

# Statehood for Palestinians is a right, not a reward: Guterres

NEW YORK, Sept 23 (ANI)

UNITED Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, addressing member states at the UN Headquarters in New York, reaffirmed that "statehood for Palestinians is a right, not a reward," as the international body reiterated its support for a two-state solution to resolve the protracted Israel-Gaza conflict.

"The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been unresolved for generations. Dialogue has faltered, resolutions have been flouted," Antonio Guterres said.

He underscored the UN's long-standing position on the two-state framework, stating, "A two-state solution where two independent sovereign democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace and security within their secure and recognised borders based on the pre-1967 1967-lines, with Jerusalem as the capital of both states in line with international law, UN



resolution and other relevant agreements." He further added, "Statehood for a Palestinian is a right, not a reward, and denying statehood would be a gift to extremists everywhere. Without two states, there will be no peace in the Middle East."

**FRANCE RECOGNISES PALESTINIAN STATEHOOD AT UN MEETING TO REVIVE PEACE EFFORTS:** As the Gaza war rages on, France recognized Palestinian statehood on Monday at the start of a high-

profile meeting at the United Nations aimed at galvanising support for a two-state solution to the Mideast conflict. More nations are expected to follow, in defiance of Israel and the United States.

French President Emmanuel Macron's announcement in the UN General Assembly hall received loud applause from the more than 140 leaders in attendance. The Palestinian delegation, including its UN ambassador, Riyad Mansour, could be seen standing and applauding as the declaration was made. Mahmoud Abbas, the Palestinian president, was seen applauding on a live-camera view after the US government banned him from attending the UN gathering in person.

**'Choose future where rule of law triumphs'**

# China and India 'primary funders' of war in Ukraine by continuing to purchase Russian oil: Trump at UNGA

UNITED NATIONS, Sept 23 (PTI)

CHINA and India are the "primary funders" of the ongoing Russian war in Ukraine by continuing to purchase Russian oil, US President Donald Trump said in his UN General Assembly address on Tuesday. The Trump administration has imposed an additional 25 per cent tariff on New Delhi as a penalty for its purchases of Russian oil, taking the total levies imposed on India by the US to 50 per cent, among the highest in the world.

"China and India are the primary funders of the ongoing war by continuing to purchase Russian oil," Trump said in his address at the General Debate of the 80th session of the UN General Assembly. India has called the tariffs imposed by the US "unjustified and unreasonable". New Delhi said that, like any major economy, it will take all necessary measures to safeguard its national interests and economic security.

Standing in front of top UN officials, before more than 150 world leaders, US President Donald Trump on Tuesday blasted the international organisation. He said they didn't reach out to him on the various wars he says he has brought to a conclusion.

"I've always said the UN has such tremendous, tremendous potential. But it's not even coming close to living up to that potential," Trump said.

"For the most part, at least for now, all they seem to do is write a really strongly worded letter and then never follow that letter. It's empty words and empty words don't solve wars."

Trump wasted little time telling representatives of countries across the world that the US is "the hottest country anywhere in the world, and there is no other country even close." He added later that the US is "the best coun-



US President Donald Trump address the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly at UN headquarters on Tuesday. (AP/PTI)

try on Earth to do business" and claimed the economy now is "bigger and even better" than during his first term, which he described as "the greatest ... In the history of the world." And he claimed the US is "respected again" like never before.

That kind of national bragging is generally frowned upon in diplomatic settings, including at the United Nations. Trump took the same approach in his remarks recently during a state visit to the United Kingdom. At least twice in the opening minutes of his UN speech, Trump took swipes at his predecessor, former President Joe Biden. It continues Trump's tactic of bragging on the US performance compared both to the Democratic administration and the rest of the world. Trump has mostly used general superlatives rather than verifiable facts to make such claims.

It also stands out for a head of state speaking at the UN to inject their own domestic politics into the international discourse. Trump opened his UN General Assembly address with a joke about the non-working teleprompter. Trump said he didn't mind speaking without a teleprompter because "that way, you speak more from the heart."

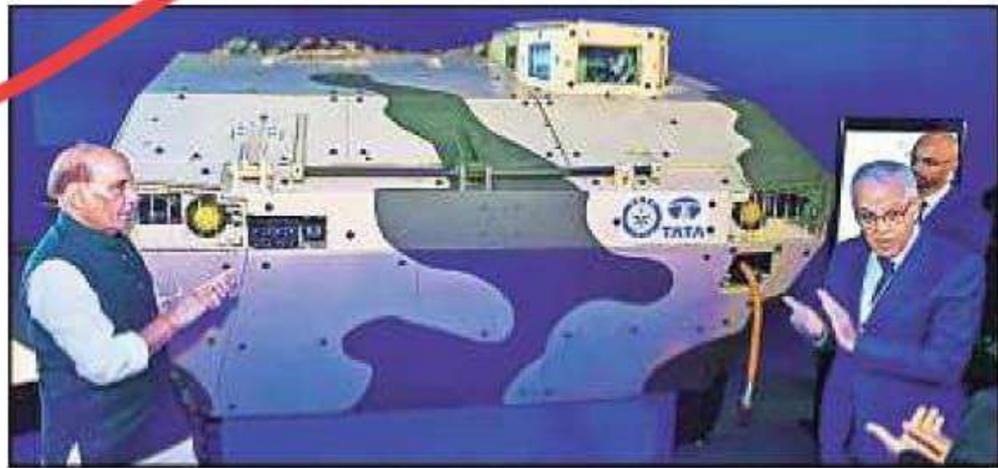
# Rajnath Singh inaugurates Tata's combat vehicle plant in Morocco

NEW DELHI, Sept 23 (PTI)

DEFENCE Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday inaugurated a manufacturing plant set up by Tata Advanced Systems Ltd in Morocco's Berrechid for production of wheeled armoured personnel carriers.

Spread over 20,000 sq m, the facility is the first-ever Indian defence manufacturing plant in Africa. It is also Morocco's largest such plant.

Under its contract with the Government of Morocco, Tata Advanced Systems will undertake the production and delivery of Wheeled Armoured Platform 8x8 (WhAP 8x8) with initial deliveries scheduled to begin next month. The facility became operational three months ahead of schedule, and production has already commenced.



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Morocco Defence Minister Abdelatif Loudyi jointly inaugurate Tata Advanced Systems Limited's (TASL) state-of-the-art defence manufacturing facility in Berrechid, Morocco. (MoD/X via PTI)

Morocco's Minister for National Defence Abdelatif Loudyi was also present at the inauguration ceremony. "This milestone marks the first overseas defence manufacturing facility established by a private Indian com-

pany, underlining India's capability to design and deliver advanced combat vehicle platforms in partnership with DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation)," the Tata Advanced Systems Ltd said.

# Will use all means to defend airspace: NATO to Russia

BRUSSELS, Sept 23 (AP)

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NATO warned Russia on Tuesday that it would use all means to defend against any further breaches of its airspace after the downing earlier this month of Russian drones over Poland and Estonia's report of an intrusion of Russian fighter jets last week.

The September 10 incident in Poland was the first direct encounter between NATO and Moscow since the war in Ukraine began. It jolted leaders across Europe, raising questions about how prepared the alliance is against growing Russian aggression. Estonia said three Russian fighter jets entered its airspace for 12 minutes on Friday without authorisation, a charge that Russia has rejected. "Russia should be in no doubt: NATO and Allies will employ all necessary military and non-military tools," the alliance said in a statement.

# INDIA EXTENDS AIRSPACE CLOSURE

## for Pakistan aircraft till Oct 24

NEW DELHI, Sept 23 (PTI)

**INDIA** has extended the closure of its airspace for Pakistan civilian and military planes till October 24.

The neighbouring country has also closed its airspace for Indian aircraft till October 24. Both countries have shut their respective airspace for each other's planes since April in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack. India and Pakistan have issued separate Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs) for extending the airspace closures.

Indian airspace will not be available for Pakistan-registered aircraft and aircraft operated/owned or leased by Pakistan airlines/operators, including military flights, according to the NOTAM issued on September 23. The airspace will remain closed till 2359 hours (UTC) on October 23, which translates to 0530 hours (IST) on October 24.

Following the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people on April 22, India closed its airspace for planes operated, owned or leased by Pakistan airlines and operators, including military flights, with effect from April 30.

Since then, curbs have been extended.

Generally, a NOTAM is a notice containing information that is essential for personnel involved in flight operations.

# Recognise Pakistan as terror state: BNM

## Baloch National Movement condemns Pak Air Force's airstrike in Tirah valley



File pic of Pakistan Air Force bombing in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa village in which over 30 civilians including children were killed.

TIRAH VALLEY, Sept 23 (ANI)

**THE** Baloch National Movement (BNM) has strongly condemned a reported airstrike by the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) in the "Tirah valley" of Khyber District, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, which it claims killed more than 30 civilians, including children.

The Baloch National Movement also called on civilised nations and the international community to recognise Pakistan as a "terror state."

"We call on civilised nations and the international community to recognise Pakistan as a state that wields its power against its own people -- a terror state that crushes peaceful political movements through brute force, enforced disappearances, and extrajudicial killings. When citizens, in response to such oppression, exercise their right to defend themselves, the state retaliates with collective punishment and ruthless violence," Baloch National Movement wrote in an X post.

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## Baloch reported 98 enforced disappearances in August

QUETTA, Sept 23 (IANS)

**A HUMAN** rights organisation on Tuesday revealed that 98 cases of enforced disappearances were documented across Pakistan in August.

In its August 2025 report, Paank, Baloch National Movement's Human Rights Department, mentioned that the cases were reported across 13 districts, including Karachi and Multan, with most of them being reported in Quetta (21), Kech (19) and Dera Bugti (14). In a post shared on X, Paank mentioned that 32 victims were released, "many bearing signs of torture." Balochistan has been reeling under the endless atrocities at the hands of Pakistani authorities.

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