

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 108**  
ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

**INDIA'S POSITION ON PALESTINE**

\*108. SHRI P. P. SUNEER:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of resolutions concerning Palestine that came up for consideration in the United Nations (UN) and related bodies since the beginning of Israel-Hamas conflict;
- (b) the details of the position India took on each of such resolutions in the UN and other UN related bodies;
- (c) the details of the aid India has sent to Palestine during the period directly and through UN and other related bodies, yearly data since 2021; and
- (d) whether India is considering any proposal to shape global opinion to affect a ceasefire in Palestine?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) IN RESPECT OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 108 FOR REPLY ON 05.12.2024 REGARDING INDIA'S POSITION ON PALESTINE ASKED BY SHRI P. P. SUNEER**

(a) to (d): India's policy towards Palestine has been long standing and we have always supported a negotiated two State solution, towards establishment of a sovereign, independent and viable State of Palestine within secure and recognized borders, living side by side in peace with Israel. India has strongly condemned the terror attacks on Israel on 7 October 2023 and also the loss of civilian lives in the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict. We remain concerned at the security situation and have called for a ceasefire, release of all hostages and peaceful resolution of conflict through dialogue and diplomacy. We emphasized the need for safe, timely and sustained delivery of humanitarian assistance to the people of Palestine. Our voting on UN resolutions on the issue of Israel Palestine have been in line with our stated policy.

Since the beginning of Israel- Hamas conflict, 13 resolutions concerning Palestine were brought in UNGA out of which India voted in favour in 10 resolutions and abstained on 3 resolutions. Details of India's voting position in UN and other related bodies since Israel Hamas conflict, are placed at Annexure I.

The Prime Minister and the Minister of External Affairs have spoken to several leaders in the region and across the globe, including President, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Israel and President and Foreign Minister of Palestine. We have also reiterated our position in various bilateral and multilateral forums such as UN, BRICS, NAM, Voice of Global South, etc. Prime Minister met Palestine President on the sidelines of Summit of the Future in New York on 22 September 2024 and called for ceasefire, release of hostages and return to path of dialogue and diplomacy.

India extends humanitarian assistance to the people of Palestine both bilaterally and through United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees in Near East (UNRWA). Since the beginning of the conflict, we have provided around 70 MT of humanitarian aid, including 16.5 MT of medicines and medical supplies in 2 tranches. We released \$ 5 million last year and we have disbursed another \$ 5 million this year to UNRWA. Recently, we also sent 65 tonnes of medicines to UNRWA and Palestine Ministry of Health in October and November 2024. Details of our aid to Palestine are at Annexure II.

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<b>Details of India's voting position on resolutions concerning Palestine in UNGA since beginning of Israel-Hamas conflict</b>				
<b>S. N.</b>	<b>Voted in favour-Y/ Abstained-A</b>	<b>Resolution Number</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date of resolution</b>
1	A	A/RES/ES-10/21	Protection of civilians and upholding legal and humanitarian obligations	27/10/2023
2	A	A/RES/78/76	Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories	07/12/2023
3	Y	A/RES/78/78	Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan	07/12/2023
4	Y	A/RES/78/77	The occupied Syrian Golan	07/12/2023
5	Y	A/RES/78/74	Assistance to Palestine refugees	07/12/2023
6	Y	A/RES/78/73	Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	07/12/2023
7	Y	A/RES/78/75	Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues	07/12/2023
8	Y	A/RES/ES-10/22	Protection of civilians and upholding legal and humanitarian obligations	12/12/2023
9	Y	A/RES/78/170	Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources	19/12/2023
10	Y	A/RES/78/192	The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination	19/12/2023
11	Y	A/RES/78/251	Proposed programme budget for 2024 Section 26, Palestine refugees	22/12/2023
12	Y	A/RES/ES-10/23	Admission of new Members to the United Nations	10/05/2024
13	A	A/RES/ES-10/24	Advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences arising from Israel's policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and from the illegality of Israel's continued presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory : resolution / adopted by the General Assembly	18/09/2024

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Details of resolution/ decision</b>	<b>India's position</b>
WHO	World Health Assembly 77 (WHA77), May-June 2024	Health conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including east Jerusalem	Favour
	World Health Assembly 77 (WHA77), May-June 2024	Collaboration with the UN system and other inter-governmental organization.	Favour
	World Health Assembly 77 (WHA77), May-June 2024	WHO's work in Health Emergencies in OPT, including East Jerusalem.	Favour
Human Rights Council (HRC)	55 <sup>th</sup> Session of HRC, April 2024	Human Rights Situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the obligation to ensure accountability and justice	Abstain
	55 <sup>th</sup> Session of HRC, April 2024	Right of the Palestinian people to self-determination	Favour
	55 <sup>th</sup> Session of HRC, April 2024	Israeli Settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan.	Favour
ILO	352nd Session of Governing Body, October 2024	Decision concerning the status of Palestine and its participation rights in ILO meetings	Adopted without a vote.
UNESCO	42 General Conference UNESCO (Nov 2023)	Agenda item: Impact and consequences of the current situation in the Gaza Strip/Palestine in all aspects of UNESCO's mandate	Abstained
	219 Executive Board (March 2024)	Agenda item: Impact and consequences of the current situation in the Gaza Strip/Palestine in all aspects of UNESCO's mandate	With Consensus. The Draft Decision was approved by consensus.
	220 Executive Board (October 2024)	Agenda item: Impact and consequences of the current situation in the Gaza Strip/Palestine in all aspects of UNESCO's mandate	With Consensus. The Draft Decision was approved by consensus.
	217 Executive Board	Agenda item: Occupied Palestine	With consensus

	(Oct 2023) 219 Executive Board (March 2024)  220 Executive Board (Oct 2024)		
	217 Executive Board (Oct 2023) 219 Executive Board (March 2024)  220 Executive Board (Oct 2024)	Agenda item: Implementation of 42 C/Resolution 49 and 219 EX/Decision 23 concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories.	With consensus
	8 <sup>th</sup> Special Session of Executive Board (ExB) of UNESCO (25 November 2024)	Agenda item: Supporting the continuity of UNRWA's educational activities in the occupied Palestinian territory.	In favour

**India's aid to Palestine**

India's developmental assistance to Palestine through various forms amounts close to USD 160 million over the years. Currently, we are actively engaged in developmental projects worth USD 40 million to improve the lives of the Palestinian people, in addition we have also provided a total of USD 39.53 million as assistance to UNRWA since 2002.

In response to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, India has also sent 70 tonnes of humanitarian assistance including 16.5 tonnes of medicines and medical supplies in two tranches on 22 October and 19 November 2023. In October and November 2024, we also sent close to 65 tonnes of life-saving medicines to UNRWA and Palestinian Ministry of Health.

**India's contribution to UNRWA**

2020-21	5 million
2022-23	5 million
2023-24	5 million
2024- 25	5 million
<b>Total (2002 to 2024)</b>	<b>39.53 million</b>

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