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இலங்கை சனாதிபதி
President of Sri Lanka

International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People
29th November 2024

As we observe the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People today, Sri Lanka reaffirms its steadfast support for the people of Palestine while acknowledging the enduring hardships faced by Palestinians throughout decades.

We are deeply concerned about the escalating violence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and across the Middle East. The immense loss of civilian lives, suffering and the ongoing destruction, lasting for over a year, is unacceptable and intolerable. Sri Lanka has continuously voiced serious concerns on the dire humanitarian situation in Gaza at multiple multilateral fora, supporting the call for an immediate ceasefire.

This day serves as a reminder that the world must not turn away from the struggle of Palestinians or from the pursuit of a peaceful and equitable resolution, firmly grounded in international law and the right to self-determination. The dangerous escalation of the crisis and its far-reaching impact worldwide has made the seven-decade long quest to find a just and peaceful solution to the Palestinian situation even more critical.

Against the backdrop of an existential threat against UNRWA, it is disappointing and disheartening to see the humanitarian services that sustain the lives of the refugees are on the verge of collapse. Sri Lanka strongly urges all parties to refrain from actions that impede or restrict humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations under extremely challenging circumstances.

We urge the international community to set aside divisions and unite in a collective voice to prevent further escalation of hostility, reaching a consensus decision at this critical juncture. In solidarity, governments, organizations, and individuals must act together to support efforts towards a fair and enduring peace - one that ensures both Palestinians and Israelis can coexist with mutual respect, security, and opportunity.

On behalf of the Government and People of Sri Lanka, I reaffirm Sri Lanka's unwavering solidarity with the People of Palestine during these challenging times, and in their pursuit of statehood.

Sri Lanka reiterates its steadfast support for a negotiated settlement in accordance with the relevant UN resolutions, including a two-state solution based on the 1967 borders.


Anura Kumara Disanayake
President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

November 20, 2024