Deanship of Scientific Research

COVID-19: Redefining India-China Bilateral Relations

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Abstract

In a bid to protect their national interest, every nation looks to strike a chord with other nations while maintaining commiserate prominence on a global scale. However, certain events could sway the direction in which international relations tilt at certain points in time. For instance, the COVID-19 pandemic has globally shifted and reshaped the various spheres of human life and activities. The pandemic gave rise to fears across the world and increased acts of hostility toward nations worldwide, in a bid to cater to and uphold their national interests, which they often achieve at the detriment of others. Specifically, China has been at the forefront of hostility or pressure, since the coronavirus originated there. Focusing on the Sino–Indian relationship, the rapid boom of Sino-Indian bilateral trade at the beginning of the 21st century propelled China to become India's biggest trade partner, a position it held from 2008 to 2019, before tensions arose between both nations. This study aims at examining the present state of Sino–Indian relations and reviews the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on this relationship. To appropriately fulfill the objective of the study, an exploratory design was adopted. The study concludes that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused a disruption in every facet of human life and has created uncertainty about what the future holds for certain sects, organizations, and even nations—based on this, international relationships amongst nations may be affected negatively or positively depending on how governments and world bodies manage and respond to the situation.

Keywords: Covid-19, pandemic, China, India, bilateral relations.

كوفيد -19: إعادة تعريف العلاقات الثنائية بين الهند والصين

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ملخّص

من أجل حماية المصلحة الوطنية ، تتطلع كل دولة إلى ضرب وتر حساس مع الدول الأخرى مع الحفاظ على مكانة بارزة على نطاق عالمي ، ومع ذلك يمكن لأحداث معينة التأثير في الاتجاه الذي تميل فيه العلاقات الدولية في نقاط زمنية معينة، على سبيل :تحول جائحة COVID-19على مستوى العالم وأعاد تشكيل مختلف مجالات حياة الإنسان وأنشطته، لقد أثار الوباء مخاوف في جميع أنحاء العالم وزاد من أعمال الدول العدائية في جميع أنحاء العالم ، في محاولة لتلبية ودعم مصالحها الوطنية ، التي غالبًا ما تحققها على حساب الآخرين .على وجه التحديد ، كانت الصين في طليعة العداء أو الضغط ، منذ نشأ فيروس كورونا هناك، بالتركيز على العلاقات الصينية الهندية ، دفعت الطفرة السريعة للتجارة الثنائية الصينية الهندية في بداية القرن الحادي والعشرين الصين إلى أن تصبح أكبر شريك تجاري للهند ، وهو مركز احتفظت به من عام 2008إلى عام 2019، قبل نشوء التوترات بين البلدين، تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى فحص الوضع الحالي للعلاقات الصينية الهندية ومراجعة تأثير جائحة COVID-19على هذه العلاقة، لتحقيق هدف الدراسة على نحو مناسب ، جرى اعتماد تصميم استكشافي. خلصت الدراسة إلى أن جائحة كورونا سببت اضطراب في كل جانب من جوانب حياة الإنسان وخلق حالة من عدم اليقين بشأن ما يخبئه المستقبل لبعض الطوائف والمنظمات وحتى الدول -بناءً على ذلك ، قد تتأثر العلاقات الدولية بين الدول سلبًا أو اعتمادًا إيجابيًا في كيفية إدارة الحكومات والهيئات العالمية للموقف والاستجابة لها..

الكلمات الدالة: كوفيد -19، جائحة كورونا، الصين، الهند، العلاقات الثنائية.

1. Introduction:

Over the years international relations has transformed into global politics, this gradual progress has been shaped by the happenstances of and in world politics in recent years, international relations today have come long way from the traditional perspective for which it as mostly postulated, it has metamorphosed into a modern way of protecting and guarding the interests of actors in the international realm, noteworthy significant changes that have occurred in the field range from the presence of new actors on the world stage, to interconnectedness, increased interdependence in the world today and there exist trends and patterns towards global governance. However, global politics does not come without its own troubles, as there have been events that have shaped and reshaped the dimension of global politics. Events such as the World wars, cold wars, terror attacks, global pandemics amongst others have often times caused actors on the global scale to strategize, restrategize and severe alliances severally. One of such events that shook and gradually reshaped the human interactions on a global scale is the Corona Virus (Covid-19) pandemic (Vojtěch Bartoš, Bauer, Cahlíková and Chytilová, 2020).

Since the covid-19 outbreak, many adjustments and developments have occurred in human life and activity globally. The pandemic increased global concern and hospitality, but it also increased tensions between countries as each sought to serve and preserve its own national interests, often at the expense of others. The Covid-19 pandemic, according to the prior reasoning, has shaken the world more than any other event since Second World War. As a result of the Covid-19 virus, an unhappy but viable testing ground has been created to see if a big natural shock in the health and socio-economic sectors amplifies inter-group enmity. Covid-19 originated in China and spread across borders by social interactions between and with people from other nations, prompting contemporary observers to argue it may have increased prejudice against foreigners, particularly Asians.

People, organisations, or nations might become hostile towards one another when they experience health-related or socioeconomic-related fears. However, past research has shown a relationship between higher exposure to health scares (real or perceived) and erratic or irrational group behaviour. In America, states with greater rates of infectious diseases often have higher rates of racist sentiments. According to the results of a different representative poll performed in the US, individuals who believe they are more at danger of contracting Ebola also showed more hatred against immigrants. Intense enmity exists not only between persons or groups, but also beyond national borders. Many countries were affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and the different speculations and conspiracies that arose in the media throughout the first quarter of the year.

When the Covid-19 outbreak began, many people and organisations were scrambling to find out what was going on. This led to speculations, some of which were proven, others not. Foreign countries and their participants were frequently featured in the media directly blaming other countries or individuals for the virus's manufacture or spread, even if unfounded and unverified. In any case, quarantines and travel bans have caused unrest in various countries.

This study will briefly analyse the history of China-India bilateral ties in order to better understand their current situation. In the early 1950s, Jawaharlal Nehru and Zhou Enlai, the Indian and Chinese premiers, maintained amicable relations, their efforts gave birth to the well-known five principles of peaceful cohabitation. Premier Zhou visited India in 1960 to discuss international borders (Keshab 2020). In 1962, India launched a military assault against China, ending all bilateral connections. In 1976, both countries exchanged ambassadors, strengthening diplomatic ties and allowing then-External Affairs Minister Mr. Vajpayee to visit China in 1979. After Mr. Huang's 1981 visit to India, the two countries signed a business agreement in 1984. Four years later, during Rajiv Gandhi's visit, joint working groups on boundary issues and economic and trade committees were formed (Keshab 2020).

To establish a working mechanism for consultation and coordination on India-China border affairs, state councillor Dai Bingguo and National Security Advisor Shivshankar Menon signed an agreement in 2012 during the "15th round China-India Special Representatives Talks on Boundary Issues" in New Delhi. To keep the existing international system's huge changes, both nations must increase coordination, collaboration, and create a China-India strategic relationship (India Today 2012).

2. Statement of Problem

China's involvement in the pandemic will probably harm Sino-Indian ties. It is obvious to everyone, including India, that

if China had been more honest, the pandemic could have been dealt with much more effectively. Not only has China been secretive about the virus's progress within the country and the possibility of human transmission, but it has also kept the World Health Organization and other foreign organisations quiet about the threat posed by the Wuhan virus.

The spread of coronavirus within the country has lead to economic losses which are very high; therefore, India's public perception is certainly blame China for the damages caused. India is unlikely to put the blame on China, but the Chinese government's actions will increase popular suspicion of the country and influence Indian political discourse on Sino-Indian relations. Despite the kind words and congratulations on the anniversary, the pandemic seems to show New Delhi that China is going to be a selfish actor, increasing India's concerns about China's behaviour. Therefore it is important to study the redefining the bilateral relation between two countries due to the pandemic.

3. Theoretical Framework

3.1: Objective of the Study

This study's major aim is to discover the impact of covid-19 on bilateral relations between India and China.

1. The study aims to evaluate the impact of Covid-19 on China-India political relations.
2. This study would seek to explore the impact of Covid-19 on economic relations between China and India.
3. Finally, the study seeks to suggest ways of addressing the lapses caused by Covid-19.

3.2: Research Questions

The main question "how have covid-19 impacted China-India relations in political and economic level"?

1. How have covid-19 impacted China-India political relations?
2. What is the impact of covid-19 on economic relations between China and India?
3. What are the possible solutions that can be adopted to address the lapses caused by Covid-19?

3.3: Research Methodology

The study was carried out using a qualitative approach to research. Analytical and descriptive methods help this study better comprehend the current worldwide crisis caused by COIVD-19, as well as the role India-China leaders in redefining their bilateral relations. Data has been gathered from a variety of sources, including scholarly and non-academic ones. Newspapers, magazines, and websites were used for non-academic resources while researchers delved into older articles, books, and journals for academic sources. After resurrecting the literature on the current pandemic scenario and global policies, the paper explores the impact of Covid-19 pandemic on bilateral relations of India and China and how it will redefine the relationship.

The present research deals with India and china as its study area. The strategic intricacy and future relevance of Sino-Indian ties make for an interesting case study. Theirs is a connection that spans the whole spectrum of geopolitical possibilities, including areas of confrontation and collaboration in the military and economic domains, territory and resource conflicts, discordant internal political systems, and, probably most crucially, the present pandemic situations.

The study follows an exploratory design, in Haye 1942 view study is said to be exploratory when the instrument through which the researcher gathers data was neither refined or perfected nor is the data statistically reliable (Swedberg, 2018). Exploratory research design does not intended to offer definitive answers to research questions, but rather to delve into the subject at various degrees of detail. "Exploratory research is the initial research that serves as the foundation for more definitive study," according to one source. It can even aid in the selection of a study design, sample methodology, and data collecting technique" (Singh, 2007). Exploratory research "tends to address novel challenges for which there has been little or no prior study" (Brown, 2006).

However, exploratory research design is utilized in the event where there is scarcity of knowledge about the research topic and/or problem (Cavana, Delahaye, Sekaran and Sekaran, 2001), hence it presents the avenue for gaining new insight into such topic or situation, and it is more useful in the qualitative approach than quantitative approach (Hair, Bush and Ortinau, 2006). The study seeks to examine the impact of the covid-19 pandemic on the relation between India and China.

3.4: Concepts of the Study

3.4.1: Covid-19

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is a newly found coronavirus that causes an infectious illness. The majority of patients infected with the COVID-19 virus will have mild to moderate respiratory symptoms and will recover without needing any specific therapy. People older than age of 65 as well as those with underlying medical conditions such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer are at a higher risk of developing serious illness. Being thoroughly informed on the COVID-19 virus, the sickness it produces, and how it transmits is the greatest strategy to avoid and slow down transmission. Wash your hands regularly or use an alcohol-based rub to protect yourself and others from infection, and avoid touching your face. When an infected individual coughs or sneezes, the COVID-19 virus transmits predominantly through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose, therefore respiratory etiquette is particularly vital (for example, by coughing into a flexed elbow) (WHO, 2021).

A total of 171,039,712 (as on 31/5/2021) cases has been reported in the world of covid-19. The COVID-19 is affecting **220 countries and territories**. In India, a total of 28,047,534 cases have been reported. China reported only 91,099 cases of covid-19 (Worldometer, 2021).

3.4.2. Pandemic

A pandemic is described as "an illness that spreads globally or across a vast region, crosses international borders, and typically affects a huge number of people." There is no mention of population immunity, virology, or illness severity in the traditional definition. Seasonal pandemics transcend international borders and affect a huge number of people, hence pandemics may be considered to occur annually in each of the temperate southern and northern hemispheres. Seasonal pandemics, on the other hand, are not termed pandemics (WHO, 2021).

3.4.3. China

China, with a land area of about 3.7 million square miles, is Asia's biggest country. The Tien Shan, Kunlun chain, and Trans-Himalaya are its main mountain ranges. Tibet, which China acquired in 1950, is located in the southwest. China has been known as the People's Country of China since 1949, and it is a unitary one-party communist republic. Despite publicly promoting Communism, China's philosophy is "socialism with Chinese characteristics"; once Mao Zedong's leadership shifted to Deng Xiaoping, the government extensively changed its Marxist-Leninist policies to suit the nation's material realities. As a result, following Chinese leaders have developed their own interpretations of communism, such as Deng Xiaoping Theory and Xi Jinping Thought. The government abandoned the Soviet model in favour of the premise that, according to Classical Marxist theory, the country's economy and markets needed to be improved before it could pursue equitable communism. For years, the country has attracted increasing market influence and has been the world's fastest expanding economy. The governing party (the Communist Party of China) is in charge of all government operations under a unitary one-party system. Only members of the Local People's Congress are elected, and they vote for members of the legislative groupings above them, ensuring that only powerful legislators elect members of the National People's Congress. Although other parties are granted limited local participation, the Communist Party's supremacy is built into the Chinese constitution. Regional party leaders wield significant power, significantly decentralising the governmental process (InfoPlease, 2020).

3.4.4. India

The Republic of India, which covers one-third of the Indian subcontinent in southern Asia, is one-third the size of the United States. In the northeast, it shares a border with China. Pakistan to the west, Nepal and Bhutan to the north, and Burma and Bangladesh to the east are the other neighbours. The Himalayan area in the north, which has some of the world's highest mountains, the Gangetic Plain, and the plateau region in the south and centre parts may be split into three main geographic divisions. India is the largest populous democracy on the planet. A multi-party republic with a parliamentary system (InfoPlease, 2021).

3.4.5. Bilateral Relations

The links or partnership among two states/countries is referred to as bilateral cooperation. Bilateral cooperation refers to

operations in which one country helps another particular country and vice versa. Bilateral collaboration takes conducted on issues that are of mutual interest to the two countries involved. Bilateral cooperation is linked to a country's foreign policy in which collaboration is used to retain its external influence on the receiving nation. Negotiating bilateral collaboration is quicker and easier. Because lone two gatherings are merged into reciprocal arrangements, they are faster and easier to consult than multilateral agreements (InfoPlease, 2021).

India and China are Asia's growing titans. Both nations have the world's most numerous populations and the world's fastest-growing major economies. The importance of their bilateral relationship has grown in tandem with China's and India's growing global political and economic clout. China and India are two of the world's oldest civilizations, and they have lived peacefully together for millennia. Both nations have attempted to rekindle cultural, diplomatic, and economic connections with success. China has surpassed India as India's top commercial partner, and the two nations have attempted to strengthen their strategic and military ties. In the current global economic landscape, the economic relationship between two nations is regarded to be one of the most important bilateral relationships, and this trend is projected to continue in the years ahead.

3.5. Theoretical and Scientific Importance the Study

April, 2020 India and China celebrated 70 years of diplomatic ties with a letter exchange between their presidents. Other commemoration activities were planned, but owing to the coronavirus, they were postponed. India and China have had their fair share of ups and downs as competitors and allies, and are frequently discussed in the same sentence as two populous Asian giants on the rise.

India's foreign relations with China are important not only because we are close neighbours, but also because our cooperation will have positive consequences for the two countries, the region, and the world. They are marked by a strategic cooperative partnership for peace and prosperity, as well as a strong pillar of the evolving structure of international relations.

China's part in the pandemic is expected to wreak havoc on the Sino-Indian relationship in the future. The pandemic could have been dealt with far more quickly if China had been honest, as everyone can see, including India. China has not only been secretive about the virus's amount of dissemination and human transmission difficulties, but it has also kept the World Health Organization and other foreign organizations from voicing concerns about the Wuhan virus.

As a result, the research is contemporary and meets the demands of the country, as it bridges the gap in India-China foreign relations. The study is important as it will deal with how Covid-19 pandemic will impact India-China ties, beyond from derailing the festive side of things?

The presence of constructive and depressing intentions behind bilateral connections, as well as pleasant contacts without trust, is the essential notion in the formation of future connections. Beyond the big challenges, both countries are working together. This study examines whether territorial conflicts, economic competitiveness, high war costs, expanding economic contact, water strategy issues between India-china will be impacted due to Covid-19. In the past, China and India are aware of the views that have fueled their intentions, but they appear to have either: chosen to disregard these dangers and begrudgingly compromise with the situation, or surrendered utterly to the circumstances and wishing to maintain the status quo.

The present study looks into the underlying unresolved disputes, as well as the long-term consequences of unsolved and newly emergent issues like India's encirclement and water policy with special references to Covid-19 circumstances in the world. Despite the fact that fundamentals such as impartiality on Kashmir and respectable cooperation in international affairs have prepared the way for nonviolent bilateral relations between India and China, China's game theory to support Pakistan-oriented terrorism in the United Nations has left the situation unclear about future intentions.

Both countries should work to improve each other's image and be cautious when dealing with delicate matters. Despite mutual uncertainty, India and China have been increasingly tied in systematic collaboration since 1990 and in inconsistency before independence. Until now, the main discipline of common interests and understandings has been diplomatic and commercial interactions.

International theories are lighting an agenda, pointing to some required components that are more important than other concerns that can be avoided. The study analyses the new evolved environment between India and China due to pandemic

of coronavirus hitting the world. Until that time, the realist position viewed the quest for domination in Asia as a battle between two quickly expanding powers, while the liberal viewpoint saw it as a battle between two fast developing markets.

4.Literature Review

International relations as a concept can be said to explore the ever changing nature of the international system. The system is a complicated web of several yet mutually functioning elements, characterized by interfacing variations and continuities that are instrumental in the dynamic design of the discipline. International Relations is an interdisciplinary field that embodies man's multi-faceted nature in the global contexts. It is what could be characterized as 'a combination of social science disciplines' in that it deals with the fundamental elements of social man; the only distinction would be that it looks at essential issues in contexts that transcends national boundaries (Folarin, 2015).

There is no gainsaying that the nations in question are two rising major global powers, and are amongst not just the Asian but the fastest growing economies globally, both China and India have an ever increasing weight in global politics and obviously have a growing influence on the scales of global economic development. The level of their rapid growth was obvious even during several global financial crisis, as they were very prone to make their rapidly growing economies a miracle in the eyes of the rest of the world and are often still expected to contribute to the recovery of the global economy in times of drought. It is widely recognized that the Dragon and the Elephant are ascending together in a big way (Zhang, 2010).

Chinese-Indian links are indicative of their strengthened mutual value, and Beijing sees the economic bond as the foundation of improving its diplomatic relationship with India. India became China's main trading partner in South Asia in 1993 and the two-way growth in trading has continued at a tremendous pace ever since. According to China, official reports, China-India bilateral trade hit around of $51.8 billion in 2008, compared to just $2.9 billion in 2000, with an estimated annual increase of 43% (Demig, 2010).Bilateral trade reached a symbolic figure of $10 billion in 2004, and then it reached $18.7 billion and $38 billion respectively in 2005 and 2007 in both years. In 2008, Chinese exports to India reached $31.5 billion (31% an annual rise over 2007) and imports from India reached $20.28 billion (38.7% of growth). Encouraged by the remarkable trend, the two governments revived their ambitious aim of up to $60 billion in 2010 (Zhang, 2010).

Several Indian businesses have begun to set up Chinese operations to serve both their Indian and multinational corporation (MNC) Chinese clients. Indian banks such as the state bank of India (Shanghai), the Bank of India (Shenzhen), the Canara Bank (Shanghai) and the Bank of Baroda (Guangzhou) all have branches in China. The State Bank of India was empowered to transact RMB nominated business. More Indian banks are preparing to expand their regional offices to branch offices in China, and existing branch offices are applying for an RMB license. In early 2011,industrial and commercial bank of India (ICBC) secured a licensed to start banking operations in India ICBC inaugurated their Mumbai branch in September 15, 2011.

It is a known fact that the COVID-19 virus originated from China, precisely from the Hubei province. This is the very place from which the Black Plague of the 14th century all started. Also, there is almost no doubt that at the initial stage, China did not do well enough to handle and contain the virus; seeing as they waved aside the warnings the doctors gave concerning the virus. They closed the Wuhan and Hubei province only three weeks later, at the time it was turned out too late as numerous people had left the city, consequentially leading to a global spread and an outbreak of the virus (Heine, 2020).

Having said that, the moment China began to take actions concerning the virus, the efforts they made were efficacious. Total lockdowns were enforced in the provinces of Wuhan and Hubei. The lockdowns were imposed with strictness, and the due processes to be followed for testing, tracing and treating were adhered to strongly, with no omissions. In the early periods of May, there were already 82,877 reported cases of infected persons and 4,633 deaths were recorded in China. The figures above are not negligible in any way, but are relatively lesser than that of Brazil - the pandemic penetrated here two months later, and much lower when compared with numbers registered in a large number of European Countries (Heine, 2020).

According to Wong (2020) with immediate effect, China intensified their activity by deploying its 'mask-diplomacy',

making medical equipment and other devices/tools (testing devices, for example) to combat the spread of the pandemic, available to other countries. Other countries in Asia also showed effective performance/reactions towards the spread of the virus. Even with being a neighbouring country to China, and having a massive population of 1.3 billion people, India enforced an equally strict lockdown in March; They have coped well and managed to evade the most disastrous events of the Pandemic, recording 42,505 cases of infected people and 1,391 deaths in early May (at the same time China had over 80,000 cases and close to 5,000 deaths) (Brian, O'Shea, Derrick.Watson, Gordon, Brown, Corey, Fincher 2020).

South Korea, Taiwan, and Singapore have received justifiable commendations for the manner in which they dealt with the situation (of the outbreak). However, it should not be misconceived that a dictatorial rule or 'Asian culture' is required to implement strict public health regulations, the cases of New Zealand and Australia are excellent examples, as they also handled the outbreak with great aplomb.

In Alvarez's (2020) opinion by the time the pandemic had just begun and was mainly hitting China, Italy, Spain and Iran the virus was seen as a global hazard without a possible cure due to the secrecy of the Chinese authorities about it. Ambiguously as it may sound, in an atmosphere of fear and skepticism, the fear emerging from the different polices adopted by governments to face this crisis and the emotional responses around health care, coexisted with the chimera that the pandemic could alleviate some of the pain in this world. There was a general belief that we could act as one community and leave behind economic greed, cultural differences even harmful nationalism or ideological extremism. There was hope that the virus could help us to behave as a community of human species (Álvarez, 2020).

Many observers have assumed that, this situation was creating opportunities for communication and culture, pillars of public diplomacy, to adopt a shared narrative with the ability of strengthening confidence, trust and understanding. These hopes were also shattered when, many months after the first outbreak old habits from national-populism, such as cultural disagreements, conflicts between nations and the exploitation of these differences to gain political advantage still remained. Additionally, cultural production and communication have taken a turn since audiences have become fully digital. This means that the role of arts and culture in international relations is undetermined and that the dispute to dominate the narrative has come to be a priority of public diplomacy worldwide.

Crisis tends to speed up the course of history and existing trends. In the past two decades, the geo-economic axis of the world has progressively been shifting away towards the direction of the Asia-Pacific region from the North-Atlantic, and also inclining towards the Global South from the North. This is also comprised of what is termed by the World Bank as the 'Wealth shift' in the direction of the emerging economies. There are some events that suggest the possibility of a major international shift; such occurrences would include the incipience of BRICS, the ascent of China and India and the development of collective financial statecraft, as shown in the recent creation of some international financial institutions such as the Asian Investment and Infrastructure Bank (AIIB) and the New Development bank (Heine, 2020).

Inasmuch as the financial crisis which occurred between 2008 and 2009 negatively affected the credibility of Western financial management, the COVID-19 pandemic has done damage to the quality and state of overall public policy management of the customary Anglo-Saxon powers. On the brighter side, it has also accentuated how capable India and China could prove to be in managing global issues and make themselves stand as architects.

It cannot be denied that the regime in Beijing is tense, since it is very obvious, although this has led to the massive soft power campaign, which was created for the purpose of rendering some assistance to Italy and other countries. This is, in the first place, directed at the audience within the confines of the country. Is there any more convincing that needs to be done as to the fact that China has taken charge of the situation having already seen images of Europeans expressing gratitude? This only implies one thing: that even Europe requires the help of China (Biscop, 2020).

The assistance is undoubtedly much appreciated, in spite of the political agenda that comes with it, but the Europeans might never let go of the thought of the possibility that the spread of the virus could have been curtailed by the rest of the world had China not made attempts to conceal the appearance and outbreak of a new virus (at the former stage). At the very least, within the European Union (EU), Beijing's attempt to beguile will hence not really make any impact -in the positive sense - on the reputation of China as a sovereign state whose declarations have always been received with a skeptical attitude

by other nations and some international committees.

The said assertions are not exclusive of the figures of cases of infected people and deceased people reported by China; Prime Minister Li Keqiang has also requested the officials not to hide any newly discovered cases as China begins to make the lockdown measures they put in place less strict.

Nonetheless, the early arrival of Chinese assistance in Africa could help to make the image of China more credible. What is more striking is the absence of the United States; seeing as they have almost no involvements with the provision of aids to other countries. In the action of regarding the crisis with levity, Donald Trump gave up the chance to make any contributions to promoting international solidarity and coordination. The price to pay for his action might be him not getting re-elected; if this happens in Washington, there is, after all, hope for a well-structured foreign policy (Biscop, 2020).

When there is some sort of confrontation between them, nations widely recognized as great powers take advantage of everything/anything and therefore instrumentalize it; as such, it is only logical that it was assumed that the corona virus too would be instrumentalized. Although it is uncertain the extent to which this would be taken, the Spokesman of the Chinese Foreign Ministry made an absurd claim - which is dishonorable to China - that the army of the United States is to be apportioned some amount of blame; also the Chinese ambassador to the US is just as guilty, in uttering statements akin to the one above.

In the same vein, according to Biscop (2020) there were campaigns which spread false information in Russia (who, on the other hand, believed the US, China and Europe are culpable); and US president, Donald Trump who dissembled that it was all merely a Democrat hoax. Rather than alleviate the situation, the incipient affirmation of Trump denoting the corona virus as a Chinese virus only made matters more difficult. Nationality is not a feature with which Viruses are associated; but governments are (Biscop, 2020).

5. Economic and Political Impact of COVID-19

5.1. Poverty and Unemployment

During the course of the lockdown, it is easily perceivable that the category of people who are affected the most are the ones who constitute the population's poverty line in developed, developing and underdeveloped nations. At the national level, India with figures estimated at 12 million, Nigeria having 5 million and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) with 2 million are the three leading countries who are predicted to have the highest increase in number of poor people (World Bank, 2020).

As an after-effect of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is also prognosticated that nations like Indonesia, South Africa and China would have over a million persons driven into abject poverty. In placing the influence the pandemic exerts on the poverty level, using number of people who live on a daily amount of less than $3.20 or $5.50, it could be inferred that over 1 million people would be forced into poverty. Regions such as Latin America & Caribbean, the Middle East & North Africa and East Asia & Pacific are considered probable of having no less than 10 million people dwelling on $5.50 on a daily basis. In the duration of this COVID-19 pandemic, it is already obvious and perceptible that the USA has been suffered the most in terms of economic effects. USA's economy has, since 2008, been diminishing rapidly to restore the economy of the USA the expected time frame is estimated at 4-5 years (BBC, 2020).

5.2. Economic impacts during and after COVID-19

The long-term effects that would arise, post-pandemic era, are events that cannot be considered insignificant. Going by an estimate, the economies of USA and EU would require about 5-6 years in order to recover from the damages done and be restored to its initial state (Mahar, Mahar and Zuesse, 2020). The attempt that the People's Republic of China would make to bring forth an economic coercion which would not be auspicious for many other countries is another area that is glaring and cannot be neglected. Yet, the fact that China has a large trade reserve in its possession, and has several trades - domestic and majorly international - leaning towards the country.

According to Singh (2020) Engaging in any form of restrictions in trade with PRC could induce a massive recession in the USA and the EU; this would ensure that the situation gets worse. Reducing the control that China exerts on the global

economy would require some courses of action to be taken, such steps would include: Controlling the amount of Chinese investments in global markets and regional markets, and transferring the mass production units in other countries, therefore cutting down the monopoly China enjoys - India serves as a proper case in point for such recent shifts (Singh, 2020).

The aforementioned schemes can be employed in the quest to seize control by bringing the monopoly of China over the world's economy to a halt, and in the long-run prove vital in the restoration of other countries' economies.

5.3. Recent Developments during Pandemic

On April 1, 1950, India became the first non-communist country in Asia to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China. However, the coronavirus pandemic has hampered preparations to commemorate the event's 70th anniversary (Rajagopalan, 2020).

For the time being, the Indian government has avoided blaming China for the coronavirus or its spread as a result of China's activities. Indeed, External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar tweeted that he had addressed the corona virus with both State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi, and that they will work together to combat it.

China has attempted to woo India by stating that it "stands ready to share its experience in pandemic prevention, control, diagnosis, and treatment, as well as providing further support and help to the best of our capacity." However, based on the sort of Chinese help supplied to a number of nations, like Italy, the Czech Republic, and Spain, where even the testing kits delivered from China produced inaccurate findings, Delhi is likely to remain wary (ThinkChina, 2020).

China's part in the pandemic is expected to wreak havoc on the Sino-Indian relationship in the future. The pandemic could have been dealt with far more quickly if China had been honest, as everyone can see, including India. China has not only been secretive about the virus's amount of dissemination and human transmission difficulties, but it has also kept the World Health Organization and other foreign organisations from voicing concerns about the Wuhan virus.

6. Impact of covid-19 on China-India relations

Like majority of the aforementioned events that reshapes or alters the normalcy and international system's status quo, the covid-19 pandemic is one that would not be forgotten anytime soon as the pandemic has halted and held the world at bay. Human (physical) interactions in most parts and for many health conscious individuals are gradually becoming a thing of yesteryears or if necessary these interactions must be done with so much caution, something as subtle as a handshake or a hug at some point in the year became a scary thing to do. Perhaps the individual aspect of the impact of covid-19 will be a soft sells compared to the effect the pandemic had and is having on the international system, and this forms the basis of this study, which revolves around understanding the full extent and the impact of covid-19 on the Sino-Indian relations.

6.1. Sino-Indian Political Interactions

India and China have developed more than 30 frameworks for dialog at different levels, covering bilateral diplomatic, cultural, consular and domestic and international issues. Foreign ministers meet on a frequent basis. State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi travelled to India through the 21st – 23rd of December 2018 to partake in the 1st High Level Meeting on Cultural and People-to - People Exchanges. EAM Sushma Swaraj last visited China in April 2018 to take part in the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the SCO Member States and also held bilateral talks with H.E. Mr. Wang Yi, and Vice President Wang Qishan (Embassy of India, Beijing, 2019).

After the creation of the Special Representative (SR) system in 2003, 21 stages of meetings were held. The 21st round of meetings between both NSA Shri Ajit Doval and State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi took place in Chengdu on 24 November 2018, only once since H.E. Mr. Wang Yi was named Chinese SR. Earlier, Mr. Yang Jiechi, Director of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee in Shanghai had met with the former SR, Mr. Shri Ajit Doval, in April 2018. On 23 December 2018, the two SRs both met in Mumbai. The Strategic discourse, chaired by the Foreign Secretary and the Deputy Foreign Minister of the Indian and Chinese sides, was conducted for the first time in February 2017. Foreign Secretary Shri Vijay Gokhale and Deputy Foreign Minister Mr. Kong Xuanyou met in Beijing on February 2018 and in New Delhi (April 2018, June 2018, December 2018) as part of routinely diplomatic consultation (Embassy Of India, Beijing, 2019).

Chinese Minister of Defense and Minister of public security, State Councillor Wei Fenghe and State Councilor Zhao Kezhi, made bilateral visits to India in October 2018. Since 2004, MEA has had an MOU with the International Liaison Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China to initiate high-level meetings between Party leaders from China and Chief Ministers from India.

China and India celebrated their 70th anniversary of diplomatic ties in 2020. To commemorate the occasion, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping declared 2020 to be the "Year of India-China Cultural and People-to-People Exchanges," with 70 events scheduled. Both sides wanted to strengthen links at every level, including between their legislatures, political parties, cultural and youth organisations, and armed units (Rajagopalan, 2020).

The Covid-19 pandemic, however, put a stop to such preparations. How would Covid-19 affect the India-China relationship now that the pomp and circumstance have been put on hold?

Beijing's lack of openness and unwillingness to intervene in the early phases has been criticised by a number of countries. Animosity toward China has risen; for example, US President Donald Trump drew China's ire by referring to the infection as the "Chinese virus." Some have referred to China's attempts to provide masks and other medical supplies to impacted countries as "mask diplomacy." China's overtures have even backfired in certain circumstances, with reports of defective test kits. New Delhi has so far abstained from joining the China "blame game" or the "make China pay" group, but the India-China relationship is strained under Covid-19. These fresh and unexpected developments must be considered in the context of India-China bilateral ties during the last 70 years. The "trust factor" between India and China, which has long been an underpinning in India-China ties, is at stake.

The outpouring of public hatred toward China was clear from the start on the popular level. According to a recent survey by the Takshashila Institution, 67 percent of Indians blame China for making COVID-19 a global pandemic, and 52.8 percent of those questioned did not consider terms like "Chinese virus" and "Wuhan virus" offensive. These findings reveal an increasing tendency of Indian individuals making xenophobic statements toward China and Chinese people. As a result of this widespread animosity of China, hawkish voices in India have been more vocal, frequently calling for a more confrontational approach to China (Stimson, 2020).

The All India Bar Association has already filed a complaint with the UN Human Rights Council against China, and Brahma Chellaney, a leading Indian strategic affairs specialist, stated in a recent essay that India would never forgive China for its handling of the COVID-19 pandemic.

China's reaction to these events has been varied, indicating that it will take a careful approach in dealing with New Delhi. On the one hand, Beijing has expressed its displeasure with certain of India's policies, calling them "discriminatory," "irresponsible," and "unfair," while the Chinese state-run Global Times has warned of the dangers of China's stigmatisation. On the other side, the Chinese ambassador to India, Sun Weidong, wrote a commentary in the Hindustan Times emphasising the history of Sino-Indian collaboration, and the state media has published op-eds stressing the importance and advantages of India-China commerce.

This diplomatic wrangling and popular outrage suggest that the outbreak has exacerbated India's mistrust of China. As their economic and geopolitical rivalry intensify in the months ahead, their negative impressions of one another may intensify the antagonism in their relationship.

### 6.2. Fight for Regional Power in Times of Pandemic

A simmering soft power struggle between China and India is happening in South Asia through medical diplomacy, with both countries seeking to take a leadership role in the pandemic. New Delhi has increased its attempts to present a humanitarian image in the area by deploying its military might to assist its neighbours. The Indian Air Force offered critical overseas evacuation aid to citizens of Bangladesh, the Maldives, Sri Lanka, and Nepal in the early days of the crisis, and as the situation worsened, consignments of critical medical supplies and life-saving pharmaceuticals were flown to these nations. Six navy ships and five medical teams are on standby to aid India's neighbours in the event of an emergency. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also urged for regional collaboration to combat the pandemic and announced that India will donate $10 million to a South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) emergency fund in an effort to underline

Indian leadership on the subcontinent (Stimson, 2020).

Similarly, Beijing has been portraying itself in South Asia as a benign force. China held a video conference with Eurasian and South Asian nations to discuss its expertise managing the spread of the coronavirus and sent crucial medical supplies to Nepal, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka, among other nations, in order to expand its diplomatic efforts. Similarly, Maldives, which has been at the core of Sino-Indian rivalry in recent years, got pandemic preventive aid from China just weeks after India dispatched a medical support team to build up COVID-19 quarantine facilities in the nation. Sri Lanka was also given a $500 million loan by Beijing. Finally, in order to counter India's growing regional dominance, China has pledged to enhance strategic cooperation with Pakistan and foster post-pandemic socioeconomic growth through the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. Despite the fact that China's image in the area has suffered as a result of the poor quality of medical equipment it has delivered, Beijing is likely to utilize its financial might to repair the damage. In the long run, India's worries of strategic encirclement by China, as well as Beijing's irritation with India's ambitions to hegemonize South Asia, may be exacerbated by this expanding regional competition. As a result, both countries may adopt confrontational postures, thus increasing the likelihood of a clash.

6.3. Sino-Indian Trade Relations

Since the beginning of the 21st century, which marked the start of the fast expansion of Sino-Indian bilateral trade and it, propelled china to become India's biggest trade partner, a position held by china since 2008 till 2019 before the tension arose between both nations. Since the start of the last decade bilateral trade relations between both nations recorded an exponential growth. In the year 2011, bilateral trade amounted to US$ 73.9 billion, before falling to US$ 66 billion in 2012 and turning over to US$ 71.65 in 2015. The Bilateral trade saw a strong two-digit growth in the last three years. For the year 2018, bilateral trade rose by 13.34% year-on-year to US$ 95.7 billion, while India's exports rebounded to US$ 18.83 billion, with positive growth of 15.21% year-on-year following 3 years of sustained downturn and rise of 39.11 percent in 2017. India's imports from China rose by 12.89 percent to US$ 76.87 billion in 2018, while the trade deficit expanded to US$ 58.04 billion (Embassy of India 2019).
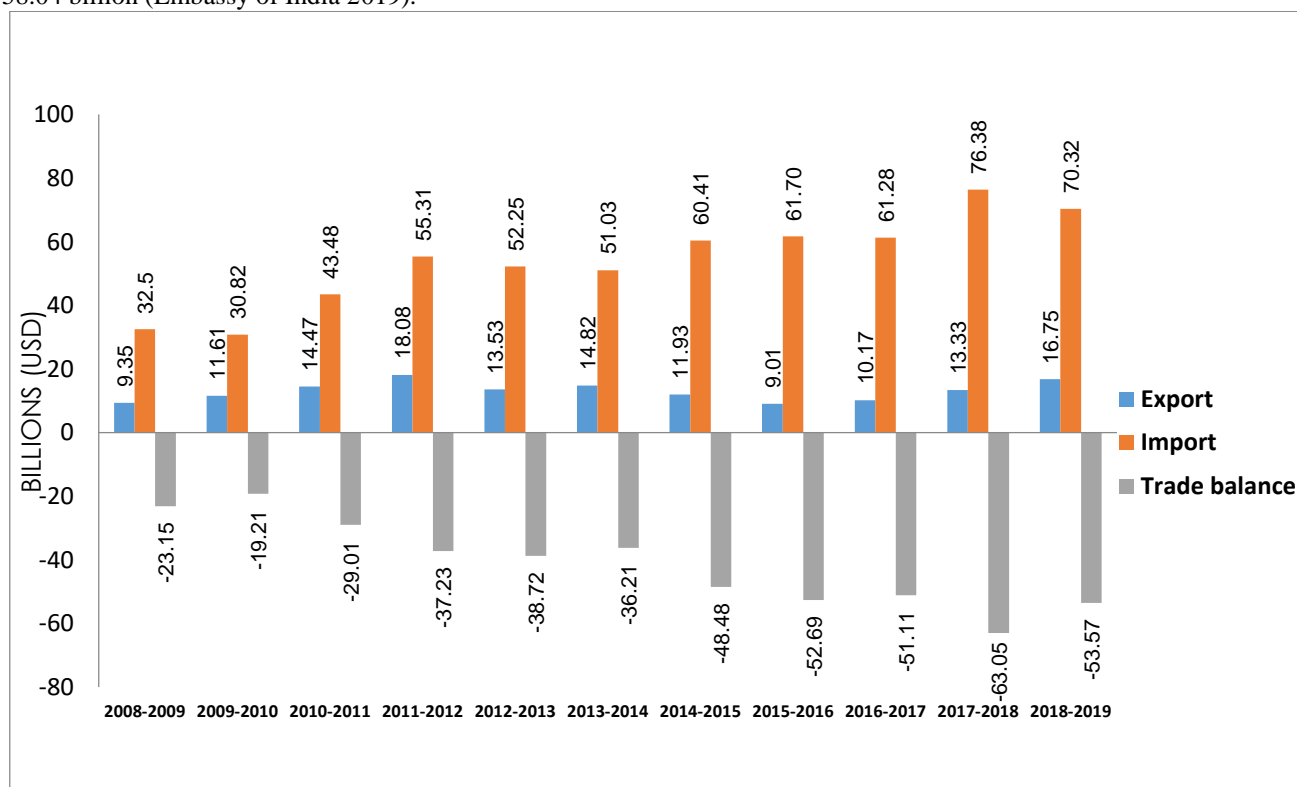
Figure 1: Trade Revenue between India and China.

Data Source: Indian Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Over the last 5 years there had been significant changes in the trade between the two countries from figure 1 it could be seen that India's export to China had positive returns between 2016 and 2018 with India generating a 60% rise in trade revenue within that time frame, there have been a drop in revenue since 2019. Likewise China's revenue from expert trades to India has also seen some notable and positive movement between the years in focus with a 29.3% increase.

The ups and downs in trade balance between the two countries is observed over a period of time. This is because India is confronted with two difficult realities: first, it is locked in a territorial dispute with China, and second, it has a weaker economy and is reliant on Chinese trade and investment. India will not be able to swiftly diminish or eliminate its strong commercial and investment connections with China. It must also traverse the relationship's political and diplomatic aspects: authoritarian, expansionist China's strong trade and investment ties with most democracies have demonstrated that the resilience or inadequacy of economic ties between countries does not always determine the tone of international relationships.

Beijing will continue to whine about India's investment limitations. It will also focus on what it sees as India's breach of China's territorial sovereignty, as well as the country's ailing economy and claimed poverty-fueled ultra nationalism. China portrays India as weak at times, as a country violating international economic principles at others, and as a rising global force at others. The territorial conflict threatens to exceed the benefits of economic cooperation with Beijing for India, but the country cannot readily abandon its economic dependence on China. The Sino-Indian schism has been widened by the coronavirus pandemic, border skirmishes, and New Delhi's restrictions on Chinese investment.

From the foregoing, it is safe to surmise that these two countries have had a cordial relationship over the years up until the tensions that came with the year 2020 and the corona virus pandemic.

First, in April, India requested that investments from neighbouring countries be scrutinized more closely in order to prevent "opportunistic takeovers/acquisitions" of enterprises that may be encountering financial difficulties as a result of the outbreak. Companies in all countries that share a border with India, including China, Nepal, Bhutan, and Myanmar — while it previously only applied to Bangladesh and Pakistan — may only invest through the "government route," which needs official clearance. The action is said to be aimed against China (Singh, 2020).

China responded by calling it "discriminatory" and claiming that it breached the WTO's non-discrimination norm. Beijing emphasised the need of "treating investments from other nations equally, as well as fostering an open, fair, and equitable economic environment."

Second, India has bought more than half a million Chinese test kits to help with viral screening and testing. However, due to quality difficulties, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), which is in charge of the coronavirus pandemic in India, has opted to return fast antibody test kits purchased from two Chinese companies, Guangzhou Wondfo Biotech and Zhuhai Livzon Diagnostics.

59 Chinese applications have been banned in India, including TikTok, WeChat, and Helo (Economic Times, 2020; Xinhua, 2020). TikTok's greatest overseas market has been India (Global Times, 2020); nevertheless, ByteDance, TikTok's parent firm, is facing a $6 billion loss and may have to quit doing business in India (Global Times, 2020; Business Standard, 2020). India banned another 118 mobile apps on September 2, including the massively popular mobile gaming app PUBG, which has the largest subscriber base in the country (Xinhua, 2020; Business Standard, 2020; Global Times, 2020).

Third, China has chastised India's media for their contact with Taiwanese government officials, adding to the diplomatic conflict. For example, the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi issued a statement "refuting the incorrect arguments" made in an interaction with Taiwanese Foreign Minister Jausheih Joseph Wu on Taipei's handling of the coronavirus by an unknown media outlet (The Times of India, 2020). It encouraged the newspaper to adhere to the "one-China concept" when it came to "Taiwan's membership in the World Health Organization." These thoughts were echoed in reaction to Taiwan Health Minister Chen Shih-essay chung's "Taiwan's Coronavirus Protocol Shows How It's Done" being published in an unknown media outlet (The Hindu, 2020). Such comments reveal China's Achilles heel: the one-China principle, as well as the fact that the topic has become increasingly more sensitive in the wake of the Covid-19 outbreak.

6.4. China – India Relations 2020

Several reasons have been cited as the causes of the Chinese-Indian ongoing skirmish according a MIT professor skirmishes

happened as a response by the Chinese for the development of Indian infrastructure in Ladakh, particularly along the Darbuk-Shyok-DBO road, he further postulated that this was a power play by the Chinese amidst the "covid-19 pandemic" that had already damaged not only the international reputation of the Chinese but also their economy (Singh, 2020). Another perspective was put forward by a Chinese specialist Yun Sun who opined that the road building by the Indian government, was in the sight of the Chinese nothing but "Stabbing china in the back" and hence the Chinese government saw this as a dent and a threat to their national integrity, which the Chinese had had no intentions to give up for the sake of fostering their good rapport with the Indians (India Today, 2020). In the views of the Tibetan-Government-in-exile's president (Libsong Sangay) who opined that china was at the time raising the border issues due to the fact that they were experiencing domestic issues within their borders and were also facing external pressure as a result of the "Covid 19 pandemic"(Sreevatsan, 2020).

As a responsible global player, India has improved its worldwide image by advocating the demand for a worldwide battle against the pandemic. In order to combat the virus' spread in South Asia, India has reached out to the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), which includes Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. India also took part in the G20 virtual conference in March, when Modi urged for the development of new crisis management protocols and processes for a global village that is linked. He also emphasised the significance of strengthening and reforming organisations such as the World Health Organization.

In addition, India eased its export prohibition on medications like hydroxychloroquine (which some believe might be a treatment for Covid-19) and paracetamol in order to offer them to nations like the United States. It had also delivered similar drugs to SAARC nations, as well as Mauritius and the Seychelles, and had supplied medical assistance to Caribbean and Latin American countries.

In addition, a prospective change in the global supply chain away from China might help India. According to India's Business Today, over 1,000 international businesses are in talks with Indian officials, with 300 of them actively pursuing manufacturing plans in industries such as mobile phones, electronics, medical equipment, textiles, and synthetic fibres. Companies from Japan, the United States, and South Korea have indicated an interest in migrating to India. According to a Bloomberg article, India has identified property tracts covering 461,589 hectares — nearly the size of Luxembourg — around the country to support these planned investments.

These factors will exacerbate the already difficult relationship between India and China. Despite Covid-19 may not have had a dramatic affect on India-China relations, it has the capacity to do gradual damage. New Delhi-Beijing ties will only get more tense as the uncertainty grows. Given India's role as a US ally and a shareholder in prospective global supply chain changes, further disagreement is predicted amid heated dynamics about decoupling between the US and China. Even as the two nations strive to maintain peaceful cohabitation, India-China relationship will witness more fluctuation and be under more pressure as it approaches 70.

6.5 The Chinese-Indian Border Skirmish

The Sino-Chinese tension are parts of an standoff that is presently going on between the militaries of China and India, since the 5th of May 2020, the troops of both countries have been involved in an aggressive face off at locations near the borders of these two Asian nations, the areas affected are the Pangong Lake in Ladakh and the Tibet Autonomous Region an area near the border between Sikkim and the Tibet Autonomous Region. Much later in May 2020 the Chinese forces obstructed the Indians from the border road construction in the Gahran River Valley (Philip, 2020).Sometime mid-June, 2020 the BBC reported that a melee fighting took place between the troops of both countries (China & India) and this resulted in the deaths of twenty Indian soldiers and also a casualty of forty-three Chinese soldiers including the deaths of one officer each on both ends(BBC, 2020). These went on up until late July when reports surfaced that disengagement occurred in the following locations Gahran, Hot Springs and Gorga (Hindustan Times, 2020).

Much further in the same month it was reported that Indian troops will keep being deployed through the winter if the process of disengagement was not completed. Even while the standoff went on the Indian government reinforced the troubled region with nearly twelve thousand workers to help complete the development of the Indian infrastructure along the Sino-Indian border (Hindustan Times, 2020).

These instances sparked widespread international reactions and also had an adverse effect on bilateral trade relations between China and India given that as at August 8, 2020 it was reported that government of China's custom data should that mainland China's export to their Indian neighbours had since January 2020 fallen 24.7% year-on-year to USD32.28 billion(Singh and Choudhury, 2020).It was further gathered that Chinese smart phones share in the Indian market had fallen to a 72% lower during the June quarter 2020 as against the 81% it was in March quarter 2020 (Sun, 2020).

China and India has enjoyed a cordial relationship with notable results to show for it in the aspect of economic development, sustainable diplomatic relations and cultural values over the decades but with many government, technocrats and scholars yet to decisively or specifically come to terms with how far reaching the effect of covid-19 may be, one cannot be very certain of how things may turn out between these two Asian Giants in the coming days, this is even more accentuated by the tension the tension involving both nations that are now being reputed at this very moment. It is however important to state that for these two nations – as with every other government of state – there may be a need to further strengthen existing relationships in order to appreciably buffer the (adverse) impact of covid-19.

7. Conclusion

Covid-19 has really caused a disruption in every facet of human life and has created some kind of uncertainty about what the future holds for certain sects, organization and even nations and based on this international relationship between nations may either be affected negatively or positively depending on how governments and world bodies (e.g. WHO, UNICEF, Asia Council, etc.) manage and respond to the situation, as this would go a long way in determining how the nations and players in the global community and the world as a whole would heal from the scars and damages the pandemic has done.

In addition, India's diplomatic circles are expressing dissatisfaction with China's slow response and lack of openness in dealing with the Wuhan pandemic. With time, these sentiments will only get stronger. Furthermore, India's public opinion against China is deteriorating. Murphy's rule applies in unpredictably uncertain times, and its impact on the development of India-China relations cannot be overstated.

Tensions may be exacerbated by factors outside of the bilateral partnership. India and China are both growing countries with lofty ambitions. As the Covid-19 pandemic progresses, it looks that one is being challenged while the other is being given an opportunity. China's reputation as a global actor may be tarnished as a result of its management of the Wuhan pandemic. In reality, there is a rising worldwide opposition calling for China's isolation. By promoting the need for a worldwide battle against the pandemic as a responsible partner, India, on the other hand, has improved its worldwide image.

Despite the fact that the above stated issues in the study are not new to the China-India relationship, the pandemic has exacerbated them. Three actions can be taken to avoid these tolerable disputes from escalating into open confrontation. First and foremost, both Beijing and New Delhi must priorities the maintenance of Sino-Indian economic and commercial relationships. Along with managing foreign investments, the Indian government would have to ensure that bureaucratic red tape does not block commerce between the two nations and collaborate closely with the Chinese government to expedite investments, particularly in infrastructure and technology.

Secondly, if the risk of inter-state conflicts grows as a result of regional power struggle, military-to-military contacts might be bolstered to foster mutual trust and understanding. Other actions that the two nations may take include exchanging pandemic information, forming technology partnerships, and expanding cooperation through multilateral organisations like the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, BRICS, and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

Third, to counteract the bad public impression of bilateral relations, India and China might organise cultural exchanges between their peoples. To discover new areas of collaboration, Track-II meetings with strategic affairs specialists and academics from both nations might be conducted.

In a post-pandemic era, such measures might assist strengthen inter-state confidence and minimise the competitive features of the India-China relationship. The following are the suggested recommendations in a bid to help the global community efficiently tackle and handle the effects of the covid-19 pandemic.

- There may be a need for strategic formulation and implementation of policies: with covid-19 causing the destruction

in governmental proceedings and or activities, it may be expedient to work on the formulation of new foreign policies that would ensure sustainability and foster the diplomatic relationship between these countries. Plus the effective implementation of these policies could go a long way in helping to overcome whatever adverse effect the pandemic might have had on the Sino-Indian ties. Also there will be a need for thorough review of existing trade relations and bilateral agreements: there may be a need to comprehensively review the already existing agreements and pacts especially in the face of the tension evolving in tandem with the covid-19 pandemic.

- Building collaborative framework to achieve socio cultural and socio economic sustainability: The two parties should come together to build on the already existing cultural heritage and in furtherance create a common ground for individuals from both parties to share or exchange innovative ideas that would promote and sustain their respective national interests.

- Collaboration not Competition: for so many years the Sino-Indian trade relations has experienced exponential growth, before the risings of the present border line issues and tension between these nations, they have both proven to be true strategic partners hence rather than seeing one another as hostiles or competitors it would do both parties good to put aside the political distrust they might harbor for one another, and tape into the potentials and benefits they could and have been enjoying from one another from yesteryears.

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