

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 3200

ANSWERED ON- 13/12/2024

INDIA'S STANCE ON PALESTINE ISSUE

3200. SHRI AGA SYED RUHULLAH MEHDI

SHRI RAJA A

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the Government is concerned over the continuing conflict in Gaza region or on the issue of Palestine;

(b) if so, the diplomatic efforts made along with other major countries to bring early ceasefire and to stop further escalation in the region;

(c) the official stance of India in the United Nations forums for supporting the Palestinian cause;

(d) the decision of the Government of India on the aggression of Israel which has resulted in the killing of thousands of innocent people including children in Palestine; and

(e) the decision of the Government of India on Israel's violation of international commitments?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to e) India remains concerned at the evolving situation in West Asia and the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. Government have emphasized the need for safe, timely and sustained delivery of humanitarian assistance to the people of Palestine. Since the beginning of the conflict, India has provided around 70 MT of humanitarian aid, including 16.5 MT of medicines and medical supplies in two tranches. It has also released \$ 5 million last year and disbursed another \$ 5 million this year to United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees in Near East (UNRWA). Recently, 65 tonnes of medicines were also sent to UNRWA and Palestine Ministry of Health in October and November 2024.

India's policy towards Palestine has been long standing and includes support for a negotiated two State solution, and the establishment of a sovereign, independent and viable State of Palestine within secure and recognized borders, living side by side in peace with Israel. India also supports Palestine's membership of the UN.

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. India has called for a ceasefire, release of all hostages and peaceful resolution of conflict through dialogue and diplomacy.

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. India's position has been reiterated in various bilateral and multilateral forums such as UN, BRICS, NAM, Voice of Global South, etc. Prime Minister met the 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.
