

INTERNATIONAL

China protests US warship approaching Meiji reef

China voiced strong protest against a US Navy warship passing close to the Meiji Reef in the South China Sea. The "USS John S. McCain" illegally entered the waters near the reef and conducted a so-called "freedom of navigation operation" without permission of the Chinese government, Xinhua quoted Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Geng Shuang as saying. Geng added the Chinese Navy identified the US warship, warned and expelled it. "Such a move severely undermines China's sovereignty and security, and severely endangers the safety of frontline personnel of both sides," he said.

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Tibetan PM apprises Australian MPs about rights violations

Tibetan Prime Minister-in-exile Lobsang Sangay has apprised Australian parliamentarians about the "ongoing religious repression and violation of basic human rights in Tibet", his office said. Sangay briefed the human rights subcommittee of the Australian parliament in Canberra about the ground situation inside Tibet, particularly with regard to environment, self-immolation protests and violation of basic human rights, a post on the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) official website said. It said destruction of Larung Gar Tibetan Buddhist Academy in eastern Tibet by Chinese authorities was also taken up during the talks.

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