

Post talks, India, China pull back troops from Gogra

Second such disengagement after February

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NEW DELHI

India and China have undertaken disengagement from Gogra area of eastern Ladakh following an agreement at the 12th round of Corps Commander talks, the Army said on Friday.

This is the second friction area from which disengagement has been carried out after Pangong Tso in February as part of efforts for overall disengagement and de-escalation along the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh to end the standoff that began in May last year.

“As per the agreement, both sides have ceased forward deployments in this area in a phased, coordinated and verified manner. The disengagement process was



Moving forward: Indian and Chinese troops disengaging from the Pangong lake area in eastern Ladakh in February. ■PTI

carried out over August 4 and 5. The troops of both sides are now in their permanent bases,” the Army said. All temporary structures and infrastructure created by both sides have been dismantled and mutually verified, it added.

This agreement ensures that the LAC in this area would be strictly observed and respected by both sides, and that there was no unilateral change in status quo, the Army said. With this development, the focus of

further talks would be on disengagement at PP15 in Hot Springs, according to a defence official.

Some progress had been made but some issues remain, he said.

On the 12th round of Corps Commander talks that went on for nine hours, the Army said the two sides had a “candid and in-depth exchange of views on resolution of the remaining areas” related to disengagement along the LAC in the western sector.