

Text of Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh's Statement in Lok Sabha on September 15 Regarding Situation on Eastern Border in Ladakh

印度国防部长辛格在9月15日在下议院关于东部边境局势的演讲全文

**September 15, 2020**

**2020年9月15日**

"Hon'ble Speaker,

尊敬的议长，

1. I rise today to brief this august House about the development on our eastern borders in Ladakh. You are aware that our Hon'ble **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji** had visited Ladakh and met our brave soldiers to convey the message of solidarity of the Nation behind their every action. I too have spent some time with our soldiers in Ladakh and I want to tell you that I have felt their indomitable courage, gallant and valor. As you are aware that **Col Santosh Babu**, along with his 19 brave soldiers, made the supreme sacrifice in the cause of defending the territorial integrity of India. Hon'ble Speaker, this House has paid homage to them by observing two minutes silence yesterday.

1. 我今天起立向庄严的议院简要介绍我们在拉达克东部边界的发展情况。如您所知，尊敬的总理纳伦德拉·莫迪先生访问了拉达克，会见了我们英勇的士兵，向他们传达了每一次行动背后都有整个国家团结在他们身后的信息。我个人也在拉达克与我们的士兵们共度了一段时间，我想告诉你们，我感受到了他

们不屈不挠的勇气、胆识和气魄。如你所知，桑托什·巴布上校和他的19名勇敢的士兵在捍卫印度领土完整的事业中牺牲了性命。尊敬的议长，昨天整个议院默哀两分钟，向他们致敬。

2. I would like to take some time first to briefly provide some details of our boundary issue with China. As the House is aware, India and China are yet to resolve their boundary question. China does not accept the customary and traditional alignment of the boundary between India and China. We believe that this alignment is based on well-established geographical principles confirmed by treaties and agreements, as well as historical usage and practice, well-known for centuries to both sides. The Chinese position, however, is that the boundary between the two countries has not been formally delimited, that there exists a traditional customary line formed by the extent of jurisdiction that they claim was exercised historically by each side, and that the two sides have different interpretations of the position of the traditional customary line. The two countries had engaged in discussions during 1950s-60s but these efforts could not yield a mutually acceptable solution.

2. 我想首先花点时间简要介绍一下我们与中国边界问题的一些细节。正如议院所知，印度和中国尚未解决边界问题。中国不接受中印之间习惯上的和传统的边界走向。我们认为，这种走向是以条约和协定所确认的既定地理原则，以及历史惯例为基础的，这是双方几百年来所熟知的。但是，中国的立场是，两国之间的边界尚未正式划定，存在着一条由双方历史上（根据中方的说法）各自行使的管辖范围所形成的传统习惯线，双方对传统习惯线的位置有不同的解读。两国在20世纪50-60年代曾进行过讨论，但这些努力无法产生双方都能接受的解决办法。

3. As the House is aware, China continues to be in illegal occupation of approximately 38,000 sq. kms in the Union Territory of Ladakh. In addition, under the so-called Sino-Pakistan 'Boundary Agreement' of 1963, Pakistan illegally ceded 5,180 sq. km. of Indian territory in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir to China. China also claims approximately 90,000 sq. kms. of Indian territory in the Eastern Sector of the India-China boundary in Arunachal Pradesh.

3. 正如议院所知，中国继续非法占领拉达克中央直辖区约38000平方公里的领土。此外，根据1963年所谓的“中巴边界协议”，巴基斯坦非法把巴控克什米尔5180平方公里的印度领土割让给中国。中国也对位于阿鲁纳恰尔邦中印边界东段约9万平方公里的印度领土提出了声称。

4. Both India and China have formally agreed that the boundary question is a complex issue which requires patience and have committed to seeking a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution through dialogue and peaceful negotiations. In the interim, the two sides also agree that maintenance of peace and tranquility in the border areas is an essential basis for the further development of bilateral relations.

4. 印度和中国都正式同意边界问题是一个复杂的问题，需要耐心，并致力于通过对话与和平谈判寻求一个公平、合理和双方都能接受的解决办法。在此期间，双方还一致认为，维护边境地区的和平与安宁是两国关系进一步发展的根本基础。

5. I would like to mention here that as yet there is no commonly delineated Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the border areas between India and China and there is no

common perception of the entire LAC. Therefore, in order to ensure peace and tranquility in the border areas, especially along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), the two countries have concluded a number of agreements and protocols.

5. 我想在此提及的是，在印度和中国的边境地区，目前还没有共同划定的实际控制线（LAC），对实际控制线的全部双方也没有共同的认知。因此，为了确保边境地区的和平与安宁，特别是实际控制线（LAC）沿线地区的和平与安宁，两国缔结了多项协定和议定书。

6. Under these agreements, the two sides have agreed to maintain peace and tranquility along the LAC without prejudice to their respective positions on the alignment of the LAC as well as on the boundary question. It is on this basis, that our overall relations also saw considerable progress since 1988. India's position is that while bilateral relations can continue to develop in parallel with discussions on resolving the boundary question, any serious disturbance in peace and tranquility along the LAC in the border areas is bound to have implications for the positive direction of our ties.

6. 根据这些协议，双方同意在不损害各自在实际控制线（LAC）和边界问题立场的情况下，维护实际控制线（LAC）的和平与安宁。正是在这个基础上，我们的总体关系自1988年以来也有了相当大的进展。印度的立场是，虽然双边关系可以在讨论解决边界问题的同时继续发展，但任何在边界地区发生的严重影响和平与安宁的动乱，必然会对我们两国关系的积极发展产生影响。

7. A key element of both the 1993 and the 1996 Agreements is that the two sides will keep their military forces in the areas along the Line of Actual Control to a

minimum level. These agreements also mandate that pending an ultimate solution to the boundary question, the two sides shall strictly respect and observe the Line of Actual Control. Furthermore in these agreements, India and China also committed to clarification and confirmation of the Line of Actual Control to reach a common understanding of the alignment. Thus, in late 1990s and upto 2003, **the two sides engaged in an exercise to clarify and confirm the LAC**. But, thereafter the Chinese side did not show a willingness to pursue the LAC clarification exercise. As a result, there are some areas where the Chinese and Indian perceptions of LAC overlap. In these areas, as also with other sections of the border areas, the various agreements govern the manner in which troops of both sides should operate and deal with situations of face-offs to maintain peace and tranquility.

7. 1993年和1996年协定的一个关键内容是，双方将把在实际控制线沿线地区的军事力量保持在最低水平。这些协定还规定，在边界问题最终解决之前，双方应严格尊重和遵守实际控制线。此外在这些协议中，印度和中国还承诺澄清和确认实际控制线，以达成一致的划分意见。因此，在90年代末到2003年，双方做出了澄清和确认实际控制线（LAC）的努力。但是，此后，中国方面没有表现出继续进行澄清实际控制线（LAC）努力的意愿。因此，中国和印度对实际控制线（LAC）的认知有所重叠。在这些地区，同边界地区的其他部分一样，各种协定规定了双方部队的行动和应对峙局势的方式，以维持和平与安宁。

8. Before I apprise the House of the current developments, let me inform that the Government has an elaborate and time tested coordination mechanism amongst different intelligence agencies including intelligence units of the Central Police Forces and the three armed forces. The technical and human intelligence is continuously

gathered in a well coordinated manner. It is shared with the armed forces which help them in taking decisions.

8. 在我向议院通报目前的事态发展之前，请允许我通报，印度政府拥有包括中央警察部队和三军情报单位在内的不同情报机构之间经过时间考验的精心协调机制。我们一直以协调一致的方式不断收集技术情报和人员情报并且与军队共享，帮助他们决策。

9. Let me now apprise the House of the developments this year. Since April, we had noticed a buildup of troops and armaments by the Chinese side in the border areas adjacent to Eastern Ladakh. In early May, the Chinese side had taken action to hinder the normal, traditional patrolling pattern of our troops in the Galwan Valley area, which resulted in a face-off. Even as this situation was being addressed by the Ground Commanders as per the provisions of our bilateral agreements and protocol, in mid-May the Chinese side made several attempts to transgress the LAC in other parts of the Western Sector. This included **Kongka La, Gogra** and North Bank of Pangong Lake. These attempts were detected early and consequently responded to appropriately by our armed forces.

9. 现在让我向议院通报今年的事态发展。4月以来，我们注意到中国方面在拉达克东部边境地区集结军队和军备。5月初，中方采取行动，阻挠我军在加勒万河谷地区正常、传统的巡逻模式，结果导致双方对峙。就在现地指挥员按照双边协定和议定书的规定处理这一情况时，5月中旬，中国方面多次试图在西区的其他地段越过实际控制线（LAC）。其中包括孔卡拉、戈格拉和班公湖北岸。这些企图很早就被发现，因此我军作出了适当的反应。

10. We made it clear to the Chinese side both through diplomatic and military channels that China was, by such actions, attempting to unilaterally alter the status quo. It was categorically conveyed that this was unacceptable.

10. 我们通过外交和军事渠道向中方表明，中方企图通过该行动单方面改变现状。我们明确表示，这是不能接受的。

11. Given the growing friction along the LAC, the Senior Commanders of the two sides in a meeting on June 6 2020 agreed on a process of disengagement that involved reciprocal actions. Both sides also agreed to respect and abide by the LAC and not undertake any activity to alter the status quo. However in violation of this the Chinese side created a violent face off on June 15th at Galwan. Our brave soldiers laid down their lives and also inflicted costs including casualties on the Chinese side,

11. 鉴于在实际控制线（LAC）的摩擦日益加剧，双方高级指挥官在2020年6月6日的一次会议上商定了要求双方采取相应措施的脱离接触进程。双方还同意尊重实际控制线（LAC），不采取任何改变现状的行动。然而，中国方面于6月15日在加勒万制造了一场暴力对峙，违反了这一点。我们英勇的战士牺牲了生命，也给中方造成了包括伤亡在内的代价。

12. The conduct of our armed forces throughout these incidents shows that while they maintained "**Sayyam**" in the face of provocative actions, they also equally displayed "**Shaurya**" when required to protect the territorial integrity of India. I would like the House to join me in recognizing the courage and valour of our soldiers, who undergo immense hardship in the most difficult conditions to keep us all safe and secure.

12. 我国军队在这些事件中的行为表明，在面对挑衅行动时，他们仍然坚持克制，但在需要保护印度领土完整时，他们也同样表现出勇气。我希望议院与我一道，认可我国士兵的勇气和胆识，他们在最困难的条件下经受了巨大的困难以保证我们所有人的安全。

13. While no one should doubt our determination to safeguard our borders, India believes that mutual respect and mutual sensitivity are the basis for peaceful relations with neighbours. As we want to resolve the current situation through dialogue, we have maintained diplomatic and military engagement with the Chinese side. In these discussions, we have maintained the three key principles that, determine our approach: (i) both sides should strictly respect and observe the LAC; (ii) neither side should attempt to alter the status quo unilaterally; and (iii) all agreements and understandings between the two sides must be fully abided by in their entirety. The Chinese side, on its part, took the position that the situation should be handled in a responsible manner and ensure peace and tranquility as per bilateral agreements and protocol.

13. 尽管没有人会怀疑我们捍卫边界的决心，但印度认为，相互尊重和相互敏感是与邻国建立和平关系的基础。由于我们希望通过对话解决当前局势，我们一直与中方保持外交和军事接触。在这些讨论中，我们坚持了决定我们方针的三个关键原则：（一）双方都应严格尊重和遵守实际控制线（LAC）；（二）任何一方都不应试图单方面改变现状；（三）双方之间的所有协议和理解都必须完全遵守。中方认为，应根据双边协议和议定书，以负责任的方式处理局势，确保和平与安宁。

14. Even as these discussions were going on, the Chinese side again engaged in provocative military manoeuvres on the night of 29th and 30th August in an attempt to change the status quo in the South Bank area of Pangong Lake. But yet again, timely and firm actions by our armed forces along the LAC prevented such attempts from succeeding.

14. 就在这些讨论进行的同时，中方于8月29日晚和30日再次进行了挑衅性的军事行动，试图改变班公湖南岸地区的现状。但又一次，我们位于实际控制线（LAC）的部队采取了及时和坚定的行动，挫败了该企图。

15. As is clear from these events, the Chinese actions reflect a disregard of our various bilateral agreements. The amassing of the troops by China goes against the 1993 and 1996 Agreements. Respecting and strictly observing the Line of Actual Control is the basis for peace and tranquility in the border areas and explicitly recognized in both 1993 and 1996 agreements. While our armed forces abide scrupulously by it, this has not been reciprocated by the Chinese side. Their actions have led to face-offs and frictions from time to time along the LAC. As I mentioned earlier, the agreements have detailed procedures and norms to deal with the situation of face-offs. However, in the recent incidents, this year, the violent conduct of Chinese forces has been in complete violation of all mutually agreed norms.

15. 从这些事件中可以清楚地看到，中国的行动反映了对我们各种双边协议的漠视。中国集结军队违反了1993年和1996年的协议。尊重和严格遵守实际控制线是边境地区和平与安宁的基础，并在1993年和1996年的协定中得到明确承认。我军虽然恪守，但中方并没有同样这样做。他们的行为导致实际控制线地区（LAC）不时发生对峙和摩擦。正如我早些时候提到的，这些协议有详细的

程序和规范来处理对峙的情况。然而，在最近发生的事件中，今年中国军队的暴力行为完全违反了双方商定的所有准则。

16. As of now, the Chinese side has mobilized a large number of troops and armaments along the LAC as well as in the depth areas. There are several friction areas in Eastern Ladakh including Gogra, Kongka La and North and South Banks of the Pangong Lake. In response to China's actions, our armed forces have also made appropriate counter deployments in these areas to ensure that India's security interests are fully protected. The House should have full confidence that our armed forces will always rise to the challenge and do us all proud. This is still an ongoing situation and obviously involves sensitive operational issues. I would, therefore, not be able to give more details in public and I am confident about the understanding of the House in this regard.

16. 截至目前，中方已在实际控制线（LAC）地区调集了大批兵力和军备。拉达克东部有几个摩擦区，包括戈格拉、孔卡拉和班公湖南北岸。针对中方的行动，我军也在这些地区进行了适当的反部署，以确保印度的安全利益得到充分保护。议院应该充分相信，我们的武装部队将永远迎难而上，让我们为之骄傲。局势仍然在不断发展中，显然涉及敏感的操作性问题。因此，我不能在公开场合透露更多细节，我相信议院在这方面会予以理解。

17. This rapid deployment by our armed forces including ITBP has taken place in a challenging time of COVID-19. Their efforts need to be appreciated. It has also been made possible by the high importance that the Government has placed for developing border infrastructure in the last few years. The House is aware that over the last many decades, China had undertaken significant infrastructure construction

activity that enhanced their deployment capabilities in the border areas. However, in response, our Government too has stepped up the budget for border infrastructure development to about double the previous levels. As a result, more roads and bridges have been completed in the border areas. This has not only provided much needed connectivity to the local population, but has also provided better logistical support for our armed forces, enabling them to be more alert in the border areas and respond more effectively where required. In the coming years too, the Government remains committed to this objective.

17. 包括ITBP在内的我国部队的快速部署，是在新冠肺炎疫情充满挑战性的时期进行的。他们所做的努力值得赞赏。在过去几年里，政府高度重视发展边境基础设施才使快速部署成为可能。议院也知道，在过去的几十年里，中国进行了大量的基础设施建设活动，增强了他们在边境地区的部署能力。然而，作为回应，我国政府也必将边境基础设施发展的预算增加到以前的两倍左右。因此，边境地区修建了更多的道路和桥梁。这不仅为当地居民提供了急需的便利性，而且为我国军队提供了更好的后勤支持，使他们能够在边境地区更加警觉，并在需要时作出更有效的反应。今后几年，政府也将继续致力于实现这一目标。

Hon'ble Speaker,

尊敬的议长，

18. I would like to emphasize, that India remains committed to resolving the current issues in our border areas through peaceful dialogue and consultations. It was in pursuit of this objective that I met **my Chinese counterpart** on 4th September in Moscow and had an in-depth discussion with him. I conveyed in clear terms our

concerns related to the actions of the Chinese side, including amassing of large number of troops, their aggressive behavior and attempts to unilaterally alter the status quo that were in violation of the bilateral agreements. I also made it clear that even as we wanted to peacefully resolve the issue and would like the Chinese side to work with us, there should also be no doubt about our determination to protect India's sovereignty and territorial integrity. My colleague, **Shri Jaishankar**, the External Affairs Minister, has thereafter met the Chinese Foreign Minister in Moscow on 10th September. The two have reached an agreement that, if implemented sincerely and faithfully by the Chinese side, could lead to complete disengagement and restoration of peace and tranquility in the border areas.

18. 我要强调的是，印度仍然致力于通过和平对话和协商解决我们边界地区目前的问题。正是为了实现这一目标，我于9月4日在莫斯科会见了中国国防部长，并与他进行了深入的讨论。我清楚地表达了我们对中国方面的关切，包括集结大批军队、过激行为以及违反双边协定单方面改变现状的企图。我还明确表示，即使我们希望和平解决问题，希望中方与我们合作，我们也会毫无疑问地保护印度主权和领土完整。我的同事、外交部长苏杰生随后于9月10日在莫斯科会见了中国外交部长。双方达成了一项协议，如果中方真诚、忠实地执行，将使边界地区完全脱离接触，恢复和平与安宁。

19. As the Members are aware, in the past too we have had situations of prolonged stand-offs in our border areas with China which have been resolved peacefully. Even though the situation this year is very different both in terms of scale of troops involved and the number of friction points, we do remain committed to the peaceful resolution of the current situation. At the same time, the House can be assured that we remain prepared to deal with all contingencies.

19. 正如各位议员所知，我们过去在同中国的边境地区也有持久对峙的情况，这些局势是和平解决的。尽管今年的局势无论是从军队规模还是摩擦点的数量上都大不相同，但我们仍然致力于和平解决当前的情况。与此同时，议院可以放心，我们随时准备应付一切突发事件。

20. Hon'ble Speaker this House has had a glorious tradition that whenever the country is faced with a challenge, this House has always exhibited its strength and unity towards the resolve and determination of our Armed Forces. This House has also reposed its full confidence in the indomitable spirit, gallantry and bravery of our Armed Forces deployed on our borders.

20. 尊敬的议长，本议院有一个光荣的传统，即每当国家面临挑战时，议院总是展示出力量和团结来支持军队的决心。议院也对部署在边境地区的军队所展示出的勇敢和豪迈精神充满信心。

21. I can assure you that the morale and motivation of our Armed Forces is very high. The reassuring visit by our PM has ensured that our commanders and soldiers understand that the entire nation stands behind them in support of the just cause of defending our territorial integrity. They are accordingly being provisioned with suitable clothing, habitat and the required defence wherewithal. The determination of our troops is praise worthy. They are capable of serving at forbidding altitudes with scarce oxygen and in extremely cold temperatures, something that they have effortlessly done over the last many years on **Siachen, and Kargil**.

21. 我可以向你保证，我们军队的士气和积极性是非常高的。我们总理令人安心的访问确保了我们的指挥官和士兵明白，整个国家都站在他们身后支持他们

捍卫我们领土完整的正义事业。因此，正在为他们提供适当的衣服、住所和必要的设备。我们部队的决心值得赞扬。在缺氧和极冷的温度下，他们在令人望而生畏的海拔服役。过去多年，他们在西亚琛和卡尔吉尔毫不费力地一直这样做。

22. I will not hesitate to share with this august House that we are facing a challenge in Ladakh and I urge the House to pass a resolution in support of our Armed Forces who have been defending our motherland at great heights and most inclement weather conditions in Ladakh for our safety and security. This is a time when this august House has to come together and reiterate confidence and faith in the valour of the brave armed forces and support them in the mission that they have undertaken to protect the territorial integrity of our motherland.

22. 我将毫不犹豫地向这个庄严的议院通报，我们在拉达克正面临着一个挑战，我敦促议院通过一项决议，支持我们的军人，他们一直在非常高的海拔和最恶劣的天气条件下在拉达克保卫我们的安全。此时此刻，这个庄严的议会必须走到一起，重申对勇敢的军队的信念和信心，并支持他们承担起保护我们祖国领土完整的使命。

Jai Hind.”

印度必胜

New Delhi

September 15, 2020

新德里

2020年9月15日