

# INDIA REJECTS CHINA'S 'UNILATERAL' CLAIMS ON LAC

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We, therefore, expect that the Chinese side will sincerely and faithfully abide by all agreements and understandings in their entirety and refrain from advancing an untenable unilateral interpretation of the LAC.”

The Chinese Foreign Ministry, to a question on India's border infrastructure projects in Ladakh, said it did not “recognise” Ladakh, reiterating its statements from last year that described the creation of the Union Territory as “illegal”.

“China has not recognised Ladakh Union Territory, illegally set up by the Indian side,” its spokesperson Wang Wenbin said.

“We are opposed to conducting infrastructure development for military purposes in the border area. Based on the two sides' consensus, no side should engage in the border areas in any activities that might complicate the situation, to avoid undermining two sides efforts to ease the situation.”

The statements came amid the continuing stalemate along the border with no agreement on disengagement and returning to a pre-May 2020 status quo.

Asked about China's own infrastructure projects in the border areas and the asymmetry that Beijing has enjoyed because of such developments, Mr. Wang said China “consistently and strictly abides by the agreements signed with the Indian side”.

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