

Asian Games 2023

China Bars 3 Arunachal Athletes From Participating

Why In News

- India Lodged Strong **Protest With China** Over Beijing **Barring Three Wushu Players From Arunachal Pradesh** To Travel For The Ongoing Asian Games & Even As The Sports Minister Anurag Thakur Cancelled His Scheduled Visit To China.
- The Indian Government Lodged A Formal Protest In Both New Delhi And Beijing, Expressing Its Outrage Over China's "**Deliberate And Selective**" Obstruction Of The Athletes.



Who Are These 3 Players

- Three Martial Art (Wushu) Players From Arunachal Pradesh Have Been Forced To Pull Out Of The Asian Games After Not Receiving Clearance From The Host Country, China.
- The Three Players – **Onilu Tega, Mepung Lamgu And Nyeman Wangu**



Issue Faced

- China Have Now **Denied Them Accreditation** To Games, Which Effectively Denies Them Entry As Accreditation Serves As A Visa.
- They Were Unable To Download Travel Documents From An Official Chinese Website.



Reason Behind This

- The Three Players Hail From The Northeastern Indian State Of **Arunachal Pradesh, Which Is Viewed By China As Chinese Territory.**
- China Claims Arunachal Pradesh As '**South Tibet**', While India Says It Is An Integral Part Of India And Is Inseparable From The Country.
- The State Has Remained The Bone Of Contention Between The Two Neighbours For A Long.



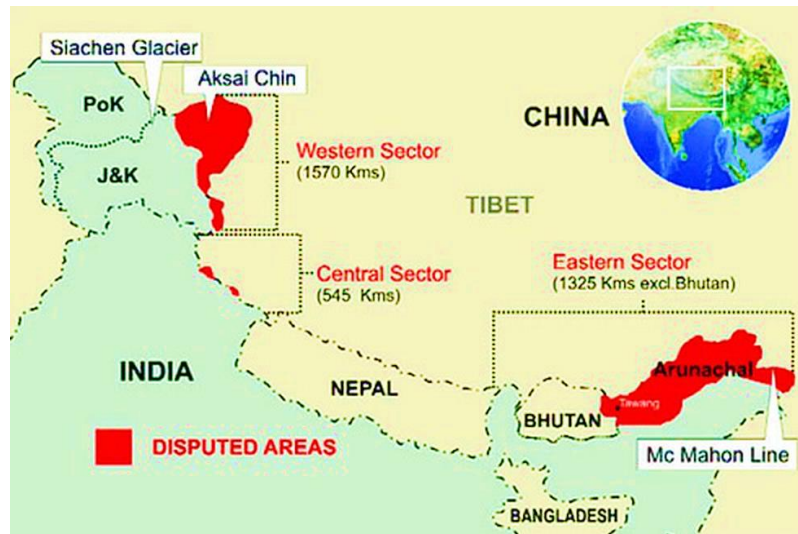
China's Say

- Asked About The Denial Of Accreditation, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Mao Ning Said The **Chinese Government Had Never "Recognised" Arunachal Pradesh.**
- "As The Host Country, China Welcomes Athletes From All Countries To The Games Using Legal Identification.
- The Chinese Government Has Never Recognised So-Called 'Arunachal'. The Area Of **Zangnan** Is Chinese Territory.

China claims Arunachal Pradesh as 'South Tibet', while India says it is an integral part of India and is inseparable from the country and the state has remained the bone of contention between the two neighbours for a long.

India's Say

- China's Action **Violates Both The Spirit Of The Asian Games** And The Rules Governing Their Conduct, Which Explicitly Prohibits Discrimination Against Competitors From Member States.
- "The Development Comes At A Time When India-China Relations Are At A Six-Decade Low Over The Dragging Military Standoff On The Line Of Actual Control.
- India Has Linked The Normalisation Of Relations To The Restoration Of Peace And Tranquillity In The Border Areas.
- "In Line With Our Long-Standing And Consistent Position, **India Firmly Rejects Differential Treatment Of Indian Citizens** On The Basis Of Domicile Or Ethnicity.
- Arunachal Pradesh Was, Is And Will Always Remain An Integral And Inalienable Part Of India.



Past Event

- It Is Not The First Time That Such Chinese Action With Regard To Athletes From Arunachal Pradesh Has Surfaced
- In July, India Had Cancelled The Trip Of Its Wushu Team To Chengdu For The **World University Games** When Beijing Issued Staped Visas To The Same Three Players.



INDIA SLAMS "TARGETED" MOVE

