Readout on India-China LAC Disengagement by the Official MEA Spokesperson during the virtual Weekly Media Briefing (30 July 2020)

As conveyed in our press release issued after the 17th meeting of the Working Mechanism the two sides reviewed the situation in the India-China border areas along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Western sector. They agreed that early and complete disengagement of the troops along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and deescalation from India-China border areas in accordance with bilateral agreement and protocols and full restoration of peace and tranquillity was essential for the smooth overall development of bilateral relations. This was also the agreement reached between the two Special Representatives, National Security Advisor (NSA) and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, in their conversation on 5th July.

There has been some progress made towards this objective but the disengagement process has as yet not been completed. The Senior Commanders of the two sides will be meeting in the near future to work out steps in this regard.

As we have stated earlier, the maintenance of peace and tranquillity in the border areas is the basis of our bilateral relationship. Therefore, we expect that the Chinese side will sincerely work with us for complete disengagement and de-escalation and full restoration of peace and tranquillity in the border areas at the earliest as agreed to by the Special Representatives.

New Delhi July 30, 2020