

DELHI ARVIND KEJRIWAL'S GAMEPLAN

MAHARASHTRA SHINDE'S FREEBIES GAMBIT

JEWELLERY THE NEW GOLD RUSH

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INDIA TODAY



Clockwise from centre
Omar Abdullah (NC), Ravinder Raina (BJP),
Altaf Bukhari (Apni Party), Sajad Lone
(PC), Jitendra Singh (BJP), Tariq Hameed
Karra (INC), 'Engineer' Rashid (AIP)
and Mehbooba Mufti (PDP)

JAMMU AND KASHMIR ELECTION

HIGH STAKES BATTLE

WITH AN ASSEMBLY POLL AFTER 10 YEARS, THE BJP SEEKS ELECTORAL SUPREMACY WHILE VALLEY LEADERS FIGHT FOR A RETURN OF THEIR IDENTITY AND AUTONOMY

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J&K ELECTION

HIGH STAKES BATTLE

With an assembly poll after 10 years, the BJP seeks electoral supremacy while Valley leaders fight for a return of their identity and autonomy

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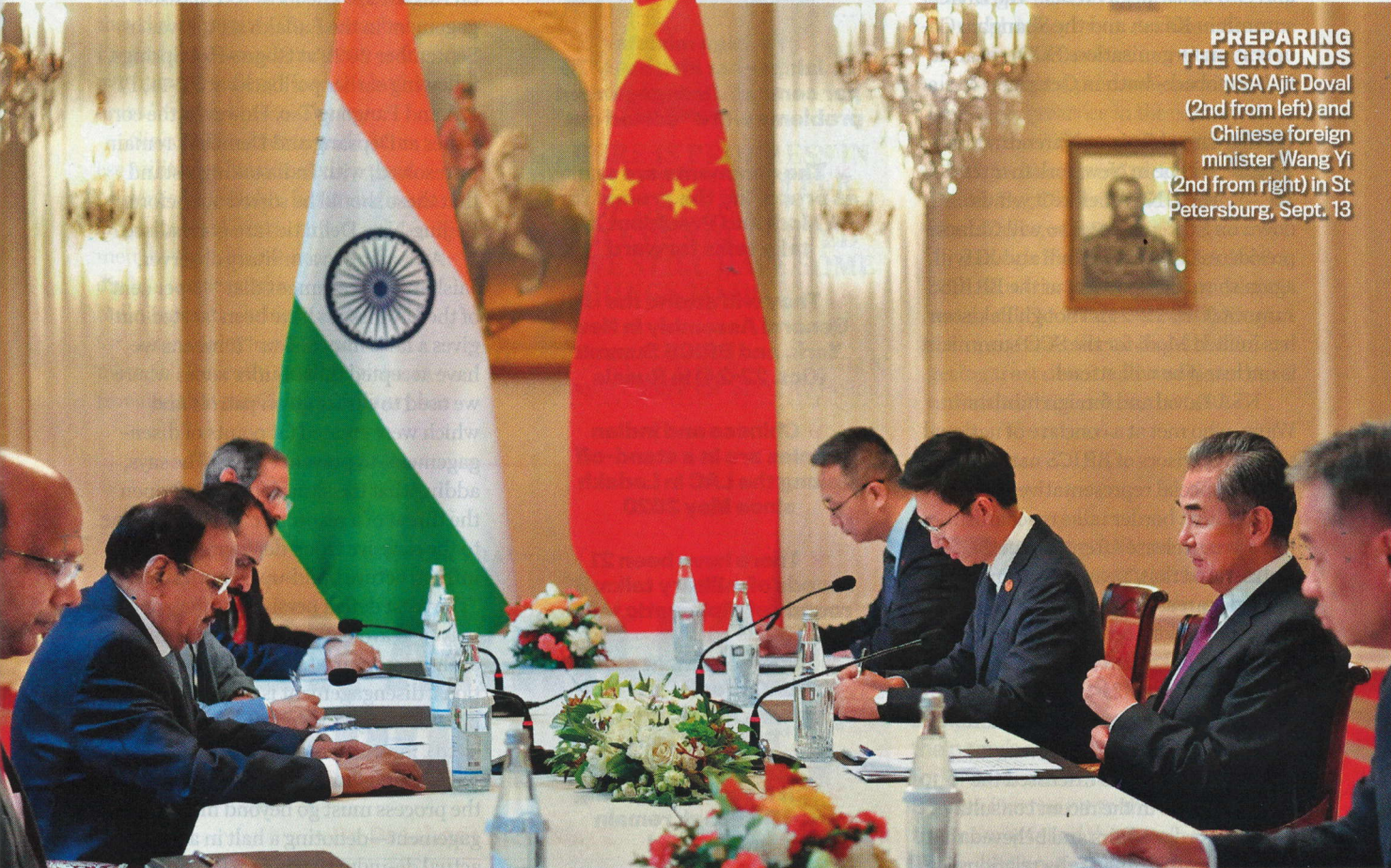
UPFRONT

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PREPARING THE GROUNDS

NSA Ajit Doval
(2nd from left) and
Chinese foreign
minister Wang Yi
(2nd from right) in St
Petersburg, Sept. 13



AFP

INDIA-CHINA

SIGNS OF A THAW

By Pradip R. Sagar

After two years of frozen relations between India and China, there seems to be indications of a defrost. On September 13, when National Security Advisor Ajit Doval met Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi on the sidelines of a BRICS (Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa) meeting in St Petersburg, Russia, both sides agreed to expedite “complete

disengagement” on the remaining friction points along the border, where Chinese and Indian armies have been engaged in a protracted stand-off since May 2020. On the same day, highlighting progress in India-China talks, external affairs minister S. Jaishankar acknowledged that “75 per cent” of the “disengagement problems” have been resolved. Some see the use of the term “complete disengagement” as signifi-

cant in that the stage is being set for a resumption of high-level political dialogue between the two nations, as military and diplomatic talks seem to have reached their limit. It’s now up to the top political leadership to push the issue towards a satisfactory resolution, they say. Overall, the hopeful messaging from Wang, Doval and Jaishankar is seen as preparatory to three potentially key diplomatic moments—a meeting at