India China relations

Why in news?

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India risks being “isolated” if it decides not to attend the Chinese Belt and Road Forum on May 14-15, a senior Chinese official said.

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What is the issue?

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- Indian government is yet to decide about its participation in the Chinese Belt and Road forum.
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- Both Japan and the United States are not participating in the 60-nation Belt and Road infrastructure initiative, but are sending delegations to the forum.
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- The forum is been attended by 28 leaders and more than 100 countries are sending official delegations.
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- All India’s neighbours will be attending.
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- Mainstream and trade ties between India and China remained strong, but issues like India’s NSG membership and push for the U.N. to designate Masood Azhar as a terrorist, both of which are blocked by China, as well as the Dalai Lama’s recent visit to Arunachal Pradesh had put a strain on their political relationship.
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- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping will meet at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit in Kazakhstan in June despite the recent spate in ties.
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- India has made it clear that it is impossible to attend the forum as long as 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.”
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Source: The Hindu

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