

CHINA-PAKISTAN COOPERATION ALSO HIGHLIGHTED

China blasts US for report that 'sows discord' with India

KJM VARMA
Beijing, December 25

CHINA ON THURSDAY denounced a Pentagon report, which accused Beijing of leveraging reduced border tensions with India to undermine US-India ties while deepening defence ties with Pakistan as an attempt to sow discord with false narratives.

"The Pentagon's report distorts China's defence policy, sows discord between China and other countries, and aims at finding a pretext for the US to maintain its military supremacy," Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Lin Jian told a media briefing in Beijing when asked about the US Department of War report submitted to the American Congress.

China firmly opposes the report, Lin said.

Separately, Chinese Defence Ministry spokesman Zhang Xiaogang denounced the Pentagon report, which also highlighted the cooperation between China and Pakistan in sectors such as defence and space, with plans to set up a military base.

The US releases such reports year after year, grossly interfering in China's internal affairs, Zhang told a media briefing.

The US report maliciously misinterpreted China's national defence policy, made unfounded speculations about China's military development, slandering and smearing the normal actions of the Chinese military, he said, declining to directly respond to a question on the report alleging China's expanding defence and cooperation with

Pakistan.

The report is full of erroneous understandings of China and geopolitical biases, exaggerating the so-called "Chinese military threat" to mislead the international community, Zhang said.

"We express our strong dissatisfaction and firm opposition to this," he said and urged the US to stop fabricating false narratives and provoking confrontation and antagonism.

In his response to the Pentagon report on India-China ties, Lin stated that Beijing views and handles its relations with New Delhi from a strategic height and a long-term perspective. "We stand ready to strengthen communication,

enhance mutual trust, promote cooperation, and properly handle differences with India, and advance a sound and stable bilateral relationship," he said.

On the references to the Line of Actual Control in the US report, Lin said, "the boundary question is a matter between China and India, and the current border situation between the two countries is generally stable with smooth communication channels". "China opposes relevant country's groundless and irresponsible comments," he said.

In its annual report to Congress on Tuesday on 'Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China 2025', the US Department of War said China probably seeks to capitalise from the deescalating tensions along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with India to stabilise bilateral relations and to prevent the deepening of US-India ties.

The report referred to a meeting between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in October 2024.

Two days before their meeting, the agreement was to disengage from the remaining standoff sites along the LAC.

The Xi-Modi meeting marked the onset of monthly high-level engagements between the two countries, where parties discussed border management and next steps for the bilateral relationship, including direct flights, visa facilitation, and the exchange of academics and journalists, it said.

—PTI

LIN JIAN,
SPOKESPERSON, CHINESE
FOREIGN MINISTRY

Beijing views and handles its relations with New Delhi from a strategic height and a long-term perspective



BJP is proud its govt tore down wall of Art 370: PM

MAULSHREE SETH
Lucknow, December 25

PAYING TRIBUTE TO the dreams and principles of the founding fathers of the Jan Sangh-BJP, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Thursday said "the BJP is proud that our government got the opportunity to tear down the wall of Article 370" in Jammu and Kashmir where "the Constitution of India is in full force" now.

Speaking in Lucknow where he inaugurated the Rashtra Prerna Sthal and its giant statues of Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee, Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay and Atal Bihari Vajpayee on the former Prime Minister's birth anniversary, Modi also took a swipe at the Congress and the Nehru-Gandhi family when he said that while these statues fill infuse new energy, one should not forget that after Independence, every good work in the country was linked to just one family.

Be it books, government schemes, institutions, roads and lanes, everything carried the name and glory of only one family, he said. The Congress and its allies, he said, treated the BJP as a political untouchable in the country but it was the BJP government's "sanskar" which made it give due national respect to all without prejudice, from Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar to P V Narasimha Rao, Pranab Mukherjee to Mulayam Singh Yadav.

He said the country remained hostage to one family. His government, he said, was giving respect to every "Amar Santan" who had served "Maa Bharti".

The Congress in Delhi and the SP in UP, he said, committed the sin of not giving due respect to Babasaheb but the BJP ensured that his legacy lived, and even developed "panch teerth" of places linked to Ambedkar. From Subhas Chandra Bose to Val-



PM Narendra Modi at the inauguration of Rashtriya Prerna Sthal to honour the life and ideals of former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee on his 101st birth anniversary, in Lucknow on Thursday

labhbhai Patel, Birsa Munda to Maharaja Suheldev, Lord Ram to the Chauri Chaura martyrs, the BJP ensured they are remembered and respected, he said.

Noting that December 25 marks the birth anniversary of Vajpayee, Madan Mohan Malaviya and Maharaja Bijli Pasi, Modi hailed their contributions. He said Bijli Pasi left behind a legacy of valour, good governance and inclusiveness which the Pasi community has carried forward with pride. He recalled it was Vajpayee who, in 2000, issued a postage stamp in honour of Maharaja Bijli Pasi.

The Rashtra Prerna Sthal, he said, is a symbol of the thought that has shown the country the path of self-respect, unity and service.

Dr Mookerjee, he said, gave new direction to the people and helped end the system of two Constitutions in the country — this was a reference to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

"BJP ko garv hai ki humari sarkar ko Article 370 ki deewar girane ka avsar mila. Aaj

Bharat ka samvidhan, Jammu Kashmir mein bhi poori tarah laagu hai (The BJP is proud that our government got the opportunity to tear down the wall of Article 370. Today, the Constitution of India is in full force in J&K)," he said.

He invoked Deen Dayal Upadhyay's concept of Antyodaya to underline that this dream was also his resolve — of ensuring Antyodaya gets a new dimension of saturation, where every needy person and every beneficiary is brought under the ambit of government welfare schemes.

He said India is among the biggest consumers of mobile and internet services, and the credit for the telecom revolution should go to Vajpayee. Uttar Pradesh, he said, is the number one manufacturing state for mobiles.

Recalling the performance of the BrahMos during Operation Sindoor, Modi said the missile is now being manufactured in Lucknow and the world will soon recognise UP's defence corridor for its manufacturing capacity.



Union Home Minister Amit Shah inspects the cattle-based natural farming and related facilities during his visit to Basaman Mama Govansh Vanvihar, in Rewa on Thursday. Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav also present.

Use of chemical fertilisers root cause of many diseases: Shah

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Rewa, December 25

UNION HOME MINISTER Amit Shah on Thursday termed chemical fertilisers as the root cause of many diseases and made a strong pitch for natural farming, saying it not only increases farmers' income by at least one-and-half times but also saves water and promotes public health.

Addressing a Farmers' Conference held here, Shah said the government was developing a "complete system" — from soil and laboratory testing, certification to packaging — to ensure agricultural produce of the country's farmers reaches global level in a better way as there is a huge market for natural farming in the world.

Shah said, "In the coming time, more than 400 laboratories across the country will provide certificates to farmers, due to which the income of farmers will increase by almost one-and-half times."

"Chemical fertilisers are the root cause of many diseases today. Natural farming is an approach that doesn't reduce farmers' income, but instead

makes their produce pure," he asserted.

Natural farming is a traditional practice that people have forgotten over the time, he said while pointing out that dung and urine of a single indigenous cow can help cultivate 2.1 acres of land.

Shah said approximately 4 million farmers in the country have adopted natural farming and he has personally practised it on his farms.

This has increased production, not decreased it, he said.

"There is a huge market for natural farming in the world. To ensure the produce of the country's farmers reaches the global market in a better way, a complete system is being developed - from soil testing to certification, laboratory testing of the produce and packaging," Shah added.

According to him, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has established two big cooperative institutions through the Ministry of Cooperation, which are doing the work of certification of natural farming produce, its testing in world-class and modern labs, packaging, marketing and export.

Karnataka deputy CM meets Kharge

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Bengaluru, December 25

KARNATAKA DEPUTY CHIEF Minister DK Shivakumar on Thursday met Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge at his residence here, leading to speculations linking it to the ongoing power tussle in the state for the CM post.

However, speaking to reporters after the meeting, Shivakumar said he did not discuss anything political and has only shared his thoughts with the Congress president, as a state unit chief, regarding the law enacted by the centre replacing the MGNREGA, ahead of the Congress Working Committee meeting on December 27.

He said he has not discussed any other issue with Kharge. "There is no need to do it, I will not do it, there is no such thing for now. Siddaramaiah and I have said that we will work abiding by the high command's decision, and we are committed to it"



Karnataka Deputy CM DK Shivakumar (right) meets AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge at his residence, in Bengaluru.

Responding to a question on his statement that he will remain a party worker, Shivakumar said, what he meant was being a lifetime member of the party and serving the organisation, irrespective of the post or the position he holds.

"I'm a lifetime worker of the party. Whatever the post maybe, I'm a worker of the party. I have tied the party flag, both as a party worker and President. I have

pasted party posters, and I have done the sweeping work. I have done all things for the Congress party. I have not come just to sit and make speeches on the stage. I have done all the work for the party," he said.

When asked as to when he will get a reward for his hard work, he said, "I won't answer to such things." The power tussle within the ruling party has intensified amid speculations

about a change in chief minister in the state, after the Congress government reached the halfway mark of its five-year term on November 20.

The meeting with the AICC chief has gained significance as Kharge on Sunday had said that the confusion over the leadership issue in the party's Karnataka unit exists only at the local level and not in the party's high command.

Kharge had also said that the local leaders should take ownership of the internal disputes rather than blaming the high command. Asked about Kharge's statement, Shivakumar said, "As a senior leader, he has given his guidance." Kharge's statement had come at a time when it was widely expected in the Congress and the political circles that the party high command would call both Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar to Delhi, to put an end to the leadership issue in the state, after the legislature session concluded on December 19.

Drones to deliver medicines in tribal hospitals of Andhra

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Amaravati, December 25

THE ANDHRA PRADESH Health and Medical Department on Thursday entered into an agreement with a private organisation to supply medicines and blood units to hospitals in remote tribal areas through drones.

The Paderu mandal in Alluri Sitharama Raju district will be the central hub of this initiative aimed at strengthening emergency medical services in far-flung tribal regions of the district and ensuring timely access to essential medicines and blood supplies.

"We have signed an agreement with the 'Red Wing' organisation to operate drone-

based medical supply services, with Paderu serving as the hub," Health and Medical Department Commissioner G Veerapandian said in an official press release.

He further said that the drone services will cater to Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres within a radius of 60 to 80 kilometres, with drones equipped with cold chain facilities and a payload capacity of about two kilograms.

In addition to transporting medicines and vaccines, the drones will also carry blood, stool and urine samples from health centres to laboratories for testing. According to Veerapandian, the drone services are expected to commence from January.

SALE NOTICE
(Under the provisions of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 / Regulations there under)
For e-Auction of Assets of HEMADRI CEMENTS LIMITED
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
(CIN: L26942AP1981PLC002995)

Liquidator of Hemadri Cements Limited (In Voluntary Liquidation) ("The Corporate Person") hereby invites eligible bidder(s) for participation in e-Auction Sale of Assets of the Corporate Person listed hereon, on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS", "WHAT EVER THERE IS" and "NO RECOURSE" basis as per the e Auction schedule and as per the detailed terms, conditions and process as described in the Process Memorandum, which can be downloaded from <https://ibbi.baanknet.com/eauction-ibbi/home> or can be obtained by sending an email to vlphemadricements@gmail.com

Sl. No	Details and Description of Assets of the Corporate Debtor	Reserve Price (Rs. in Crores)	EMD (Rs. in Crores)	Minimum Bid Increase Size	Bid Timing
1	Land at Vedadri Village, NTR District, Andhra Pradesh aggregating to 138.35 acres along with factory buildings, staff quarters, mango garden, Plant & Machinery of Cement Manufacturing Unit having capacity of 800 MT/day	42.67	4.27	Rs. 10 lacs	02:30 P.M
2	Last date for submission of Bid Application Form, EMD and Site Inspection	Tuesday, 20.01.2026			
3	Date & Time of Auction	Friday, 23.01.2026 02:30 pm onwards			

Notes:
1. Interested bidders are advised to refer to the Process Memorandum containing information on the assets listed above and the detailed terms and conditions of the online e-Auction process, eligibility criteria, etc., uploaded on the website through which the e-auction will be conducted i.e., <https://ibbi.baanknet.com/eauction-ibbi/home>
2. In terms of Section 35(1)(f) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016 ("Code"), the interested bidder shall not be eligible to submit a bid if it fails to meet the eligibility criteria as set out in Section 29A of the Code and the Process Memorandum.
3. The bidders shall submit an undertaking that they do not suffer from any ineligibility under Section 29A of the Code. The EMD deposited shall be forfeited, if the bidder is found to be ineligible at any stage.
4. The Liquidator shall have the right to reject any bid in consultation with the Corporate Person.

S. Rajendran Liquidator
IBBI Regn No. IBBI/PA-002/IP-N00098/2017-18/10241
Authorisation for Assignment Validity: 31.12.2026
Email ID: vlphemadricements@gmail.com
Mr. Raghu K (Liquidator's Office): 91-9840906523

Date: 26.12.2025
Place: Chennai

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