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With China watching, India & Seychelles to up anti-pirate operations

IANS | Feb 2, 2012, 07.08PM IST

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NEW DELHI: Amid China's increased foray into the picturesque Indian Ocean archipelago nation, Seychelles has assured India that it remains its key developmental partner and sought to intensify bilateral anti-piracy cooperation.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh held talks Thursday with Seychelles President James Alix Michel, who is here for the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit, that focused on security issues, piracy and ways to expand developmental cooperation between the two countries.

"Both leaders reaffirmed their close and abiding relationship and India was acknowledged as the main development partner for the Seychelles," the external affairs ministry said



The Indian Navy deployed a Dornier maritime surveillance aircraft in the Seychelles for conducting anti-piracy operations in the Indian Ocean.

here Thursday.

"The two leaders also discussed issues relating to piracy and its consequent impact on security, tourism and fisheries," the ministry said.

Michel expressed his gratitude for India's support for Seychelles development and in the fight against piracy.

"Both sides agreed to continue their close cooperation and keep abreast of new developments in the region," said the ministry.

Michel is understood to have briefed Manmohan Singh about new developments, including the context in which Seychelles last year offered China its harbour for use to refuel and stocking of Chinese warships stationed in the Gulf of Aden for anti-piracy operations.

This set the alarm bells ringing in New Delhi, but Beijing later clarified that it will not be a military base, but just a refuelling and supply facility.

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Defence cooperation between India and Seychelles, the strategically-located island state, has been growing.

Last year, the Indian Navy deployed a Dornier maritime surveillance aircraft in the Seychelles for conducting [anti-piracy operations](#) in the Indian Ocean Region. The aircraft, stationed at Seychelles' capital [Victoria](#), would be operated by a Indian Navy crew on anti-piracy patrol duties in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

Seychelles was one of the nations that joined the ambitious Pan African e-Network Project in its first phase, inaugurated in February 2009. The project seeks to bridge the digital divide in the 54-nation continent and bring tele-medicine and tele-education to Africans.

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Joe (Kochi)
03 Feb, 2012 12:56 AM

Indian diplomacy fails again. What else we should expect from our corrupted politicians and bureaucrats. Soon the name of the Indian ocean will be changed to Chinese ocean.

Reply

Agree (3)
Disagree (2)
Recommend (2)
Offensive

P.CHERVARA DURAI (chennai) replies to Joe
05 Feb, 2012 06:54 PM

SIR I AM DIPLOMA IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING TWO EXPERIENCES

Reply

Agree (0)
Disagree (0)
Recommend (0)
Offensive

thirdrock (india)
02 Feb, 2012 11:09 PM

shahrukh khan ko ship pe bitha ke bhej do seychelles.....chinese ke aage aath dus songs pe dance karega.....woh apni ship wahin chorkar chale jayenge.....

Reply

Agree (4)
Disagree (0)
Recommend (0)
Offensive

process (Taiwan)
02 Feb, 2012 08:50 PM

That's ridiculous about this news. Do you know how many warship / destroyer China has maintain in this India Ocean ?. I bet there're only 3 more of them (all of them are for anti-pirate operations) . Until now China doesn't have blue-water capability to proceed her will. All the news is made up for political reason and its own interest. Don't be fool by your own media.

Agree (6)
Disagree (7)
Recommend (2)
Offensive



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Peter (Melbourne)
02 Feb, 2012 08:29 PM

Isn't the same guy from Seychelles offered Full Navy base to Chinese? While Chinese with fear of India explained its not interested in having base in Seychelles (because its believed they will soon or later have it in Gadwar in Pakistan & in SLanka)... Why I am saying with fear of India because Chinese very well know, they will invite trouble just by having navy bases in heart of Indian ocean to counter India which will drive India crazy to have partnership openly with Japan, SKorea, Thai, Vietnam, Aus and the US... military pact - So far India has rejected the golden military quad offered by Kevin Rudd and then Julia Gillard from Aus between the US-Aus-Japan... Not sure why India decided 2 times already.. they should have straight away said yes without hesitation since China does not need to explain anything they do or seek approval from India like getting basis in Pakistan near Gujarat, or SLanka or Nepal and the activities they do to make Indian business unstable and problematic in China ... while we let Huawei and others to openly business in India.. Not sure what are we waiting for.. China is heading for war in 3 fronts with west and other upcoming country namely: Military, Economically and Strategically (culturally)...

Agree (8)
Disagree (2)
Recommend (3)
Offensive

Reply

PIYUSH RAINA (bhopal) replies to Peter
02 Feb, 2012 11:46 PM

brilliant analysis moreover this kind of bold approach is needed in India in decision making--nobody wants war but strategically India has blundered before--had India retaken so called northern area by Pakistan in 71 war ie am referring to Baltistan Skardu in our own Kashmir that would have divided China and Pakistan linkup through Karakorum road strategically and with bases there would have deterrent capacity to link up with Russia Provence through Wakhan border and an eye on Xinjiang province of China think it over had India not divided would China would had been in security council permanent member, India is to blame for his own miseries again called as soft state so moral of story Indian citizens wake up and be part of decision making. secondly road to Laddhak is through Kargil and through Himachal in depleted condition still why not a full weather road be made as alternate route to boarder areas. although we made so fuss on Kargil war moral prevention is better than cure even if it offends our neighbor and that China is doing question do India has the will--think

Agree (1)
Disagree (0)
Recommend (1)
Offensive

Reply

Ranga (Bangalore) replies to Peter
02 Feb, 2012 08:53 PM

Agree With you... Not sure what the strategy makers in New Delhi are thinking. India should not hesitate to join the Alliance with US-Aus-Jap.

Agree (3)
Disagree (1)
Recommend (2)
Offensive

Reply

Ashish (Delhi) replies to Peter
02 Feb, 2012 08:42 PM

Peter: Are you really from Australia ???? I doubt it very much because the so called Tri-lateral agreement of US-Australia-India never ever happened. Australia never ever offered India to be part of the deal. It was only a hype up by Indian media as if India declined it because Australia treated Indian nationals badly and looked down upon Indians as slumdogs. The news came up for a few days in TOI and quickly disappeared quietly with no mention why India was not a partner in the agreement because in the first place, there was never such an agreement. It was only wishful thinking by Indian media and probably India Defense Ministry.

Agree (3)
Disagree (2)
Recommend (2)
Offensive

Reply

PIYUSH RAINA (BHOPAL) replies to Ashish
03 Feb, 2012 12:02 AM

Ashish, please do read my comments to Peter and comment as I want to raise the awakening level of we Indians.

Agree (0)
Disagree (0)
Recommend (0)
Offensive

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toni (vasai)
02 Feb, 2012 08:06 PM

This is it

[Reply](#)

 Agree (2)
 Disagree (1)
 Recommend (0)
 Offensive

moni (kochi) replies to toni
02 Feb, 2012 08:11 PM

what is it ?????? Hindi-seychelles Bhai Bhai ?

[Reply](#)

 Agree (4)
 Disagree (1)
 Recommend (2)
 Offensive

Minoli (Kerala)
02 Feb, 2012 07:53 PM

With China watching, India & Seychelles to up anti-pirate operations - Also with India watching, China & Seychelles become ally on re-fuelling operation station for China naval ships in the picturesque Indian Ocean archipelago nation, Seychelles. Seychelles-Chinni Bhai Bhai. Seychelles-Hindi Bhai Bhai.

[Reply](#)

 Agree (7)
 Disagree (0)
 Recommend (4)
 Offensive

The Truth (Delhi)
02 Feb, 2012 07:47 PM

Seychelles should wisely alliance itself with India if it wants to keep its sovereignty and peaceful existence.They should not be bothered with China just because Chinese are apparently richer in term of GDP.They should know that although India GDP appears to be \$4.8Trillions by PPP and China is \$10 Trillions PPP, yet Indians are habitual in suppressing their riches and not declared in full, unlike the Chinese who are very meticulous in these statistics.Usually, Indians declared 1/5 of their riches and assets, so in reality Indian GDP should have been \$20T PPP.

[Reply](#)

 Agree (6)
 Disagree (0)
 Recommend (1)
 Offensive

yam (wellington) replies to [The Truth](#)
02 Feb, 2012 09:26 PM

Yes Indians so humble, that's why your billionaires build a billion dollar home for himself, amidst the homes of slum dogs.

[Reply](#)

 Agree (1)
 Disagree (0)
 Recommend (1)
 Offensive

Utmost Truth (Mumbai) replies to [The Truth](#)
02 Feb, 2012 08:26 PM

yes, your analysis is rightly spot on. Indians are too humble to show their wealth and suppressed their riches and under-declared them. Unlike the Commie Chinese who like to show-off with the little wealth they possess and over-report them. India Union is superpower no. 1 in the world as proclaimed by President Obama and PM Sarkozy as both knew that India have more than GDP \$20 trillion PPP in India's coffers. All worldwide comity of nations, except probably Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and China, do not know that India is the richest nation in the world.

[Reply](#)

 Agree (2)
 Disagree (0)
 Recommend (2)
 Offensive

padam (pune) replies to [Utmost Truth](#)
04 Feb, 2012 08:22 PM

Open your eyes and look around then report what you see. If this is what a rich nation looks like I don't want to be part of it.

[Reply](#)

 Agree (0)
 Disagree (0)
 Recommend (0)
 Offensive

SCL Premi (USA)
02 Feb, 2012 07:46 PM

"With China watching" is unnecessary prefix by TOI to the news that "India and Seychelles to up anti-pirate operations." Do the readers have to teach TOI the art of news reporting.

[Reply](#)

 Agree (13)
 Disagree (2)
 Recommend (7)
 Offensive

Sri Jairam (Delhi) replies to SCL Premi
02 Feb, 2012 08:08 PM

If without the words: "With China watching", how would our news media IANS show their patriotism and nationalism to our nation and our beloved countrymen. Without mentioning those same words, how would we India not frighten and warn Commie China not to look down upon us Indians as Slumdogs. Without such words of caution to China, how would we Indians not show our self-pride and boast of our strengths and alliance with minnow nation Seychelles. IANS news agencies must have those words as prefix to sensationalise the importance of India in world stage and to tell the Commie that we are in charge and that they should keep away from India and Seychelles or else.....the rest is not important.

Reply

-  Agree (2)
-  Disagree (2)
-  Recommend (2)
-  Offensive

S. Suchindranath Aiyer (Kalyanipuri)
02 Feb, 2012 07:40 PM

Indian involvement in anti-piracy ops is long over due. I only hope Indian ships and politicians can live up to the sailors.

Reply

-  Agree (8)
-  Disagree (1)
-  Recommend (5)
-  Offensive

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