



INDIA-CHINA RELATIONS AND THE ISSUES OF CONFLICT AND COOPERATION.

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ABSTRACT

India and China are two Asian countries with large territories, huge population, booming economies and shared civilization links. Their relation has been the important one, given the security and prosperity of the region. The relation between these two Asian powers has witnessed many ups and downs from independence till today. This relation began with the romantic slogans like 'Hindi-Chini Bhai-Bhai' and subsequently we witnessed negative developments like Tibet issue, border dispute and India China war in 1962. In contemporary times we also see how some issues like Masood Azhar issue at UN, China Pakistan Economic Corridor, NSG membership, Doklam dispute etc, have again proved unhealthy for the relations. Thus the relation between the two has been a mixed story of stalemate and progress. There is convergence on several issues of common interest but there are points of divergence as well. Several litigious issues like Beijing's continuous military and economic support to Pakistan, unresolved border issues, China's construction of intelligence and military posts around Indian Ocean Region (IOR) have become points of concern for India. Competition for the geo-political influence in South Asia is also being witnessed between these two countries. With the financial and technical support, China is helping several littoral countries of Indian Ocean Region to build and develop port facilities. Beijing calls these developments as economic ventures meant for the development of all, but as per many strategic policy makers in New Delhi these are aimed at containment of India.. All these developments have lead to the emergence of security dilemma between the two countries. Despite increasing cooperation in the fields of trade transaction and others, there are many bilateral issues impeding the normal relation of the two countries. This paper will shed light on various contentious bilateral issues which have the potential of severely affecting the India-China relations.

Keywords: *Bilateral issues, Doklam, CPEC, Geopolitics, Indian Ocean, Strategic Policy.*