

**Permanent Mission of India
New York**

--

**UNGA Meeting to debate the situation as to which the veto was cast on 7 April 2026 in
the Security Council under agenda item “The Situation in the Middle East”.**

**Statement by Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni, Permanent Representative
16 April 2026**

Mr. President,

Since the outbreak of the conflict in Iran and the Gulf region on 28 February 2026, India had expressed deep concern and urged all states to exercise restraint, avoid escalation and prioritize safety of civilians. We have urged all states to promote dialogue and diplomacy and de-escalation of tensions, and to purposefully address underlying issues. We have also called for respect of sovereignty and territorial integrity of all states.

2. An aspect of particular concern for India for its energy and economic security relates to commercial shipping through the Strait of Hormuz. India has deplored the fact that commercial shipping was made a target of military attacks in this conflict. The precious lives of Indian seafarers aboard ships have been lost during the course of the conflict.

3. We reiterate that the targeting of commercial shipping and endangering innocent civilian crew members, or otherwise impeding the freedom of navigation and commerce in the Strait of Hormuz are unacceptable. International law in this regard must be fully respected.

4. We strongly urge that safe and unimpeded freedom of navigation and global commerce through the Strait of Hormuz be restored at the earliest.

I thank you Mr. President.

...