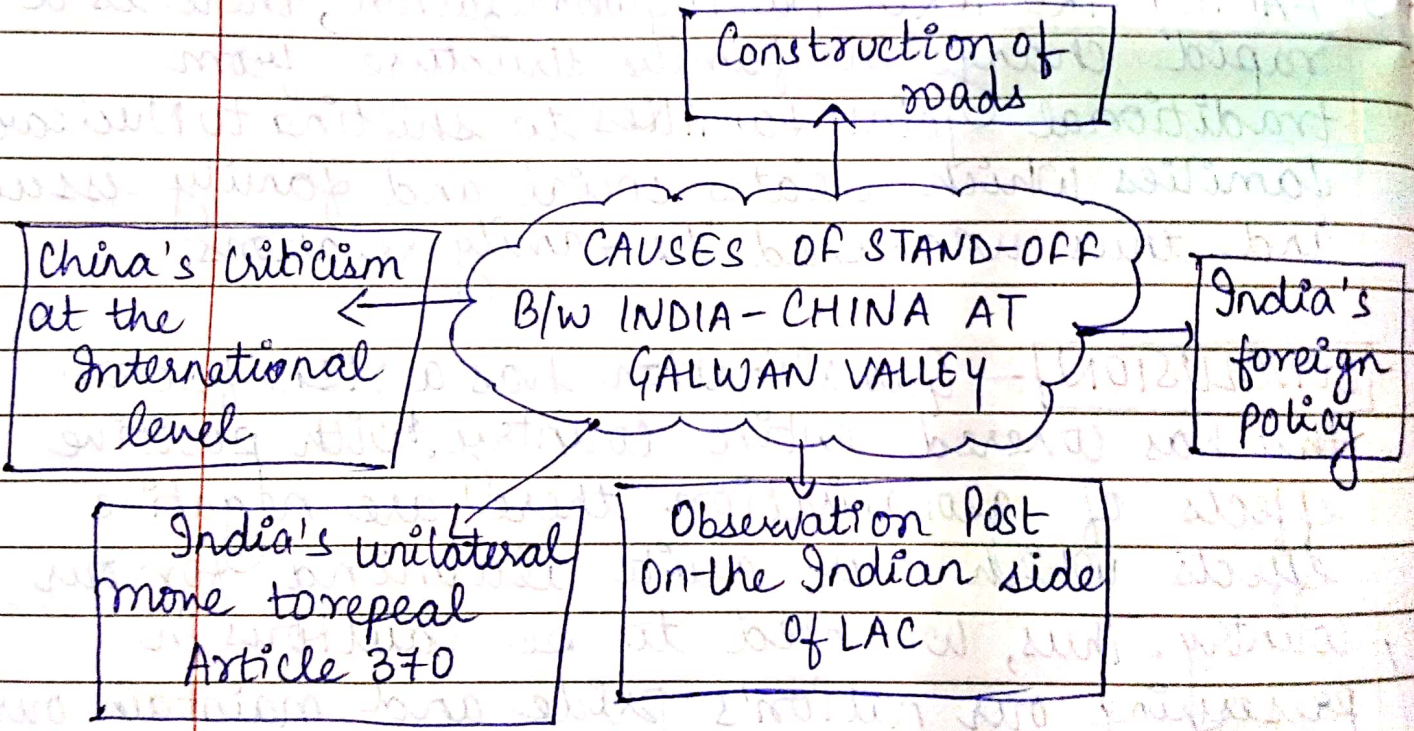


Que: What are the causes of stand-off between India and China recently at Galwan valley? How India can counter China? (250 words)

Ans: Recently, In a violent clash between India-China at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Galwan valley, 20 Indian soldiers were martyred. This is not the first time India-China border dispute happened but both the countries have signed an agreement to maintain peace & tranquility on the border.



1. India's Unilateral move to repeal Article 370 of Indian constitution, which had guaranteed a measure of autonomy to former J&K state and disputed areas of Ladakh region. China strongly denounced the move at the UN security council.

2. India inaugurated the 255 km [158 mile] Darbuk-Shyok-Daulat Beg Oldie [DSDBO] road, built along the LAC. China objected, seeing the move as a threat to its interests in the region.
3. China is facing wide criticism due to its internal politics & secondly due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
4. The trade-war between the US and China is another reason behind the face-off at Galwan valley.
5. As India imports maximum from China among its neighbouring countries, a new FDI rules will impact China to a greater extent.

\* India can counter China in following ways :-

1. TRADE BARRIERS : India plans to impose higher trade barriers & raise import duties on around 300 products from China as a part of an effort to protect domestic businesses.
2. MILITARY OPTION : India is by far the more experienced & battle-hardened side, having fought a series of limited and low-intensity conflicts in its recent past. The PLA, on the other hand, has not experienced the crucible of combat since its conflict with Vietnam in 1979.

### 3. DIPLOMATIC OPTIONS

- Closer ties with USA: The U.S. & India must develop a plan to counter a possible effort by China to strengthen its position in the Indian Ocean by deepening ties with Pakistan & Sri Lanka.
- Using BRICS to Counter China: 2020 BRICS summit at Saint Petersburg. India can use BRICS to counter China.

Thus, Timely resolving the current India-China stand off is in the interest of both nations as well as world peace.