

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONS – SAMPLE SET FOR MAY 22, 2020

1.

The recent incidents at the [1] lake area between Indian and Chinese soldiers on the Line of Actual Control (“LAC”) involve a picturesque lake, mountains, helicopters, fighter jets, boats, eyeball-to-eyeball confrontation, fisticuffs and injuries. Even if all the ingredients of a thriller drama are present, this is a far more serious business between two nuclear armed trans-Himalayan neighbours that has implications beyond the region.

The disputed boundary between India and China, also known as the LAC, is divided into three sectors: western, middle and eastern. The countries disagree on the exact location of the LAC in various areas, so much so that India claims that the LAC is 3,488 km long while the Chinese believe it to be around 2,000 km long.

The LAC mostly passes on the land, but [1] is a unique case where it passes through the water as well. The points in the water at which the Indian claim ends and Chinese claim begins are not agreed upon mutually.

Most of the clashes between the two armies occur in the disputed portion of the lake. As things stand, the 45 km-long western portion of the lake is under Indian control, while the rest is under China’s control.

[1] lake in eastern Ladakh has often been in the news, most famously during the Doklam standoff, when a video of the scuffle between Indian and Chinese soldiers — including kicking and punching, the throwing of stones, and the use of sticks and steel rods, leading to severe injuries — on its banks went viral on August 19, 2017.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from: "India-China conflict in Ladakh: The importance of the Pangong Tso lake", by Sushant Singh, *The Indian Express*, <https://bit.ly/2z9H0Lg>]

1.1 The name of which lake has been replaced with ‘[1]’ in the passage above?

- (a) Chilika Lake
- (b) Mirpal Tso
- (c) Pangong Tso
- (d) Chagar Tso

1.2 In addition to the lake mentioned in the previous question, the recent escalation of tensions between the Indian and Chinese armed forces has also led to increased troop deployment in the valley of which river in Ladakh?

- (a) Hooghly river
- (b) Zaskar river
- (c) Indus river
- (d) Galwan river

1.3 Which of the following is the largest freshwater lake?

- (a) Wular lake
- (b) Chilika lake
- (c) Dal lake
- (d) Sambhar lake

- 1.4 The conflicts described in the passage above relate to an area named 'Aksai Chin'. Which of the following did India recognise in 1947 as the official line delineating the border between India and China in Aksai Chin?
- (a) The Johnson Line
 - (b) The Macartney–Macdonald Line
 - (c) The Durand Line
 - (d) The McMohan Line
- 1.5 Who is the current Prime Minister of the area known as 'Pakistan Occupied Kashmir' or 'Pakistan Administered Kashmir'?
- (a) Masood Khan
 - (b) Raja Farooq Haider Khan
 - (c) Imran Khan
 - (d) Dr. Arif Alvi
- 1.6 Who is the author of the book "War and Peace in Modern India"?
- (a) Shivshankar Menon
 - (b) Neville Maxwell
 - (c) Srinath Raghavan
 - (d) Shashi Tharoor
- 1.7 Which among the following is the name of the geopolitical theory used to describe the Chinese strategy relating to its sea ports in the Indian Ocean region?
- (a) The Oyster Bed
 - (b) The String of Pearls
 - (c) The Legitimacy Theory
 - (d) The Non-Aligned Movement
