

ASEAN talks: China defiant over SCS skirmishes

VIENTIANE (Laos), Oct 10 (AP)

SOUTHEAST Asian leaders stepped up pressure on China to respect international law following clashes in the disputed South China Sea during annual summit talks on Thursday, but Chinese Premier Li Qiang was defiant as he blamed “external forces” for

interfering in regional affairs.

The 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations’ meeting with Li followed recent violent confrontations at sea this year between China and ASEAN members Philippines and Vietnam that heightened unease over China’s increasingly assertive actions in the contested waters.

Modi meets Japan, NZ counterparts

VIENTIANE, Oct 10 (PTI)

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday held a "very productive" meeting with newly-appointed Japanese counterpart Shigeru Ishiba here during which they discussed ways to enhance cooperation in different areas, including infrastructure, connectivity and defence.

Separately, Prime Minister Modi also met his New Zealand counterpart Christopher Luxon on the margins of the ASEAN-India Summit in Vientiane.

"Had a very productive meeting with PM Ishiba. I'm happy to have met him just a few days after he became Japan's PM. Our talks included ways to enhance cooperation in infrastructure, connectivity, defence and more.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with newly-elected Japanese PM Shigeru Ishiba during a bilateral meeting in Vientiane on Thursday. (ANI)



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Prime Minister of New Zealand, Christopher Luxon during a bilateral meeting in Vientiane on Thursday. (ANI)

Boosting cultural linkages was also discussed," Modi said in a post on X. Ishiba was appointed Japan's Prime Minister just last week. He replaced Fumio Kishida, who stepped down to pave the way for a fresh leader.

During his meeting with New Zealand counterpart Luxon, Prime Minister Modi discussed cooperation in sectors such as economic cooperation, tourism, education and innovation. It was the first meeting between the two leaders. The MEA said, the two Prime Ministers discussed ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation across a range of areas, including trade and investment, defence and security, renewable energy, education, dairy, agri-tech, sports, tourism, space, and people-to-people ties.

RATAN TATA CREMATED WITH FULL STATE HONOURS



As announced earlier by the Maharashtra Government, the funeral took place with full State honours, as part of which the tricolour covered the casket covering the body and a gun salute was given by the Mumbai Police. Union Home Minister Amit Shah paid floral tributes at the National Centre for Performing Arts (NCPA), where the mortal remains were kept for most part of the day, and stayed put till the end of the last rites in the evening.

The Ambani family led by richest Indian Mukesh Ambani also paid homage to the departed business leader. Cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar was among those who visited the Colaba home of Tata to pay homage before the body was moved to the NCPA premises. At the famous cultural institution, the crowds had already swelled up in anticipation. In a rare display of camaraderie, the A-listers joined in with the commoners
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MUMBAI, Oct 10 (PTI)

INDIA'S financial capital on Thursday bid an emotional farewell to Ratan Tata, one of her most illustrious sons who defined both her enterprise and humility as thousands, from ordinary citizen to luminaries, paid tributes to him before his last journey.

The final rites of the industry titan-philanthropist were performed with full State honours at a crematorium in Worli in the evening after Mumbai police personnel accorded him a gun salute, a day after he died at a city hospital, marking end of an era.

The last rites were performed as per the

Parsi tradition, one of the priests present at the crematorium said.

After the funeral, there will be three more days of rituals which will be conducted at the late business tycoon's bungalow in Colaba, south Mumbai, he said.

After his death late on Wednesday night, Tata's mortal remains were taken to his residence in the early hours

of Thursday, and from there to a cultural centre to allow members of the public pay their last respects. Industry captains, top politicians, sports and film personalities and Mumbaikars came together to pay their last respects to the 86-year-old former Tata Group chairman.

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