

Position Paper-Pakistan



The Suez Canal crisis is a historic one. However it spiralled into a major crisis after the nationalisation of the Suez Canal by Abdul Nasser who feared the recolonisation of the area. At the same time, Israeli Defence Forces invaded into the Sinai province posing a grave threat to Egyptian Sovereignty. At the same time Anglo-French forces appealed for calm in the area.

The current situation in the Suez Canal is of grave international concern and is increasingly taking shades of turning into a full-fledged war between the states of Egypt and Israel. Pakistan has adopted the following policy framework with respect to the crisis:-

- We unequivocally condemn the use of force against Egypt.
- Egypt has a sovereign right to the canal.
- We feel that negotiations are much better than aggression.
- Method is to be inferred which could help both the owner and users of the canal without any exploitation.

We deem the Israeli aggression into the Sinai province as illegal and assault on Egypt's Sovereignty. We also believe that with the Suez canal being a part of the Egyptian territory they had a sovereign right on the canal and had all the right to protect the canal if they sensed any threat to it. However, we certainly agree with the view of the majority states that any decision with respect to the canal should not be made in haste but after due consultation with the stakeholders. We demand an immediate establishment of ceasefire overseen by the UN Peacekeeping Forces with participation by all the countries (so as to prevent the hegemony by the Anglo-French forces).

We also demand the establishment of committee that look towards establishing consensus with the Egyptian government into the terms of use of the canal by foreign traders as the Suez canal is an important entity for international trade.