

INDIA REMINDS CHINA OF CLAIMS OVER GILGIT-BALTISTAN

Relevant for: International Relations | Topic: India - China

All quiet: Soldiers along the Line of Control on the Indo-China border in Bumla. AP/File photo

The recent incidents of face-off between the troops of India and China are neither correlated nor have any connection with other global or local activities, Army chief Gen. Manoj Naravane said on Thursday. The statement was supplemented by official spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs Anurag Srivastava who reminded China about India's claims over Gilgit-Baltistan where China has teamed up with Pakistan to build the Diamer-Bhasha dam.

Mr. Srivastava said both sides understand the importance of maintaining peace. "India and China attach importance to tranquillity and it is essential for the overall development of bilateral ties."

He reminded China about India's claims over the territory of Gilgit-Baltistan under Pakistan's control. "Our position is clear. The entire territory of Jammu and Kashmir is part of India."

The assertion is important as it was made a day after Power China, one of the biggest Chinese power companies, received a contract to build the Diamer-Bhasha dam which once completed will allow Pakistan to use the waters of the Indus for irrigation. Islamabad claims that the dam will help reduce downstream flood by the Indus.

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