

Can't Allow China's "New Normal" On Drills Against Taiwan: US Speaker

WASHINGTON: (AGENCY)

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has said the US just cannot allow China to establish a "new normal" to put pressure on Taiwan through the kind of military drills and warplane incursions that Beijing launched after she visited the self-governing island. China on Wednesday announced that it has "successfully completed" its week-long and unprecedented military drills that have essentially encircled Taiwan. Initially, the People's Liberation Army announced the war games in the busy Taiwan Strait from August 4 to 7, the day after Pelosi, who is the highest-ranking US leader to have visited Taiwan in 25 years, left Taipei after high-level meetings. It later kept extending them, keeping the breakaway island on tenterhooks.

"What we saw with China is that they were trying to establish sort of a new normal. And we just can't let that happen," Pelosi



told a news conference on Wednesday, referring to the provocative drills.

The Chinese military exercises involved hundreds of warplanes, dozens of naval ships, including an aircraft carrier group with a nuclear submarine in tow, amid assertions by the official media that such war games in the busy Taiwan Strait will be a new normal.

Pelosi's trip to Taipei angered Beijing, which views Taiwan as a break-

away province that must be reunited with the mainland, by force if necessary.

Taiwan has accused China of using the recent drills as practice for an invasion. "We didn't go there to talk about China. We went there to praise Taiwan. And we went there to show our friendship to say, 'China cannot isolate Taiwan,'" Pelosi asserted during the news conference on Wednesday after her trip to Asia.

"The visit delivered a clear statement that America's commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific is unshakable," Pelosi noted. The US along with several world powers have been talking about the need to ensure a free, open and thriving Indo-Pacific in the backdrop of China's rising military manoeuvring in the resource-rich region.

China claims nearly all of the disputed South China Sea, though Taiwan, the

Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia and Vietnam all claim parts of it. Beijing has built artificial islands and military installations in the South China Sea. China also has territorial disputes with Japan in the East China Sea. Pelosi said her bilateral discussions centred around seizing opportunities and addressing shared challenges, including upholding the democracy in the face of autocracy, fostering robust economic growth, including through the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework and in governance, responding to COVID-19 and climate crisis. House Foreign Affairs Committee chairman Gregory Meeks told reporters that Pelosi's visit to Taiwan illustrated that no matter what Chinese President Xi Jinping said, the US was going to stand by its friends and allies. Indian-American Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi, who was part of the Congressional delegation to Taiwan, was also present at the news conference.

Man Accused Of Being Member Of ISIS "Beatles" Group Charged In UK

LONDON: (AGENCY)

A British man accused of being part of an ISIS kidnap-and-murder cell known as the "Beatles" has been charged with terrorism offences after returning to the UK, police said Thursday. "A 38-year-old man has been charged with various terrorism offences following an investigation by the Met's Counter Terrorism Command," police said in a statement. The Metropolitan Police, which leads anti-terror investigations in the UK, officially named the man as Aine Davis and said he has been remanded in police custody. They said they arrested Davis after he landed at Luton airport on a flight from Turkey. The suspect, who does not have a fixed address, was set to appear at a court in central London on Thursday morning. He was allegedly a member of the ISIS cell, which held dozens of foreign hostages in Syria between 2012 and 2015 and was known to their captives as the "Beatles"

because of their British accents. The four members of the "Beatles" are accused of abducting at least 27 journalists and relief workers

UK to the US in 2020 to face charges there, pleaded guilty to his role in the deaths last September and was sentenced to life in



from the United States, Britain, Europe, New Zealand, Russia and Japan. They were all allegedly involved in the murders of American journalists James Foley and Steven Sotloff, as well as aid workers Peter Kassig and Kayla Mueller.

The quartet allegedly tortured and killed the four American victims, including by beheading, and ISIS released videos of the murders for propaganda purposes. Alexandra Kotey, a 38-year-old former British national extradited from the

prison in April. El Shafee Elsheikh, 34, another former British national also extradited to the US at the same time, was found guilty of all charges in April, and will be sentenced next week.

The other "Beatles" executioner, Mohamed Emwazi, was killed by a US drone in Syria in 2015. Elsheikh and Kotey were captured in January 2018 by a Kurdish militia in Syria and turned over to US forces in Iraq before being sent to Britain.

Covid Surge: Several Chinese Cities Impose Fresh Curbs, Lockdown

BEIJING: (AGENCY)

Several covid-hit Chinese cities from the country's east to west imposed fresh restrictions and lockdowns on their populations on Thursday to contain flare-ups that are again threatening to disrupt local economies. Reducing people's unnecessary movement for a few days - a softer type of lockdown - as soon as dozens of new cases emerge is a key practice of China's "dynamic COVID-zero" strategy. The aim is to avoid turning efforts to halt an outbreak into the extended nightmares seen in Shanghai and Wuhan.

The uncertainty over how long such smaller lockdowns may last - because Omicron's high transmissibility makes it harder to clear infections - has hurt business confidence and made people less willing to travel.

The eastern export and manufacturing hub Yiwu said on Thursday it would enter three days of "silent management", with most of its residents banned from leaving designated areas and some confined to their homes. Yiwu's 1.9 million people joined millions of others across several cities whose movements are restricted largely to their residential compounds, unless they have to go out for matters such as COVID tests, grocery shopping or hospital visits. Companies

whose employees can work on closed campuses are still allowed to operate, while all public venues in Yiwu were to be closed during the three days, excluding hospitals and other places offering essential services.

In China's western region of Xinjiang, three cities in the Aksu area from Thursday allowed employees to leave their homes for work while restricting everyone else to necessary movements only. It is not clear when the measures will be lifted. Key districts in Xinjiang's capital Urumqi, meanwhile, have been in a five-day lockdown starting on Wednesday. Clusters in the tourism hotspots Hainan and Tibet continued to expand, with affected cities under lockdowns.

Mainland China reported 1,993 domestically transmitted new coronavirus cases for Aug. 10 - 614 symptomatic and 1,379 asymptomatic - the National Health Commission said on Thursday. There were no new deaths, keeping fatalities at 5,226. China has confirmed 232,809 cases with symptoms as of Aug. 10, including local transmitted ones and those among arrivals. China's capital Beijing reported two local cases for the previous day, while financial hub Shanghai and southern technology hub Shenzhen reported zero new local infections.

Taiwan Holds Military Drill After China Says War Preps Will Continue

TAIPEI: (AGENCY)

Taiwan's army held another live-fire drill Thursday after Beijing ended its largest ever military exercises around the island and repeated threats to bring the self-ruled democracy under its control. Beijing has raged at a trip to Taiwan last week by US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi - the highest-ranking elected American official to visit in decades - staging days of air and sea drills around the island that raised tensions to their highest level in years.

Taiwan has accused China of using the Pelosi visit as an excuse to kick-start drills that would allow it to rehearse for an invasion. Lou Woei-jye, spokesman for Taiwan's Eighth Army Corps, told AFP its forces fired howitzers and target flares as part of the defensive drill on Thursday morning.

The exercise in Taiwan's southernmost county Pingtung began at 0830 am (0030 GMT) and lasted about an hour, he said. Artillery tucked in from the coast was lined up side by side, with armed soldiers in units firing the howitzers out to sea one after the other, a live stream showed. Taiwan held a similar drill on Tuesday in Pingtung. Both involved hundreds of troops, the military said. The military has played

down the exercises' significance, saying they were already scheduled and were not in response to China's war games.

"We have two goals for the drills, the first is to certify the proper condition of the artillery and their maintenance condition and the



second is to confirm the results of last year," Lou said, referring to annual drills.

The latest exercise came after China's military indicated its own drills had come to an end Wednesday, saying its forces "successfully completed various tasks" in the Taiwan Strait while vowing to continue patrolling its waters.

But in the same announcement, China added that it would "continue to carry out military training and prepare for war". In a separate white paper published Wednesday, China's Taiwan Affairs Office said Beijing

would "not renounce the use of force" against its neighbour and reserved "the option of taking all necessary measures".

"We are ready to create vast space for peaceful reunification, but we will leave no room for separatist activities in any form," it

make trouble, attempting to create a new normal to intimidate the Taiwanese people."

"One country, two systems" refers to the model under which Hong Kong and Macau were promised a degree of autonomy under Chinese rule.

Taiwan routinely stages military drills simulating defence against a Chinese invasion, and last month practised repelling attacks from the sea in a "joint interception operation" as part of its largest annual exercises.

In response to the Chinese military revealing it was bringing drills to an end Wednesday, Taiwan's army said it would "adjust how we deploy our forces... without letting our guard down".

Since the late 1990s, the island has transformed from an autocracy into a vibrant democracy, and a more distinct Taiwanese identity has solidified.

Relations between the two sides have significantly worsened since Tsai Ing-wen became Taiwan's president in 2016. Tsai and her Democratic Progressive Party do not consider Taiwan a part of China. Their platform falls under China's broad definition of Taiwanese separatism, which includes those who advocate for the island to have an identity separate from the mainland.

Briefs News

New Virus Also Found In Shrews Infects Dozens In China

BEIJING: (AGENCY)

Dozens of people in China have fallen ill with a new virus that is also found in shrews, a report has said, but there is so far no evidence of human-to-human transmission. The infections were found in China's eastern Shandong and central Henan provinces, affecting 35 people, according to a report in the New England Journal of Medicine this month. The virus is called Langya henipavirus or LayV, and patients reported symptoms that include fever, fatigue, cough, nausea and headaches. Some people also developed blood cell abnormalities and impaired liver and kidney functions, the report said. Research findings suggested shrews may be a natural reservoir for the pathogen. "There was no close contact or common exposure history among the patients, which suggests that the infection in the human population may be sporadic," according to the report. But it also cautioned that its sample size "was too small to determine the status of human-to-human transmission for LayV".

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for notice of the general public that a political party is proposed to be registered by the name of Lokhit Adhikar Party. The office of the party is located at 94 HIG Duplex Brij Vihar Ghaziabad -201011. This Party has submitted application to the Election Commission of India, New Delhi for its registration as Political Party under Section 29A of the Representation of People Act, 1951 - Names/address of the office bearers of the Party are as follows:

President / Chairman: Mr Roshan Lal Gupta, Add: 94 HIG Duplex, Brij Vihar, Ghaziabad, UP -201011
General Secretary/Secretary: Shekhar Sahu, Add: H.no-546/777, Sarfarajganj - 1, Lucknow, UP - 226003

Treasurer: Gaurav Gupta, Add: 94, HIG Duplex, Brij Vihar, Ghaziabad, UP -201011

If any one has any objection to the registration of Lokhit Adhikar Party, they may send their Objection with reasons thereof, to the Secretary (Political Party) Election Commission of India, Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi - 110001 within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

This Booming Town In South Africa Houses Only White People

SOUTH AFRICA: (AGENCY)

From a distance, Orania looks like any other small town in rural South Africa. But once inside, the visitor is struck by an obvious difference. And in a country where menial work in wealthy areas is typically done by blacks, whites here mop supermarket floors, wield leaf blowers and harvest the nuts on pecan farms. Orania is a whites-only town in a country that has declared an end to racial segregation. The history of this incongruity dates back to 1991, when apartheid was in its death throes. White Afrikaners -- descendants of 17th-century Dutch colonisers -- bought up 8,000 hectares (19,000 acres) of land on the banks of the Orange River, in the sparsely populated Karoo region. Using an autonomous status under the post-apartheid constitution, they created a privately-owned town which has so far admitted only whites.

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'EXTRACT OF STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED ON 30TH JUNE 2022.

In Lakhs

Sl. No.	Particulars	3 months ended & year to date figure	3 months ended & year to date figure	Preceding 3 months ended in current year	Preceding 3 months ended in current year	Corresponding 3 months ended in the previous year	Corresponding 3 months ended in the previous year	Financial Year ended	Financial Year ended
		(Standalone)	(Consolidated)	(Standalone)	(Consolidated)	(Standalone)	(Consolidated)	(Standalone)	(Consolidated)
		30.06.2022	30.06.2022	31.03.2022	31.03.2022	30.06.2021	30.06.2021	31.03.2022	31.03.2022
		Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited (Refer to Note No. 2)	Audited (Refer to Note No. 2)	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited	Audited
1	Total Income from Operations	1,289.91	1,289.91	4,941.00	4,941.00	7,635.43	7,635.43	30,242.79	30,242.79
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(1,365.19)	(1,365.40)	(3,124.68)	(2,941.44)	(1,456.13)	(1,457.09)	(7,806.18)	(7,626.30)
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(1,365.19)	(1,365.40)	(3,888.89)	(3,705.65)	(1,456.13)	(1,457.09)	(8,469.40)	(8,289.52)
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(1,365.19)	(1,365.40)	(3,891.31)	(3,708.07)	(1,456.13)	(1,457.09)	(8,471.82)	(8,291.94)
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	(1,365.19)	(1,365.40)	(3,891.31)	(3,708.07)	(1,456.13)	(1,457.09)	(8,471.82)	(8,291.94)
6	Equity Share Capital (Face Value of Rs. 10/- each)	3,911.41	3,911.41	3,911.41	3,911.41	3,911.41	3,911.41	3,911.41	3,911.41
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance sheet for the Financial Year ended on March 31, 2021 & 31 March, 2022.							(75,208.76)	(75,243.06)
8	Earnings Per Share (Rs. 10/- each)- (for continuing and discontinued operations) Basic and Diluted:	(3.49)	(3.49)	(9.95)	(9.47)	(3.72)	(3.73)	(21.66)	(21.20)

Notes:

The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly Unaudited Financial Results for the quarter and period ended on June 30, 2022 filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The detailed format of the Financial Results of the company is available on the website of Bombay Stock Exchange Limited (BSE) (www.bseindia.com), National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) (www.nseindia.com) and the Company(www.alpsindustries.com).

DATE : AUGUST 11, 2022
PLACE : GHAZIABAD

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
(SANDEEP AGARWAL)
MANAGING DIRECTOR
DIN: 00139439

