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United Nations Relief and Works Agency

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Why in News

United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) Covid-19 Recently, the , has applauded India's financial support to keep its basic services operating, under the crisis.

Key Points

- **USD 2 million UNRWA** The Government of India provided to the in support of its core programmes and services, including education and health.
- **USD 1.25 million USD 5 million** India had increased its annual contribution to the UNRWA from in 2016 to in 2019.
- It pledged another USD 5 million for 2020 which opens its way to become a member of the agency's advisory commission.
- It is also preparing medical supplies for the Palestinians.

United Nations Relief and Works Agency

- **General Assembly in 1949.** It is a United Nations agency established by the
- **relief human development Palestinian refugees education, health care, relief and social services, camp infrastructure and improvement, protection and microfinance.** Its services encompass It supports the and of across its five fields of operation.
- **Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank, including East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip.** Its mission is to help Palestine refugees in
- It is funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions and financial support
- **Palestine refugees during the period 1 June 1946 to 15 May 1948,** are defined as persons whose normal place of residence was Palestine and who lost both home and means of livelihood as a result of the 1948 conflict.

Background

- **17 agreements India-Palestine development partnership**
USD 72 million projects post-2014 war reconstruction efforts in Gaza, construction of schools, setting up a centre of excellence for information and communication technologies at Al-Quds University satellite centre in Ramallah. India would provide an assistance of around through these agreements in like the and developing a
have been signed under an between the two sides in the fields of agriculture, health care, information technology, youth affairs, consular affairs, women empowerment and media.
- **United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP)**
Israel-Palestine issue India has reiterated its stand and supported the Two-State solution for the .
In March 2020, a delegation of visited india intended to engage India in the settling of the question of Palestine.
- **UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)** In June 2019, India voted in favour of a decision introduced by Israel in the that objected to granting consultative status to a Palestinian non-governmental organization.
- **UN General Assembly** In June 2018, India had voted in favour of Palestine on the (UNGA) resolution to investigate an indiscriminate force usage by Israeli forces against Palestinian civilians.
- **de-hyphenated its relationship countries mutually independent and exclusive.**
As a part of Link West Policy, India has with Israel and Palestine in 2018 to treat both the
- In December 2017, India had criticised the United States vote for recognising Jerusalem as the Israeli capital at the UNGA vote.
- **UNHRC's** In 2014, India favoured resolution to probe Israel's human rights violations in Gaza. Despite supporting the probe, India abstained from voting against Israel in UNHRC in 2015.

Source: IE