

Increasing Relation between India and Israel after 1992: Causes and Effects

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Abstract

Contemporary diplomatic relation of India with Israel was shaped by new world conditions after end of Cold War and new foreign policy considerations of India. Foreign policy of India in the first decades of Independence was guided by ideological and moral commitment thanks to the influence of the principles of Gandhi and Nehru. The idea of third world solidarity and commitment towards decolonization negatively affected India's relation with Israel since later was considered as colonial country. But, India reformulated its foreign policy after end of cold war and strategic consideration got preference compare to ideological commitment. The relation with Israel also entered into new phase in 1990s. It was result of many international and domestic factors but it was criticized on the ideological ground. However, currently India keeps relation with both Israel and Arab countries without affecting the concern of one on the relation with other. This paper analyzes the historical development in the relation between India and Israel and explains various factors caused the policy shift after 1990s and impacts of this shift.

Key Words

Foreign Policy, India, Israel, Post-Cold War, Domestic Factors, National Interest,

Introduction

India and Israel are major powers in their own region in Asia. Unlike most of the other Asian countries they have common features of long-lived democracy. But the relation between

these countries was not established at diplomatic level till 1992. Lot of ideological and strategic factors caused this absence of relation. After end of cold war India reformulated its relation with other countries and it recognized strategic importance of smooth relations with USA and its allies. This strategic consideration affected the relation with Israel also. Changing international and domestic political situations have played role in this policy shift. This shift was discussed by academic community with both positive and negative reflections. But most of them have problem of subjectivity of selection of data. They either analyzed the benefits of relation and neglected the bad effects of it or completely criticized this relation without understanding the situation and reasons of shift in policy of India towards Israel. In this paper I try to analyze both of these positions and try to make a conclusion. For this purpose I have referred the papers of the both pro and anti-Israel Indian scholars, essays of a Pakistani and Israeli scholars.

In first part of this essay I summarize the historical context of India-Israeli relation and examine the reasons of distance. Next part of it describes the major changers after 1992. Then I analyze the different fields of cooperation. In next part I explain the reasons and situations of the shifting the policy. At last part of this essay I put some major impacts of this new alliance. Then I conclude with some observations about the change in policy and suggestions to be considered in coming days.



Historical Background

Important of history in determine of the current foreign relation has been widely questioned. But in the case of study about India-Israel relation an historical back ground is useful to understand about change in India's attitude towards Israel. Both territories were administrated by Great Britain and were established less than a year apart (India in August 1947 and Israel in May 1948). From the beginning, relations between the two new states proved rather arduous. The leaders of the Indian liberation movement Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru had fervently opposed the partition of Palestine and the creation of a Jewish state on this territory.

In the 1939, Indian National Congress passed a resolution which opposes creation of Jews state. Mahatma Gandhi aptly summarized this unsympathetic Indian position "Palestine belongs to the Arabs in the same since that England belongs to the English and France to the French". Jawaharlal Nehru considered Arab-Jews conflict as an imperialistic idea. He rejected any historical Jews clime to Palestinian territory¹.

Although, India officially recognized the Jews state in September 1950, the two states didn't establish a full diplomatic relation. India supported Palestine against Israel in three Arab-Israel wars of 1956, 1967 and 1973². India's hostility towards Israel continued even after death of Nehru in 1964. Under Mrs. Indira Gandhi India found Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) as a useful ally in Middle East and recognized PLO as the legitimate representative of Palestinian people.

But Israel was very eager to make good relation with India. Israel supported India

against Pakistan in the two wars of 1965 and 1971. Israel supplied to India crucial situation weapons those exclusively manufactured in Israel³. Israel had many interest in these relations. Mainly it was due to its enmity towards Pakistan because of the ideological and religious differences. Pakistan considered Zionism as a threat to entire Muslim world.

Reasons of this Distance

This hatred relation was a result of different reasons. Ideologically, Socially, Economically and Culturally India was interconnected with Arab countries. India was a good supporter to all third world countries to fight against colonial power. Indian leaders considered Israel as a colonial product. So struggle of Palestinian was freedom fight to India. After World War II, Jawaharlal Nehru of India and Jamal Abdul Nasser of Egypt founded Non Aligned Movement. India's commitment towards NAM principles and the relation with the Egyptian president made India and Israel in two ways. Nehru saw Nasser as a leader and symbol of Arab nationalism and anti-colonial struggle in the Middle East⁴.

Arab region was economically and geographically important for India. India imports its major part of oil energy from Middle East countries. Large number of Indian citizens is working there. As nearly 76% of its imports and just under 70% of its exports passed through the Suez Canal, Nehru considered friendly relations with the Arab states, and especially Egypt, to be an essential requirement of his foreign policy⁵. Religious relation between

1 . P.R. Kumaraswamy (2010): 193

2 Zahid Ali Khan (2011): . 133

3. Ibid

4. P.R. Kumaraswamy(2010): 196

5 . Arthur G. Rubinoff (1995) : 487-505



Indian Muslims and Arab countries also contributed to India's anti-Israeli stance. Congress considered the feelings of Indian Muslims in making its policy towards west Asia.

The change in India Israel relation

During the period of Rajiv Gandhi a new trends in the Indo-Israel relation took place. He has no much ideological commitment of past leaders. Rajiv also had benefit of changing attitude of different countries towards Israel. Various countries of communist bloc had already established their ties with Israel⁶. Egypt was readmitted to the Arab and Islamic bloc (after it was excluded by the reason of treaty which it made with Israel). So during the five year tenure of Rajiv Gandhi, he made a significant move towards normalization of relation with Israel.

The first shift in India-Israel relation took place in 1985, when the request that was made for a new nominee to the post of the Vice-Consul of Israel in Bombay was accepted by India. This followed by a meeting between Rajiv Gandhi and Israel Prime Minister Shimon Peres during a UN session in New York⁷. Naramsimha Rao, who was foreign minister of Rajiv Gandhi, followed Rajiv's position and made it into a full diplomatic relation.

Major Shifts after 1992

On 22 January 1992, the Israeli Consul in Bombay, Giora Becher, was invited to the Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs of India, J. N. Dixit, in New Delhi. The Secretary told him of India's immediate intention to improve its relations with Israel. The Consul replied that Israel was interested only in full-

fledged diplomatic relations, and that such a diplomatic move would allow India to participate in the Middle East peace process and in the working groups of the process, multilateral channel in particular. On 29 January 1992 an official announcement was published simultaneously in Jerusalem, New Delhi and Moscow (where the Israeli Foreign Minister, David Levi, was attending the third round of the peace talks) confirming the establishment of the full fledged diplomatic relations between Israel and India. The same day, the Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs of India sent an officially informed the Consul in Bombay of the Indian announcement: "The governments of India and Israel have decided to establish full diplomatic relations. Embassies will be opened in Tel Aviv and New Delhi. Modalities regarding this arrangement will be worked out through normal diplomatic channels. In pursuance of the above I have been directed to invite your government to open an embassy in New Delhi" (Becher 2002)⁸.

A major departure from the India's past attitude towards Israel had happen when India voted on 16 December 1991 with the majority in repealing the 1975 U.N General Assembly resolution that equated Zionism with racism. Rao's decision signaled a new approach toward Israel although Shamir Hassan has described it as a result of pressure of U.S.A rather than a shifting in India's position to Israel⁹. Full diplomatic relation was established and ambassadors were appointed by both countries after January 29, 1992. After the fall of the Narsimha Rao Government, and a 13 day Government of the BJP, the United Front Government (1996-98) altered the course somewhat. The foreign minister (and then Prime Minister) I.K Gujral must be credited with an enlightened policy towards Asia, so that there

6. P.R. Kumaraswamy (2010):196

7. Itzhak Gerberg (2008): 113

8. Itzhak Gerberg, (2010) : 9

9. Shamir Hasan, (2008) : 85.



was a distinct slackening of ties with Israel. Mr. Mulayam Singh, as Defence Minister in that Government, was not at all keen on military ties with Israel, which were again and again proposed from within the Defence establishment and outside¹⁰. In 1997, Israel's President Ezer Weizman became the first head of the Jewish state to visit India. He met with Indian President Shankar Dayal Sharma, Vice President K.R. Narayanan and Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda.

The duration of B.J.P lead Govt. (1998-2004) was golden age in the relation between India and Israel. This period witnessed major development than any other period before or after that. Vajpayee was traditionally, even before the establishment of diplomatic relations, a staunch supporter of Israel, and during his tenures India shed its inhibitions about dealing extensively with it. Under the NDA tenure relations between the two countries reached new heights, including official visits of India's Home Minister L.K. Advani in May 2000 and of Minister of External Affairs, Jaswant Singh the next month. Indian Home Minister L. K. Advani's visit to Israel drew much attention in external media both in terms of the composition of the delegation (Heads of India's intelligence agencies RAW, IB, and central police organizations fighting terrorism) and Advani's interaction at the Israel end besides the protocol ones. Advani's visit was first ever by senior Indian Minister since 1992 and that took a hardliner. Advani formalised intelligence sharing and cooperation agreement in his meetings with the MOSSAD Chief and Israel's Ministers dealing with security. Israel supported India's anti-terrorism efforts. Israeli intelligence agencies would open offices in New Delhi on the lines of United States FBI. Advani spent a long time with Israeli arms manufacturers besides his discussions with intelligence and

10. Ibid: .88

border management agencies. Israel was ready to sharing their technology with India¹¹. At Vajpayee's express instruction India refused to go along with the Arab and Islamic countries, despite their pleas and a visit by Arafat to New Delhi, in supporting a resolution once again equating Zionism with racism, at the UN-sponsored conference against racism in Durban in August 2001. In those years substantive cooperation between the two countries expanded, reaching its zenith with the visit of Israel's Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to India in September 2003. It was first and last visit of a Prime minister of an Israel to India. The visit concluded with an official joint statement on friendship and cooperation. Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom visited India in February 2004¹².

After 2004, under Manmohan Sing led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) has determined to continue the path of friendly relations between the two counties. But it was not so much as flourishing as during the period of previous Government. The new government led by Narendra Modi is to be expected to follow the policy of previous NDA government in their warm relation with Israel.

Current Condition

The twenty years after the opening of full diplomatic relation have seen an uncommonly phenomenal growth and diversity in the relations between India and Israel rapidly¹³. Now Israel has become India's largest source of arms as India became the largest market to Israel. Now According to an Israeli Foreign Ministry report, "India is the most pro-Israel nation, ahead even of the United States"¹⁴.

11 . Dr.Subhash Kapila,

12 . Itzhak Gerberg: 86

13. Rajendra Abhyankar

14 Eichner, Itamar (2009)



Israel was one of the selected few nations, a group that also included France and Russia, that did not condemn India's 1998 Pokhran-II nuclear tests. This relation different areas such as Diplomatic and Political Cooperation, Military Cooperation, Economic relation, Counter-terrorism cooperation, Intelligence cooperation, Space cooperation, Science and technology cooperation, Nuclear power policy coordination, Cultural relations and list goes on.

Diplomatic and Political Cooperation

As this part many High level official visits, Dialogues between foreign ministries and many bilateral relations have happen. A stream of reciprocal visits by senior officials added a new dimension to Israeli-Indian relations. The Chief Minister of the State of Maharashtra, formerly the Minister of Defence, Sharad Pawar, led an Indian delegation in May 1993, Israel's Minister of Agriculture, Yaacov Tzur, visited India in December 1993, Israel's Minister of Trade Industry and Tourism, Micha Harish in December 1994, Israel's Minister of Finance, Avraham Shochat and Minister of Education and Culture, Amnon Rubinstein in January 1996, The President of the State of Israel, Ezer Weizman in December 1996, India's Home Minister, Krishna Advani in May 2000, Israel's Minister of Regional Cooperation, Shimon Peres in January 2001, India's Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Communication and Information Technology, Pramod Mahajan in January 2002, Israel's Prime Minister, Ariel Sharon in September 2003 and the list goes on.

Military Cooperation

After disintegration of USSR, Israel gradually grew as India's largest military partner. With the establishment of formal diplomatic relations with Israel, there were many rounds of talks and exchanges on military and defence related matters. Despite this level of cooperation, India hesitated to buy weapons

from Israel. It was during the Kargil crisis (1999), when Israel responded positively to Indian requests for military equipment and ammunition, in the face of US pressure to implement an arms embargo on India that this reluctance abated. It opened a new chapter in the arms trade between the two countries. India is today Israel's largest arms market while Israel is India's biggest arms supplier¹⁵.

Economic relation

India is the second largest export market for Israel and Israel the seventh largest partner for India. Bilateral trade volume has scaled US \$ 4.7 billion (not including defence sales). In 2011 Israeli companies invested over \$3 billion in India, in sectors ranging from dairy farming to real estate to hospitals. Both countries have already signed five significant trade and economic agreements from 1993 to 1996, while bilateral trade grew from \$80 million in 1991 to \$4 billion in 2008¹⁶.

Counter-terrorism cooperation

Terrorism has become an issue of concern for both Israel and India, particularly after 11 September 2001. During the visit of L.K Advani Israel agreed to provide India with modern security equipment as well as anti-terrorism training. The first Israeli-Indian Joint Working Group (JWG) on counter- terrorism was set up on 6 January 2000. But concept of both countries about terrorism is different. Palestinian fighters are freedom fighters to India while they are terrorists to Israel.

Intelligence cooperation

A Rediff story in 2003 revealed that the Indian external intelligence agency Research

15.Rajendra Abhyankar (2012): 15

16.Ibid: 16



and Analysis Wing (RAW) had clandestine links with the Mossad, Israel's external intelligence agency. When R&AW was founded in 1968 by Rameshwar Nath Kao, he was advised by the then Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to cultivate links with Mossad. During his visit, Advani was accompanied by the heads of India's intelligence agencies the RAW, the Investigation Bureau (IB) and the Central Police organisations fighting terrorism and he formalized intelligence sharing and cooperation agreements with Israel including collecting counter-terrorism intelligence in general and technical intelligence (TECHINT) regarding maritime security in particular.

Space Cooperation

The heads of the two countries' space organizations exchanged visits in December 2004 to finalize the space agreement between them. In September 2007 India launched Israel's TecSAR and the two countries are collaborating on India's next generation satellite, RISAT-24. On 20 April 2009 India launched an Israeli border-control imaging satellite that enables it to monitor its borders with Bangladesh, China, and Pakistan. India also launched an Israeli-made spy satellite from Sriharikota near Bangalore city in the southern State of Karnataka on April 20, 2009. It is in a bid to keep a twenty-four-hour surveillance on its international borders, news agencies quoted Indian defence¹⁷

Science and technology cooperation

There is an agreement on science and technology, a science and technology industrial research fund (amounting to \$3 million) and an agreement to facilitate bilateral cooperation and exchanges in the field of science and technology; an additional Protocol of science

and technology cooperation also exists. Between 1995 and 1997 seven Memoranda of Understanding were signed regarding research projects in the field of advanced materials.

Nuclear power policy coordination

Israel and India have not signed the NPT and therefore have common ground for formulating a coordinated diplomatic policy regarding that matter, although, Israel, in contrast with India had signed the CTBT in 1996. Officially, India and Israel have denied the existence of any nuclear cooperation between them. Pakistan's nuclear capability is one of the key reasons why both countries have a keen strategic interest in anti-ballistic missile defence systems and India had officially expressed its special interest in the Arrow missile defence system (Arrow 2 missile) that was developed by Israel. Israel has a vital interest in preventing the transfer of nuclear capability from Pakistan to the Middle East.

Cultural relations

Cultural ties between the two countries since 1992 have been improved. The Israel-India Cultural Association was established in 1992 with Zubin Mehta, the Bombay born chief conductor of the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra, as its honorary president. A cultural agreement was signed by Israel and India in May 1993 during the visit of Israel's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shimon Peres. Israel participates annually in film festivals in India and a weeklong festival of Israeli films is featured regularly. Books by Israeli writers are being published by private publishers in India and a meeting of Indian and Israeli intellectuals takes place annually.

17. Zahid Ali Khan: 37



India topped the list of tourists from Eastern countries to Israel in 2010, with over 40,000 visitors. India is destinations of choice for over 35,000 Israelis, mostly youths, after finishing military service, visit India annually. Essentially back-packer tourists, they congregate at particular spots like Goa, Manali and Dharamsala, often the attraction being an easy supply of illegal drugs. Nevertheless there is abiding interest in India culture, dance, music and traditional crafts. The Indian Embassy organized in May 2011 a successful month long cultural festival in Israel.

Reasons for Change in Policy after 1992

There is lot of domestic and international reasons to improvement India-Israel relation. It can be analyzed on different subtitles as follows.

Arms Supply after Disintegration of USSR

The Soviet Union was meeting nearly 80 percent of India's military needs in 1991. During the early 1990s, it thus became imperative for India to find itself new partners and most importantly, new military suppliers. Improving relations with Israel was therefore an interesting option, especially in the field of defence¹⁸. Israel's whole-hearted support and cooperation to India in its wars against Pakistan was due its hatred and enmity towards Pakistan by considering as its bitter rival and foe. It became imperative for India to modernize Indian weaponry while, India became the biggest market for Israeli arms¹⁹. For India, Israel offers a valuable autonomous source for purchase of sophisticated weapons and military equipment. These are indigenously developed; and therefore, precludes external pressures on

Israel not to supply. Israel is in almost permanent state of war and has been since its birth in May 1948. It is surrounded by hostile nations and a constant, threat so the rules of defence and intelligence must differ from those that apply in America or other Western countries. India is in a similar predicament and the Israel experience would be valuable²⁰.

Security Factors

Both India and Israel face security problems from neighbour countries and global terrorism. When Pakistan conducts direct attacks and proxy wars against India, some neighbouring countries of Israel are not ready to recognize Israel as a state. The Israeli aid during the Kargil war in 1999 was considered by India as a cementing factor in the Indo-Israeli relationship. Nuclear power of Pakistan was another security problem to both countries. For India, the growing nuclear arsenal of Pakistan and its support to the people of Kashmir and different parts of India pose serious challenges. Israel, on the other hand is uncomfortable with the idea of a nuclear Pakistan. In the case of Israel, the nuclear capability of Pakistan and its support to Palestinian extremists poses a threat to its security²¹, especially, after issue of A.Q Khan.

It was during the visit of Shimon Pares to India in January 2002 India and Israel made major agreements to fight 'terrorism'. The importance of Indo-Israeli defence relations was outlined by national security advisor Brijesh Mishra in his recent address to the American Jewish Committee, when he argued that "the democratic countries that are the prime targets of international terrorism should form an alliance and develop multilateral mechanisms to counter that menace. He identified India, the US and Israel as countries to form an alliance for

18. Arielle Kandel: 70

19 Koshy (2008): 34

20 Dr.Subhash Kapila

21. Zahid Ali Khan: 132



this purpose. Such an alliance would have strong political will and moral authority to take bold decisions in the cases of terrorist provocation" (Sahgal, 2003)²². Ironically, the word 'terrorism' used by Israel was about the national liberation struggle of the Palestinians, which had been strongly supported by India until late 1980s²³.

Economic Reasons

After disintegration of USSR India adopted globalized and liberalized economic policy. The success of the market economy depended heavily upon financial investments and technological cooperation from the West, especially the US. Since the late 1940s, Washington has been pressuring India to modify its policy toward Israel²⁴. At same time cooperation with Indian firms also facilitates Israel's entry into the Indian market and enhances Israel's access to Southeast Asia and the Third World through India's own ties with these countries²⁵.

Changing Attitude of Countries towards Israel

As Kumara swami said India was the last non-Arab, non-Islamic country to make full diplomatic relation with Israel. USSR and China had recognized Israel before India. Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait and its reversal by the US-led Coalition, which included some Arab countries, was instrumental in setting off efforts for a peace process between the Arabs and Israel. PLO itself had recognized Israel. The readmission to Egypt to Arab and Islamic bloc after excluded because of its treaty with

22. Ibid : 137

23 Dr.K.M.Sajad Ibrahim

24 P.R. Kumaraswamy: (2010) 198

25 Arielle Kandel: 72

Israel also shows changing position of Arab countries.

Support in India- Pakistan Issues.

Unlike some Arab countries Israel had supported India in Kashmir Issues and wars with Pakistan. When some Arab countries sided with Pakistan in crucial situation Israel supported India by supplying arms. Even though Israel had vested interest to supply arms against Pakistan, it has been considered by Indian diplomatist as a good reason to make relation.

Diplomatic strategies

As an emerging global power India has to get support of established power to make its position secure and respectable in international community and organizations like permanent seat at UNSC. So India saw relation with Israel in as a medium to make good connection with western countries including USA.

Religious affects

Religion has differently affected India Israel relation. In first four decades the congress had concerned about feelings of Indian Muslims and their relation with Arab-Islamic countries. The Indian policy also has been affected by fear that the Pakistan will propagate about India as an anti Islamic states. But when some Islamic countries and the PLO itself were willing to accept Israel's existence and conduct negotiations with the Zionist state, there was no compelling reason for India to be more Catholic than the Pope²⁶. Another issue is Formation of Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) allegedly neglected the sentiments of Indian Muslims and blocking of India by Pakistan from joining OIC is considered to be the cause of diplomatic shift.

26 P.R. Kumaraswamy (2010) 198



In Indian political scenario, Some Muslim organizations had supported Janata party against Narasimha Rao. So he has no more about feelings of Muslims. Like that the relation reached at deep level during the period of Hindu nationalist party B.J.P lead N.D.A's regime.

Benefits to Israel

Support of India as a leading state of developing countries is useful to overcome the image as 'product of west and imperialism' especially among other third world countries. India's relation with other west Asian countries can be used to make peace agreement with Arab countries. In naval terms, Israel sees great strategic value in an alliance with the Indian Navy, given India's dominance of South Asian waters. Since the Mediterranean has a dominant Arab and European presence that is hostile to the Israeli Navy in varying degrees, it thus sees the potential of establishing a logistical infrastructure in the Indian Ocean with the cooperation of the Indian Navy. Indian market gave big benefits to Israel products (especially for arms sales) and capital investment. Israel now uses India's advantage in space research also.

Effects of Relation

It can be analyzed as effects on relation with other Middle East countries, on India's long standing position of non-alignment, on moral support to third world countries against colonial power, on world peace especially in West and South Asia and change in number of terror attacks.

Effects on non alignment position

Israel represented all that was anathema to NAM, and a betrayal of NAM's struggle against imperialism, neo-colonialism and racism and to rights of small countries to determine and shape their own destiny. By voting along the US line

for the repealing of Resolution 3379, India for the first time moved away from a collective NAM position²⁷.

Effects on support in freedom struggle of Third world countries

India had considered fighting of Palestinian people as freedom fighting. At the Faizpur session of the Congress, Jawaharlal Nehru likened "the Arab struggle against British Imperialism in Palestine" to India's own struggle for freedom". India regarded Israel as a colonial product in the soil of Arab people. As a leading country of developing states India had strongly argued in UN for decolonization. But, India's current deep relation with Israel is really a backward move from India's position.

Effects on world peace

It includes peace of Asia in general and South and West Asia in particular. The main problem in South Asia is wide different in arms distribution (Balance of power would be difficult) and arms racing competition with Pakistan when they turn into china for help. Pakistan Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri said that "Israel's sale of weapons to India could disturb the balance of power in South Asia"²⁸. It increases arms competition with China also.

In Middle East Israel is far ahead than other states. Then India's help the Israel will increase fear in the mind of people. For example India launched Israel's TecSAR In September 2007 and an Israeli border-control imaging satellite on 20 April 2009. These satellites enable Israel to attack other west Asian countries with its Modern arms.

²⁷ Shamir Hasan (2008): 88

²⁸ Zahid Ali Khan (2011): 143



Effects on relation with other Middle East countries

As mentioned above, the cooperation of India with Israel creates a fear to other Middle East countries and it will lead them to a hatred relation with India. Now India depends on Arab west Asian countries to oil and many Indians are working there. When Israel uses satellite launched by India to attack Iran it would naturally affects India –Iran relation.

Change in number of terror attacks

Indian leaders consider relation with Israel as helpful one to counter terrorist attack. But in the lights of facts and change in number of terrorist attack before and after relation with Israel this conception has to be reanalyzed. The experience never supports the benefits of Israel relation to decrease terrorist attacks. Really when distribution of power shifts into a level of feeling difficulty to direct attacks against India, Pakistan may move into proxy war with support of terrorists. The propaganda of Pakistan also makes India, Israel and USA in same chain in the list of terrorists. So in this area of counter terrorism makes bad effects to India rather than benefits.

Conclusion

After cold war the international structure has been changed. USA became dominant at political, economic and military fields. After disintegration of USSR, India was bound to find out new sources of military equipments and to improve relation with USA. So India started full diplomatic relation with Israel. This new relation was product of various domestic and International factors. But this relation should not lead to lost of faith among rest of friendly countries in Middle East. Traditional support to

National Liberation Movements in Palestine should not be fizzled out. In Indian viewpoint they were freedom fighters, not terrorists and it has to continue so. Now India is one of few countries which keep strong relationship with both Israel and rest of West Asian countries. So India has advantage than western or Middle East countries to settle problems in West Asia in peaceful manner with consider right to live with dignity to both Jews and Arab countries. So India must be a leading partner in settlement disputes. India's relation with any country including Israel has to be with an aim of peaceful condition of the world. In present situation rapid increase in India-Israel military relation has created a fear in the minds of many countries. It will lead to an arm rising in South Asia. In long run it will make problems to India also.

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