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# '10 patrolling points in eastern Ladakh blocked by Chinese'

Many areas have become out of bounds for Indian troops now, says official

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NEW DELHI

There are at least 10 patrolling points along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh that have been blocked by Chinese troops, a senior government official told *The Hindu*.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh had informed the Rajya Sabha on Thursday that face-offs with the People's Liberation Army (PLA) happened because "patrols were interrupted".

## 'Perception overlap'

There was no commonly delineated LAC, and there was an overlap with regard to the LAC's perception in many areas, he noted.

The patrolling points



Supply route: Tankers meant for the defence forces getting filled near Leh en route to the border. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

(PPs) are the end points along the undefined LAC, up to which Indian troops patrol after starting from their base camps.

Since April, Indian troops

have been denied access to PPs number 9, 10, 11, 12, 12A, 13, 14, 15, 17, and 17A. The blocked PPs span from the Depsang plains in the north to Pangong Tso (lake) in the

south. In all, there are more than 65 PPs from the base of Karakoram to Chumar.

"Since the LAC is undefined, the PPs are the best way to assert territorial claims. With that access blocked by the Chinese and as per the disengagement plans in the past few months when buffer zones were created, many areas have become out of bounds for Indian troops as of now," said the official.

Another official said in the past, Chinese commanders had made untenable demands that India vacate an administrative post in Pangong and some heights near the Kurang nala.

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