

Q. 3.

What is one China policy? How does that get hurt by US engagements with Taiwan and what is the reaction of Beijing?

Q6

Q3's Answer: 'One China Policy'

→ ONE CHINA POLICY:-

One China policy is a diplomatic acknowledgement of China as a sovereign state as one unit and there is only one legitimate government, that is, People's Republic of China and Island Taiwan is part of China. This policy has been a major cornerstone in US-Sino relations and has played foundational role in policy-making and diplomacy of the state. Under this policy, Taiwan is an inseparable part of China and will sooner or later be reunified with it.

1- China's Stance on Policy:-

China is adamant in considering Taiwan as its inseparable part. Though currently differences exist but sooner or later, Taiwan will be reunified with People's Republic of China. Any foreign intervention in Taiwan is like stinging a hornet's nest in China.

2- Taiwan's Standing on Policy:-

At the time of partition, Kuomintang (KMT), a dominant political party in Taiwan, retreated to the strait and confined themselves in Taiwan Island. Now, Taiwanese government claim that Taiwan is a separate and sovereign government and, thus, does not support One-China policy. The government claims name of the independent state to be 'Republic of China' and has place the diplomatic relation in antagonism to PRC, hence, resulting in diplomatic isolation.

3- United States Viewpoint on the policy:-

The United States has not tailored its 'one-China' policy to native one. It is maintaining economic ties with China as well as unofficial relations with Taiwan too by selling arms to the Island for self-defence. Moreover, US urges both parties for peaceful resolution of the dispute by constructive diplomatic ways.

7- Impact of US engagements with Teipei has

impacted China:

China is extremely sensitive towards Taiwan. It has always insisted that any foreign intervention 'into sovereignty' of one China will face dire consequence. But both China and US have vested interest in Taiwan that is reason enough for the diplomatic and economic ties. For example, China is the largest trading partner of Taipei while Taiwan holds more than \$80bn investments in China. And US's National Security Policy declares China as the greatest threat to US interest by expansionism and dominating world market. Thus, US sells arms to Taiwan in order to support the right of self-defence for the Island under Taiwan Relations Act.

1- Timeline of US engagement with Taiwan:

In 1979, US and China felt a mutual need to build economic and diplomatic ties with each other, hence, from

here on any relationship of US with Taiwan will be unofficial and informal

1979-2018

Relationships under 'Taiwan Relations Act' to help Taiwan in self-defence by extending military aid.

2019

Formalizing consular relations between Both.

2021

US removed self-imposed restriction on Taiwan to extend its contacts.

2022

US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi visited Taiwan in a blatant disregard to one-China policy.

Thus, unofficial engagement of US changed to diplomatic and military support for Taiwan to right to self-determination.

2- Reaction of China to US Advances:-

The reaction of China was quite aggressive. President Xi was heard commenting in face of rising Taiwan tensions as:

"Those who play with fire will
perish by it."

This was a clear warning for US to meddle with its 'internal affairs'.

a- Extreme Military maneuvers:

Extensive military drills were conducted by Chinese Navy and Air Force in Taiwan Strait to convey the message that China holds the will and power to invade Taiwan as it will. However, these military drills were told by the Chinese government as an exercise for forces to keep them motivated for defence of the country.

b- 'Serious provocation': the Pelosi's visit:

The Chinese Foreign Ministry condemned the Pelosi's visit and called it a 'serious provocation' and an attempt to 'stir stir hornets' nest'.

c- Sentiments of Sino got hurt:

For peaceful relations, China

wants no state to meddle in Taiwan issue. Amid rising tensions with US, the visit was taken as an attempt for provocation, hurting its sentiments of trust and diplomatic engagement. The paranoia of China increased after the visit and in aggression it showed that it has right to defend its "territories".

→ Conclusion :-

The global environment is always tense due to Russia - Ukraine war, Middle East crisis, world cannot afford another hot center in face of global recession, soaring prices and global energy and food crises. So the both developed nations should refrain from creating an active war zone in Taiwan. US should not provoke the sentiments of China. Meanwhile, China should make attempts towards peaceful resolution of conflict.

