



प्रधान मंत्री
Prime Minister
MESSAGE

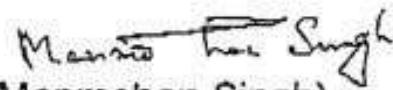
On the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, I reiterate India's unwavering support for the Palestinian people's struggle for a sovereign, independent, viable and united state of Palestine with East Jerusalem as its capital, living within secure and recognized borders, side by side and at peace with Israel as endorsed in the Arab Peace Initiative, Quartet Road Map and relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions.

We support the aspirations of Palestine for enhanced status at the United Nations. We had played an active role in supporting the efforts of the State of Palestine to secure full membership status at UNESCO. We remain committed to Palestine's bid for full and equal membership of the United Nations.

India will continue to support the development and nation-building efforts of Palestine. During the visit of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas to India in September this year, we pledged an amount of US\$ 10 million as budgetary support to Palestine and signed three Memoranda of Understanding for development projects in the fields of Information and Communication Technology, vocational training and construction of schools in Palestine. India also contributes US\$ 1 million annually to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). We are also implementing developmental projects in Palestine jointly with Brazil and South Africa within the framework of IBSA.

We remain hopeful that talks and negotiations between the Palestinians and the Israelis will resume soon, leading to a comprehensive peace process and a final resolution of the conflict.

On this important occasion, on behalf of the people of India, I convey our best wishes and greetings to the friendly people of Palestine.


(Manmohan Singh)