INDIA'S OPTION AGAINST CHINA'S POLICY OF DOMINANCE BY ENCIRCLEMENT

By Col Sanjay sharma, Veteran

It was quite evident from China's direct advice to India against it's growing closeness with US & Japan by active participation in QUAD. They still perceive India as just a push away neighbour militarily or economically. The PRC is absolutely clear that in order to prove their supremacy in today's hegemonic world order they visualize a direct or indirect confrontation with US, with India as just an irritant in the process. Seemingly they now perceive India as another proxy for US, like Pakistan was in Afghanistan, to contain it's cold war rival???

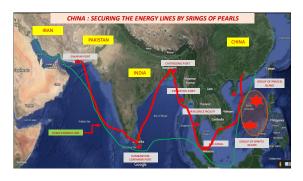
For India, the question lies ahead, why are we in this situation?? ???Despite all cards open since 70s??? nothing hidden?? All warning signs were indicative of the direction?? Whether it is *Salami Slicing* tactics, or setting up *Strings of Pearls*, orchestrating *BRI Initiative* or a *Policy of Encirclement*??

Mao's vision, and Deng' policy and with XI's deft execution, the PRC has moved ahead to secure their energy lines, as what they perceived were vulnerable in case of any military confrontation in SCS with US and it's allies. For them, it is a matter of geopolitical coincidence that India, could be a playground for this show down. And therefore, it is important for them to prepare this "pitch" for best results in their favour.

Recently, Sri Lanka finally giving up to the pressure, and allotting China an exclusive region near Colombo Port and allowing China passport & Currency is just one of those pawns, castled for future confrontation.

With a clear hold on Malacca straits by developing military infra at Spartly & Paracel groups of islands, the PRC has not only secured it's energy supply lines, but have also extended

it's military reach to the shores of Australia & India. It has also successfully pushed the battlegrounds, away from it's shore, in the case of open confrontation with US in SCS. Building of Aircraft Carriers "Type 001A" & "Type 002"by People Liberation's Army Navy (PLAN) have been perfectly synchronised with these initiatives.

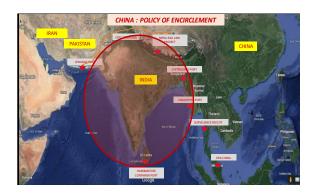


CHINA: SECURING THE ENERGY SUPPLY LINES

To squeeze India further, the PRC is heavily engaged in Rail Link & a dry project at Kodari in Nepal, CEPC in North West, Kumning to Kyaukphyu Oil & gas line & Trans Asia Highway in Myanamar, Hambantota port in Srilanka and Gwadar in Pak. Thus, it has succeeded in a full military control around India's border, has effectively encircled, and choking India inwardly with these military bases all around.

An economically induced outward push to India in terms of EXIM imbalance, dumping duties, selectively rejecting of Indian goods and delays at their ports for their clearance has been created to keep some or other issues always on the boil. Dumping/flooding with low quality products, manufactured flouting all environmental and international labour norms is further exploiting India's low per capita income population. And

thus making them dependent on sub-standard items.



CHINA POLICY OF ENCIRCLEMENT OF INDIA

Most China's military thinkers still have the same illusion about India as it was after 1962 war. They perceive India as a nation with a far too many contradictions within, and a poorly united country against any external aggression and feel that India is still poorly equipped militarily. However, they have drawn lessons from 71's Bangladesh liberation war with Pak and have secured themselves and their allies against all those disruptions/threats we imposed on them during the war.

So the question arises, what should India do:

Make a major shift in our non-Align policy and clearly raise issue-based voices in one's favour who is right. A case in example today is Israel's conflict with Hamas. We should have voted in UN in the favour of Israel as it was an unproved attack by HAMAS against them. We need not to please any nation/group of nations due to economic or internal political compulsions. All other nations like US, EU and Russia have also been maintaining this fine balance. Our Non align stand leads us nowhere, except for making us a laughing stock in today's world, where one is expected to make his stand clear on any international issues and yet protecting own interests. It is respected by all.

- Take neighbours along such as Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar. Act as big brother and clearly indicate our needs of strategic alliance. Mere symbolic gesture of extending credit lines may not work. Whatever done cannot be undone, but yes, it can be contained for future.
- Our investing in developing good relations with countries in Western region of China should pay us dividends and in time of need. However, Iran remains a major contradiction in our policy. We must make our stand clear and yet have good relations with them for strategic needs. Recent cancellation of our bid to Chahbar Rail Project is a major setback in our relations with them.
- We must show active participation in Afghanistan. Mere sitting on fence with some civic measures do not hold any water in today's diplomacy. Today the international relations expect specific, significant and active participation. Not just a symbolic gesture. In fact our active dominance in Afghanistan could be a solution to many geo political issues we face today.
- India should be a hub for all QUAD activities, take active responsibility as anchor nation. Remember China's long term rivalry is with US/Japan, not with India. But our geo political location likely to be a flash point, whenever confrontation begins actually.
- Active investment in Australia for energy security, and strong ties with Russia would help to counterbalance

PRC threat and also relieves us from over dependence on middle east for energy.

- Do not hesitate in raising issues against China in UN or any other forums. Even to the extent, join US and other nations to investigate virus origination and claim our losses, if that be the case. Make China accountable.
- Imposition of duties selectively and rejecting of low-quality product entry to our shore would be welcome initiatives. Make nation self reliant on all such products. Look for alternatives, even if they are a little expensive. Let the nation be sensitised on this. We must bear in mind that even our adversaries will respect us when we show our intent to protect our own interest.

Galwan braves & Kailash Height's Heros have already shown us the way!!!!!

Jai Bharat!!!!