authorities strengthen safety measures in and around all camps for displaced persons."

Official reports have confirmed the death of ten IDPs and one aid worker, while scores of others were injured. Whilst UN agencies assess the security situation, all humanitarian services at Jalozai camp have been temporarily suspended.

Currently, the United Nations and NGOs are providing humanitarian assistance such as monthly food rations, non-food assistance, health, shelter and other services to around 12,500 families in Jalozai Camp, Nowshera district. (#)

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