

India, UN ink a pact for Ebola relief

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Singapore: India has recently inked an accord with the UN, thus affirming its contributions to the international fight against the Ebola outbreak. Under the terms of the agreement, among many other things, the country would transfer \$10 mn to the UN for Ebola relief efforts as pledged by the country's Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi.

Mr Ashok Kumar Mukherjee, India's permanent representative to the UN and Mr Yannick Glemarec of the UN Development Program signed the pact for the Ebola Response Multi Partner Trust Fund (MPTF).

India has already contributed \$2mn towards Ebola relief fund for buying protective suits for front-line Ebola fighters. In addition, the World Health Organization (WHO) has received \$500,000 from India for its anti-Ebola campaign.

This distinguishes the Indian government as the first to announce a substantial contribution from the time the MPTF was set up in September. Meanwhile, many magazines and news papers across the globe have recognized the efforts of Ebola frontline workers. Calling it as the tireless act of courage and mercy, Times named Ebola fighters as the 'Person of the year 2014.'

Recently, the UN Ebola special envoy, Mr David Nabarro, welcomed widespread progress in the fight against the virus, but warned cases were still surging in western Sierra Leone and northern Guinea.