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Country/entity China

India

Region Asia and Pacific

Agreement name Agreement on the Maintenance of Peace and Tranquility along the Line of Actual Control

in the India-China Border Areas

Date 7 Sep 1993

Agreement status Multiparty signed/agreed

Interim Yes

arrangement

Agreement/conflict Interstate/interstate conflict

level

Sino-Indian Border Dispute (1962 -)

There are two main areas that are disputed by China and India. These areas are largely unpopulated and are sparse with resources, but strategically important for both powers. Tensions mounted during the 1962 border war and 1986 skirmish. In the North-West there is the Aksai Chin plateau that is administered by China, but is claimed by India. Bordered by Tibet and Xinjiang, this border is approximately 685 miles long. The dispute in the Eastern sector on the tri-border area between India, China and Myanmar is largely due to a disagreement over the McMahon Line named after Sir Henry McMahon, the representative of the Indian Government to the Simla Conference of 1914. The line itself follows the watersheds of the Himalayas from Bhutan to Myanmar. China does not recognise the McMahon line, due to its original imperial context, and their claim runs along the foothills in Indian Territory. The area under dispute covers an area of 36,000 square miles. The Middle sector between Bhutan and Nepal is demarcated by the Himalayan watersheds. The border was confirmed in the British-Chinese Convention of 1890 and was undisputed until a brief standoff emerged in this sector in June 2017 on the Doklam plateau.

Since 2003 intensified efforts by the two powers have resulted in talks on the border issues handled by special representatives. However, the two sides continue to have differing opinions on the location of the 'Line of Actual Control' (LAC), which has led to incursions and military build-ups in 2009, 2013 and 2017.

Close

Sino-Indian Border Dispute (1962 -

)

Stage Pre-negotiation/process

Conflict nature Territory

Peace process China-India border dispute peace process

Parties R. L. Bhatia, Minister of State for External Affairs, Republic of India

Tang Jiaxuan Vice-Foreign Minister, People's Republic of China

Third parties

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Description

This agreement provides the framework for border security between the parties until final determination is made regarding border demarcation. The parties agree to reduce troop levels compatible with friendly and good relations between them. They also agree to undertake confidence building measures along the line of actual control including by providing notification of troop movements.

Agreement

CN_IN_930907_Agreement on India-China Border Areas.pdf (opens in new tab)

document

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Groups

Children/youth No specific mention.

Disabled persons No specific mention.

Elderly/age No specific mention.

Migrant workers No specific mention.

Racial/ethnic/ national group No specific mention.

Religious groups No specific mention.

Indigenous people No specific mention.

Other groups No specific mention.

Refugees/displaced No specific mention.

persons

Social class No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and

gender

No specific mention.

Men and boys

No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general)

Page 1, The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as the two sides), have entered into the present Agreement in accordance with the Five Principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit and peaceful coexistence and with a view to maintaining peace and tranquility in areas along the line of actual control in the India-China border areas.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/ secession No specific mention.

Accession/ unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision

No specific mention.

Governance

Political No specific mention.

institutions (new or

reformed)

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral No specific mention.

commission

Political parties

reform

No specific mention.

Civil society

No specific mention.

Traditional/

religious leaders

No specific mention.

Public

administration

No specific mention.

Constitution

No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power

sharing

No specific mention.

Territorial power

sharing

No specific mention.

Economic power

sharing

No specific mention.

Military power

sharing

No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

general

Human rights/RoL No specific mention.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty

No specific mention.

incorporation

Civil and political

No specific mention.

rights

Socio-economic

No specific mention.

rights

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures

No specific mention.

Media and communication

No specific mention.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

Protection

No specific mention.

measures

Other

No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions

No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and No specific mention. **emergency law**

State of emergency No specific mention.

provisions

Judiciary and

No specific mention.

courts

Prisons and

No specific mention.

detention

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or

No specific mention.

socio-economic reconstruction

National economic No specific mention.

plan

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds No specific mention.

Business No specific mention.

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights No specific mention.

Pastoralist/

No specific mention.

nomadism rights

Cultural heritage No specific mention.

Environment

No specific mention.

Water or riparian

No specific mention.

rights or access

Security sector

Security Guarantees

Page 1, 1. The two sides are of the view that the India-China boundary question shall be resolved through peaceful and friendly consultations. Neither side shall use or threaten to use force against the other by any means. Pending an ultimate solution to the boundary question between the two countries, the two sides shall strictly respect and observe the line of actual control between the two sides. No activities of either side shall overstep the line of actual control. In case personnel of one side cross the line of actual control, upon being cautioned by the other side, they shall immediately pull back to their own side of the line of actual control. When necessary, the two sides shall jointly check and determine the segments of the line of actual control where they have different views as to its alignment.

Page 2, 5. The two sides agree to take adequate measures to ensure that air intrusions across the line of actual control do not take place and shall undertake mutual consultations should intrusions occur. Both sides shall also consult on possible restrictions on air exercises in areas to be mutually agreed near the line of actual control.

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→General commitments

[Summary] Agreement adheres to the 'five nons' of Chinese foreign policy aiming at maintaining peace on the line of actual control. Agreement doesn't specify a ceasefire in those terms, but contains provisions adhereing to ceasefire conventions including notification of military exercises, reducing military forces, etc. See Military, Security (general).

Police

No specific mention.

Armed forces

Page 1, 2. Each side will keep its military forces in the areas along the line of actual control to a minimum level compatible with the friendly and good neighbourly relations between the two countries. The two sides agree to reduce their military forces along the line of actual control in conformity with the requirements of the principle of mutual and equal security to ceilings to be mutually agreed. The extent, depth, timing, and nature of reduction of military forces along the line of actual control shall be determined through mutual consultations between the two countries. The reduction of military forces shall be carried out by stages in mutually agreed geographical locations sector-wise within the areas along the line of actual control.

Page 2, 3. Both sides shall work out through consultations effective confidence building measures in the areas along the line of actual control. Neither side will undertake specified levels of military exercises in mutually identified zones. Each side shall give the other prior notification of military exercises of specified levels near the line of actual control permitted under this Agreement.

Page 2, 7. The two sides shall agree through consultations on the form, method, scale and content of effective verification measures and supervision required for the reduction of military forces and the maintenance of peace and tranquility in the areas along the line of actual control under this Agreement.

DDR

No specific mention.

Intelligence services

No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces No specific mention.

Withdrawal of foreign forces

No specific mention.

Corruption No specific mention.

Crime/organised

crime

No specific mention.

Drugs No specific mention.

Terrorism No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice No specific mention.

general

Amnesty/pardon No specific mention.

Courts No specific mention.

Mechanism No specific mention.

Prisoner release No specific mention.

Vetting No specific mention.

Victims No specific mention.

Missing persons No specific mention.

Reparations No specific mention.

Reconciliation No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory

No specific mention.

Other international No specific mention.

signatory

Referendum for agreement

No specific mention.

International mission/force/ similar

No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism

Page 2, 8. Each side of the India-China Joint Working Group on the boundary question shall appoint diplomatic and military experts to formulate, through mutual consultations, implementation measures for the present Agreement. The experts shall advise the Joint Working Group on the resolution of differences between the two sides on the alignment of the line of actual control and address issues relating to redeployment with a view to reduction of military forces in the areas along the line of actual control. The experts shall also assist the Joint Working Group in supervision of the implementation of the Agreement, and settlement of differences that may arise in that

process, based on the principle of good faith and mutual confidence.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source UN Peacemaker; http://peacemaker.un.org/sites/peacemaker.un.org/files/

CN%20IN_930907_Agreement%20on%20India-China%20Border%20Areas.pdf