Twitter Thread by Abhinav Agarwal

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1/11
Sardar Patel's letter to Jawaharlal Nehru.
On #China & #Tibet.

Stark contrast to the far-sightedness of Sardar Patel.

Doesn't also reflect well on the BJP leadership either, that chose to get fooled by China, and ignore both history & realities.



2/11
"The Chinese Government has tried to delude us by professions of peaceful intention."

#SardarPatel #Nehru #China #Tibet

3/11
"The tragedy of it is that the Tibetans put faith in us; they choose to be guided by us, and we have been unable to get them out of the meshes of Chinese diplomacy or Chinese malevolence."
#SardarPatel #Nehru #China #Tibet

4/11
"Our Ambassador has been at great pains to find an explanation or justification for Chinese policy and actions."

#SardarPatel #Nehru #China #Tibet

5/11
"This feeling, if genuinely entertained by the Chinese in spite of your [Nehru's] direct approaches to them, indicates that even though we regard ourselves as friends of China, the Chinese do not regard us as their friends."

#SardarPatel #Nehru #China #Tibet

6/11
"With the Communist mentality of “whoever is not with them being against them,” this is a significant pointer, of which we have to take due note."

#SardarPatel #Nehru #China #Tibet

7/11
"Throughout history we have seldom been worried about our north-east frontier. The Himalayas have been regarded as an impenetrable barrier against any threat from the north. We had friendly Tibet ... The Chinese were divided."
#SardarPatel #Nehru #China #Tibet

8/11
"Chinese irredentism and communist imperialism are different from the expansionism or imperialism of the western powers. The former has a cloak of ideology which makes it ten times more dangerous."
#SardarPatel #Nehru #China #Tibet

9/11
"Our defence measures have so far been based on the calculations of superiority over Pakistan. In our calculations we shall now have to reckon with communist China .. which has definite ambitions and aims and which does not, in any way, seem friendly disposed towards us."

10/11
"In my judgment, the situation is one which we cannot afford either to be complacent or to be vacillating. We must have a clear idea of what we wish to achieve and also of the methods by which we should achieve it."

#SardarPatel #Nehru #China #Tibet

11/11

"Instead of having to deal with isolated #communist pockets .. we may have to deal with communist threats to our security along our northern and north-eastern frontiers, where, for supplies of arms and ammunition, they can safely depend on communist arsenals in #China."