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Visit of UN Delegation on Palestine to India

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Why in News

Recently, a **UN delegation on Palestine** visited New Delhi to seek India's political and diplomatic support for a peaceful resolution to the long-standing conflict between Israel and Palestine.

The delegation of the **United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP)** intends **to engage India in the settling of the question of Palestine.**

Key Points

- During the visit of the UN delegation on Palestine, **India has reiterated its stand and supported the Two-State solution** for the **Israel-Palestine issue**.
- The visit aimed **to enhance the political and diplomatic support of India for a peaceful solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict** and engaging Indian counterparts on synergies in capacity building for staff and institutions of Palestine.
- The delegation intends to involve countries like India as it **shares good relations with both Israel and Palestine**, and are **also attached to multilateral principles**, to play a bigger role in the resolution of the issue.

Two-State Solution

- The "two-state solution" is based on a **UN resolution of 1947** which proposed two states - one would be a state where Zionist Jews constituted a majority, the other where the Palestinian Arabs would be a majority of the population. The idea was however rejected by the Arabs.
- For decades, it has been held by the international community as the only realistic deal to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- India has consistently voted in favour of those resolutions that **promote the two-state solution** with a Palestinian claim to East Jerusalem.

India's Stand on Israel-Palestine Issue

- **In June 2019**, India voted in **favour of a decision introduced by Israel** in the **UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)** that objected to granting consultative status to a Palestinian non-governmental organization.
- **In June 2018**, India had **voted in favour of Palestine** on the **UN General Assembly** (UNGA) resolution to investigate an indiscriminate force usage by Israeli forces against Palestinian civilians.
- As a part of **Link West Policy**, India has **de-hyphenated its relationship with Israel and Palestine in 2018** to treat both the countries mutually independent and exclusive.
- **In December 2017**, India had **criticised the United States** vote for recognising **Jerusalem as the Israeli capital** at the UNGA vote.
- **In 2014**, India favoured **UNHRC's** resolution to probe Israel's human rights violations in Gaza. Despite supporting the probe, **India abstained from voting against Israel in UNHRC in 2015.**



CEIRPP

- United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP) was founded in 1975 by the United Nations General Assembly.
- It aims to formulate a programme to enable the Palestinian people to exercise their right to self-determination, to national independence and sovereignty, and the right of Palestine refugees to return.

Source: TH