Rohingya Diplomacy

Why in news?

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China had announced a three stage plan on Rohingya diplomacy.

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What is China's strategy?

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- Recently China announced that "as a friend of both Myanmar and Bangladesh, Beijing is willing to keep playing a constructive role for the appropriate handling of the Rakhine State issue".
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- It is an attempt to show itself in a new, more positive light in the region.
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- The "three-stage plan" was described by China on Rohingya diplomacy
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1. **A ceasefire on the ground -** This is seen as an efficient plan, as people will no longer flee to neighbouring countries.
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2. **Talks between Myanmar and Bangladesh -** This is to work out the modalities of return of the Rohingya from their camps in Bangladesh to their homes in Rakhine.
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3. **Poverty alleviation -** As a long-term solution.
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- Myanmar responded with the plan that it was in line with Myanmar's own views, and thanked China for its "assistance as a friend in between the eternal neighbours.
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What are the implications for India?

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- Despite its old ties with Myanmar, India struggles to find the right tone in relations with that country.
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- India missed a right moment to take leadership in a regional crisis due to limited views on the Rohingya.
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- India has a misguided notion that even a bare mention of the humanitarian problem then unfolding in the Rakhine would anger Myanmar and send it rushing to China.
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- Now it is clear that India has a long way to go, and a lot to learn from China.
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Source: Indian Express

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