

ambassador to India had been vacant since January 2021.

■ US Formally Recognises McMahon Line as India-China Boundary

The US has formally recognised the McMahon Line as the international boundary between India's Arunachal Pradesh and China, and rejected Beijing's claim that the northeastern state falls under Chinese territory. A bipartisan resolution in the US Senate acknowledged Arunachal Pradesh as an integral part of India and also supported India's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Apart from recognising the McMahon Line, the resolution also condemned Chinese provocations in the region, including China's use of military force to change the status quo along the Line of Actual Control, construction of villages in contested areas, publication of maps with Mandarin-language names for cities featuring Arunachal Pradesh, and expansion of Beijing's territorial claims over Bhutan. The resolution, titled 'Reaffirming the state of Arunachal Pradesh as Indian territory and condemning the People's Republic of China's provocations in South Asia' was first introduced in the US senate after one of the biggest clashes that took place in December between Indian and Chinese forces in Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh.