India China Relations

What are the long standing issues?

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- **Border issue -** It is rooted in the disputed status of the McMahon Line, which defines the border between India and Tibet.
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- There has not been a remarkable progress in resolving the border dispute between the two sides due to the importance of Aksai Chin to China and Arunachal Pradesh to India.
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- **Dalai Lama -** The presence of more than 1,00,000 Tibetans refugees in India and India’s continued willingness to provide shelter to the Dalai Lama is a continued source of irritation in China-India relations.
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- **NSG -** China is well-established within the global nuclear order with a veto power for granting memberships in nuclear suppliers group.
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- India certainly faces an uneven playing field on the issue of NSG membership.
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- **Mazood Azhar -** When India raised its concerns in UNSC, China was the only country among the 15-members to have opposed the ban on Jaish-e-Mohammad chief Masood Azhar
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- **BRI -** China considers the CPEC projects planned in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir for Gilgit-Baltistan as a part of the Belt and Road initiative due to concerns over “sovereignty” of India.
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- **Doklam -** China attempted to build a road construction by bringing in

earthmovers and construction machines in the Doklam area of Bhutan.
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- The Indian Army had asked the PLA to stop the road construction activity that has resulted in a stand-off.
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- **Territorial distress -** Recent intrusions by PLA of china in Indian borders near J&K, Uttarakhand, and Arunachal Pradesh is also creating distress in Indian side.
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- **Neighbourhood ties -** China is strengthening its trade and defence ties with countries which are strategically important to India, it poses security threats to India.
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What are the reasons for the issues?

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- Consequent change in the balance of power between India and China in South Asia.
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- Both promote the notion of a multi-polar world in which they want serve as bigger players alongside the United States.
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- India’s attitude towards cordial relations with China remains mixed.
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How can these issues be addressed?

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- **SAARC -** India needs to rekindle the SAARC process in order to secure historical affinity with its neighbours.
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- **Strategic agreements -** Instead of starting from the historical issues, both countries can resolve the present issues.
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- Strategic plans may be devised so that long standing issues will be addressed.
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- **Economical treaties -** ‘Friendship and cooperation treaty’ and a free

trade agreement (FTA) to boost bilateral relations.
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- **Competitive coexistence -** The promotion of business and people-centred connectivity and mutual confidence-building should be implemented.
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- India’s active participation in Chinese initiatives such has BRI, SCO, etc. across all distress will attracts the Chinese attention.
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- **Mutual interest -** The two countries have a common interest in curbing religious radicalism and terrorism, strategic dialogues can be pronounced on this mutual interests.
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