

India-Israel Relations on Dangerous Course

There was a time when the Indian Govt was boasting of being on the side of Palestinian peoples just right and struggle for Home land. But, in the course of time, this policy has undergone a change. Step by step it moved towards developing closer relations with Israeli rulers. It is already 25 years since India had established diplomatic relations with Israel.

The BJP and Sangh Parivar are known for their admiration for Israeli Zionists. The BJP led Govt lost no time to set upon themselves on the job of further strengthening ties with Israel. India's Foreign Minister as well as the Indian President has visited Israel. The Israeli President came to India in Nov'2016. The visit of Indian Prime Minister to Israel is already in the pipeline.

The Israeli President Reuven Rivlin has landed in Mumbai first. Addressing the Jewish community at the Taj Hotel, he said: "Nearly eight years ago, this wonderful city was the victim of the one of the most terrifying, brutal and murderous terror attacks..." "Let us be clear, terror is terror, whatever it likes. And we stand here, we say it clearly, terror will never win, terror will never win".

In Delhi, the Israeli President was given a ceremonial welcome by the Indian Govt at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. After talks the Indian Prime Minister Modi said: "Both sides agreed to take 'practical and specific' measures such as cyber-security co-operation and to expand the defence ties." "Both sides would work to counter terrorism, radicalism and extremism." (A month earlier, addressing a meeting in Himachal Pradesh, Modi likened the Indian Army's 'surgical' strikes across the LoC as with that of Israel Army" in a complimentary reference to Israel's military actions in Palestine and Lebanon).

Both governments have decided to "broad base" the relations between the two countries. They have signed many agreements and decided to firm up co-operation in agriculture and water resources management.

The Israel delegation has visited Agra, Chandigarh and Karnal.

The kind of relations the Indian gov't is developing with Israel carry far reaching consequences for India as well as Palestinian people.

Firstly, the Palestine question eludes solution for decades owing to, basically unjust and untenable attitude of Israeli rulers. The essence of Israeli rulers attitude continues to be: 'whatever I grabbed from you by force is mine. Whatever I propose to grab will be mine. The Palestinian people have the right only to beg for a place to live, but cannot claim their Homeland as a right'. All these years, the Israeli rulers were engaged in waging genocidal attacks, physical exterminations, devastations, small or big wars of annexations and occupations against the Palestine people and their Arab supporters. They sought to use the talks, cease fires or interim agreements with the Palestine leaders as a means to gain time to consolidate the fruits of their aggression, prepare for more ferocious attacks and keep the Palestine people buried in illusions. In such a critical situation the growing fraternity of the Indian rulers towards Israel and developing relations with Israel leaders can only further embolden the Israeli rulers and to create more hurdles in the resolution of Palestine problem.

Secondly, the Indian people are a part of the oppressed people of the world. They fought against the colonial rule and are still continuing the struggle to end the imperialist plunder and oppression. Their sympathies, solidarity and fraternity had always been and continues to be with the oppressed people of the world. From Vietnam to Afghanistan-where ever the oppressed people rose against the imperialist invasion and occupation, the Indian people stood by them. It remains the same with their attitude towards the Palestine people who are waging a just struggle against the imperialist-backed Israeli Zionist and militarist rulers. By taking inspiration from the Israeli rulers-a colossal edifice of terrorism-by lauding their acts of terrorism, invasion and genocides against the Palestine people as a fight against terrorism and by branding the victims of Israeli attacks as "enemies", terrorists" and "militants", the Indian rulers and Narendra Modi are only bringing an immense shame to the Indian people and causing a serious harm to the just cause and struggle of Palestine people.

Thirdly, the entire world knows that the Israeli rulers are the stooges of imperialism. They are seemingly strong economically and militarily. But, in reality, this strength is a borrowed one. They survive mainly on

the ventilators provided by the imperialists in general and the US imperialists in particular. For imperialists, the Israel is an outpost in the Middle East and a tool to impose their domination over the people of Middle East. So the moves of Indian govt to expand defence ties and develop cyber-security co-operation with Israel can only be one more window for imperialists to strengthen their own control over India's defence and security apparatuses and affairs. Indeed, it is a most dangerous development.

Fourthly, the statement of Indian PM that India and Israel would "work to counter terrorism, radicalism and extremism" is particularly significant. The Indian Govt claims that the danger of terrorism India faces is either originating from or propped up by another country. So where the so called co-operation between the two governments leads to can be understood. This co-operation is also sought to be extended to counter "radicalism" and "extremism"-which are even according to the Indian rulers, is an internal phenomenon. The words like "radicalism", "extremism" and "left extremism" have become pet words and smokescreens for the Indian rulers to initiate and justify their 'legal and illegal moves to suppress the dissenting voices, democratic and national rights of people and just peoples move ments and protests. It is shameful and atrocious for the Indian rulers to seek co-operation of other country in the suppression of Indian people.

So we must expose the dangers involved in the kind of relations developing between India and Israel. We must reassert and reassure the Palestinian people and the world that the Indian people, as ever before are with their just right and struggle for Home Land against the Israeli rulers and their imperialist props.
