

# India's Role in UN Peace Keeping

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## Introduction

The United Nations was established by the 51 members on October 24, 1945 in the San Francisco Conference for World Peace with Democracy and Independence since the middle of World War II. It was created with the aim of bringing about a system of disarmament, ensuring social, cultural and international cooperation, preventing interference in matters of equality among all members. At present, the number of members of the United Nations has increased to 193. India is one of the few former colonies that have had direct contact with many countries on the horizon of international politics even during the British rule. After the first World War, India also participated in the Versailles Conference. In which the Treaty of Versailles was signed in June, 1919. Then British Government had allowed India to represent in the League of Nations. Even as a subordinate country, India was determined to bring about global peace and stability through bilateral cooperation. Hence India was one of the founding members of the United Nations in the Second World War. Speaking at the United Nations General Assembly in Paris on 3 November 1948, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said that “we do not think that the problems of the world or India can be solved through aggression, non-violence, but we are all weak beings. That's why we can't always follow the teachings of the great man Mahatma Gandhi, who led the freedom movement of India, but the lesson taught by him has engulfed the depths of our conscience and I am sure as long as we remember this lesson. That we will continue on the right path. If I get a chance to make suggestions in this meeting, I think that if we remember the essence of what he taught, then probably we will have a positive attitude towards today's problem. Perhaps the danger always hovering over our heads will gradually subside”.

If a comprehensive assessment of the United Nations is done for 70 years, then the United Nations has effectively demonstrated its important role. On December 14, 1960, the General Assembly passed the Declaration of Dissolution of Colonialism. In which a resolution was passed regarding the independence of 50 nations. In 1946 and 1970,

resolutions were passed against the apartheid policy. In which apartheid was abolished in South Africa, Rhodesia, Namibia. In the same way, the peaceful use of nuclear energy has been promoted by the United Nations through various treaties regarding disarmament.

The United Nations was the first to propose an International treaty banning nuclear tests. As a result of which the Partial Test Ban Treaty came into existence in 1963. Under which nuclear tests over water, sky and earth were banned. The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) came in 1968, which could not be implemented due to the biased attitude of the nuclear powers. This treaty, passed by the United Nations General Assembly, was signed by 50 countries on 1 July 1968, which was considered effective from 5 March, 1970. The treaty had a provision that nuclear-armed states would not give information about the secret of atomic bombs to different nations, nor would they assist in any way, and states without nuclear weapons would renounce the right to make atomic bombs. Nuclear tests were banned. Use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, India did not sign it as it is a discriminatory treaty. It does not allow the sixth member in the nuclear fraternity and there is no clear provision for penal action for its violation.

The Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) was drafted at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament in June, 1996, in which all types of conventional nuclear tests were banned. India refused to sign it, saying it was not linked to the program closed at the time of universal nuclear disarmament.

### **UN as a Success**

The United Nations has also been successful in the settlement of regional conflicts, in which about 200 International wars were settled by the United Nations. Introduced its important role in peace agreements, under which the Geneva Agreement on the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan was implemented. The Iraq-Iran ceasefire agreement was implemented. In a similar manner played a role in relation to Namibian independence, the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. The Somalia civil war ended, Kuwait's independence was restored, Congo - Cyprus made peace. The Vietnam - Cuba crisis was averted. The Indo-Bangladesh dispute was settled. Played an important role in resolving the West Asia crisis. It played an important role in 1949 in the context of the Indo-Pakistani War. Cyprus in 1964, Israel-Syria War in 1974, Lebanon War in 1978, 1991 Gulf Crisis, Georgia in 1993, Kosovo-Congo Problem in 1999, Ethiopia-Eritrea Problem in 2000, Afghanistan Crisis in 2001, Iraq War in 2003, Liberia in 2003 with

regard to the crisis, Haiti, Burundi, Ivory Coast in 2004, Sudan in 2005, East Timor and Sierra Leone in 2006, COVID-19 pandemic etc., the United Nations has played an important role in the future settlement of these problems by comprehensively addressing them.

The Humanitarian Security Report, 2008 published by the University of British Columbia in the post-cold war world, widely noted the achievements of the United Nations in the reduction of war in the world through the significant role of the United Nations. There are restrictions on genocide and human rights abuses. That activity has decreased by 40 percent. There has been an 80 percent reduction in genocide. Which has proved to be a clear indication of the positive and forward-looking role of the United Nations.

## **Peacekeeping**

Presently more than 15 peacekeeping forces are active. More than four lakh soldiers and 7500 police personnel have been deployed since 2001. Unity resolution for peace has been passed in the form of Acheson resolution for the establishment of world peace. The United Nations has also achieved remarkable success for economic and constructive work. The Social and Economic Council and its subsidiaries such as WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNEP etc. have demonstrated their important role in constructive economic work. Welfare schemes are being operated in Africa, Latin America through these agencies. Political efforts like civil war, racial tension, internal and external problems, protection of refugees displaced in wars and genocide, human rights protection etc. have also been made keeping this in view.

Drought, flood, population growth control, environmental protection etc. welfare schemes and programs have also been conducted by the United Nations. The United Nations has budgeted \$1.30 million for plans on more than 5000 in 170 countries. The resolution was also passed by the General Assembly in 1974 to bring about an International New Economic Order.

In 1998, 120 Nations ratified the Treaty of the International Court of Justice, which came into force in 2002. It penalizes genocide, human rights violations, ethnic violence. The United Nations has played an important role on the establishment of democracy, such as free and fair elections were also established in Cambodia, East Timor. Independent Media Commission was formed in 1998 to establish democracy. The laying of anti-civilian tunnels was banned under the Otovo Treaty, 1999. The United Nations Democracy Fund was

established in 2005. Under the development goals, plans have been set for building a strong world and socio-economic development by 2015 and by expanding it, efforts are being made to achieve it by 2030 by setting the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Peace Building Commission has been established in 2006 for the purpose of creating peace and the Peace Keeping Fund has been established for the reconstruction of the aggrieved party. At the same time, more emphasis has been laid on environmental protection by organizing Rio-de-Janeiro and Copenhagen conferences for environmental protection. Four conferences have been organized regarding women empowerment.

In the same way, it can be said that the United Nations has played the role of a 'safety- valve' to settle international disputes. According to Ralph Bouche, the main feature of the United Nations is that it keeps the nations engaged in dialogue, the longer the talk continues, the longer the war will be averted. According to Nehru, the United Nations has saved from crisis, without it the modern world cannot be imagined. According to Doug Hammers hold, the United Nations has been formed to take humanity to heaven rather than to save it from hell. According to Kofi Annan, the United Nations has played an important role in contemporary needs like collective security, development, social work and human rights.

Undoubtedly, the ideological war during the Cold War has been prevented from turning into an armed war. In the post-Cold War era, it has emerged as a protector-general for the defense of democracy. Which has saved the world from many crisis, but still today the areas of global challenges have been environmental security, terrorism, global pandemics, socio-economic development, new international economy etc. In order to make the United Nations more relevant in the changing global scenario, it needs structural reform. So, that the United Nations can assume the form of a 'global government'.

Questions have also been raised about the failure of the United Nations from time to time, such as being unable to establish a majority black rule in South Africa, Rhodesia, Namibia for a long time despite the passage of its anti-apartheid resolution. The United Nations has proved to be a failure in preventing caste discrimination, gender injustice, colonialism, environmental crisis etc. It has proved unsuccessful in preventing attacks on global conflicts. Like China's invasion of India, China's invasion of Vietnam, Soviet Union's invasion of Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Afghanistan. America's invasion of Grenada, Vietnam.

Somalia, Rwanda, Iraq, Serbia, Darfur have also failed to stop the attacks in the context of events.

NATO forces invaded Yugoslavia in 1999, Serbia in 2000, and Iraq in 2003 without the approval of the Security Council. This raised questions on the sovereignty of the United Nations. It has failed to stop the disarmament and arms race, as NPT and CTBT have not been implemented effectively. Due to its deformed nature, it has not been universalized.

It has failed to address the imbalance between developed and developing nations. Developing countries do not get fair price for raw materials, restrictive action is taken on them. Developing nations have lacked effective control over marine resources. It has also failed to establish a new international economy. Veto has been misused several times. The role of the United Nations has been questioned due to the rise of regional organizations.

According to Witt off, the beginning of the United Nations during the Cold War has been disappointing. financial crisis, shortcomings related to structural reforms have been pervasive under it. Economic issues have been removed from the forum of the General Assembly. Now these are raised from the forum of the World Trade Organization where developed nations dominate. According to Witt off, none of the world's conflicts could be resolved which was its original task.

There have also been reasons for its failure, such as the factionalism of nations due to the Cold War, which blocked the path of world integration. Because of the principle of national sovereignty, the United Nations has failed in some way or the other. Globally, it has been seen that the member countries also lacked international spirit. The United Nations also lacks permanent military power. The imperialist tendency of superpowers and misuse of veto are also the main reasons for its failure. By not adopting sustainable development by the developed nations, environmental crisis has been created. The conflict of civilizations has given rise to terrorism. Due to the supremacist policy of the nuclear powers, all types of treaties and agreements have been unsuccessful in nuclear disarmament efforts.

According to Doug Hammers hold, the United Nations cannot take you to heaven, but it can prevent you from going to hell. According to Wan Ki-moon, the world is turning in favor of the United Nations, the United Nations is a necessity, not a substitute, which is based on multilateralism. After the success and failure of the United Nations, it is concluded that it is the general protector of mankind.

Nehru said that “I would like to inform this assembly on behalf of the people and government of our country that we fully abide by the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations. We will do our best to achieve these principles and purposes”. Even after 70 years, India’s view remained the same, the most important responsibility of the United Nations is to maintain peace. India has always supported this role of the United Nations, provided that the organization’s activities in this regard are not the medium of power politics of the big powers and the sovereignty of the member states is respected and protected from partisan interference or infiltration.

Nehru first raised the issue of nuclear arms control in the United Nations. He considered the balance of power to be a criminal sly. India played an important role in establishing peace in the 1950’s in Korea, Cambodia, Vietnam, Sinai and Lebanon and in the present context Iraq, Iran, Angola, Namibia, Iraq, Kuwait, Yugoslavia, Cambodia, Somalia, Rwanda etc. During the Korean War in 1953, India played the role of chairman of the Repatriation Commission to deal with the responsibility of prisoners of war to Indian soldiers. In 1954, India was made the chairman of the Control and Inspection Commission of Indonesia Region under the Indonesia-related agreement. In 1963, the task of the Independent Brigade was successfully performed in peacekeeping in the Congo.

It was through India’s efforts that the United Nations first proposed an International treaty to ban nuclear tests, which resulted in the Partial Test Ban Treaty in 1963. Under which nuclear tests were banned over water, sky and ground, that is, due to the efforts of India, the first treaty on the ban of nuclear tests came into existence. The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) came in 1968, which could not be implemented due to the biased attitude of the nuclear powers. This treaty, passed by the United Nations General Assembly, was signed by 50 countries on 1 July, 1968 which was considered effective from 5 March, 1970. The treaty had a provision that nuclear-armed states would not give information about the secret of atomic bombs to different nations, nor would they assist in any way, and states without nuclear weapons would renounce the right to make atomic bombs. Nuclear tests were banned. Use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, India did not sign it as it is a discriminatory treaty. It does not allow the sixth member in the nuclear fraternity and there is no clear provision for penal action for its violation. India has been in favor of the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, but opposes the concentration of nuclear power on one pole.

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## Conclusion

Increasingly International issues in different countries of the world; ie conflict, internal conflict in Sudan, Somali, Pakistan, Afghanistan, while in Lebanon, Israel, Rwanda, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Somali, etc., mutual conflict for world peace ,nuclear warfare become the new challenge. increasing health around the world; The problem of HIV, bird flu, SARS,

malnutrition, starvation, Pandemic, COVID-19 etc., and the crisis of education, employment and poor quality of life, increasing inequality, nuclear warfare and unrest in the world Therefore, the correction is inevitable.

Questions are also being raised on the ability of the United Nations to have its own role, effectiveness, credibility, and representation; America's invasion of Iraq, Israel's invasion of Lebanon, increasing attacks on UN peacekeeping forces and the emergence of corruption in the internal system of the United Nations. In this context the need for comprehensive reforms can be underlined. When the United Nations was established in 1945, the Security Council had five permanent members; and 6 non-permanent members. After that in 1965 the number of non permanent members of the Security Council increased to 10 members. The number of temporary members only increased. When there was a need that the Security Council should be reconstituted. Parkinson has said that due to the abuse of the veto, the confidence of world public opinion in the Council is lost. Committees were formed for the reform of the Suraksha Parishad, the main ones being the Karbas Committee, the Ismail Razali Committee and the Anandarpoochal Committee, etc.

Prime Minister of India Mr. Narasimha Rao made the United Nations more representative; And stressed on making democratic; The Government of India spoke of administering the Charter and the Security Council's proceedings on the basis of the collective will of the common members of the United Nations, not the interests of the views of some powerful countries. The active role being played by the United Nations on issues such as human rights, environment, management, nuclear non-proliferation and non-discrimination; Rao said that such a role should be based on the consensus of the members of this organization. co-ordination with developing countries in dealing with controversial trends; While doing so, India has played a leading role in the United Nations.

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