

INDIA REMINDS CHINA OF ITS REDLINES ON SOVEREIGNTY MATTERS

Relevant for: International Relations | Topic: India - China

India made its intent public of delivering a submarine to the Myanmar Navy in a move to secure its ties with its eastern neighbour amid Beijing's concerted efforts to increase its influence around India's immediate periphery.

Amid the border standoff, New Delhi on Thursday reminded Beijing that it should not cross the redlines on India's sovereignty, including the status of the Union territory of Ladakh, which [China](#) said it does not recognize. However, Indian foreign minister S. Jaishankar hoped that talks between the two neighbouring countries could arrive at a solution.

In a related development, [India](#) made its intent public of delivering a submarine to the Myanmar Navy in a move to secure its ties with its eastern neighbour amid Beijing's concerted efforts to increase its influence around India's immediate periphery. The announcement comes days after Indian Army chief Manoj Mukund Naravane and foreign secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla visited Myanmar.

The move is in line with India's policy to develop close ties with its neighbours, as part of the Act East policy, which aims to build deeper ties with South-East Asian countries as well as its broader Indo-Pacific strategy. Around three years ago Bangladesh had commissioned two submarines procured from China, much to India's unease. Myanmar's acquisition of a submarine also comes amid a spurt in defence hardware purchases by its neighbours in South-East Asia, including Thailand and Vietnam, in recent years, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

When asked about [China](#)'s repeated remarks on not recognizing the Union territory of Ladakh during a foreign ministry briefing in New Delhi, spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said the centrally administered regions of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir "have been, are and would remain an integral part of India". In what can be taken as a warning to Beijing, he added: "China has no locus standi to comment on India's internal matters. We hope that countries will not comment on India's internal matters, as much as they expect the same of others."

New Delhi has so far refrained from commenting on last year's protests in Hong Kong, or allegations of human rights violations in China's Xinjiang province. New Delhi also seems to be sensitive to China's concerns over Taiwan and Tibet, though the Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, lives in exile in India.

Likewise, on Arunachal Pradesh, which China claims as "Southern Tibet", Srivastava said the region "is an integral and inalienable part of India".

"This fact has also been clearly conveyed to the Chinese side on several occasions, including at the highest level," he added.

China's comments disputing the sovereignty of Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh come as the military standoff along the border in Ladakh entered its sixth month. India had first noticed multiple intrusions by the People's Liberation Army in Ladakh in May. Since then, tensions have been at an unprecedented high with both sides suffering casualties for the first time in 45 years.

Srivastava said the talks earlier this week between military commanders of the two countries "were positive and constructive" and they "have a better understanding of each other's positions". "Disengagement is a complex process that requires redeployment of troops by each side towards their regular posts on their respective sides of the LAC (Line of Actual Control) border," he said, adding that "the two sides will maintain the current momentum of communications".

Speaking at an event organized by news agency *Bloomberg*, Jaishankar said discussions were on to break the stalemate, but declined to comment further on the matter.

Click here to read the [Mint ePaper](#) Mint is now on Telegram. Join [Mint channel](#) in your Telegram and stay updated with the latest [business news](#).

Log in to our website to save your bookmarks. It'll just take a moment.

Your session has expired, please login again.

You are now subscribed to our newsletters. In case you can't find any email from our side, please check the spam folder.

END

Downloaded from [crackIAS.com](#)

© Zuccess App by crackIAS.com

crackIAS