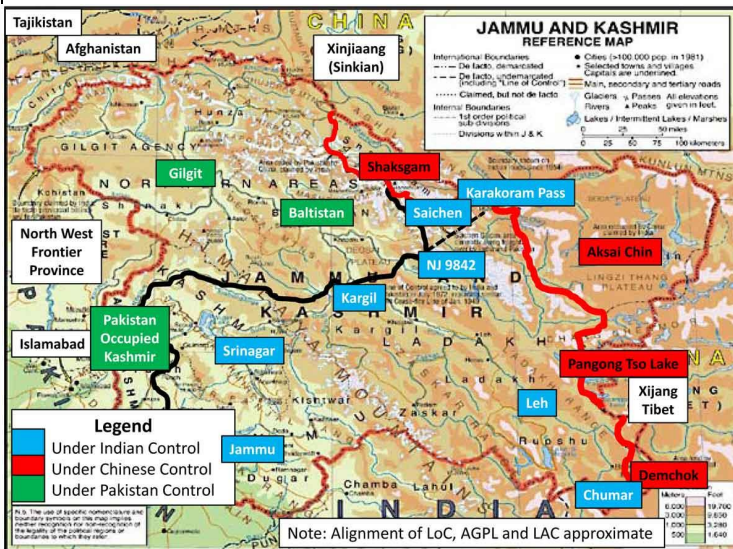


**CONTEXT:** Pakistan Foreign Minister's statement.

## About

### • Border Issues

- Kashmir
- Siachen
- Sir Creek
- Gilgit Baltistan



### • Other Issues

- Asymmetric Balancing
- Economic Ties
- All weather friendship with China



### • Trade

- Negative List
- Imports through Wagah border
- Trade Surplus
- Pause after August 2019

## Why Pakistan wants to resume trade?

- Change of government in Pakistan
- Economic crisis in Pakistan
- Approaching IMF and friendly countries for loan
- Direct trade will increase the efficiency
- Pakistan's relationships with Afghanistan and Iran

## Challenges to normalisation of trade

- Hardliners
- Role of Pakistani Army
- Pakistan's demand on Article 370
- Terrorism
- Air space use denial
- Land route for wheat to Afghanistan

## Suggestions

- Build a "security community" in SA
- Dialogue, CBMs like prisoner exchanges, sporting visas, religious pilgrimage
- Bajwa doctrine - peace, reconcile with neighbours, economic growth, trade, rebuild ties with US
- Backchannel diplomacy
- Soft power diplomacy



**CONTEXT:** Supreme Court set aside a Delhi lower court order, also confirmed by DHC, that directed news outlet Bloomberg to take down an article concerning Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd. for being allegedly defamatory.

## About

- **Freedom of Press in India**

- Article 19(1)(a) & Article 19(2)
- Laws and regulations
  - Official Secrets Act, 1923
  - Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867
- Self-regulation

- **Significance**

- Watchdog of Democracy
- Check govt overreach
- Rights of Journalists



- **Case Laws**

- Romesh Thapar v. State of Madras (1950)
  - Press role in informing public, promoting democratic values
- Brij Bhushan v. State of Delhi (1950)
  - Imminent danger to public safety
- Indian Express Newspapers v. Union of India (1985)
  - "The expression freedom of the press has not been used in Article 19 but it is comprehended within Article 19(1)(a)"
- Siddhartha Vashisht v State NCT of Delhi (2010)
  - Distinction between trial by media and informative media
- Manohar Lal Sharma v Union of India, (2021)
  - Link between the Right to Privacy and Freedom of Speech
- Vinod Dua v. Union of India & Others (2021)



**CONTEXT:** Home Minister's statement

## About

- Provisions
  - **Section 3** – Disturbed Area
  - **Section 4** – Power to an authorised officer
    - Arrest without a warrant
    - Seize and search
    - Use force or open fire
  - **Section 7** – Prior executive permission for prosecution



- **Supreme Court Observations**
  - **Inderjit Barua vs State of Assam**
    - Authority to designate – not arbitrary

- **Naga People's Movement of Human Rights v. Union of India**
  - Constitutional
  - Consult State government
    - Periodic review
    - Minimal force
    - 'Dos and Don'ts'
  - **Justice UU Lalit, Madan Lokur on PIL, 2016**
    - Enquiry in Encounter killings
    - No absolute immunity
- **Various Committees**
  - **Observations**
    - Justice Santosh Hegde Committee
      - Humane, Accountable, Time Frame
    - Jeevan Reddy Committee
      - Repeal
      - Deployment of Army
      - Grievance Cell
    - Justice Verma Committee
      - Impunity for sexual violence
    - Second ARC Report – New chapter to UAPA





## **CONTEXT:** China's claim on Taiwan

### **About**

#### **Background Story**

- Beijing's Territorial Claim
- Qing dynasty
- Cession to Japan and return to China
- Chinese civil war
- China: Taiwan as a renegade province
- Taiwan - democratic system, constitution, armed forces, seeks international recognition



#### **Chinese concerns**

- Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen
- Growing ties between Taiwan and the United States
- Taiwan's role in "first island chain"
- Semiconductor chips

### **Role of USA**

- Supported the nationalist government of Taiwan in 1949
- 1979 - Switched diplomatic recognition
- Taiwan Relations Act
- Policy of strategic ambiguity
- Military and diplomatic support- frequent naval and air patrols
- Democratic partner and a counterweight to China's influence in the Indo-Pacific

### **Indian interests**

- Trade: South China Sea dependence
- Common security concerns
- Democracy: common values of freedom, human rights, rule of law
- Technology: Digital transformation, startup ecosystem
- Culture: tourism, education, and people-to-people contacts.

### **Suggestions**

- Diplomatic relationship - since 1995
- International law arguments
- Building narratives opposed to aggression
- Coordinated diplomatic messaging
- Economic de-risking
- Military support to the U.S. forces in the Indian Ocean



**CONTEXT:** Energy efficiency in residential buildings

## About

- Construction boom
- 33% of India's electricity usage
- India Cooling Action Plan forecast
- Energy efficiency in residential buildings
- Eco-Niwas Samhita - Residential Envelope Transmittance Value
- Residential Energy Conservation Building Code



## • Materials

- Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (AAC) blocks, red bricks, fly ash, and monolithic concrete (Mivan)
- AAC blocks - lowest RETV across all climatic conditions - lower embodied energy
- But Monolithic concrete construction favoured

