

#### 4. Visit of UN Delegation on Palestine to India

**Prelims Syllabus:** Places in News

**Mains Syllabus:** GS-II Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's Interests, Indian Diaspora.

#### 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.

#### About 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.



### **What is 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.

### **What are the Key Points of their Visit?**

- 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.
  - ✓ **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.
- 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 is also attached to multilateral principles, to play a bigger role in the resolution of the issue.