

## ANALYZING INDIA'S NEED FOR PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP OF UNSC

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**Gautam Barnwal\***

### ABSTRACT

*When it comes to the United Nations organization as a whole, India's determined effort to be admitted as a veto-wielding "P" member of the Security Council is the subject that receives the greatest attention in the nation. The Security Council is a "Wolf's focus" for India to target because it serves as the Sanctum Sanctorum and is the primary guardian of international law with greater authority than any other body in the international system. As India continues to send huge numbers of personnel to UN peacekeeping missions and advances from subpar economic performance into an Asian Giant with a Pluralistic Democratic Political System top of that, the clamor for its membership in a reformed united nations security council keeps growing weaker.<sup>1</sup>*

### INTRODUCTION

India has been bidding for the permanent membership of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) since 1994 when it made itself clear in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) that India is all prepared for being a permanent member of the UNSC and henceforth ready and capable to bear the responsibility of being a permanent member of the forum.<sup>2</sup>

China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America are the current permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). The UNSC has come under attack for being a closed-door organisation with a racial veto system that serves only Western interests considering other nations specifically Asian and African nations as their puppets or rule followers. India has for long since contributed to the UNSC in ways, for example, India has dispatched more than 100,000 soldiers, military observers, and police to participate in UN missions over the years, but neither of its attempts to obtain a permanent seat on the UNSC nor even those to play a greater role in international affairs has been particularly

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\*BA LLB, SECOND YEAR, DEPARTMENT OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA.

<sup>1</sup> India and United Nations by Chaulia Sreeram Hand book of India's International Relations. Edited by Scott David, Routledge (Taylor and Francis group). New York and London. Page 286

<sup>2</sup> Mishra, Manoj Kumar. "INDIA'S PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP OF THE U. N. SECURITY COUNCIL: CHANGING POWER REALITIES AND NOTIONS OF SECURITY." The Indian Journal of Political Science, vol. 67, no. 2, 2006, pp. 343–54. JSTOR, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/41856221> accessed on 18 November 2022.

successful. The significant troop contribution does, however, support India's demand for a Permanent Seat in the UNSC when it is extended. Additionally, it gives soldiers a large financial reward as well as "International Exposure" and builds India's reputation on the international stage, particularly in nations like oil- and mineral-rich Africa, where the new "Great Game" is currently being played by the Western Countries.<sup>3</sup>

It is a sombre reminder of the sacrifices our Indian soldiers have been making for years in order to better the world that five Indian army Personnel were killed while serving in the recently formed state of South Sudan. Why do Indian soldiers give their life in the service of such unjust causes? What are the main questions over here that need to be answered? One of India's biggest contributions to world governance is the regular supply of capable, extremely skilled, and professional armed forces to peacekeeping operations. Even though many developing countries' Applications are eager to call their personnel Blue Berets, very few militaries can match India's military contribution to the World at large. The Indian peacekeeping forces are not only known for their skills and capabilities but are also well-known in dangerous regions of the world for their sensitivity in comprehending local settings, upholding human rights, and remaining scandal-free. All these achievements and standpoints make India perfectly capable and eligible for being a permanent member of the UNSC.

India's demand for a permanent seat on the UN Security Council is supported by the fact that our exceptionally gifted peacekeepers have been the most invaluable in establishing security and normalcy in nations that have been devastated by conflict. Every drop of blood they shed is worth its weight in gold, and the goodwill they garner for our nation is priceless making not only us as a Country proud but also making stronger our chances of getting permanent membership of UNSC. The Indian forces in South Sudan currently enjoy "Very High" morale, despite losing five combatants, according to the UN. All Indians must gain a thorough understanding of faraway conflict zones and their internal and regional dynamics in order to understand why India does not give up when the cause is worthwhile which makes it vulnerable for Permanent member Countries to understand that India is indeed a responsible country and it's now the righteous most time for India to get green signal for being a permanent membership of UNSC. India and its people cannot remain only concerned for the Welfare of other Countries

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<sup>3</sup> Aman Sethi, amp and New Delhi Bureau, "Five Indian Soldiers killed as rebels ambush convoy in South Sudan" (9 April 2013) <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/five-indian-soldiers-killed-as-rebels-ambush-convoy-in-south-sudan/article4598622.ece> accessed on 18 November 2022

while the Indian Soldiers are losing their lives out there. Still, India is one of the greatest examples of a Country that works for the international welfare of this World at large.<sup>4</sup>

As a non-permanent member of the UNSC for two years in the 2011–12 term, India spoke during the discussion in favor of bolstering financial support and backing up the UN peacekeeping missions all around the world. It brought up issues including, among other things, a "severe mismatch" between resources available for peacekeeping missions and the "ambitious" mandates of peacekeeping missions all around the World. The "creative approach" to peacekeeping, which can occasionally transition into "peace-building," was also requested by India. Despite being a significant contributor to UN peacekeeping missions and having previously demonstrated impressive credentials in the field of peacekeeping, India was criticized for running away from addressing critical issues like issues relating to mission leadership and armed forces.<sup>5</sup>

### **NEED FOR PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP OF UNSC**

After 75 years of independence, India has become one of the greatest political forces in the world. In advocating for the New International Economic Order (NIEO) and reforming international organizations, India has stepped up and taken the lead. India, a major global player, has urged for changes to international organizations like the UNSC so that the developing nations are getting representation in the form of India at the biggest platform that promotes inclusivity, representation, and democracy. India has been at the fore in advocating for cooperation and shared responsibilities during difficult times. India's permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council makes it the country with the loudest voice in favor of the reform. With the help of groups like IBSA (India-Brazil-South Africa) and the G4 Nations, India is pursuing multilateral diplomacy to secure permanent membership in the UNSC (Brazil-Germany-India-Japan).

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<sup>4</sup> Sree Ram Chaulia, Blue Berets keep calm: Indian peacekeepers take a hit but help stabilise the newest entrant to the comity of nations, 16 April 2013 < <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/edit-page/blue-berets-keep-calm-indian-peacekeepershttps://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/edit-page/blue-berets-keep-calm-indian-peacekeepers-take-a-hit-but-help-stabilise-the-newest-entrant-to-the-comity-of-nations/articleshow/19564080.cms>> accessed on 16 November 2022

<sup>5</sup> Saurabh Mishra and Keerthi Sampath Kumar, India's Two year at the Horse Shoe Table. IDSA's Issue Brief March 8, 2013 < [https://www.ripublication.com/gjps/gjpsv1n1\\_01.pdf](https://www.ripublication.com/gjps/gjpsv1n1_01.pdf)> accessed on 18 November 2022

India's demand for permanent membership in the UNSC should be approved because of its long-standing historical ties to the UN and its current position in the international community. India makes a significant contribution to the world at large. India also upholds the Panchsheel concept, whose applicability never fades. Mutual respect for each other's sovereignties, non-aggression, non-interference, equality, and peaceful coexistence form the foundation of the Panchsheel principle. These principles have the potential to be very important to the UN Charter in order to jointly work for peace and security. The principles of Panchsheel can be the foundation for non-violence, non-interference, and peaceful cohabitation. India's commitment to nonviolence and disarmament can significantly benefit the UN. India supported transparent, non-discriminatory labor practices in international organizations. India has repeatedly reaffirmed its position as a responsible nuclear weapons state, as well as its deterrence to non-use against non-nuclear states and no first use. India has frequently criticized the NPT for its discriminatory and undemocratic nature (Non-proliferation treaty).<sup>6</sup>

India has played a proactive role in international events and accords, such as the UN peacekeeping mission, the development objectives, sustainable development, climate change, and anti-terrorism. Indian officers have participated in more than 200,000 UN peacekeeping missions. India has also helped the UN address global concerns like terrorism, climate change, energy security, the refugee crisis, pandemics, and changing the existing international economic system. The UN Charter is silent on the qualifications needed for any Country to become a permanent member of the UNSC. India's shift from non-alignment to multi-alignment shows its capacity to maintain beneficial parallel relationships with all big and minor nations in the international system. Membership may be wanted due to India's growing economy, size, political power, democratization, and development of soft power.<sup>7</sup>

In light of India's developing economy, size, democratization, political stability, the rise of its soft power, nuclear capabilities, and military might, as well as its emergence as a growing influence in the South Asian region, calls for India's participation in the UN can be made. India's permanent seat on the UN Security Council would ensure that the underdeveloped globe

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<sup>6</sup> Lalitha S. and Karamala Areesh Kumar, "Why India should become a permanent member of UNSC?" (17 January 2022) < <https://thekootneeti.in/2022/01/17/why-india-should-become-a-permanent-member-of-uns/>> accessed on 24 October 2022

<sup>7</sup> MUKHERJEE ROHAN, and DAVID M. MALONE. "India and the UN Security Council: An Ambiguous Tale." *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol. 48, no. 29, 2013, pp. 110–17. *JSTOR*, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/23528511>. Accessed 18 November 2022.

is represented. India may also be a key player in the misuse of the veto, represent both its own interests and those of the developing world, and work to make the UN a more democratic organization for global governance.<sup>8</sup>

## CONCLUSION

Understanding that India has proven to be a more responsible actor and helpful interlocutor in the international system than many other states, it is crucial to maintain India's most recent time on the council in context. India sees its interests being best served in a rule-based, multilaterally constructed, and democratically managed international system, as laid out by Shyam Saran.<sup>9</sup> The UN is undoubtedly the appropriate foundation for such a system, despite the fact that these limitations and flaws are all too obvious. Unlike today's Indian politicians, who see the UN as one avenue among several through which to advance India's foreign interest, Nehru's faith in the UN may have been unrealistic to the cost of Indian interests. In this regard, India has grown into a principled responsible stakeholder, even though it has a long way to go before using the multilateral system to its own advantage like other large nations. This is almost certainly true, but India would still greatly benefit from making increasingly wise investments to grow its influence and footprint within the global system, keeping in mind that this is the current order in which crucial issues of international peace and security will be decided in the near future.

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<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> Correspondence with the authors 24 January 2013.