



**KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY**  
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# Prime Minister Conferred with Israel's Highest Parliamentary Honour

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## Why in News

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred the Speaker of the Knesset Medal, the highest honour of the Israeli Parliament, during his official visit to Israel.

## About the Award

The award is presented by the Speaker of the Knesset, Israel's unicameral legislature.

It recognises distinguished global leaders for strengthening democratic values and bilateral relations with Israel.

PM Modi became one of the prominent world leaders to receive this top parliamentary honour.

## Both nations reaffirmed cooperation in:

Defence and security

Agriculture and water management

Innovation and start-ups

Cybersecurity and technology

## India-Israel Relations: Key Facts

### Kamaraj IAS Academy

Plot A P.127, AF block, 6 th street, 11th Main Rd, Shanthi Colony, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600040

Phone: 044 4353 9988 / 98403 94477 / Whatsapp : 09710729833

Full diplomatic relations were established in 1992.

In 2017, PM Modi became the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Israel, marking a historic diplomatic milestone.

Bilateral ties have expanded significantly in defence technology, irrigation systems, and space cooperation.

India maintains a balanced West Asia policy, supporting peaceful resolution through dialogue and a two-state solution framework.

### **About the Knesset**

The Knesset is Israel's unicameral legislature with 120 members.

It performs legislative, executive oversight, and electoral functions.

It elects the President of Israel and can remove the Prime Minister through a vote of no confidence.

### **Medal of the Knesset:**

This medal is gold-plated bronze with symbolic inscriptions and is intended to recognise contributions to Israel's international relations and democratic values.

### **Facts about Israel:**

Capital: Jerusalem.

Parliament: Knesset (Unicameral, 120 members).

Type of Government: Parliamentary Democracy.

Established: 14 May 1948.

Currency: Israeli New Shekel (ILS).

### **International Relations:**

Member of:

United Nations (since 1949)

OECD (since 2010)

Not a member of NATO.

Abraham Accords (2020) normalised relations with UAE, Bahrain, Morocco, and Sudan.

Ongoing Israel–Palestine conflict (important for IR section).

### **Geography**

Region: West Asia (Middle East)

Borders With:

Lebanon (North)

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Syria (Northeast)

Jordan (East)

Egypt (Southwest)

### **Major Water Bodies:**

Mediterranean Sea (West)

Red Sea (South)

Dead Sea (Lowest point on Earth)

Important River: Jordan River

Desert Region: Negev Desert (Southern Israel)

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