CHINESE MEDIA SOURCES (rja)

Some initial thoughts:

- Chinese news sources emphasize that China has taken a muscular response to what they call an encroachment of their sovereignty from India.
- News sources also stress China's military superiority over India, and that the PLA does not want to fight, but would succeed if called to do so.
- Some analysts argue that India is opportunistically trying to further its expansionist aims--they point to recent border disputes between India and other countries, as well as administrative changes India has made in Jammu and Kashmir, as evidence.
- Some analysts say that the region of the Galwan valley clearly belongs to China, and has strategic importance as a kind of node between Tibet and Xinjiang.
- Some popular opinion writers emphasize that India is in the United States' pocket, and they place the Sino-Indian border conflict in the context of China's broader conflict with the United States.
- Some bloggers have uploaded 1962 news articles from the People's Daily that covered the China-India border dispute then--the stories have a nationalistic tone, and are apparently meant to stir up nationalist sentiment in this moment by recalling history.
    - See for example: Angrily condemned India for encroaching on our territory and killing my officers and soldiers, People's Daily, October 6, 1962
    - See also: We Demand that India immediately stop its armed offensive and withdraw from Dongdong, People's Daily, October 8, 1962
    - See also:
- Some sources explain that news that makes China look weak is actually the result of Western biased reporters, and that in some cases those westerners are just trying to stir up trouble.
- As is typical in Chinese news reporting, a number of outlets repeat the exact same phrasing. In this China-India border case, the phase that keeps appearing is "印军违背承诺，蓄意发动挑衅，造成人员伤亡" or, The Indian military violated its promise, and was deliberately initiated a provocation, causing casualties."

Official / Semi-Official Sources

Wang Yi held a telephone conversation with Indian Foreign Minister and demanded that the Indian side severely punish those responsible

环球时报 (global times, 6.17 Chinese edition):
https://mbd.baidu.com/newspage/data/landingshare?context=%7B%22nid%22%3A%22news_9117432940348722466%22%2C%22sourceFrom%22%3A%22bjh%22%7D&pageType=1

"Wang Yi said that on the evening of June 15, Indian front-line troops broke the consensus reached at a military-level meeting between the two sides. Once the situation in the Galwan

Valley had eased, they crossed the actual control line again and deliberately provoked the Chinese side with a violent attack. This triggered a physical encounter, resulting in casualties."

"This risky act of the Indian army seriously violated the agreement reached by the two countries on the border issue and seriously violated the basic norms of international relations. China once again expressed its strong protest to the Indian side. We request the Indian side to conduct a thorough investigation on this, severely punish those responsible for the incident, strictly control the frontline troops, and immediately stop all provocative actions to ensure that such incidents cannot occur again. The Indian side must not misjudge the current situation and must not underestimate China's firm will to safeguard territorial sovereignty."

Zhao Lijian detailed the ins and outs of the conflict between China and India
https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/0GO1WEfoloOlpNPXNrJmnA
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 6.19

\According to the "Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson's Office" news, after a regular press conference of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on June 19, a reporter asked: Can you elaborate on the ins and outs of the conflict in the Gallevan Valley? What is China's position on resolving this incident?

Zhao Lijian: The Calvin Valley is located on the Chinese side of the actual control line in the western section of the Sino-Indian border. For many years, Chinese border guards have been patrolling and performing their duties here. Since April this year, the Indian border defense forces have unilaterally continued to build roads, bridges and other facilities in the Galle Valley region. China has repeatedly made representations and protests on this, but the Indian side has intensified cross-border troubles. In the early hours of May 6, the Indian border guards crossed the border into the Chinese territory in the Gallevan Valley area, constructing barriers, blocking the normal patrol of the Chinese border guards, deliberately provoking incidents, and attempting to unilaterally change the status of border control. The Chinese border defense force had to take necessary measures to strengthen the on-site response and control of the border area.

To ease the situation in the border areas, China and India maintain close communication through military and diplomatic channels. At the strong request of the Chinese side, the Indian side agreed and evacuated the personnel across the line and demolished the facilities across the line. On June 6, the border defense forces of the two countries held a military-level meeting to reach a consensus on easing the situation in the border areas. The Indian side promised not to patrol and construct facilities at the mouth of the Galewan River, and the two sides agreed to withdraw the troops in batches through a meeting of local commanders.

But what is shocking is that on the evening of June 15, the Indian front-line frontier troops openly broke the consensus reached at the military-level meeting between the two sides. Once the situation in the Gallevan Valley has slowed down, they crossed the actual control line and

deliberately provoked again. It even violently attacked the officers and soldiers who had negotiated on the spot, which led to fierce physical conflict and caused casualties. The Indian army's risky actions have seriously undermined the stability of the border area, seriously threatened the lives of Chinese personnel, seriously violated the agreements reached by the two countries on the border issues, and seriously violated the basic norms of international relations. China has made solemn representations and strong protests to India in this regard.

On June 17, when Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi talked with Indian Foreign Minister Su Jiesheng on the phone, he again clarified China's solemn position to the Indian side, demanding that the Indian side conduct a thorough investigation on this, severely punish those responsible for the incident, and strictly control the frontline troops, immediately Stop all provocative actions to ensure that such incidents cannot occur again, and convene the second military commander-level meeting as soon as possible to resolve local issues. The two sides agreed to deal fairly with the serious events caused by the conflict in the Gallevan Valley, jointly abide by the consensus reached at the military-level meetings between the two sides, cool down the situation on the ground as soon as possible, and maintain peace and tranquility in the border area in accordance with the agreement reached so far between the two countries.

The Chinese side hopes that the Indian side and the Chinese side will act in accordance with the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, strictly abide by the agreements signed by the two governments, and strengthen the communication and coordination of the current border situation through the existing military and diplomatic channels of the two sides. To jointly maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas of the two countries.

The military responds to the conflict between Chinese and Indian border guards: the Indian army deliberately provoked attacks
人民日报 (People's Daily, 6.16 reprinting the PLA's daily briefing)
http://military.people.com.cn/BIG5/n1/2020/0616/c1011-31749029.html

According to the "China People's Liberation Army News" legal news, the Western Theater spokesman Zhang Shuili issued a statement on the conflict between the Chinese and Indian border guards in the Galwan Valley area: on the evening of June 15, in China and India In the area of the Galwan Valley on the border, the Indian army violated its promise and crossed the actual control line again for illegal activities, deliberately launching a provocative attack, which triggered a fierce physical conflict between the two sides, causing casualties. The sovereignty of the Galwan Valley region has always belonged to China. The Indian border defense forces went back and forth, seriously violating the agreement on the border issues between the two countries and the consensus of the Sino-Indian military leaders' talks, and seriously damaging the relations between the two armed forces and the feelings of the two peoples. We demand that the Indian side strictly restrain the front-line troops, immediately stop all infringement and

provocative actions, go against the Chinese side, and return to the correct track of dialogue and talks to resolve differences.

Popular News Outlets (some with strong government ties)

Indian media said there were casualties in the Chinese side of the Sino-Indian border conflict, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs responded
(网易 NetEase, 6.17 reprinting from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
https://3g.163.com/news/20/0617/19/FFBLTALE0001899O.html?from=history-back-list

“Reuters reporter: Last weekend there was news that China and India agreed to resolve the border conflict through dialogue, but why is the conflict escalating now? Is the two sides currently leading the dialogue?

Zhao Lijian: On your first question, recently, in order to ease the situation in the border areas between the two countries, China and India have maintained close communication through diplomatic and military channels. On June 6, the border defense forces of the two countries held a military-level meeting to reach an important consensus on easing the situation in the border areas. But what is shocking is that on June 15, the Indian forces seriously violated the consensus of the two sides, illegally crossed the line, and provoked and attacked Chinese personnel, resulting in serious physical conflicts between the border forces of both sides, causing casualties. China has lodged strong protests and solemn representations to India in this regard, and once again solemnly demanded that India strictly adhere to the spirit of the relevant consensus, strictly restrain the front-line troops, and refrain from cross-border activities, provocations, and no unilateral actions that would complicate the border situation. . China and India agree to continue to resolve relevant issues through dialogue and consultation, and make efforts to ease the situation in the border areas and maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas.

Regarding your second question, China and India are in close communication through diplomatic and military channels to resolve relevant issues.”

Indian Press Trust Reporter: Indian media said there were casualties in China, can you confirm?

Zhao Lijian: I have made it very clear that the border defense forces of the two countries are working together on specific issues on the spot, and I have no information to release.

I believe you also noticed that after the incident, both China and India expressed their commitment to resolve differences through dialogue and maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas.

As the two largest developing countries and emerging economies in the world, the common interests of China and India far outweigh their differences. The two sides should earnestly follow the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries and ensure that China-India relations move in the correct direction in accordance with the interests and expectations of the two peoples. It is hoped that the Indian side and the Chinese side will face each other and make joint efforts to this end.

The Indian Defense Minister publicly stated his position on the Sino-Indian border conflict, not mentioning China

观察者网 (Guancha news, 6.17):
https://baijiahao.baidu.com/s?id=1669738614576268878&wfr=spider&for=pc
“the Indian army violated its promise and deliberately provoked, causing casualties.”

“[India’s defense minister] said that the loss of troops was “deeply painful”, and India will not forget their "courage and sacrifice." However, Singh did not mention China.”

6.15 China-India border conflict analysis: China-India border dispute will not become India-Pakistan conflict mode

（南方周末 Southern Weekly）**http://www.infzm.com/contents/186078**

“The Sino-Indian border dispute has always been a time bomb for Sino-Indian relations. Compared with previous years, the Indian government feels that there is a strategic opportunity to resolve the border conflict. This strategic opportunity refers to the change in Sino-US relations that has brought India’s "diplomatic opportunism" roaring back. But India’s aggressive diplomacy has been around for many years, and weaker neighboring countries have been upset but afraid to voice their anger…[Border tensions for India] have been closely and directly related to the promotion of regional hegemonism, diplomatic opportunism and military adventurism by some people in the Indian government.

This year, India and three neighboring countries have border conflicts at the same time, which is directly related to the Indian government's judgment on the international situation. In fact, since August 2019, India’s diplomatic and military deployment has been volatile. First, the Constitution was amended, the special status of Jammu and Kashmir was abolished, and two "Federal Direct Jurisdictions" were directly established. Mohe Kashmir 。。（*RJA I I got paywalled out here)*

Bloggers and Analysts

"China-India Border Friction, Cause: Google, Twitter"
Piece by Zhou Xiaoping in Wangyi 6.16 （ Zhou is a well known blogger who has received praise from President Xi)
https://3g.163.com/news/article/FFBOSDSR0514D849.html?from=history-back-list

“But in fact, this friction was not a war, but one of the many border patrol friction incidents between China and India. It was just that this friction incident caused more casualties among Indian personnel, but it was still far from the "full fire" level.

But since yesterday, the author has observed that some domestic networks have suddenly started to speculate on "hotspots" and "large numbers of casualties" and other network hotspots. Essentially, these self-media are still trapped by the baton of Western public opinion, turning our domestic public opinion field into a megaphone and amplifier for Western politicians.”

How Many Times Will We Have to Beat India Before They Settle Down?
https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/Kdxav0SBxNMKvwQ4FoSP1Q
铁血军事 Popular Military WeChat Blog 6.19
“The reason was that Indian personnel crossed the runaway line and deliberately launched a provocative attack, which triggered a fierce physical conflict.”

It is worth noting that just a few days before the conflict, China and India held military-level talks and reached a consensus on controlling the scale of the conflict. This move today can not help but make people doubt the credibility of the Indians.

In 2017, India sent troops into Chinese territory, and they was beaten severely and ran away. How could India have such a short memory? Could it be that the beating was too light?

Zhang Jiadong: Border confrontation is the new normal in Sino-Indian relations?
Zhang Jiadong https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/B7fWbcE_B2d5xmZDGwDuNQ

Author: Zhang Jiadong, director of the Center for South Asian Studies, Fudan University, Fudan University all the way along and Global Security Institute for Governance and director of the Institute of International Strategy

In recent years, border confrontation has become an increasingly important issue in Sino-Indian relations. From a good point of view, this shows that both countries are strictly abiding by the 1993 "China-India Agreement on Maintaining Peace and Tranquility in the Area of the Line of Actual Control of the Border," and strive to not militarize or combat the confrontation and related conflicts. From a bad point of view, confrontation, including large-scale confrontation incidents,

has gradually increased, and there is also a tendency to become violent, causing serious problems for Sino-Indian relations. This situation occurs mainly for the following reasons:
First, China and India have risen at the same time, and their ability to control and control border areas has increased. The number of patrols is increasing and the scope is expanding. In the case where the actual control lines of many sections are quite different, this inevitably increases the chances of encounter and conflict between the two armies.

Second, nationalist sentiment has increased in both countries, making it difficult for the governments of both countries to adopt an open gesture of compromise. Especially in India, Hindu nationalist sentiment often combines religious sentiment with national interests, and it is tougher and more daring on national security and territorial issues than before. In the conflict with Pakistan, India broke the taboo for decades and directly attacked the uncontested Pakistani territory.

Third, the development of networking and self-media has increased the difficulty of the Chinese and Indian governments in controlling domestic public opinion. This caused the separation wall and filter between public opinion and foreign policy to be penetrated, directly echoing the country's foreign policy and military actions. This has in fact weakened the monopoly power of the two governments in diplomatic and military decision-making, and there has been a downward movement of the national decision-making process.

Fourth, global warming has led to accelerated melting of ice and snow in many parts of the Tibetan Plateau, and the snow line has moved upward. This has led to an increasing patrolable range and longer patrolable time between the two countries, which objectively makes the border dispute issue more noticeable and sharp.

Fifth, some Indians may think that China's current international environment is relatively harsh, the competition in Sino-US relations is rising, and major powers are rushing to win India, and India's international situation has improved significantly. Under such circumstances, India has the opportunity to use China’s diplomatic challenges to seek real territorial benefits for itself.
Sixth, India's domestic political and economic situation is facing challenges and anti-China sentiment is rising. On the one hand, this sentiment will be transmitted to the border guards, which will lead to the change of the state of the border guards in India. On the other hand, the border conflict may also serve to transform contradictions and divert attention. However, the hatred sentiment created by this has in turn made the relevant authorities ride the tiger.
Therefore, the issue of Sino-Indian border disputes is long-term; however, the political and economic motives behind specific conflicts are often short-term and variable.
Recently, India and several neighboring countries have had serious border disputes. The deterioration of the Sino-Indian border dispute seems to be not an isolated incident, and India may have a big layout and plan.

With the support of Hindu nationalist sentiment, the strong Indian government's behavior style has changed dramatically at home and abroad.

At the international level, some Indian policymakers may believe that the strength and stability of domestic politics, combined with the favorable posture of the international environment, provide India with a good opportunity not to be missed. Therefore, India's position on the border dispute with Nepal, Pakistan and China has been comprehensively strengthened.
At home, India has also changed the traditional political style of compromise, negotiation, and tolerance, forcing major issues such as changes in Kashmir's status, constitutional amendments, and citizenship registration law amendments, and has often made progress. Therefore, the current internal and external policies of India are not due to the tendency of individual factions and individual political parties, but are caused by the mainstream political parties and social consciousness in India, and have certain inevitability. Nonetheless, we must also pay attention to another reality: China and India are both big powers, and the chain of command from the decision-making level to the frontline frontier troops is very long. Especially in India's political system, the boundary between government departments and military institutions is relatively clear, and the independence of the military system is strong. Under such circumstances, the increase in the Sino-Indian border confrontation incident is certainly a manifestation of the will of the decision-makers, but how and to what extent the conflict is often beyond the control of officials in New Delhi, and sometimes unpredictable.
Therefore, although this conflict is serious and unprecedented in the past few decades, China and India still adhere to the bottom line and fought a conflict of primitive society in the era of nuclear weapons. This shows that the decision-makers of both China and India are self-restraint and are trying to restrain the conflict on the track of political settlement.

The deep-seated reasons for the continuous conflict between China and India at the border
二号头目九边 (popular wechat piece, https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/ssgcquafY93HZaPk97mN-Q)

"At the time when the Qing Dynasty was weak and the Republic of China was weak, the United Kingdom took the opportunity to sign several illegal treaties with the local government of Tibet and drew several lines in Tibet to cut off part of the territory of the Qing Dynasty. The line below is called "McMahon Line

At that time, the Northeast was planning to participate in the Korean War, and the Southwest was banditry, but under great pressure, it sent troops to Tibet and Xinjiang to keep the two lands that had been unstable since the collapse of the Qing Dynasty.

Then, the engineering corps of the Construction Corps went on for decades. They went on to build railways and infrastructure on the permafrost on the plateau. They overcame one after another world problems at a great cost, but consolidated our northwestern frontier.

The orange area in the picture above is too difficult to supply, and it is next to India and occupied by India very early. Although it is our territory, most of the people who live there are Indians. When the PLA entered Tibet, in order to avoid conflict, it did not occupy that place.

This kind of tolerance in our country made Indians think that China recognized the lines drawn by the British, so they demanded that China also hand over Asekchin.

That is the green area. The place is the junction of Xinjiang and Tibet in my country. The strategic position is very critical. When the PLA entered Tibet in 1950, it occupied the place for the first time.

That is to say, the two disputed territories, both sides of the two territories feel that they are their own, and later both sides occupy one.

Before the outbreak of the war in 1962, Premier Zhou visited India once, hoping to reach a treaty based on the actual control area. China is not occupying Asekchin, India is occupying the piece of Dawang, anyway, they do not recognize the other party’s occupation, and they simply occupy each piece and sign the agreement.

But the Indians disagree, like a baby, both are required. This is impossible to talk about.

It cannot be resolved peacefully, so we have to solve it by force. The Chinese army made a short raid on the Indian army, which took the lead in repair work, and took the entire southern Tibet by the way, and then withdrew from that area. I wrote this process in the last article and attached it at the end of the article.

Our posture is very clear, we can easily get down on you, but we still put peace first, or sit down and talk?

If your brain is normal, you should talk about it at this time. But the Indians' brains are hard to say, and they still refuse to talk about it. Both are necessary. The two sides later talked about seven or eight times, which lasted for two or three decades, and still nothing was achieved.

However, that war objectively achieved a goal. Although the dead ducks refused to talk about the conditions, the body was very honest. In the next few decades, India did halt and no longer provoked against our control zone. Although the two sides didn't talk, they passed quietly.

Why is India suddenly mad again?

1. Modi is crazy

   Just before Modi came to power, an Indian intellectual analyzed that he was just like Hitler and came from the bottom. He joined a Hindu fanatic group in the early days-RSS, which has strong speech ability, instigation ability, and dares to trample the world. All ethics are very enforceable and can do everything.

2. The border is a way to release pressure

   Everyone knows that Modi and his party hate Muslims, but such blatantly engaging in religious discrimination still shocked everyone. After all, how to say, India is now a secular country, apparently, how can it be identified through religion? The problem is that there are still 200 million Muslims in the country, and they discriminate blatantly. This is obviously not a fear of chaos in India.

3.

   But it is clear that Comrade Modi is about to make trouble. The economy is not working, there is a lot of resentment, there must be a vent, religion is such a vent, and then there is a riot in India. After all, economy and religion are Modi's two legs, and religion is still a thigh.

The latest news of the Sino-Indian conflict! India announced casualties, netizens found that P-8I has reached the front
我是大伊万军武速递（popular wechat account, 6.19)
https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/tPhywACK-njBTCT_t904MA

“In recent days, incidents in the Galwan Valley have become the focus of military fans. Basically, what is certain is that India has suffered heavy losses in this conflict. On the one hand, we must maintain regional stability, and on the other hand, we must always protect against on further military adventures by India.”

According to the reports of the Indian media in the past two days, the Indian army was killed about 20 to 23 people, injured more than 100 people, and captured 45 people in the conflict (35 of them were released by our army earlier), A colonel (the commander of the 16th Battalion of Bihar United) was killed, and a lieutenant colonel and three majors were captured (probably the deputy commander and company commander).

“The Indian Army suffered such a huge loss that it has set a disgraceful record in the history of the Indian Army in recent years and even in the history of modern warfare. Modi’s “old immortal” face is naturally unsustainable: The day before yesterday, Modi stated in a speech on TV that “India The blood of soldiers will never be in vain", and the National Congress Party will not miss any opportunity to put pressure on the People’s Party, especially Rahul Gandhi is now pressuring Modi to take revenge on the People’s Liberation Army.”

In addition to the Indian Army continuing to increase troops to the Leh and Gallewan valleys, the Indian army is also eager to move: yesterday, through Flightradar24 aeronautical information software, it was found that the Indian army even took the Navy’s P-8I anti-submarine aircraft from South India. The Alkonan base in Milnad was transferred. The P-8I anti-submarine aircraft imported from the United States by the Indian Navy flew all the way north from the direction of New Delhi. The mission was carried out at a height of about 30,000 feet above the Ladakh Mountains between Srinagar and Leh. The confrontation line is about 200 kilometers away. The Indian Navy’s move to dispatch the P-8I once again aroused the interest of the melon-eating crowd, publicly taunting “The Indian Army is finally thinking of fishing Indian soldiers into the river?” “The Indian Navy is planning to come to Bangong Lake Are you searching for the Chinese Navy's 09III attack nuclear submarine?"

However, Grand Ivan thinks that the Indian army’s deployment of the Navy’s P-8I anti-submarine patrol aircraft is not just a joke and honey operation. From a tactical point of view, it should be considered that the Indian army is preparing to retaliate against our army. (of course it may just be a gesture, but our People’s Liberation Army will never have this illusion).

After the Sino-Indian border conflict "lost", Indian media clamored to play the "South China Sea card" to contain China

(网易 Netease，王德华 Wang De Hua, a scholar and media analyst）

https://3g.163.com/news/article/FFCVA4I30515DJ1P.html?from=history-back-list

“India's provocation on the Sino-Indian border was met with a shameful defeat. Major Indian media reported the incident in a big way, all of which believed that the Indian army had suffered a loss. Some Indian media believe that China should be "punished" economically, including prohibiting Huawei's 5G from entering the Indian market. India’s “Economic Times” went further, believing that “what happened in the South China Sea is also largely a matter of India”, and the Modi government should hit the “South China Sea card”.

The article said that there is another permanent battlefield in the South China Sea, hundreds of miles away from the place where the current Sino-Indian dispute occurred, where China has always played a role. There, the arguments surrounding sovereignty claims often evolved into arrogance by force at sea.”

“Obviously, after the Sino-Indian border conflict, the Indian government is likely to be planted in the arms of the United States and serve as the forerunner of the Indian-Pacific strategy in Washington.

Chinese leaders have repeatedly emphasized that we cannot lose an inch of the land left by our ancestors! India has no bargains in the border areas, and no bargains in the South China Sea.

Conflict broke out again on the Sino-Indian border. What kind of army would be deliberately provocative?
张召忠 Zhang Zhaozhong (a popular military blogger)
https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/pQ4TLY8PsYuaJHRvdMQZyQ
“The media revealed at the end of May that the provocative Indian army by the Bangong Lake was beaten on the ground by our army. netizens uploaded the live photos to social media.”

“I don’t know if the PLA has opened up the heads of these people last time, because the Indian army has made some progress: Last time they got beat up in the light of day, but this time it was changed to a night battle. Still the same old rules, do not use guns, both sides only use cold weapons and fists. The Indian army deliberately provoked this time, they were looking for trouble, but the consequences for them are very serious: the latest reported data confirmed that at least 20 people died in the Indian side, three of them were killed by our side in the conflict.”

“Oh by the way, there is another news today: a brigade of the Tibet Military Region of our army organized units such as distant fire, ground guidance, and aviation to form a joint combat group, and implemented a three-dimensional spot-practice real-arms drill to test the troops under the plateau environment. Joint combat capability. I wonder who is this drill for?”

Our army suffered heavy casualties? Is the Indian Army an elite trump card? “Laozi” strikes back
我是大伊万军武次位面, a popular military news account on Wechat
https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/EDgYQ5WFGMjNn3yp3lo9Sw
(RJA: this piece argues that foreign media have painted a distorted picture of PLA casualties, since they were actually far fewer than Indian casualties. It also argues that the military unit that the PLA bested was not a ragtag force, as some anti-Chinese media have indicated, but actually a relatively strong unit by the Indian military’s standards. It includes a drawing of a large baton striking a man wearing a turban that seems to glorify the PLA’s attack).
“

“In the past two days, we have conducted a multi-angle analysis based on the conflict between China and India. Readers have responded quite enthusiastically. We received nearly 10,000 messages in the background, indicating that the readers have great concern for the Chinese border defense forces and the Chinese defense cause. And full of enthusiasm.”

In so many replies and private messages, the most important issue for everyone is naturally these two points: The first is "whether the soldiers of the people are damaged in this battle". In these private messages, some people have come up with the so-called "overseas News", saying “our army lost more than the Indians"; the second is "whose unit did the Indian army that had suffered a lot of bad molds this time."

For example, some people pointed out that this "Bihar 16th Regiment" was actually a group of poorly equipped "Militia Imperial Army". Our army took regular troops to fight the "Empire Imperial Army", and it was no big deal to win . So, are the facts of the Sino-Indian border conflict really as these people say?

Which side, China and India, has greater losses?

“domestic reporters did not confirm whether the source of the information concerning [alleged PLA losses] was accurate, and claimed that there were casualties in our army.
...In order to conform to the Western media’s consistent mindset that “the Chinese army is weak”, the Western press picked up the story about casualties, and then these stories flowed back into domestic media.”

In fact, let’s not look at what the anti-Chinese media abroad say, and see what the Indians do. If our army really loses more than the Indian army, it won’t be a big victory in India soon. As for the mourning on social media, many Indians, such as mourning test concubines, and even Modi's "old fairy", quickly came out to appease the emotions of the people, saying that "the blood of Indian soldiers will never be in vain." Does Di "Laoxian" implement accountability?”

What will happen to the Sino-Indian border conflict?
https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/B1Z3iARqGo_38_uMFxRzHA
（a piece trending on wechat 6.17, 醉卧沙场侠客岛）

As shown in the picture above, it is located in the Aksai Chin area on the western part of the Sino-Indian border, and is the confluence of the Gallevan River and the Shiyoke River. Here, the mountain is steep and the valley is deep and the ditch is narrow, which is not suitable for human survival.

But its strategic position is very important, it is the key to enter Aksai Chin and even southern Xinjiang. Since 1962, the actual control line in the Calvin Valley has been very clear, and it has always been China's actual control.

On May 13th, the Indian Army Chief of Staff Manoki Mukund Naravan said, don't over-interpret the current Sino-Indian confrontation. The confrontation between the Chinese and Indian armies was "due to inconsistent perceptions of the actual control line". The border troops encountered this.

This sentence seems "fair", but it is not. Naravin's so-called "the two sides have different perceptions of the actual control line" is actually trying to challenge China's actual control of this zone, attempting to enter the Chinese actual control zone through frequent provocations and even crossing the line to make things worse. China's actual control area is hyped as a "disputed area" with "different cognitions", and then changes the status of control.

"This time it was obviously India's initiative to provoke and abandon its commitments.

As a matter of fact, the conflict between the two sides had been "clued" last month-on May 5, the Indian army crossed the line of control from the valley area into Chinese territory, constructed barriers, and was subsequently controlled by the Chinese border defense forces."

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This sentence seems "fair", but it is not. Naravin's so-called "the two sides have different perceptions of the actual control line" is actually trying to challenge China's actual control of this zone, attempting to enter the Chinese actual control zone through frequent provocations and even crossing the line to make things worse. China's actual control area is hyped as a "disputed area" with "different cognitions", and then changes the status of control.'

Casualties in the Sino-Indian border conflict, the situation around China has deteriorated sharply!

李广满（a popular, very nationalistic wechat blogger, 6.17.2020)
http://www.cwzg.cn/politics/202006/58265.html

https://www.kunlunce.com/e/wap/show.php?classid=176&id=144427
“The situation around China has started to deteriorate sharply under the instigation and planning of the United States. The war is approaching China.”

“One is the Sino-Indian border conflict. On June 16, the media reported that Chinese and Indian soldiers broke out in the Galvan Valley in serious physical conflict. The Indian side stated that three people died in the Indian Army. The report said that there were also casualties on our side. This is no longer a physical conflict between the Chinese and Indian armed forces in the Gallevan Valley, but it is so severe that the casualties between the two sides are still very rare, indicating that the Sino-Indian border conflict is escalating.”

“The United States has continuously increased its military actions on the island of Taiwan. India has frequently provoked China’s territorial sovereignty along the Sino-Indian border. The Sino-Indian border conflict is on the verge, and the conflict between Pakistan and India has also intensified. At the same time, the Philippines saw a change, and the North-South relationship on the Korean Peninsula was suddenly tense, which increased strategic pressure on China. At present, China’s periphery is not a change at one point, but a change at multiple points. In addition to the recent intensification of conflicts, conflicts, and wars in Sino-US relations, the United States is gradually increasing its strategic pressure and war risk on China. Faced with a complex and changing situation, how should China respond?”

“The third is the Sino-Indian border conflict. At present, India sees the deterioration of Sino-US relations and the increase in China’s strategic pressure, and its ambitions have begun to expand again. Last year, it passed laws to try to legalize some of the disputed Kashmir territories. For a long time, after annexing Sikkim, India has repeatedly eroded Bhutan and Nepal, intending to further annex and control. For China, it will step up military deployment along the border, build roads, bridges, and fortifications, invade Chinese territory, and provoke Chinese territorial sovereignty. Although from a strategic perspective, when the Sino-US conflict intensifies, the Sino-Indian border conflict should be resolved as far as possible by political means, and the fact is that both sides have not resorted to force so far, and are limited to using physical conflicts to solve problems. Obviously, they are still restrained. But if India disregards China’s core interests and must invade China’s territory, China must also resolutely fight back, fight a limited war, resolutely safeguard China’s territorial sovereignty, and combat the arrogance of Indian leaders.
“

INDIAN MEDIA SOURCES, ENGLISH AND HINDI (VK)

List of outlets

- Dainik Bhaskar (print, Hindi) https://www.bhaskar.com/
- Dainik Jargan (Hindi)
- Times of India (print)
- The Hindu (print)
- Hindustan Times (print)
- Indian Express (print)
- NDTV (TV and online)
- Republic TV (TV and online)
- Aaj Tak (TV and online)
- India Today TV (TV and online)
- Times Now (TV and online)
- The Wire (online) https://thewire.in
- The Print (online) https://theprint.in/
- Scroll.in (online) https://scroll.in/

Notes:

- Initial reports of the clash relied heavily on government sources and the foundations of the narrative remain government statements (China instigated the clash, the Chinese government is making “untenable” territorial claims, both sides suffered casualties)
- The primary difference between English and Hindi coverage is in the tone

Themes of coverage and op-eds

1. **The June 15 clash was a pre-meditated attack by Chinese troops**

"Chinese Side Took Pre-Meditated Action," Foreign Minister Tells China
NDTV
https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/foreign-minister-s-jaishankar-and-his-chinese-counterpart-wang-yi-speak-over-the-phone-two-days-after-ladakh-face-off-2247770

“Chinese soldiers took "pre-meditated and planned action" that was directly responsible for Monday's clash at Ladakh's Galwan Valley, in which 20 Indian soldiers died, Foreign Minister S Jaishankar told his China counterpart Wang Yi in a phone conversation today, the first since the massive escalation in border hostilities. The Foreign Minister underlined that the unprecedented development "will have a serious impact on the bilateral relationship" and China had to reassess its actions and take corrective steps. Both ministers signed off on a note of de-escalating tension, saying "Neither side would take any action to escalate matters and instead, ensure peace and tranquility as per bilateral agreements and protocols."

China’s People’s Liberation Army took meticulously planned action in Galwan, senior government official
The Hindu
https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/ladakh-face-off-chinas-peoples-liberation-army-meticulously-planned-attack-in-galwan-says-senior-government-official/article31862371.ece?homepage=true

“Chinese released water at high speed; charged, pushed Indian Army personnel and many fell into river, says official.”

“The Chinese People’s Liberation Army (PLA) meticulously planned the attack on Indian troops in eastern Ladakh’s Galwan for at least two days, a senior government official said.”

“The Chinese blocked small rivulets in heightened areas, releasing water at high speed when Indian Army personnel appeared at the disputed site in Galwan area on June 15. “The strong gush of water made the men lose balance. The Chinese charged, pushed the Army personnel and many fell into the Galwan river,” the official said.”

“The Chinese did a reconnaissance by flying unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) to see the strength of the Indian troops and accordingly bolstered their presence on the other side of the Line of Actual Control (LAC), the official stated.”

“*The Hindu* reported on Wednesday that the clash took place after Colonel Santosh Babu, who was commanding the unit, dismantled a tent erected by the Chinese and later set it on fire. During the June 6 military level talks, the two sides decided to remove the tent. It has now emerged that the tent was destroyed two days before the June 15 clash. When Indian troopers were patrolling the contested site, the Chinese threw boulders on them and unleashed strong current of water by unblocking the rivulets.”

“The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) had issued a statement that the “Chinese side took premeditated and planned action that was directly responsible for the resulting violence and casualties.””

“The official said, “The patrolling team walked into an ambush. The area had witnessed clashes on May 5 and the attack took place despite a high alert. The men were outnumbered by the Chinese. No gunshot was fired”.”

Indian media also extensively uses satellite imagery to show the Chinese military build up near the border

2. **The Chinese government is laying claim to the entire Galwan Valley, including areas on the Indian side of the LAC. India describes the claims as exaggerated and untenable**

China's Galwan Valley Gambit is Attempt to Extend Official Claim Line, LAC Westward
The Wire
https://thewire.in/security/china-galwan-valley-lac-indian-troops

“At no point in the past has China laid claim to the entire Galwan Valley, a sliver of flat land abutted by steep gorges through which the Galwan river flows and enters the Shyok river, and the maps Beijing has itself published in the past show its claim line stopping short of the confluence.”

“Earlier this week, however, in the wake of bloody clashes between the Indian and Chinese armies in which 20 Indian soldiers were killed and China too suffered an unknown number of casualties, both the Peoples Liberation Army and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Beijing have described the Galwan Valley as part of China’s territory.”

“Commenting on the incident of July 15, the official spokesman of the Western Theatre Command of the PLA, Zhang Shuili, accused the Indian side of “deliberately launching a provocative attack” and he went on to add that “the sovereignty of the Galwan Valley has always belonged to China.””

“India, of course, disagrees with this claim, and the Special Representatives process was designed to help the two countries resolve their differences over the boundary question. Linked to this process is the line of actual control, or LAC, which is not a line on the ground or even an agreed line on a map – which is why it is susceptible to changes by one side or the other. Over the years, a familiar pattern has built up around specific problem areas along the LAC but the Galwan Valley has not been one of them.”

...

“Chinese claims in the Aksai Chin were confusing and sometimes contradictory. But, at the end of the day, they had physical control of the territory and easier access to it than India. Maps in the 1950s often showed the Chang Chenmo Valley within India. In 1959, Zhou Enlai confirmed that a map published in 1956 was the correct alignment. This map showed the Galwan and Chip Chap river valleys to be parts of India. It was only in their sixth meeting with Indian officials in June 1960 that the Chinese put out what they said was their official map which included the two valleys as part of Chinese territory.”

“Since 1993, both India and China have maintained the fiction of a “Line of Actual Control” in the area, which was all right till the other day. Suddenly the Chinese have decided that the entire Galwan Valley is part of their territory.”

“The Chinese goal now seems to be to establish their boundary along the Shyok river, as it seems to be to push forward and control all of the north bank of Pangong Lake constraining Indian defences relating to the Leh region. As for the LAC, to paraphrase Humpty Dumpty, it is where you choose it to be.”

China’s policy of grabbing territory / चीन की इलाके हथियाने की नीति
Dainik Bhaskar
https://www.bhaskar.com/db-original/news/china-india-land-border-dispute-update-line-of-actual-control-turkistan-tibet-taiwan-hong-kong-127425753.html?ref=ht

“China occupies 41.13 lakh sq km of land in 6 countries, this is 43% of its total land, India also has 43 thousand sq km of land with it”

“China must have seen 6 countries in eastern Turkistan, Tibet, Inner Mongolia or Southern Mongolia, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau. These are the countries that have been occupied by China or have given them their share. The total area of all these countries is more than 41 lakh 13 thousand 709 sq km. It is 43% of the total area of China.”

“How much of India is occupied by China?
In the Lok Sabha's reply on 11 March this year, Minister of State for External Affairs V. Muralitharan had said that China claims 90 thousand square kilometers of Arunachal Pradesh. Whereas, about 38 thousand square km of Ladakh is under Chinese occupation.”

China’s Galwan Valley claims mark shift from past
The Hindu
https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/chinas-galwan-valley-claims-mark-shift-from-past/article31867941.ece
It is being seen as an expansion of its previously known territorial claims in the area.

China's government on Friday said it claimed the entire Galwan valley, the site of the June 15 clash on the border, including to areas that are currently on India's side of the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

In a statement, the Foreign Ministry accused India of "unilaterally building roads, bridges and other facilities in the Galwan Valley region" and said "the Galwan Valley is located on the Chinese side of the LAC in the western section of the Sino-Indian border."

The statement suggests Beijing is making a new claim to the LAC in this area, in the view of Indian officials. This area was the site of a clash on June 15 that claimed the lives of at least 20 Indian soldiers in the worst violence on the border since 1967. In the valley, the LAC runs east of the confluence of the Galwan and Shyok rivers. Monday's clash was reported to have taken place on India's side of the LAC.

The Hindu Explains | Who does the Galwan Valley belong to?
The Hindu
https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/the-hindu-explains-who-does-galwan-valley-belong-to/article31879418.ece
(VK: This article does a good job of highlighting the uncertainty surrounding the precise position of the LAC and works hard to provide a balanced history of the dispute)

3. **Indian companies and individuals are calling for boycotts of Chinese goods.**

87% Indians ready to boycott Chinese products for next one year: Survey
Times of India
https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/87-indians-ready-to-boycott-chinese-products-for-next-one-year-survey/articleshow/76475675.cms

Will 'Boycott China' strategy really help?
Hindustan Times
https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/will-boycott-china-strategy-really-help/story-paDe7aiEqGlZUcYkkNsgbM.html

"Can India hope to get the support of the anti-China bloc in such endeavours? Let us take the example of the US. The Indo-US strategic alliance is stronger than ever today. Concerns about China's growing power have been an important driver of this alliance. This strategic concurrence, however, has not led to a convergence on economic matters. The biggest proof of this is the continuing impasse over an Indo-US trade agreement."

"India's counter-strategising against China will only succeed if we make sure that our bilateral and multilateral reactions to the recent developments maximise our gains while minimising any

concessions we make for strategic support. India is a democracy unlike China. Domestic political pressures of achieving quick and radical gains will only complicate the pursuit of this objective."

Chinese funded unicorns face consumer ire
TNN
https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/chinese-funded-unicorns-face-consumer-ire/articleshow/76500929.cms

4. **The U.S. supports India**

U.S. with India against China / चीन के खिलाफ अमेरिका भारत के साथ
Dainik Bhaskar
https://www.bhaskar.com/international/news/us-secretary-of-state-pompeo-expressed-condolences-for-the-martyred-indian-soldiers-on-the-china-border-saying-we-will-always-remember-the-soldiers-127425817.html

PLA seems to have provoked clash to grab Indian territory: Senate Majority Leader
Press Trust of India **(news agency)**
https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/pla-of-china-seems-to-have-provoked-clash-to-grab-indian-territory-senate-majority-leader/articleshow/76455938.cms

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/china/chinese-acts-on-india-border-meant-to-take-advantage-of-covid-distractions-us/articleshow/76455751.cms

5. **Casualties and soldiers released**

The Indian press has discussed the casualties on both the Indian and Chinese sides extensively.

Notably, the Hindi-language press has continued to report absent any evidence that 43 Chinese soldiers were killed in the fighting.

https://www.livehindustan.com/national/story-army-commanders-conference-discuss-lac-security-situation-amid-china-tension-3298822.html

https://www.bhaskar.com/coronavirus/news/two-more-major-trials-of-hydroxychloroquine-closed-experts-said-except-for-this-drug-one-should-think-of-a-stronger-treatment-127435427.html?art=next

In contrast, many english reports are excluding that statistic
https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/army-top-brass-reviews-lac-situation-amid-tensions-with-china/story-xORF7D8d0RKRpdAnQ9jnJN.html

https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/lac-situation-india-china-corps-commanders-to-hold-talks/article31887020.ece?homepage=true

Some are adding details about the casualties

https://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-china-armies-galwan-clash-ladakh-6469865/

6. **Modi did not initially make a statement (domestic politics)**

7. **Modi's statement**

https://indianexpress.com/article/india/pm-narendra-modi-india-china-ladakh-faceoff-6463335/

https://www.bhaskar.com/national/news/rahul-gandhi-news-updates-former-congress-president-says-why-is-china-praising-pm-narendra-modi-during-conflict-127435688.html?ref=ht

8. **Indian media coverage of Chinese media**

https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/ladakh-face-off-chinese-media-lauds-modis-speech/article31884175.ece

9. **Next steps**

Revised rules of engagement:
https://theprint.in/defence/india-likely-to-review-rules-of-engagement-at-lac-after-galwan-valley-clash/443348/

Various op eds about keeping China in mind as a strategic competitor

The press is also covering the Indian government's steps towards a response,

Points of disagreement:

Indian commentators disagree about the relative strength of the Indian military

- Indian military is stronger or equal at the border https://www.hindustantimes.com/opinion/india-has-closed-military-gap-with-china-along-border/story-aMltn7t0MQWqdagqdXoBEJ.html
- Indian military is weaker: