

Sea rights figure in first Quad talks

The event was also attended by Premiers Li Keqiang of China and Dmitry Medvedev of Russia.

The U.S.'s statement indicated that further cooperation "to curtail DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)'s nuclear and missile programmes and unlawful acts" were also on the agenda of Sunday's discussions.

Indian official sources emphasised that the quadrilateral was not aimed at any other country and said New Delhi was also involved in similar groupings in the region to deal with security and political issues.

The quadrilateral meeting is significant as it was held in the backdrop of the comments by the Chinese Premier urging reduction in tension over regional issues like the South China Sea dispute. "The wise expand common ground while the unwise aggravate differences," said Premier Li in a newspaper article, defending the Chinese position in the dispute.

Official sources emphasised that the quadrilateral was not aimed at any other country and said India was also involved in similar groupings in the region to deal with security and political issues.

India's commitment towards the region was highlighted by Mr. Modi as he took to the social media before arriving here and said, "I will take part in the ASEAN-India and East Asia summits, which symbolise India's commitment towards deepening engagement with ASEAN and India-Pacific region."

On Monday, Mr. Modi will take part in the inauguration of the ASEAN summit and will hold talks with Mr. Trump and Mr. Duterte.

He is also expected to deliver an address at the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit.

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