BRICS - designating terror groups

Why in news?

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The recent BRICS summit in the Chinese city of Xiamen has designated certain groups as terror organisations.

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What are the highlights?

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- A joint statement released at the BRICS summit expressed concern on the regional security situation.
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- BRICS grouping has unequivocally named Pakistan-based groups Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) and Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) as terror organisations.
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- The statement has listed the Taliban, IS/Daesh, Al-Qaeda and its affiliates as sources of violence.
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What is the significance of this?

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- The move brings out a shift in China’s position in terms of its relations with Pakistan and its policy of protecting Pakistan based groups..
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- This is because China had earlier blocked a move at the U.N.’s Sanctions Committee to designate Pakistan-based JeM chief Masood Azhar as a global terrorist.
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- This went against the efforts of India, as India holds Azhar responsible for many terrorist acts in India.
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- The recent gesture by China gains significance as it is expected to translate

into China removing its block on designating the Masood Azhar as a U.N. Security Council sanctioned terrorist.
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- Besides, a key irritant in ties between New Delhi and Beijing is seen to be removed.
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- Also, the designation is seen as a larger effort to address the issue of global extremism.
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What is the way forward?

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- The move should aim at bringing in greater efficiency in designation of terrorists and terror groups by the United Nations Committee on terrorism.
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- China's stand must be reinforced by a bilateral commitment on terrorism between India and China.
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- China must reflect its change of policy in groups like the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) also and take forward its new role in the region.
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Source: The Hindu

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