

# CHINESE | PULSE



India's  
Defiant  
Stand



Modernizing  
Through  
Fearful Loyalty



Eco Friendly  
Destruction



PLA Intent  
behind Border  
Development



China  
Brutality



Tibetan  
Suppression



# FROM THE EDITOR IN CHIEF

“In Beijing’s Halls of Power, Trust Is the Currency  
And China’s Balance Sheet Is Under Scrutiny.”



**Rahul Mahajan**

As Beijing welcomed back-to-back visits from U.S. President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin in May 2026, the city’s ceremonial grandeur masked a delicate balancing act. Red carpets, military honors and state banquets projected China’s rising global stature. But behind closed doors, Beijing’s strategy was clear: carefully juggle rival powers while protecting national interests. The optics may impress, but the substance reveals a trust deficit Beijing must navigate.

During President Trump’s visit, China pursued stability in U.S.–China relations, offering gestures of goodwill, economic discussions and business engagements. Yet, long-standing flashpoints like Taiwan and Beijing’s policies in Tibet and Xinjiang, remained unresolved. China’s approach was pragmatic: seek economic partnership without compromising on core political or ideological positions, signaling that trust with Washington is conditional and carefully calibrated.

Putin’s visit, in contrast, highlighted a more assertive, strategic partnership with Russia, marked by over 40 bilateral agreements in trade, technology and media. Yet cracks remain: critical projects such as the Power of Siberia 2 energy pipeline are still pending, revealing that even close allies cannot fully rely on Beijing. Through selective cooperation, China maintains leverage and flexibility, ensuring that no partnership erodes its autonomy.

Across both diplomatic engagements, China’s handling of Tibet, Xinjiang and human rights scrutiny continues to strain international credibility. In a world of “great-power diplomacy,” trust is no longer a given—it is a strategic asset that Beijing wields carefully, balancing symbolism with realpolitik. For observers, these visits are not just meetings of state; they are a window into how China manages global perception, projects influence and navigates the precarious currency of trust.

*Rahul Mahajan*

**Rahul Mahajan**

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# CHINA UPDATE

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MAY 2026

● [www.chinascop.org](http://www.chinascop.org) ●

Chinese Pulse

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## China Blocks Taiwan From WHO Assembly

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Beijing confirmed Taiwan will not be allowed to attend the annual World Health Organization assembly, reinforcing its strict “One China” policy and continuing diplomatic pressure on Taipei. Taiwan plans independent side events instead.



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## China's Belt and Road Initiative Expands Strategically

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China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is evolving to prioritize smaller, sustainable projects that align with international technical standards. This shift aims to strengthen long-term partnerships and enhance global influence. By focusing on sustainability, China seeks to ensure economic growth and resilience in its global infrastructure investments.



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# CHINA UPDATE

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MAY 2026

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Chinese Pulse

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## China Voices Strong Opposition to U.S. Sanctions



China strongly condemned recent U.S. sanctions on Chinese companies over alleged support for Iran, labeling them illegal and unilateral. Beijing vowed to protect the rights of Chinese firms amid rising diplomatic tensions.

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## Bangladesh Signals Balanced Foreign Policy

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Bangladesh's foreign affairs adviser stated Dhaka will not be a "football" between regional powers India and China, aiming instead for balanced relationships and cooperation – highlighting how smaller nations navigate China's regional influence



# CHINA UPDATE

MAY 2026

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Chinese Pulse

## Diplomatic Balance in Taiwan Issue

Paraguay's president reaffirmed the country's strong diplomatic ties with Taiwan, despite significant pressure from China to sever relations. This move highlights ongoing cross-strait tensions, as Beijing continues to oppose any international recognition of Taiwan as a sovereign state. Paraguay's stance underscores the delicate balance many countries face in navigating their relations with both China and Taiwan.



## U.S. issues new sanctions over Iran's oil shipments to China

The U.S. government on May 11, 2026 announced sanctions against three individuals and nine companies including firms based in Hong Kong, the UAE and Oman for helping Iran ship oil to China. The move targets networks linked to Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and is intended to curb Tehran's funding for its nuclear program and proxy groups



# CHINA UPDATE

MAY 2026

www.chinascop.org

Chinese Pulse

## China's assault on the Tibetan language

A new report highlights China's tightening language policies in Tibet, mandating Mandarin in schools and reducing Tibetan language use. Critics say these measures marginalize Tibetan identity, eroding cultural autonomy and heritage.



## China approves 6G trials, accelerating next-generation telecom development



China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology has approved the use of 6GHz trial spectrum for 6G technology, allowing field tests to begin and boosting research, standardization and industrial development of future mobile networks.

# CHINA UPDATE

MAY 2026

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Chinese Pulse

## California Mayor Resigns Over China Agent Charges

Eileen Wang, mayor of Arcadia, California, resigned after admitting to acting as an illegal agent for the Chinese government. She spread pro-Beijing propaganda without informing U.S. authorities. Wang faces potential prison time for violating foreign agent registration laws. Her resignation follows growing scrutiny over foreign influence in U.S. politics.



## India cancels China-linked satellite deal amid space security concerns

India canceled its satellite deal with AsiaSat, a Hong Kong-based company linked to China's CITIC Group, citing national security concerns. This decision reflects growing vigilance over Chinese involvement in space infrastructure.



# Caricatures



# INDIA'S DEFIANT STAND



## FORTITUDE

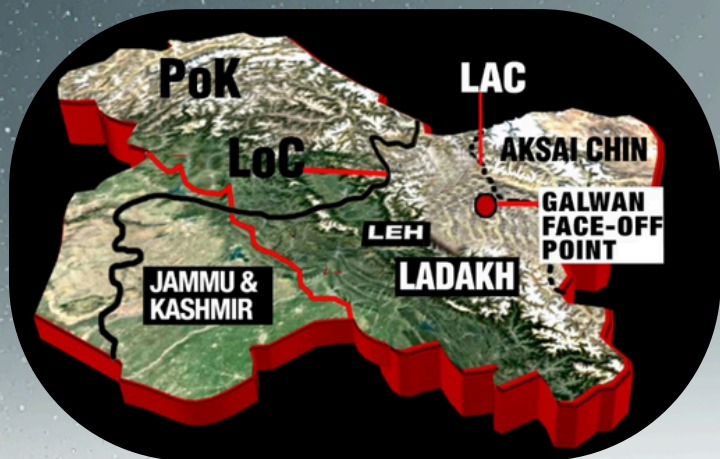
**The Galwan  
Valley Clash:  
When India  
Stood Firm  
Against the  
Bully**



On a cold night in June 2020, at an altitude of 14,000 feet in the Galwan Valley in Ladakh, India did something Beijing could never have imagined. India refused to be intimidated and made the “neighbourhood bully” pay with its own blood. Six years later, as new political debates in New Delhi are reviving the incident.



The facts of that clash still seem uncomfortably at odds with China’s tightly controlled narrative.



## INDIAN CASUALTIES: ADMITTED, NAMED, HONOURED

New Delhi immediately informed its public of the cost. India announced that 20 soldiers, including Colonel Babu, were killed the country's first fighting on the China border since 1975. Their names were featured in the news, their funerals were broadcast, and they were posthumously awarded gallantry awards, reinforcing the message that India stood firm against the Chinese attack. Former Army Chief General M.M. Naravane has since insisted that India "did not lose an inch of land" and that the subsequent disengagement was based on "mutual and equal security," directly challenging China's claims that land had been exchanged.

## HOW A BORDER "AGREEMENT" TURNED INTO A DEADLY ATTACK

The crisis began in May 2020 when the Chinese PLA moved troops and equipment to several points along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), objecting to Indian road construction, and attempting to change the status quo. After several rounds of talks, both sides agreed to disengage near Patrolling Point 14 (PP-14) in Galwan, with the PLA expected to remove tents and withdraw from some ridgelines. On the night of June 15, an Indian team led by Colonel B. Santosh Babu went to verify whether the PLA had honoured the agreement, but found that Chinese troops were still in place and had massed on fortified heights. This Chinese move triggered a fierce battle that lasted for hours in darkness and sub-zero temperatures, fought under the terms of a 1996 agreement that prohibited the carrying of weapons across the LAC. Therefore, soldiers attacked each other with stones, fists, and improvised weapons like nail-studded sticks and iron rods. Many on both sides were injured or killed when they slipped from narrow cliffs and fell into the swift, icy Galwan River.

For General Naravane, Galwan was the moment when India "challenged the neighbourhood bully," ending years in which China had intimidated smaller neighbour's like Nepal and Bhutan without resistance. This view resurfaced in 2026 amid a parliamentary tussle, highlighting how central Galwan has become to India's domestic and strategic discourse.



## **CHINESE CASUALTIES: FOUR ADMITTED, MANY MORE SUSPECTED**

In stark contrast, Beijing refused to acknowledge any losses for months, despite satellite imagery and intelligence leaks revealing heavy PLA casualties. It wasn't until February 2021 that China finally acknowledged four soldiers killed and a regimental commander seriously wounded and heavily scripted narratives of martyrdom were spread through state media.

Some private claims suggest the PLA suffered far higher losses in the battle. A U.S. Congressional brief lists an "unconfirmed number" of Chinese casualties, far higher than India's, while OSINT research based on social media, quoted by Australian outlet The Klaxon and reported by Indian media, suggests that approximately 42 Chinese were killed, at least 38 of whom drowned while attempting to retreat across the Galwan River in the dark. Other assessments, including one by Eurasian Analysis, referenced in Indian outlets, point to over 40 PLA casualties.

## **CONTESTING STORIES: BULLY VS. CHALLENGER**

Beijing's line, pushed through outlets like the Global Times, is that Indian troops "illegally intruded" and "initiated the incident," forcing the PLA to respond and "defend sovereignty." This narrative hinges on three things: minimizing casualties, glorifying a few "martyrs" and blaming India for breaking agreements.

## **ESSENTIALLY, THE PICTURE THAT EMERGES IS THIS:**

India: 20 soldiers killed, a figure openly acknowledged and unquestioned.

China: Four deaths were officially acknowledged, but several independent sources suggest several dozen PLA casualties, possibly double or even more than India's losses.

## **THE VALLEY THAT CHANGED EVERYTHING**

Since Galwan, India has quietly but surely hardened its China policy. The government has rapidly promoted infrastructure development in Ladakh, redeployed troops to the northern border and linked the restoration of peace and tranquillity along the LAC to the full normalization of relations. Former chiefs and commanders now openly call China a "bully" that must be deterred, not encouraged.

Meanwhile, China has doubled down on information control and gray-zone tactics. State media continues to push the narrative that only four soldiers were killed, while state outlets accuse India of "initiating" the conflict, while the PLA is strengthening new positions and testing India at other friction points. Reports by a US arms-control forum that China conducted low-yield nuclear tests under suspicion around the time of the crisis show that Beijing prefers opacity and risk-taking to transparency and trust.

In the end Galwan was more than just a violent night in a remote valley.

# LANGUAGE EROSION

## Tibetan Suppression



## THE QUIET ERASURE: HOW CHINA IS PHASING OUT TIBETAN IN PRESCHOOLS

A quiet change is happening in Tibet's mountain classrooms. The world hears about border fights and protests. But something bigger is targeting Tibet's youngest kids. A May 2026 report from Human Rights Watch says China is replacing Tibetan with Mandarin in preschools. This starts with children as young as three. The goal is clear, make them feel more Chinese than Tibetan. Imagine a toddler who once babbled in Tibetan now silent in their mother tongue at home. That's the reality for many



Critics call it the "Children's Speech Harmonization Plan." They say it's forced assimilation. It cuts kids off from their own culture. Schools now use only Mandarin. This makes children loyal to China, not their Tibetan roots. Parents watch helplessly as their little ones forget words passed down for generations.

The change started in 2021. China's Ministry of Education made a rule. All preschools in minority areas must use Mandarin. They call it the "Standard National Language." Before, kindergartens let Tibetan thrive. Now, it's banned. No more Tibetan rhymes or lullabies during nap time.

Teachers must speak only Mandarin. Tibetan stories, songs and customs are gone from classes. The effect is fast. Parents in the report say kids stop speaking Tibetan at home after just months in school. One mother shared how her four-year-old asked, "What is that word, Mama?" for simple Tibetan phrases. The language is fading quickly among the young, like snow melting under a hot sun.



This is not just about learning words. It's about changing minds. Classrooms teach love for China. Kids sing songs praising the Communist Party. They learn the army's "revolutionary history" through picture books and plays. Tibetan Buddhist ways are missing. Instead, they celebrate Han Chinese holidays like the Spring Festival with dragon dances. They recite old Chinese poems about rivers and mountains far from Tibet. An official said it plants "seeds of love for China." But it creates distance. By age six, many kids feel only Chinese. They don't connect with their parents' world anymore



A boy might laugh at his grandmother's prayers, calling them "old talk." This breaks family bonds across generations, leaving elders isolated.

Preschool is not required by law in China. But for Tibetan parents, it feels like it is. City primary schools demand proof of preschool attendance to join first grade. Parents face a hard choice: send kids to Mandarin schools or block their future learning. Rural families move to towns just to meet this rule, uprooting their lives.

Watchful eyes make it worse. Some schools ask for videos of kids speaking Mandarin at home. Parents film dinner tables where children practice phrases like "I love China." This invades family life. The government is everywhere, even in private moments, turning homes into extensions of the classroom.

Losing Tibetan hurts deeply. Language holds a people's stories, faith and wisdom. Without it, kids can't talk deeply with grandparents. They miss old prayers and tales of their land, like legends of snow lions guarding the peaks.



A child who speaks only Mandarin struggles to understand a monk's chants or a herder's songs. Experts say it builds "cultural inferiority." Kids learn their language is less important. They value their own ways less. Think of a girl ashamed to speak Tibetan in the playground, mimicking Han accents instead

This slowly breaks Tibet's strong culture, passed down for ages through festivals and folklore.

Things got tougher in early 2026. A new law passed: the Law on Promoting Ethnic Unity and Progress. It punishes anyone blocking Mandarin. Teachers or activists helping with Tibetan classes can go to jail. They are seen as hurting national unity. A teacher caught reading a Tibetan book faced fines and warnings.

This scares people into silence, with whispers of protest dying out. Additionally, it increases China's might without the need for direct military action. China is shaping the next phase of Middle, proving that Beijing's real position is defined by action. China is establishing itself as a strategic facilitator by intervening now rather than as a detached observer.



# Modernizing Through Fearful Loyalty



## A SYSTEM OF FEAR: HOW BEIJING'S QUEST FOR LOYALTY UNDERMINES ITS MILITARY MODERNIZATION

The sentencing of former defence ministers Wei Fenghe and Li Shangfu sends a chilling signal about China's military stability. Presented as a victory for anti-corruption, these high-stakes purges instead reveal a system where bribery is deeply embedded. Reuters reports that Wei and Li were sentenced to death with a two-year reprieve on corruption charges, a culmination of President Xi Jinping's anti-corruption campaign that has ensnared top military figures.

After a decade of Xi's "cleanup," the continued removal of senior officials suggests the regime is prioritizing political survival over operational competence.

This shift, from the sensitive Rocket Force command to the heart of the CCP, is creating a culture of fear that erodes military readiness and global trust.

“ Xi was trying to secure “total control” over China’s military through the purge. ”

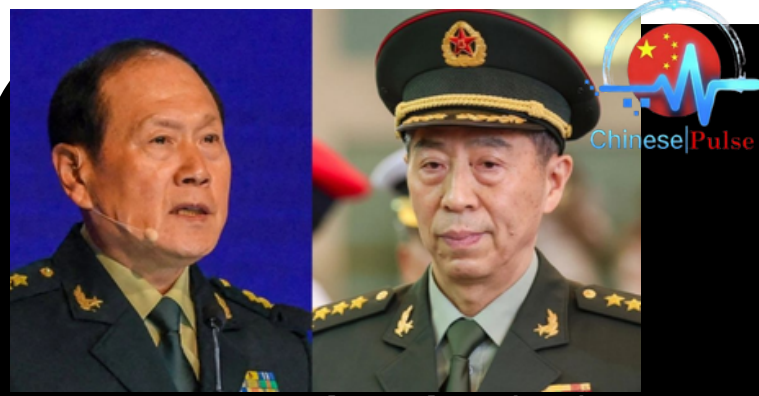


David Perdue, the United States Ambassador to China.

What appears to be a fight against corruption may, in reality, be further consolidating power, making China's internal stability and military preparedness its greatest. The narrative of anti-corruption in China is increasingly viewed with profound scepticism, as international observers question whether these high-profile purges represent a genuine cleanup or a calculated fortification of power.





While Beijing frames the crackdown as a moral necessity, outlets like Reuters and The Wall Street Journal suggest these actions are strategically designed to eliminate internal dissent and consolidate President Xi Jinping's absolute authority. By targeting top-tier military officials once considered close allies, the regime appears to be conducting a rigorous test of political loyalty, sacrificing professional competence and strategic merit for strict ideological alignment.

This volatile environment threatens to become China's greatest strategic vulnerability. According to the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), the ongoing removal of experienced commanders significantly disrupts operational efficiency and slows critical decision-making. Ultimately, despite massive investments in technological modernization, the resulting leadership vacuum and internal instability within the People's Liberation



Army may severely undermine its combat readiness and negate China's military advancements on the global stage. The reach of China's purge into the PLA Rocket Force, the highly sensitive branch managing the nation's nuclear and strategic missile capabilities, has alarmed defense analysts worldwide. As noted by Reuters, the anti-corruption crackdown has swept up leaders overseeing the nuclear deterrent, removing multiple senior commanders and leaving critical gaps just as Beijing rapidly expands its arsenal. This aggressive restructuring raises profound questions about the stability of China's strategic command structures. Analysts warn that prioritizing strict political allegiance to President Xi Jinping over military professionalism threatens to cripple morale and operational effectiveness, as proven expertise is increasingly sidelined for ideological loyalty. Furthermore, the extreme opacity and lack of a transparent legal process surrounding these high-level removals only deepen international concerns regarding the predictability, fairness, and overall institutional resilience of China's most lethal military branch.

## Key Chinese Officials Punished Under Xi Jinping's Anti-Corruption Campaign (2021–2026)

Official	Position	Year Action Started	Outcome	Notes
 Wei Fenghe	Defence Minister	2024 investigation; sentence 2026	Death w/ reprieve → Life sentence likely	Corruption, bribery
 Li Shangfu	Defence Minister	Removed Oct 2023; sentence 2026	Death w/ reprieve → Life sentence likely	Corruption, bribery
 Tang Renjian	Agriculture Minister	Investigated 2024; sentenced 2025	Death w/ reprieve → Life sentence likely	Major bribery
 Wang Xiangxi	Emergency Management Minister	Investigated Jan 2026	Removed, probe ongoing	Disciplinary violations

The repeated purges and harsh sentencing of figures like Wei Fenghe and Li Shangfu have fueled a profound global trust deficit, casting China as an increasingly volatile actor. This atmosphere of unpredictability, where internal political shifts can suddenly upend power dynamics, erodes the diplomatic, military and economic foundations essential for international partnership. Beyond the official narrative of anti-corruption, these upheavals expose deep-seated structural flaws in Beijing's systems, heightening global anxiety over military readiness and nuclear command stability.

While the CCP frames these purges as a moral necessity, they clearly signal a consolidation of power that risks internal fragmentation and wider geopolitical destabilization. Ultimately, as Beijing's leadership prioritizes loyalty over stability, the resulting ripples threaten to reshape regional security and undermine the predictability of the global order.

## Tibetan Flood, Green Power



China's Tibet Mega-Dam: A Green Project with Heavy Costs

China's push to construct the world's largest hydropower dam in Tibet is marketed as a clean energy milestone, yet it signals a looming ecological and geopolitical crisis for the Brahmaputra's downstream neighbours. The proposed mega project reportedly includes five cascade dams worth nearly \$167 billion, with an estimated generating capacity of around 70 GW, making it one of the most ambitious hydropower ventures ever attempted. Situated in a seismically volatile Himalayan corridor, the project presents catastrophic risks to both environmental stability and human safety. Beyond structural concerns, the dam is expected to intercept nutrient-rich sediments, potentially stripping the fertile plains of India and Bangladesh of the soil productivity essential for agriculture and disrupting the migratory cycles vital to local fisheries.

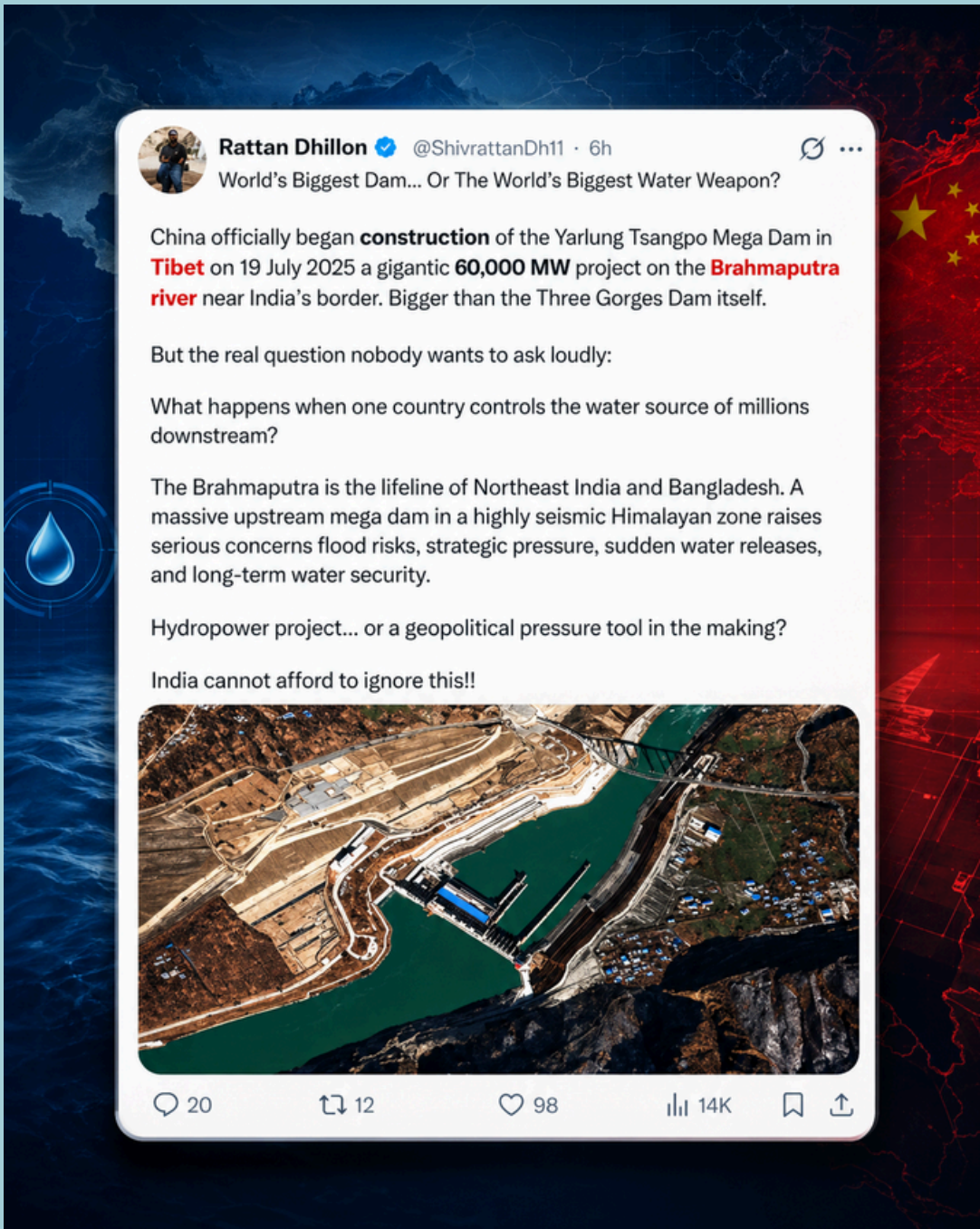
Crucially, Beijing's persistent lack of transparency has transformed an infrastructure project into a regional flashpoint, fuelling fears of artificial water scarcity and manipulated flooding. Ultimately, this project is less about electricity and more about the weaponization of water, testing the limits of trust and shared responsibility in South Asia's most critical river system.

A paramount concern surrounding China's Brahmaputra mega-dam is its capacity to choke off the river's natural flow and vital sediment transport the ecological lifeblood of downstream nations. The Brahmaputra delivers nutrient-rich silt that sustains agricultural fertility and fortifies delta regions against coastal erosion. By trapping these sediments upstream, the project threatens to starve India's farming heartlands and critically weaken natural defenses in vulnerable areas like the Sundarbans, which are already buckling under immense climate strain. As Newsweek highlights, the dam has ignited intense environmental and geopolitical backlash for endangering one of Asia's most biodiverse ecosystems and the millions who rely on it. Compounding these fears, Voice of America reports that both India and Bangladesh are bracing for artificial manipulations of transboundary water flows, which could severely disrupt regional food security, irrigation and local fisheries. Ultimately, this mega-structure is not merely an engineering milestone; it is a transboundary environmental hazard with devastating geopolitical consequences.



Positioned at the vulnerable tail-end of the Brahmaputra basin, Bangladesh faces an existential threat from China's mega-dam project. The delta nation relies entirely on the river's consistent flow to sustain its agriculture, drinking water, and fisheries. Even minor upstream manipulations whether hoarding water during dry spells or releasing sudden surges during the monsoon could trigger devastating droughts or catastrophic flooding, crippling rural livelihoods and national food security.

As Reuters reports, downstream nations are increasingly alarmed by the potential for severely reduced water flows and Beijing's persistent opacity regarding its hydropower ambitions. This deliberate lack of technical transparency has deepened anxieties in Dhaka, prompting formal demands for comprehensive environmental and hydrological data to assess the looming fallout. Ultimately, controlling the Brahmaputra's headwaters transcends infrastructure, it is a strategic geopolitical manoeuvre where dominion over water equates to holding the survival, stability, and security of downstream nations hostage.



While Beijing aggressively markets its Tibetan mega-dam as a triumph for green energy, the project's hidden costs threaten to destabilize the entire region. Despite the outward rhetoric of carbon reduction, erecting colossal infrastructure within the seismically fragile Himalayas carries devastating ecological and geopolitical risks. This dam jeopardizes not only local ecosystems but the fundamental livelihoods of millions downstream in India and Bangladesh. By maintaining strict opacity and securing the ability to manipulate critical transboundary water flows, China is effectively claiming absolute leverage over a river system that sustains South Asia. Ultimately, this project is not merely an engineering marvel; it is a glaring symbol of a development model that prioritizes unilateral state dominance over shared environmental responsibility. The pressing question is no longer whether Beijing can engineer this dam, but whether the international community can afford the fallout. It is a geopolitical gambit poised to irreversibly reshape the region's future, with consequences echoing far beyond Tibet.

# Declining Marriage, Thriving Demographic Disaster

Who needs marriage  
when you can have a  
crisis?



China is facing a significant shift in its social fabric. New data from the Ministry of Civil Affairs shows that marriage registrations have hit a record low. In the first quarter of 2026, only 1.697 million couples registered for marriage—a 6.2% drop from the same time last year. To put this in perspective, this is roughly half the number of marriages recorded just nine years ago in 2017. This sharp decline is not just a statistic; it is a clear warning sign of a deepening demographic crisis that could reshape China's future.



## A CONSISTENT DOWNWARD TREND

The recent figures are part of a long-term slide. A decade ago, in 2013, China saw over 13 million marriages. By 2022, that number had plummeted to 6.83 million, and it fell even further to 5.68 million in 2024



This trend mirrors the country's shrinking population. In 2025, China's population fell for the fourth year in a row, dropping by nearly 1.4 million people. At the same time, the birth rate reached a historic low of 6.4 births per 1,000 people—a massive decrease from the rate of 12.43 recorded in 2017.

### WHY MARRIAGE MATTERS FOR POPULATION GROWTH

In many Western countries, marriage and childbirth have become increasingly decoupled, but in China, they remain deeply linked. Culturally and legally, marriage is still the primary gateway to having children. Statistics show that over 80% of births in China occur within a marriage. Furthermore, administrative hurdles often make it difficult for unmarried parents to access maternity benefits, register their children for essential services (the hukou system), or use public resources. Consequently, when marriage rates fall, birth rates inevitably follow, creating a "domino effect" that accelerates population decline.

### THE HEAVY BURDEN OF ECONOMIC PRESSURE

Why are young people staying single? For many, the answer is financial. The cost of raising a child in China is now estimated at over 485,000 yuan (\$67,000) up to age 17. In "Tier 1" cities like Beijing and Shanghai, housing prices are often 30 times the average annual salary. Since owning a home is traditionally seen as a prerequisite for marriage, many young men and women feel they simply cannot afford to start a family.



### SHIFTING SOCIAL VALUES AND MODERN LIFESTYLES

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In "Tier 1" cities like Beijing and Shanghai, housing prices are often 30 times the average annual salary. Since owning a home is traditionally seen as a prerequisite for marriage, many young men and women feel they simply cannot afford to start a family. When combined with high youth unemployment and general economic uncertainty, the "dream" of marriage feels more like a financial trap.

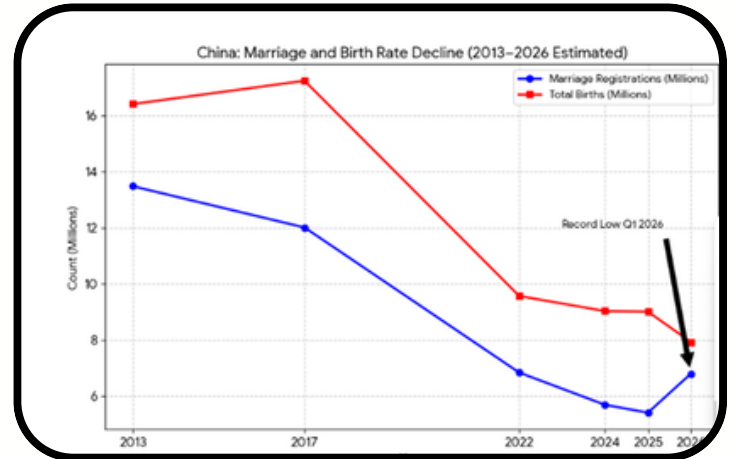
### THE SHADOW OF THE ONE-CHILD POLICY

China's current crisis is also a legacy of its past. The "One-Child Policy," which lasted from 1980 to 2015, successfully slowed population growth but left the country with a skewed age structure and a shrinking number of young people. Although the government moved to a "Two-Child Policy" in 2016 and a "Three-Child Policy" in 2021, these changes haven't had the desired effect. After a brief spike in 2016, births have continued to drop, proving that simply "allowing" more children doesn't mean people will have them.

### ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES

A shrinking population creates a "top-heavy" society. The working-age population (those 16 to 59) has been decreasing by tens of millions. Meanwhile, more than 15% of the population is now over 65. This puts immense pressure on the national pension system and healthcare services.

Fewer workers mean lower productivity and slower GDP growth, which could eventually weaken China's standing as a global economic powerhouse. There are simply not enough young people to support the aging generation.



### A NEW DEMOGRAPHIC ERA

The drop to 1.697 million marriages in early 2026 confirms that China has entered a new and challenging demographic era. The traditional family structure is under immense strain from economic, social, and historical forces. Addressing this decline will require more than just encouraging words from the state, it will require a fundamental shift in how the country supports its young people. Without meaningful improvements in the quality of life and the cost of living, the "cradle" of the world's most populous nation may continue to grow quieter.

# satire



**"RED STAMP, RED TAPE: HUMAN RIGHTS APPROVED.. IN MANDARIN ONLY."**

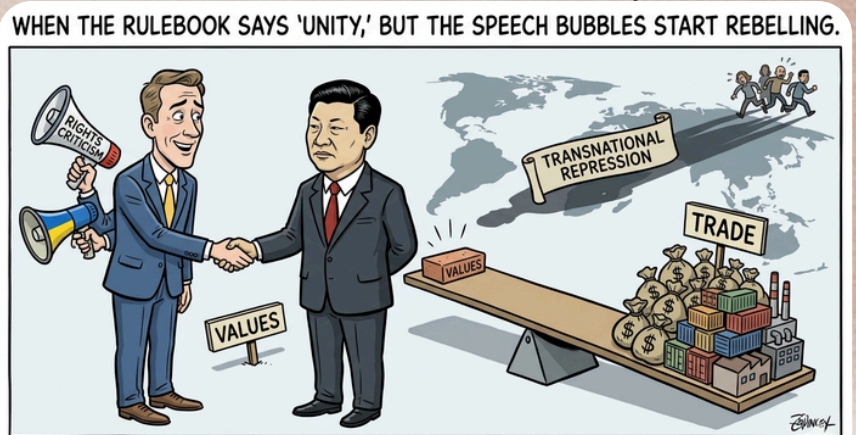


**WHEN HUMAN RIGHTS ARE OPTIONAL, EXPLOITATION BECOMES EXPORT.**  
QUESTION THE LABEL. KNOW THE COST.



**BUILD COOPERATION, NOT CONFRONTATION. THE FUTURE CAN'T BE BUILT BEHIND BARBED WIRE.**

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# EXPOSE CHINA BRUTALITY

The World Uyghur Congress (WUC) has issued an urgent appeal to United States President Donald Trump, calling on him to prioritize the human rights situation of the Uyghur people during his upcoming official visit to China on May 15. This high-stakes visit represents Trump's first trip to Beijing during his second presidential term and comes at a time of significant geopolitical and economic tension.



## WUC Urges Trump to Raise Uyghur Human Rights Issues During China Visit

The WUC believes that this diplomatic engagement serves as a vital platform for the United States to address what it characterizes as an ongoing genocide and to demand accountability from the Chinese government regarding systemic abuses in

the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, which many activists refer to as East Turkistan. A primary concern for the WUC is the potential for economic interests to overshadow humanitarian crises. The organization noted that the Trump administration has expressed a strong interest in expanding trade and cooperation

with China in strategic sectors, including electric vehicles and rare earth materials.. However, the WUC argues that many of these industries are deeply intertwined with supply chains that allegedly utilize Uyghur forced labor. They have urged the President to ensure that the pursuit of economic growth does not come at the cost of complicity in human rights violations. The WUC emphasizes that any diplomatic statements condemning these abuses must be paired with tangible political actions to be effective.

The WUC's appeal draws on the historical role the United States has played in advocating for the Uyghur community. It was during the final days of Donald Trump's first term in January 2021 that the U.S. government officially designated China's actions in Xinjiang as genocide. This landmark determination has since served as the foundation for American policy, receiving bipartisan support and leading to significant legislative measures. Among these is the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (UFLPA) of 2021, which prohibits the importation of goods produced in Xinjiang unless it can be proven they were not made with forced labor. Furthermore, the WUC highlighted new legislative efforts, such as the proposed 2025 Uyghur Genocide Accountability and Sanctions Act, which seeks to expand sanctions against Chinese officials linked to these abuses.



The WUC alleges that despite international condemnation, the humanitarian situation on the ground continues to worsen. They claim that millions of Uyghurs remain held in detention centers and prisons and that the Chinese government has intensified policies aimed at reducing the Uyghur population, including forced sterilizations. Beyond physical detention, the WUC describes a pervasive campaign of cultural erasure. This includes the removal of the Uyghur language from schools, the criminalization of religious practices, and the systematic destruction of mosques and cultural heritage sites. Most distressingly, the organization reports that Uyghur children are being separated from their families and placed in state-run boarding schools designed to force assimilation and strip them of their ethnic identity. The statement also brings attention to the issue of transnational repression, alleging that the Chinese government uses intimidation tactics against

Uyghur activists living in the United States and Europe. These tactics often include surveillance and threats against family members still residing in China. The WUC argues that such far-reaching repression requires a coordinated and forceful response from the international community, led by the United States. They remind the administration that this year marks a decade since the intensification of the crackdown in Xinjiang, making the need for intervention more pressing than ever.

WUC President Turgunjan Alawdun has called on President Trump to use his personal meetings with President Xi Jinping to directly address these grievances. The organization believes that the U.S. is in a unique position to exert pressure due to the strong domestic political consensus on the issue. In addition to general human rights advocacy, the WUC is asking for specific diplomatic help regarding family reunifications. Many Uyghur-Americans have relatives who have disappeared into the Chinese penal system, including prominent intellectuals and doctors like Rahila Dawut and Gulshan Abbas. The WUC hopes that the U.S. will press for their release and allow for separated families to be reunited. Ultimately, the World Uyghur Congress views this upcoming visit as a defining moment for the Trump administration's foreign policy. While the restoration of trade stability is a major goal for the White House, the WUC maintains that the moral weight of the



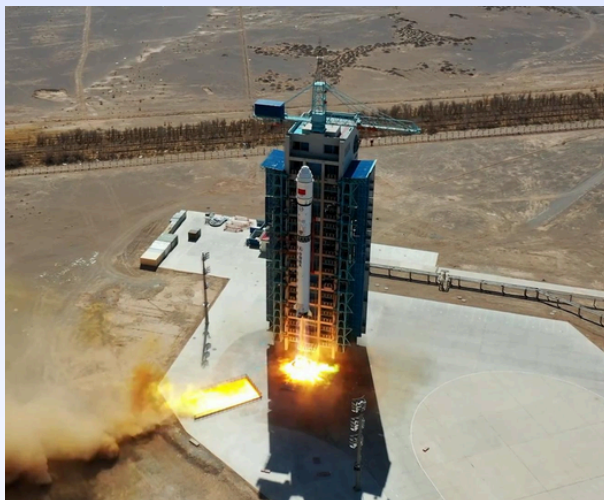
"Uyghur genocide" cannot be sidelined. The organization argues that as a self-positioned defender of democratic values, the United States has a responsibility to uphold international labor standards and human rights conventions during high-level negotiations. The world will be watching to see how Washington navigates the complex balance between its economic objectives and its commitment to preventing mass human rights atrocities. The WUC remains hopeful that the U.S. will use its considerable influence to secure a future where the Uyghur people are free from persecution and cultural destruction.

# PLA MILITARY UPDATE

PLA

PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY

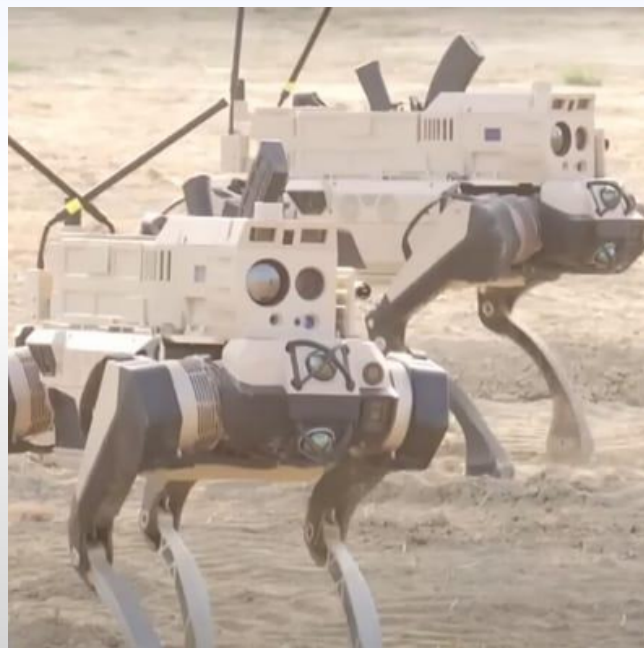
## LONG MARCH-2D ROCKET



China launched a Long March-2D rocket carrying a satellite for testing satellite-to-mobile broadband and space-ground integrated network technologies, enhancing connectivity for global communication.

## CHINESE AI ROBOTIC WARFARE SYSTEM

China is rapidly transforming commercial robotics and AI into military systems, including armed robot wolves, autonomous drones and battlefield AI, strengthening the PLA's future combat and Taiwan invasion capabilities.



## PLA TASK GROUP 107 CONDUCTS DRILLS

China's PLA Task Group 107 executed live-fire and joint sea-air drills east of Luzon Island to hone integrated combat skills, demonstrating enhanced naval coordination and readiness in regional waters.



## PLA NAVAL READINESS POST-BALIKATAN



After “Balikatan” drills, Chinese readiness actions – Following the US–Philippines “Shoulder-to-Shoulder” exercise (20 Apr–8 May), the PLA increased naval manoeuvres and warship presence in adjacent waters.

## YJ-20 HYPERSONIC MISSILES

China has publicly showcased YJ-20 hypersonic missiles, tested them at Mach 10 speeds, expanded missile production and conducted live-fire drills, enhancing naval strike and A2/AD capabilities.



## ROCKET FORCE MODERNIZATION

China’s Rocket Force support units are enhancing radar, communications and countermeasures to adapt to electromagnetic interference, improving missile operational capabilities in complex environments.



# UNMASKING THE MILITARY

## PLA INTENT BEHIND CHINA'S BORDER DEVELOPMENT

INFRASTRUCTURE  
TODAY.  
INVASION  
TOMORROW.

DEVELOPMENT

DUAL-USE  
ROADS, BASES, HELIPORTS  
NOT FOR TRADE.  
BUILT FOR WAR.

**C**hina's aggressive infrastructure expansion across Tibet and Xinjiang goes beyond regional connectivity it represents a carefully planned strategic encirclement disguised as economic modernization. Through a growing "dual-use" ecosystem of all-weather roads, high-altitude airbases, and strategic railways,

Beijing is weaponizing infrastructure to enable rapid military mobilization. This systematic build-up, supported by hardened heliports and forward-positioned border facilities, provides the People's Liberation Army (PLA) with unprecedented logistical agility and a permanent high-readiness posture along the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

According to satellite imagery, at least 16 new or upgraded heliports and high-altitude bases were added across Tibet and Xinjiang in 2025–2026, including strategic sites in Nyingchi, Shigatse, Ngari, Karakoram, Purang, Lonzi and Tashkurgan. These bases enhance PLA mobility, forward deployment of UAVs and aircraft and rapid reinforcement capabilities. The militarization directly impacts Indian border regions such as Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Ladakh, where Beijing's growing airpower and strategic infrastructure reinforce its control over contested sectors.

This infrastructure-driven power play hands Beijing a critical "first-mover" advantage, forcing India into a constantly reactive defensive stance. Ultimately, by masking aggressive military expansion behind the veil of civilian development, China maintains a dangerous strategic opacity that is rapidly transforming the Himalayan borderlands from a remote wilderness into a volatile arena of permanent geopolitical tension.



China's rapid expansion of high-altitude air power is the strategic linchpin of its sweeping infrastructure offensive along the Himalayan frontier. Over the past decade, Beijing has systematically transformed roughly 15 to 16 austere outposts across Tibet and Xinjiang, most notably Hotan, Ngari Gunsa and Kashgar, into heavily fortified military hubs equipped with extended runways, hardened aircraft shelters, and sophisticated radar arrays. While the region's extreme altitude and thin air historically crippled aircraft performance and payload capacity, massive technological investments have neutralized these environmental hurdles, allowing these frontline bases to sustain high-tempo operations for advanced fighter jets, strategic bombers and persistent surveillance fleets. International defense analysts warn that this air power surge, compounded by a sprawling web of hardened heliports and "civilian" roads explicitly engineered as emergency military runways, provides the People's Liberation Army with a decisive asymmetric advantage.

By enabling lightning-fast mobilization and sustained combat readiness directly at India's doorstep, China is not merely upgrading its border facilities; it is fundamentally rewriting South Asia's security architecture and cementing a permanent, dominant military posture over the contested heights. Beijing's Himalayan strategy increasingly hinges on "dual-use" infrastructure, a calculated blurring of civilian development and military expansion that effectively weaponizes economic modernization. According to the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), this sprawling network across Tibet is engineered to bolster "rapid military logistics and strategic mobility," turning commercial hubs and transport corridors into high-readiness staging grounds. Reports from Reuters further underscore that expanding border villages and connectivity projects near disputed zones have ignited international alarm over their latent military utility. This strategic opacity not only erodes regional trust but forces India into a reactive cycle of competitive modernization to counter a widening infrastructure imbalance. States like Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh now find themselves increasingly vulnerable,

with China's enhanced mobility complicating India's defense posture. Ultimately, the proliferation of these dual-purpose assets heightens the risk of strategic miscalculation on the fragile Himalayan frontier, transforming the remote landscape into a volatile arena of permanent geopolitical friction. These projects are clearly designed to tighten control over disputed frontiers and streamline internal security. This enhanced connectivity allows the regime to project power, monitor regional populations and suppress dissent, particularly among ethnic minorities. Critics contend that such 'modernization' comes at the direct expense of political freedoms and cultural identities. As China cements its infrastructural dominance, the regional balance of power is shifting, placing neighboring nations like India at a severe disadvantage. With a proliferating network of military installations and logistical hubs, Beijing's actions significantly heighten the risk of conflict across the fragile Himalayan region. As China asserts absolute control, the future stability of South Asia grows increasingly precarious, forcing the global international community to question whether Beijing's long-term intentions are truly and fundamentally peaceful.

# MAPPING CHINA'S STRATEGIC HELIPORT EXPANSION ALONG THE INDIA-CHINA BORDER



Location	Month/Year	Number of Helipads Built	Additional Information
Hotan (Xinjiang)	2017	5	PLA heliports established before expansion
Arunachal Pradesh Border Tibet	2023	13	Total number of heliports expanded
Tibet ( <u>Nyingchi Prefecture</u> )	2024	1	20 km from the India-China border, identified via satellite
\Karakoram (Tibet)	2024	3	under construction Sensitive areas, close to the border
Gogra-Hot Springs (Tibet)	2024	3	Near sensitive locations along LAC
<u>Kongka La</u> (Tibet)	2024	3	Additional military strategic heliports under development
Indus Headwaters (Tibet)	2024	3	Near disputed region, LAC
<u>Tashkurgan</u> , Xinjiang	2025	2	Near China-Pakistan border, dual-use facilities for UAVs and helicopters, strengthening PLA logistics in sensitive corridor
<u>Purang</u> , Tibet (near Nepal border)	2025	2	Reinforces PLA presence opposite India's Uttarakhand; includes hardened shelters, ammunition storage, rapid deployment capability
Lonzi, Tibet (near Arunachal Pradesh border)	2025	2	Close to LAC, enhances PLA mobility, faster troop rotations and supply chains in high-altitude terrain
Ngari Prefecture, Tibet	2025	1	Supports deployments near Ladakh; integrates with existing infrastructure, forward logistics hub for helicopters and UAVs
<u>Shigatse</u> , Tibet	2025	1	Reinforced as major hub; connected to road and rail networks, enables sustained PLA operations and regional air mobility
Ngari Prefecture, Tibet	2026	4	High-altitude bases near Ladakh; equipped for stealth fighters, drones and missile brigades, shifting balance of power
<u>Shigatse</u> , Tibet	2026	3	Expanded with extended runways and hardened shelters; major PLA aviation hub for long-range fighter/bomber operations
<u>Nyingchi</u> Prefecture, Tibet	2026	3	New bases close to Arunachal Pradesh; enables rapid aircraft and drone deployment, intensifying PLA presence
Karakoram region, Tibet	2026	2	Under construction near sensitive passes; provides strategic depth, surveillance and rapid reinforcement in contested border areas
Arunachal Pradesh frontier, Tibet side	2026	2	Upgraded heliports integrated into Western Theater Command; forward operating bases for helicopters and UAVs along eastern LAC
Hotan, Xinjiang	2026	2	Expanded existing heliports; strengthens UAV and helicopter operations, bolsters PLA logistics and long-term deployments



# THE RED CARPET TO NOWHERE

## How Trump's Historic Beijing Summit Left China Empty-Handed

In mid-May 2026, the world watched as U.S. President Donald Trump travelled to Beijing for a high-stakes three-day state visit. Billed as the most anticipated diplomatic encounter of his second term the summit was drenched in historic symbolism and meticulously choreographed pageantry. Chinese President Xi Jinping rolled out the red carpet hoping to ease years of punishing trade restrictions and prove China's parity on the global stage. But despite the lavish ceremonies, the substantive results painted a starkly different picture: Washington held its ground on every major issue leaving Beijing with symbolic gestures and zero strategic wins.

## The Delegation Flex Power Over Pleasantries

From the moment Air Force One touched down at Beijing Capital International Airport the U.S. strategy was clear: project dominance. Trump arrived with a heavy-hitting delegation that signalled Washington was not there to back down. The entourage included Secretary of State Marco Rubio (whom China had previously sanctioned) Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth and Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent.

Perhaps most pointedly Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang joined the delegation following a refuelling stop in Alaska—a walking breathing reminder of America's stranglehold on the global artificial intelligence and semiconductor markets. China countered with immense hospitality. Trump was greeted with a 21-gun salute a massive welcome at the Great Hall of the People and a highly exclusive tour of the Temple of Heaven—making him only the second U.S. president to visit the site while in office after Gerald Ford in 1975. "You're a great leader, sometimes people don't like me saying it but I say it anyway" Trump told Xi during the opening remarks flattering his host before heading into closed-door sessions where the U.S. refused to yield.

## Economic Illusions: New Boards, Old Bans

The most pressing issue for Beijing was economic relief. Following a February 2026 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that struck down certain previous tariffs the Trump administration needed to restructure its trade regime. China desperately wanted this restructuring to include lifting bans on advanced microchips and AI platforms. Instead of major concessions the two sides announced future Chinese purchases of Boeing airplanes and American agricultural goods, wrapped up in the creation of a new U.S.-China Board of Trade.

While this sounds like a breakthrough a closer look reveals it is largely toothless for China's real economic pain points:

- **Tech Bans Remain Untouched:** The new trade boards only cover "non-sensitive" sectors. The strict U.S. export controls on advanced tech which continue to throttle China's tech industry remain completely firmly in place.
- **No Firm Deadlines:** The agreements lack legally binding contracts, hard deadlines or penalties for backing out.



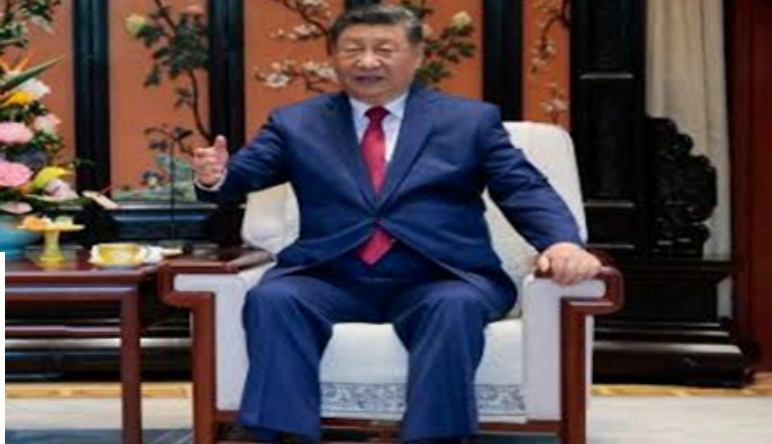
## Economic Illusions: New Boards, Old Bans



With the ongoing 2026 U.S.-Israeli war involving Iran dominating global headlines, Beijing hoped to step up as an indispensable peacemaker. Because China is the primary buyer of sanctioned Iranian oil it sought a formal mediating role that would elevate its status as a global superpower whose help Washington desperately needed.

Trump bluntly shut that down before the summit even began. Speaking to reporters as he departed the White House he stated "I don't think we need any help with Iran." By keeping the Middle Eastern diplomacy strictly independent the U.S. preserved its leverage and denied China any formal negotiating role.

On the deeply sensitive topic of Taiwan, Washington also stood firm. Trump publicly noted he would discuss arms sales to Taiwan with Xi, breaking with the historical "Six Assurances" of strategic ambiguity yet no U.S. policy changes or concessions on Taiwanese support actually materialized. Beijing's core demand to stop foreign interference in the Taiwan Strait was ultimately ignored.



## "Strategic Stability": A Catchphrase Not a Policy

At the conclusion of the two-hour closed-door talks—which ran double their scheduled length—the major joint announcement was a commitment to "constructive strategic stability." In diplomatic translation, this is essentially an agreement not to accidentally start a war. It is an aspirational slogan that allows both sides to claim they are acting responsibly but it lacks any binding treaties mutual limitations or enforcement mechanisms.

For Trump the visit was a masterstroke of political theatre. He returned to Washington claiming he had stabilized the world's most dangerous relationship while forcing China to buy American goods all without giving up an inch on tech supremacy or military posture. China meanwhile was left holding a catchy diplomatic phrase empty trade boards and the exact same strategic bottlenecks it faced before Air Force One ever touched down.

# THE ILLUSION OF UNITY

## How China's Propaganda Machine Fabricated the Xi-Putin "Success"

**The recent diplomatic** summit in Beijing between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin was less a meeting of strategic equals and more a masterclass in state-sponsored theatricality. Trumpeted by the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) media apparatus as a historic milestone of "unshakeable friendship" and shared global vision the reality behind closed doors was starkly different. Beneath the heavily filtered photos, grandiose state dinners, and carefully choreographed handshakes lies a hollow profoundly transactional arrangement.

The supposed "success" of this meeting is entirely fabricated, a desperate narrative spun by Beijing to mask the deep friction profound inequality and sheer lack of actionable deliverables in a partnership driven strictly by predatory Chinese ambition.

Rather than showcasing legitimate global leadership, China's relentless promotion of this summit exposes a regime struggling to validate its authoritarian agenda on the world stage. The meeting was not a triumph of diplomacy but a cynical public relations exercise designed to project an illusion of power.



## The Diplomatic Theatre: A Masterclass in Empty Propaganda

If one were to believe Chinese state media the Xi-Putin summit fundamentally reshaped the global geopolitical landscape overnight. In truth the meeting was glaringly unfruitful. Behind the sweeping declarations of a "new era" and shared resistance to Western influence there were virtually no new substantive agreements signed. The entire summit was an exercise in optics over substance. Beijing desperately needed the visual of a powerful united anti-Western bloc to project strength to its domestic audience and to intimidate democratic nations. However the diplomatic theatre failed to hide the obvious reality: China is fundamentally unwilling to cross critical Western red lines to meaningfully support Russia's faltering economy or its disastrous military campaign in Ukraine. The CCP's strategy was laid bare—extract maximum optical value from having Putin travel to Beijing as a supplicant while committing to absolutely nothing that risks severe secondary sanctions on Chinese banks. The so-called "milestone" was nothing more than a glorified photo opportunity.

## Predatory Economics: The Myth of Mutual Benefit

China consistently characterizes its relationship with Russia as a partnership of equality mutual respect and shared development. This is a blatant demonstrable falsehood. The economic alignment between Beijing and Moscow is fundamentally predatory meticulously designed by China to reduce its northern neighbour to a heavily dependent resource vassal. During the summit the hollow rhetoric about "new economic horizons" deliberately omitted the ugly truth on the ground. China is ruthlessly weaponizing Russia's global isolation to enforce asymmetrical and exploitative trade dynamics:

- **Resource Extraction over Partnership:** China is eagerly stripping Russia of heavily discounted crude oil and natural gas capitalizing on Moscow's economic desperation to fuel its own slowing industries at bargain-basement prices.
- **Stalled Infrastructure and Broken Promises:** Tell-tale signs of deep friction were obvious as major joint projects, most notably the highly anticipated Power of Siberia-2 pipeline, remained firmly stalled. Beijing is intentionally dragging its feet, leveraging Russia's weakened bargaining position to demand punishingly favourable terms that Moscow cannot afford.

- **Technological Subjugation:** By flooding the Russian market with its own vehicles, consumer electronics and telecom infrastructure Beijing is ensuring that Moscow's economy becomes entirely locked into Chinese supply chains and the Chinese yuan effectively erasing Russian strategic autonomy.

Far from the "win-win" cooperation touted by Xi, Beijing's economic strategy is a calculated parasitic drain. This is the exact same predatory playbook often recognized as debt-trap diplomacy—that China routinely deploys against vulnerable developing nations across Asia, Africa and Latin America through its Belt and Road Initiative. The endgame is never mutual prosperity; it is always absolute Chinese leverage and control.

## **Shielding Autocracy: The True Purpose of the Axis**

Why, then, does Beijing invest so heavily in maintaining the illusion of this alliance? The answer lies entirely in self-preservation. China's primary use for Russia is as a convenient geopolitical shield to deflect international accountability for its own rampant, systemic authoritarian practices.

By aggressively propping up the facade of a unified anti-Western coalition, China hopes to distract the world from its increasingly oppressive behaviour at home and

abroad. The CCP desperately requires diplomatic cover for its horrific human rights abuses against minorities its total eradication of civil liberties in Hong Kong and its Orwellian domestic surveillance state powered by pervasive AI and facial recognition. Standing shoulder-to-shoulder with an internationally condemned pariah allows Beijing to normalize aggressive autocracy and collectively dismiss legitimate international criticism as mere "Western interference." The partnership is not built on shared positive values but on a shared terror of transparency, the rule of law and universal human rights. China is using this fabricated diplomatic success to legitimize its ambition to export digital authoritarianism—eagerly selling the very tools of mass surveillance and internet censorship to other oppressive regimes globally.

## **Military Posturing Masking Internal Weakness**

One of the most heavily propagandized elements of the Beijing summit was the supposed deepening of military and security coordination. Chinese state media eagerly promoted the image of an invincible joint force ready to dismantle the democratic world order. Yet, this aggressive posturing masks a deeply cynical and mistrustful reality. Despite the highly publicized joint naval patrols and bomber flights, historical suspicion between the two nations runs incredibly deep.

China's rapid, unchecked military expansion—particularly its growing footprint in Central Asia and the Russian Far East—is a source of quiet but acute anxiety in Moscow. Furthermore, the global community clearly recognizes that China's aggressive military modernization is less about regional stability and more about coercing, bullying, and intimidating its smaller neighbours in the Indo-Pacific particularly in the South China Sea and the Taiwan Strait. The orchestrated show of military solidarity with Russia is simply another blunt instrument in Beijing's arsenal of intimidation a desperate attempt to project an aura of global dominance to compensate for a deteriorating domestic economy and growing international isolation.

## A Hollow Threat to the Global Order

Ultimately, Xi Jinping's attempts to use the Beijing summit to position China as the benevolent architect of a new multipolar global governance system rang completely hollow. While Chinese diplomats loudly proclaim that the international system needs reform to aid the developing world, Beijing's true objective is glaringly obvious: it seeks to dismantle international law to make the world safe for totalitarianism and unchecked Chinese hegemony.

The fabricated success of the Xi-Putin meeting serves as a stark, undeniable warning about the true nature of the Chinese Communist Party. It highlights a regime that relies entirely on misinformation, predatory economic coercion and the manipulation of desperate partners to project an illusion of strength. The summit yielded no genuine breakthroughs because the foundation of China's foreign policy is inherently self-serving, uncompromising and completely devoid of genuine diplomatic trust. As the world increasingly sees through the CCP's hollow propaganda the reality of the China-Russia partnership remains crystal clear: it is an unequal, friction-filled marriage of convenience, ruthlessly stage-managed by Beijing to serve

its own autocratic ambitions while offering absolutely nothing of value to global peace, fairness or stability.



# X CORNER



Fareed Zakaria   
@FareedZakaria



U.S. volatility is advancing China's long game

## U.S. Volatility Boosts China's Strategic Advantage

Zakaria argues U.S. unpredictability in policy and warfare strengthens China's global influence and long-term strategic position amid shifting world power dynamics.

Bloomberg   
@business



Philippines Says China Boats' Cyanide Threatens Military Outpost

## Philippines Says Chinese Boats Used Cyanide, in South China Sea

The Philippines confirmed Chinese vessels used cyanide near Second Thomas Shoal, raising environmental damage and military-outpost stability concerns amid South China Sea disputes.

FT Financial Times   
@FT



## Financial Times: "China Shock 2.0 – A New Wave of High-Tech Exports Set to Reshape Global Economy"

Financial Times highlights how China's rising high-tech exports could spark a "China Shock 2.0," disrupting global markets, increasing competition and reshaping industries, wages and trade balances worldwide.

# IMPORTANT VISITS

## Trump's 2026 State Visit to China: Trade, Security and AI

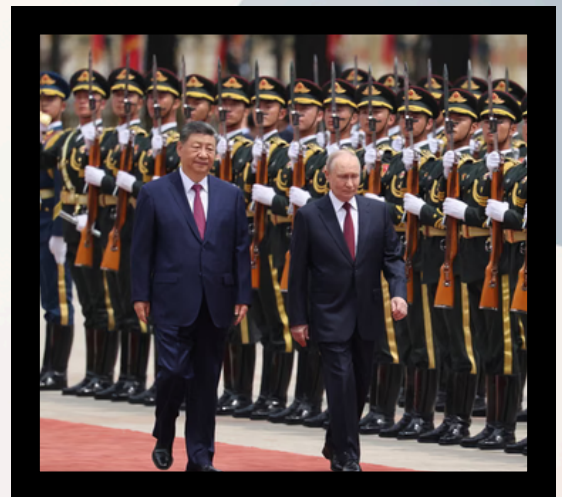


U.S. President Donald Trump's state visit to China from 13–15 May 2026 focused on strengthening bilateral trade, expanding technology cooperation and managing regional security concerns, particularly around the Taiwan Strait.

The visit included discussions on tariff reductions, AI and advanced technology market access and mechanisms for deeper economic collaboration amid ongoing geopolitical tensions. Trump was accompanied by senior business leaders and CEOs, highlighting the economic diplomacy aspect. Outcomes of the visit included agreements to lower selected tariffs, commitments to expand cooperation in AI and emerging technologies, reaffirmed channels to reduce the risk of conflict.

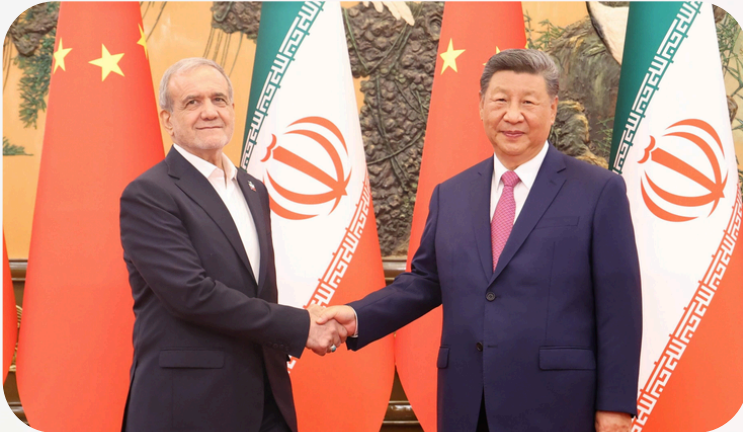
## Russia-China Ties Reach 'Unprecedented Level' Amid Strategic Talks

Russian President Vladimir Putin visited Beijing on 19–20 May 2026, at the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping, just days after U.S. President Donald Trump's visit. The purpose of the visit was to strengthen the strategic partnership between Russia and China, extend the China-Russia Treaty of Good-Neighborliness and Friendly Cooperation, and advance collaboration in trade



The visit produced several outcomes: Russia–China ties were described as at an “unprecedented level”, agreements were made to deepen economic, technological, and energy cooperation and both leaders reinforced diplomatic and strategic coordination.

## Iran and China Strengthen Strategic Partnership During Beijing Talks



Hossein Amir-Abdollahian visited Beijing on May 5, 2026, for high-level discussions aimed at strengthening strategic relations between Iran and China

The talks focused on expanding economic cooperation, deepening energy partnerships, and increasing coordination on regional issues in the Middle East. Both sides also discussed regional security challenges and the importance of stable political and commercial ties. The visit highlighted ongoing efforts by Iran and China to reinforce diplomatic cooperation and broaden long-term partnerships amid shifting geopolitical conditions and growing international tensions in the region.

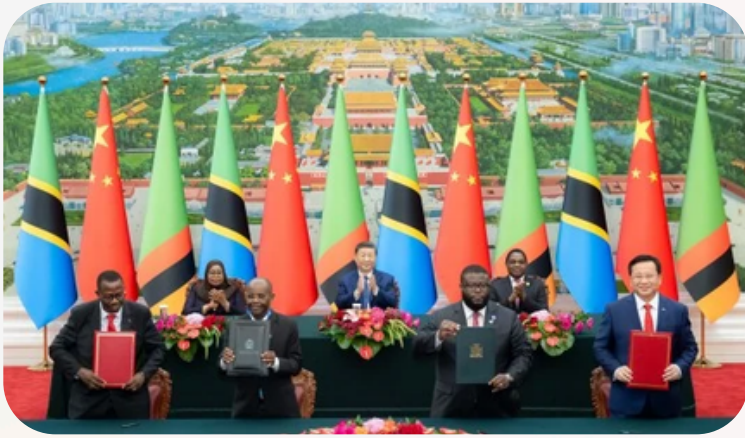
## Bangladesh Foreign Minister's Visit to China

Bangladeshi Foreign Minister Dr. AK Abdul Momen visited Beijing on May 4, 2026, for key discussions aimed at enhancing economic cooperation and development projects. The talks focused on infrastructure development, trade, and investment, particularly under China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).



The visit aimed to strengthen bilateral ties between China and Bangladesh, with emphasis on sectors such as energy, technology and sustainable development.

## Chinese Delegation at FOCAC Agreement in Ethiopia

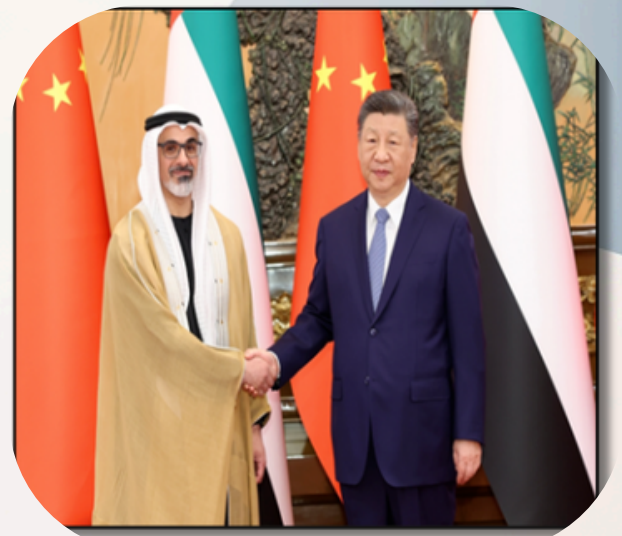


A Chinese delegation participated in the China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) framework in Ethiopia, where they signed a significant Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Ethiopian officials.

This MoU focuses on establishing a joint research center at Addis Ababa University, marking a key step in strengthening academic collaboration between the two nations. The initiative aims to facilitate research exchange, enhance scientific cooperation, and foster deeper China-Africa ties in sectors like technology, innovation, and education.

## Crown Prince Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan's Diplomatic Visit to China

On April 12, 2026, Crown Prince Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan of Abu Dhabi visited China to strengthen UAE-China relations. He met with Chinese leaders, including President Xi Jinping, to discuss trade, energy, and regional security. The talks focused on expanding cooperation in renewable energy, infrastructure and technology.



This visit highlighted the UAE's efforts to deepen global ties and enhance its role in regional and global affairs, opening new opportunities for collaboration and boosting diplomatic and economic exchanges.

# CHINESE SOCIAL MEDIA CORNER

## TRENDING ON WEIBO



### Putin and Xi Hold Major Talks in China, Express Warm Friendship and Cooperation

Presidents Putin and Xi held high-level talks in China, expressing mutual gratitude for the warm reception, discussing cooperation, and reinforcing the strategic friendship between Russia and China.



### Tibet Military Region Conducts High-Altitude Bazooka Training at 4,800 Meters

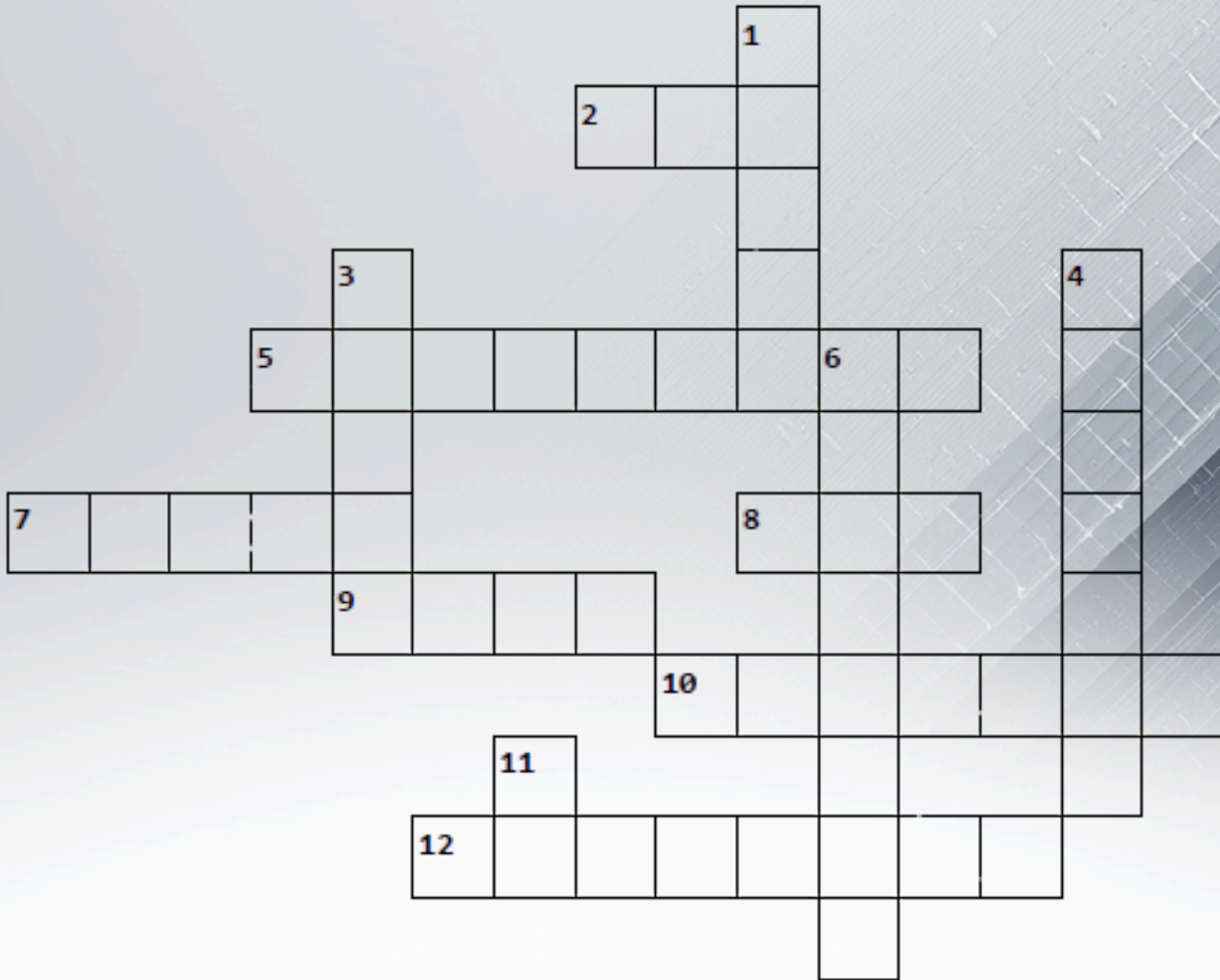
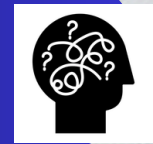
The Tibet Military Region organized live-fire bazooka training at 4,800 meters, testing troops' combat readiness under alpine plateau conditions. Videos highlight soldiers' skills and adaptation to high-altitude environments.

## TRENDING ON TIKTOK TIKTOK



### Xi Welcomes Putin After Trump Visit, No Major Trade Deal with U.S

Chinese President Xi Jinping hosted Russian President Vladimir Putin following a prior meeting with former U.S. President Donald Trump. Analysts note no significant U.S.–China soybean trade agreement was finalized, highlighting China's strategic balancing in diplomacy.



### Across

- 2. U.S. intelligence agency monitoring China
- 5. China's ruling political party
- 7. Region known for high-altitude plateau and military exercises
- 8. Abbreviation for the Chinese military
- 9. Special administrative region, major financial hub
- 10. River in Tibet flowing into India as Brahmaputra
- 12. Autonomous region in northwest China, home to Uyghur population

### Down

- 1. Lama Exiled Tibetan spiritual and political leader
- 3. Sea region with territorial disputes
- 4. Capital city of China
- 6. Ancient trade route connecting China to Europe
- 11. Jinping Current president of China

# SNAP TRIVIA !

## LEVEL 1 – EASY

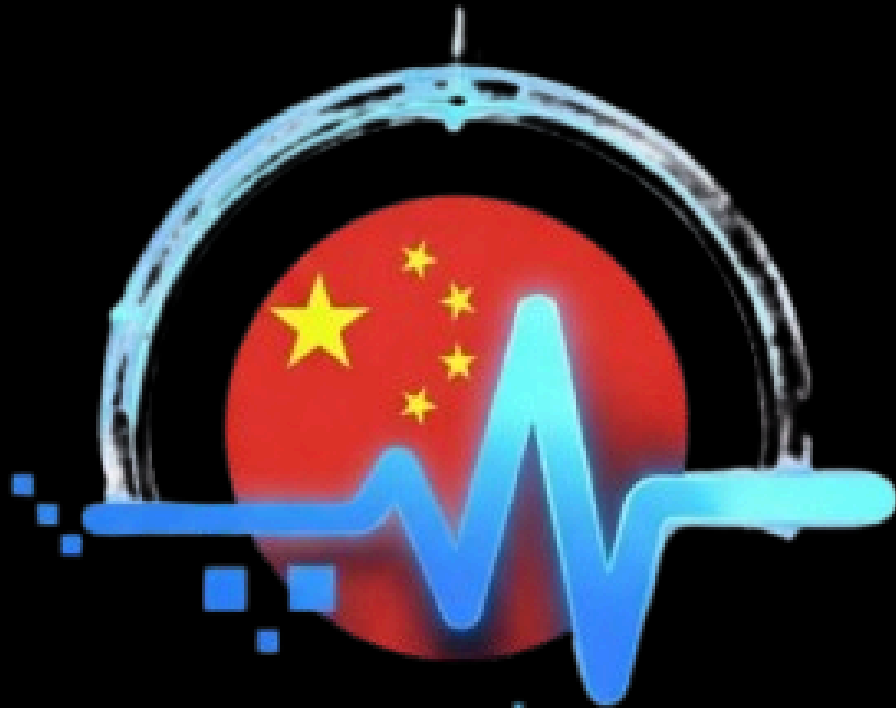
1. Who is the current President of Taiwan?
2. Which two countries' leaders met in China in May 2026 to discuss strategic and economic cooperation?  
Answer: Russia
3. Special administrative region in China, a major financial hub?
4. China insists on what principle regarding Taiwan's political status?
5. China trained foreign forces mainly in what type of warfare?

## LEVEL 2 – MODERATE

1. Which Chinese navy vessel group recently began live-fire drills in the western Pacific to enhance combat readiness?
2. Which hypersonic missile has China recently tested at Mach10 to enhance naval strike capabilities?
3. Which Chinese warship was deployed near Taiwan for live-fire drills, boosting eastern theater readiness?
4. Which Chinese hypersonic missile challenges traditional missile defenses?
5. Main language spoken by Uyghurs?

## LEVEL 3 – HARD

1. Which U.S. company will China buy 200 jets from?
2. Which region's surveillance technologies are linked to Chinese satellite systems used by Iran?
3. What pact allows China to expand security cooperation with neighboring countries?
4. What policy is being enforced through China's ethnic unity law, particularly in Tibet and Xinjiang?
5. Which event marked the beginning of Tibet's unbroken struggle against Chinese repression?



Chinese|Pulse

# “Suspicion Looms Over the Dragon”

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