

and Pakistan signing the 'Tashkent Agreement'.

- The **war of 1971** was not directly related to the dispute of JandK, however, there were implications. The war was **called the Bangladesh Liberation war**. The Indians had captured large parts of Sindh, Punjab in the western sector and had liberated East Pakistan and helped in the creation of Bangladesh.
- In addition, a mammoth **93,000 soldiers of the Pakistani Army had surrendered** after Dhaka fell. Prime Ministers Indira Gandhi and Bhutto met at Shimla in January **1972** and signed the **Shimla Agreement**.
- It had a clause that India and Pakistan were to work towards achieving peace and both sides would avoid vitriolic campaigns against each other. All disputes between the two sides were to be solved bilaterally in a peaceful manner through negotiations. Especially on this issue of JandK, India has been consistent in its position that it is a bilateral issue to be solved by India and Pakistan and there is **no place for any third-party intervention**.
- The **Suchetgarh Agreement converted the CFL into the Line of Control (LOC)**.
- Pakistan believes in the exact opposite despite the Shimla Agreement.
- Realizing the superiority of the Indian Armed Forces, Pakistan began to covertly support various terror groups in its bid to achieve the unification of Kashmir with Pakistan.
- After an uprising in 1989, Pakistan has continued to support, train and arm militant groups to carry out attacks in the Indian part of Jammu and Kashmir and increasingly throughout India.
- The well-known rift between the Pakistan Army and their civilian establishment was clearly visible in the year 1999. Prime Ministers Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Nawaz Sharif had just

concluded the **Lahore Agreement of 1999**. There was an atmosphere of good will which was conducive towards peace.

- A few months later of this agreement, the Pakistani army in the guise of terrorists intruded across the LOC and occupied many parts of JandK. However, India managed to win the war.
- This issue has been described as the core issue between India and Pakistan. The Pakistanis have portrayed it to be so and give the impression that once the issue has been solved, everlasting peace can be established between both the nations. Many have described JandK to be the 'Jugular vein' of Pakistan.

### **Importance of Jammu and Kashmir in general and Pakistan in particular:**

There are few reasons due to which Pakistan shows deep interest in Jammu and Kashmir. Let us consider the following:

- **Ideological:** Pakistan was formed on the basis of religion. The state of Jammu and Kashmir (erstwhile state) with its Muslim majority population was supposed to have become part of the newly formed Islamic Republic of Pakistan. As Pakistan hopes to assume the leadership of the Islamic world, Kashmir will be their stepping stone towards this objective. Pakistan considers it to be an unfinished business and hopes to acquire the remaining part of the state as well as bleed India.
- **National Interests:** JandK acts as a glue to keep Pakistan united. The dispute unites all people and provides a respite to the government which otherwise would have to deal with all the social tensions and insurgency related issues.
- The Pakistani armed forces command an undue advantage in the nation. They own various enterprises (estimated to