India & China – A Shared Future

What is the issue?

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- India & China have a lot of shared concerns and aspirations.
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- The maturity shown in easing the Doklam standoff could pave the way for a new chapter in the India China relationship.
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What accompanied the ending of Doklam standoff?

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- A consensus was reached to enhance mutual trust, focus on cooperation and manage differences.
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- Revitalizing a series of dialogues mechanisms and to promote youth and educational cooperation was also agreed upon.
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- Stress was laid on mutually seeing each other as development partners rather than as threats.
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- Above all, both sides have displayed their intent to conduct comprehensive dialogues to sort out any future differences.
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What have been notable areas of co-operation?

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- **Business -** Economic and trade cooperation between the two countries have been gaining momentum steadily and crossed $70 billion last year.
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- China has been for many years the largest trading partner of India.

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- More than 500 Chinese companies have invested and started business in India with a total investment of over $5 billion.
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- Many Indian enterprises of IT, pharmacy and consultancy have entered the Chinese market.
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- **Cultural -** People-to-people exchanges are also thriving with mutual visits having exceeded one million.
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- Yoga, Darjeeling tea, and Bollywood movies have become fashionable among the Chinese youth.
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- Work is also on to hold the Annual Indian Tourism Conference in Yunnan province in China.
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- **Lower Government exchanges -** China and India have established 14 pairs of sister cities and provinces.
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- Assam representatives attended the Hangzhou International Tea Expo recently and China helped the Kerala government introduce rubber dams.
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- **High Diplomacy –** Both the countries have maintained close high-level communications.
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- Top leaders have met more than a dozen times in past couple of years in bilateral and multilateral occasions.
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- Both countries share a common ground on issues like IMF reforms & WTO's Agreeement on Agriculture.
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Source: The Hindu

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