

# NETANYAHU THANKS MODI FOR VOTE AGAINST PALESTINIAN GROUP

Relevant for: International Relations | Topic: India - Israel

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has thanked his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi for voting in favour of a decision introduced by the Jewish state that objected to granting consultative status to a Palestinian group at the UN's Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

In a rare move, India voted in favour of Israel in ECOSOC to deny the Palestinian non-governmental organisation 'Shahed' the observer status, after Israel said the organisation did not disclose its ties with Hamas.

"Thank you @NarendraModi, thank you India, for your support and for standing with Israel at the UN," Mr. Netanyahu tweeted from his official handle on Wednesday, almost a week after the June 6 vote.

It is the first time that India has voted on a resolution at the UN that is being perceived as pro-Israel.

India's position on the Middle East Peace Process has been consistent. India supports a negotiated solution resulting in a sovereign, independent, viable and united State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, living within secure and recognised borders, side by side at peace with Israel as endorsed in the Quartet Roadmap and relevant UNSC Resolutions.

The ECOSOC vote, which took place at the UN, saw countries such as the U.S., France, Germany, India, Japan, the U.K., South Korea and Canada polling in favour of Israel, while China, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and others voted against it.

The proposal made by the Palestinian NGO 'Shahed' to obtain observer status in the UN was rejected by a 28-14 vote.

Palestinian Islamist group Hamas has been described as a terrorist organisation by many European countries.

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