

Friday, Apr 28, 2023

EPAPER TODAY'S PAPER

The Indian EXPRESS

JOURNALISM OF COURAGE

TRENDING News / India / Karnataka Play Premium IPL Health Express Express
Violation of pacts eroded basis of bilateral ties: Rajnath to China

Violation of pacts eroded basis of bilateral ties: Rajnath to China

The Chinese defence minister is in New Delhi to participate in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defence Ministers' meeting on Friday

Written by [Amrita Nayak Dutta](#)

New Delhi | Updated: April 28, 2023 11:21 IST



The talks between Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and his Chinese counterpart Li Shangfu in

Listen to this article

00:00 1x 1.5x 1.8x

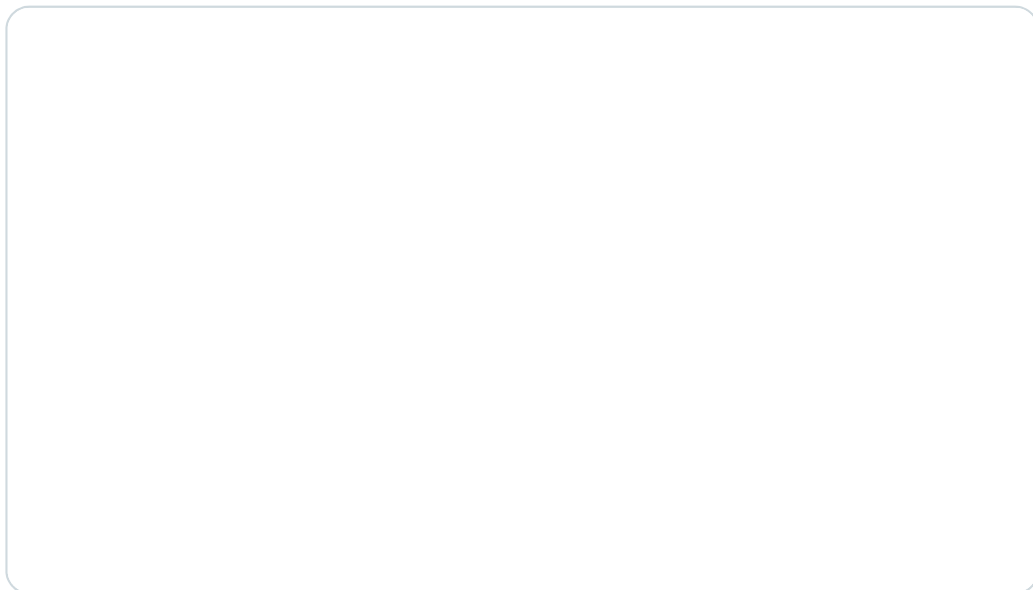
In a strongly-worded public articulation of the **state of Sino-Indian bilateral ties**, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh told General Li Shangfu, the visiting Chinese State Councillor and Minister of National Defence, Thursday that Beijing's "violation of existing agreements has eroded the entire basis of bilateral relations".

Referring to the nearly three-year military standoff along the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh, Singh said "all issues at the LAC need to be resolved in accordance with existing bilateral agreements and commitments" and "disengagement at the border will logically be followed with de-escalation".

@rajnathsingh · Follow

Held discussions with China’s Defence Minister, General Li Shangfu in New Delhi.

pib.gov.in/PressReleasePa...



7:38 PM · Apr 27, 2023



1.6K



Reply



Share

[Read 69 replies](#)

The sharply-worded public statement that “the entire basis of bilateral relations” has been “eroded” is not common during bilateral meetings between Defence Ministers of the two countries.

RECOMMENDED FOR YOU

1 [India logs 7,533 new Covid-19 cases, 44 deaths](#)

2 [‘Will work to strengthen cultural, civilisational links’: Rajnath Singh chairs SCO Defence Ministers’ meeting](#)

3 [JD\(U\) leader Kailash Mahto shot dead in Bihar’s Katihar, probe underway](#)

The last time, when Singh met the then Chinese Defence Minister General Wei Fenghe in September 2020, he had said that actions of the Chinese troops, including

In a statement after the bilateral meeting in New Delhi Thursday, the Ministry of Defence said that the two ministers had “frank discussions about the developments in the India-China border areas as well as bilateral relations”.

It said Singh “categorically conveyed that development of relations between India and China is premised on prevalence of peace and tranquillity at the borders”.

Singh told Li that “all issues at the LAC need to be resolved in accordance with existing bilateral agreements and commitments,” the Ministry stated.

Rajnath Singh 

@rajnathsingh · [Follow](#)



Had fruitful discussions with the Defence Minister of Tajikistan, Colonel General Sherali Mirzo in New Delhi today.

6:23 PM · Apr 27, 2023



1.1K



Reply



Share

[Read 23 replies](#)

<https://platform.twitter.com/widgets.js>

de-escalation,” it said.

According to government sources privy to the conversation, Singh told Li that India wants to improve relations with China, but military cooperation between the two countries can progress only if peace and tranquillity are established at the boundary.

Singh, sources said, conveyed that after disengagement at the LAC, there should be movement towards de-escalation, and that he is hopeful of a positive response.

The bilateral meeting took place ahead of the gathering Friday of Defence Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).

This is General Li's first visit to India since he took charge. It is also the first time that a Chinese Defence Minister is visiting India after the military standoff began in May 2020. In September 2020, Singh met General Wei Fenghe in Moscow, on the sidelines of the SCO Defence Ministers' meeting, where he sought restoration of status quo ante at all friction points along the LAC.

On Thursday, Singh also held separate bilateral meetings with Brigadier General Mohammed Reza Gharaei Ashtiyani, Iran's Minister of Defence and Armed Forces Logistics; Colonel General Ruslan Zhaxylykov, Kazakhstan's Minister of Defence; and Colonel General Sherali Mirzo, Tajikistan's Minister of Defence.

On Friday, Singh will hold separate bilateral meetings with counterparts from other SCO countries.

ALSO READ



Dantewada attack: Initial assessment suggests Maoists



JD(U) leader Kailash Mahto shot dead in Bihar's



From photos with PM to posh address — FIR



Activism targets Adani, India's interests: CBI FIR against lawyer

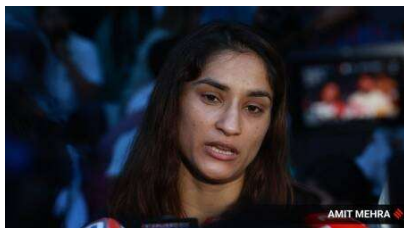
The SCO member-countries are India, Russia, China, the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Pakistan. Pakistan Defence Minister Khawaja Asif is likely to attend the meeting via virtual mode. Apart from the member-states, two observer countries, Belarus and Iran, will also participate in the meeting this time.

First published on: 27-04-2023 at 19:45 IST



TAGS: China Rajnath Singh

SUBSCRIBERS READING NOW



Vinesh Phogat asks why top cricketers, others silent: 'Are you all so afraid?'



Mobile internet suspended in Manipur districts after mob torches venue ahead of CM visit; Sec 144 in Churachandpur



JD(U) leader Kailash Mahto shot dead in Bihar's Katihar, probe underway



Actor Sooraj Pancholi acquitted in Jiah Khan suicide case due to 'paucity of evidence'



15th-Century monument razed: 5 Delhi Jal Board engineers issued notices



Protesting wrestlers tarnishing country's image: IOA chief PT Usha

MOST POPULAR