International Relations · GS - II

Examine the major challenges in managing the India–China border dispute along the Line of Actual Control. Suggest measures to maintain peace and stability along the border.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 26/10/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Undemarcated boundary; differing perceptions of the LAC; patrol face-offs; border infrastructure; confidence-building measures; diplomatic dialogue; military communication; strategic trust

Model Answer

Introduction

The India–China boundary dispute remains a major challenge to bilateral relations. Differing perceptions of the Line of Actual Control (LAC), particularly in certain sectors, can lead to patrol confrontations and military tensions.

Major Challenges

- **Unclear alignment:** The absence of a mutually agreed LAC in several areas creates scope for competing territorial claims and patrol face-offs.
- **Infrastructure development:** Roads, bridges and other border facilities improve connectivity but can intensify strategic competition.
- **Trust deficit:** Past confrontations and differing interpretations of bilateral agreements complicate confidence-building.
- **Strategic competition:** Broader regional and geopolitical differences affect border negotiations.

Measures to Maintain Peace

1. Strengthen military hotlines, local commander meetings and established communication channels.
2. Implement existing border agreements consistently and establish clear protocols for patrolling.
3. Continue diplomatic negotiations towards disengagement, de-escalation and a durable boundary settlement.
4. Improve transparency and crisis-management mechanisms to prevent local incidents from escalating.

Conclusion

Sustainable stability along the LAC requires predictable border conduct, effective communication and sustained political engagement. Peaceful management of the boundary is essential for regional security and constructive bilateral relations.

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