**Speech delivered by Chairman Dr. Rami Ranger MBE, FRSA Pakistan India & UK Friendship Dinner at the House of Lords at 21st October 2010**

**My Lords, Sir Gulam, Sir David, ladies and gentlemen, once again, we are united to celebrate friendship between the two rival communities who have made their homes in Britain.**

**Our rivalry can not only damage ourselves, but society as a whole.**

**On the other hand, our friendship has far reaching benefits for mankind throughout the world.**

**In this ever shrinking and inter dependant world, the only rivalry we can afford to have is whilst playing cricket.**

**Our founders created two separate countries to benefit their people and not for us to become rivals to impede each other’s progress along with that of society.**

**Regrettably, our rivalry is now beginning to damage society in many countries where we have settled in large numbers.**

**It is time we drew a line under our rivalry and moved together as one to benefit one another.**

**Our love hate relation must now change to love and more love, having seen the consequence of our hatred for over six decades.**

**We must not create a society within a society with our actions and if we do, then we will all face grave consequences to say the least.**

**We recently witnessed the Commonwealth games in India.**

**You would have noticed the warm and friendly reception given to the Pakistani squad when they entered the stadium.**

**Similarly, when Pakistan was hit by massive floods, people from all over the world including India offered their help.**

**Our heart goes out to the millions who became victims are suffering in refugee camps.**

**For our part, we will be donating a cheque tonight for £3500.00 to help with the relief efforts.**

**This just shows how we feel for one another deep down.**

**Britain is brought us closer and offered us a unique opportunity to eliminate suspicion and mistrust which has plagued our relationship since our independence.**

**Together we can give a better world to our next generation.**

**Tonight we will be honouring 4 distinguished people who have gone the extra mile for Britain.**

**They have roots in Pakistan as well as in India.**

**This just shows no matter where we come from, we can benefit society with our work.**

**I would like to thank our Parliamentarians who have come to endorse and support our initiative.**

**Needless to say, without their help, our journey towards friendship would be impossible.**

**Finally, I would like you to consider my proposition and that is,**

**“Once we make a bridge of friendship between India, Pakistan and Britain, then we can cross all our differences”.**

**Friendship is the only way forward.**

**We either live in harmony or consume ourselves in hatred and at the same time damage everyone around us who have nothing to do with our differences or rivalry.**

**Thank you and enjoy the rest of the evening.**