



# PM Speech at United Nations General Assembly

## Why in News

Recently, the Prime Minister of India (PM) addressed the 76<sup>th</sup> [United Nations General Assembly \(UNGA\)](#).

- The UNGA's theme for this year is "Building Resilience through hope to recover from **Covid-19**, rebuild **sustainably**, respond to the **needs of the planet**, respect the **rights of people**, and **revitalise the United Nations**".
- The PM spoke about a range of topics from the Covid-19 pandemic, threat of terrorism, India's actions to combat climate change and the need to protect the freedom of navigation in the oceans.

## United Nations General Assembly

- The General Assembly is the **main deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the UN**.
- **All 193 Member States** of the UN are represented in the General Assembly, making it the only UN body with universal representation.
- Each year, in **September**, the full UN membership meets in the General Assembly Hall in **New York** for the **annual General Assembly session**, and general debate, which many heads of state attend and address.
- Decisions on important questions, such as those on **peace and security, admission of new members** and budgetary matters, require **a two-thirds majority** of the General Assembly.
  - Decisions on other questions are **by simple majority**.
- **The President** of the General Assembly is elected each year by assembly to serve a one-year term of office.
  - Recently, the [Maldives' Foreign Minister Abdulla Shahid](#) was elected the **President of the 76<sup>th</sup> session** of the UNGA for 2021-22
  - The UNGA has also **appointed Antonio Guterres as the ninth UN Secretary General (UNSG)** for a second term beginning 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2022 and ending on 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2026.

## Key Points

- **Threat of Terrorism:** The world is facing an increased threat of regressive thinking and extremism and many countries is using "**terrorism as a political tool**".
  - He also emphasised to abide by [UNSC Resolution 2593](#).
  - The resolution demands that Afghan territory must never again be used to threaten or attack any country or to shelter or train terrorists.
- **Importance of India:** Today **every sixth person in the world is an Indian**. Thus, when Indians progress, it accelerates the development of the world.

- He regarded India as '**Mother of Democracy**' and through democracy many socio-economic problems can be resolved.
- **Developmental Model of India:** Citing the [Deen Dayal Upadhaya's Integral Humanism](#), India's developmental model envisages an all-inclusive, all-pervasive, and universal approach. For example:
  - [Unified Payment Interface \(UPI\)](#), [Jan Dhan Accounts](#) have deepened the financial inclusion.
  - [PM Jan Aarogya Yojana](#) has provided the facility of free treatment in hospitals to over 500 million people and has given them access to quality health services.
  - Under [PM Awas Yojana](#), nearly 30 million proper homes are being built for many homeless families.
  - [Jal Jeevan Mission](#) envisages to ensure that piped clean water reaches over 170 million homes.
- **Tackling Covid-19:** India has developed the [world's first DNA vaccine](#). This can be administered to anyone above the age of 12.
  - An [mRNA vaccine](#) is in the final stages of development.
  - Indian scientists are also developing a nasal vaccine against Covid-19.
- **Balancing Economy and Ecology:** India is progressing towards the goal of [450 gigawatts of renewable energy](#).
  - Also, India is set to be the **world's biggest green hydrogen hub**.
- **Ensuring Freedom of Navigation:** Highlighting China's expansionism in the Indo-Pacific, PM held that oceans are the lifeline of international trade and must be protected from the race of expansion and exclusion.
  - In this context, the broad consensus reached in the Security Council during India's presidency shows to the world the [way forward for maritime security](#).

**[Source: IE](#)**

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