

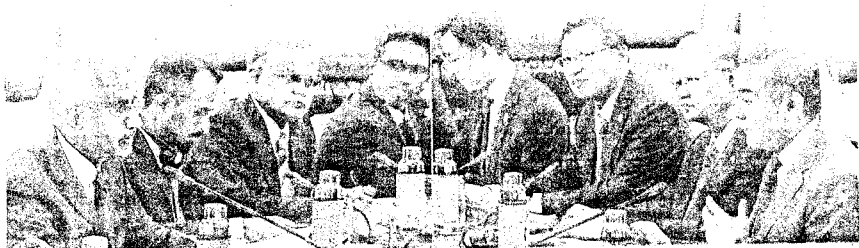
# Chinese Foreign Minister's India visit lifts industry hopes

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New Delhi

On a three-day visit to India, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi met External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Monday, raising hopes that the diplomatic thaw would expedite normalisation of economic relations that have been strained post the Galwan border clashes of 2020.

"Having seen a difficult period in our relationship, our two nations now seek to move ahead. This requires a candid and constructive approach from both sides," Jaishankar said in his opening remarks at the meeting.

This was a much-awaited and welcome moment for India's fertilizer, electronics, solar panel and EV man-



**HOPING FOR A THAW.** A combination image shows External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar at the meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in New Delhi on Monday ANI

ufacturers, among others, that have been hit by the strain in bilateral relationship.

**RELIEF IN THE OFFING**

"It is good news that the Chinese Minister is visiting India. Normalisation of relations with China may remove many irritants and it will be good for business," the CEO of a top fertilizer

company told *businessline*.

The fertilizer industry recently got some relief when earlier this month Beijing decided to start relaxing restrictions on urea exports to India. India's EV manufacturers, too, have been facing a crisis situation due to China's curbs on rare earth magnet exports.

Additionally, Apple iPhone manufacturers would

be looking for restoration of better ties. "Signs of a thaw in relations are visible. The visit of Wang to India now will hopefully lead to removal of more restrictions and a faster move towards normal economic relations," another source said.

**TO MEET PM**

Discussions on reviving border trade may also take place.

Wang is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday and also participate in the 24<sup>th</sup> round of the Special Representatives' (SR) talks on the India-China boundary question with National Security Advisor Ajit Doval.

"China is willing to take the opportunity to work together with the Indian side in implementing the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, maintain the momentum of high-level exchanges, enhance political mutual trust, strengthen practical cooperation, properly manage differences, and promote the sustained, healthy, and stable development of China-India relations," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said on Monday.