

STATEMENT BY MR. PRAKASH JAVADEKAR, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, ON  
AGENDA ITEM 21[A]: ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS IS PROMOTING  
DEVELOPMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF GLOBALIZATION & INTERDEPENDENCE IN  
THE SECOND COMMITTEE OF THE 66TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON OCTOBER 19, 2011

**Mr. Chairman,**

The agenda for today's discussion—"Globalization and Interdependence" – occupies a pivotal place in the global public discourse. It is important that the Second Committee take lead in shaping the debate on a subject that is so critical to the global development agenda.



India aligns itself with the statement made by Argentina on behalf of the G-77.

The phenomenon of globalization is an all pervading one. The interdependence between nations has increased manifold. It is hard to imagine today that an individual or a nation can be isolated from the influence of any process or development taking place in any other part of the globe.

Globalization as a socio-economic system has given us a common destiny. We are in a world where we act together, succeed together and even fail together.

Globalization has brought benefits to the people of this world. In India, it has created new opportunities and prosperity. This we have achieved through the strategy of inclusive growth. We have also ensured that all sections of our society are heard and convinced of the benefits of our policies before we implement them.

It is our understanding that liberalization of economy has to be accompanied by purposeful state intervention to empower the weak and the marginalized to enable them benefit from economic growth and prosperity.

India has, therefore, undertaken massive social protection programmes such as the Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, National Rural Health Mission, Education for All programme, Bharat Nirman Programme, Urban Infrastructure Renewal Programme to name a few, in its effort to combine equity with growth. We were able to weather the crisis with resilience and, thereafter, have continued on the path of sustained economic growth, our principal strategy to fight poverty, in spite of the global economic slowdown. Our growth has not only been sustained but also equitable. We now endeavor to bring this equity to the global order, and the United Nations has the primary role in facilitating this change.

**Mr. Chairman,**

We all clearly understand that the benefits of globalization are unevenly shared and while it has created wealth and opportunities, it has also brought in a high degree of instability and insecurity in our lives. It has created economic disparity, poverty and hunger. The global financial and economic crisis is a manifestation of globalization at its worst. In hindsight, there is a strong realization that we must revisit the concept of globalization and its mechanisms for creating opportunities with equity.

Here we must pause for a second and think is it only globalization that we have to blame for the instability of these times or there are other issues that also must undergo scrutiny.

How is it that the developing world, the least responsible for the global economic crisis has become the principal victims of it?

The challenge that lies ahead is to realize the potential benefits of globalization while minimizing the considerable costs, risks and vulnerabilities that it has created. How do we do it?

In our understanding, the answer, Mr. Chairman, lies in making global governance democratic, accountable and transparent, and above all imparting it a legitimacy that it presently so desperately lacks.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Reforming global governance is central to making globalization a vehicle of global prosperity. In this context, it is imperative that we look to the framework and

institutions of international cooperation to see what needs to be done to pave the way towards a more equitable and sustained economic growth and development.

India fully recognizes that the global economic and financial architecture, so overwhelmingly loaded against the developing world needs urgent reform. We have been working closely with countries to ensure greater voice and participatory space for developing countries in the international financial institutions.

In this context, India calls for early implementation of the two phase package of reforms of the World Bank to enhance voice and participation of developing countries. The decision to shift 6% quota shares in the IMF to developing countries must also be attended to in the right earnest.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Developing countries, in particular the Least Developed Countries, the Landlocked Developing Countries, the Small Island Developing States and countries in Africa are in urgent need of an enabling international environment that is conducive for meeting their foremost challenge- poverty eradication. Clearly what is required is enhanced resource support and policy space for developing countries through flexibility in international regimes so that they can choose the correct policy tools in the context of their specific development challenges.

In this context, it is imperative that we move forward on the Doha Development Round, on Climate Change Negotiations to seek an ambitious and comprehensive outcome and on a comprehensive reform of the Bretton Woods Institutions.

In the area of trade, agricultural policies of developing countries are severely affected by the massive subsidies given by developed countries. Developing countries, in spite, of existing international trade laws face practical barriers in the form of unfavorable market access regimes and non-trade barriers. Critical technologies in the area of public health and climate change remain inaccessible and unaffordable to them due to the limitations of the Intellectual Property Rights regime.

We must work to rectify the situation.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The United Nations as the global parliament with its unique legitimacy and universality must take on the responsibility to combine globalization with equity.

I thank you.

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