CHINA WILL TAKE ACTION IF INDIA SENDS TROOPS TO CRISIS-HIT MALDIVES

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Beijing will take action if India sends troops to the Maldives, Chinese state media has warned. It comes after a supreme court in the Maldives overturned the conviction of an opposition politician, prompting a political crisis.

India should exercise restraint, an editorial in the state-run Global Times reads. Without UN empowerment, there would be no righteous cause for any armed force to intervene.

China will not interfere in the internal affairs of the Maldives, but that does not mean that Beijing will sit idly by as New Delhi breaks the principle. If India one-sidedly sends troops to the Maldives, China will take action to stop New Delhi. India should not underestimate Chinas opposition to unilateral military intervention, the op-ed continues, RT reported.

Maldives Supreme Court threw out the conviction of opposition leader and exiled former President Mohammed Nasheed and ordered that 12 parliamentarians who had been stripped of their seats be reinstated. President Abdulla Yameen rejected the courts ruling, imposed a state of emergency, and arrested two of the supreme court justices.

Nasheed has appealed to India to send troops to the Maldives to end the crisis.

On behalf of the Maldivian people we humbly request...India to send envoy, backed by its military, to release judges and political detainees...we request a physical presence, he tweeted last week.

New Delhi has not responded to Nasheeds request, and has not formally met with Yameens envoy. However, Indias Ministry of External Affairs issued a statement aimed at China on Friday.

We note that China has said that Maldives government has the ability to protect the security of Chinese personnel and institutions in Maldives. We hope that all countries can play a constructive role in Maldives, instead of doing the opposite, the statement said.

Kaynak/Source: