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11:00 AM | BY - PRESHIKA MA'AM



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ENGLISH BY PRESHIKA TONGAR



Important words used in editorial

Summit - meeting, conference, assembly, conclave

Reinforce - strengthen, fortify, bolster, support, buttress

Autonomy - independence, sovereignty, self-governance,
freedom, liberty

Truce - ceasefire, armistice, peace, respite

Apparent - obvious, evident, visible

*noticeable, clear, lucid, limpid,
pellucid*

Breakthrough - discovery, advance, development, success

Differ - diverge, vary, deviate, disagree, dissent

Descend - sink, plunge, degenerate, deteriorate, slide

Stance - position, posture, attitude, standpoint, outlook

Substantial - significant, considerable, sizable, meaningful

Détente - easing, relaxation, appeasement, pacification,
conciliation

Inevitable - unavoidable, inescapable, certain, fated, sure

Important idioms and phrases used in the editorial

Call for - to publicly ask for something to happen or be done

Bide your time - to wait quietly for a good opportunity to do something

Put it to - to express or present a statement or question to

Come into question - to be doubted or to become uncertain

Thucydides Trap - a severe structural stress when a rising power challenges an established power

Superpower summit: On the Trump visit to China As the U.S. and China renegotiate ties, India must reinforce its strategic autonomy. As U.S. President Donald Trump left Beijing on Friday after two days of talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping, the world's two biggest powers appeared to have come to a temporary truce. How long it will last remains to be seen, given that the summit concluded without any apparent breakthroughs in the long list of differences, from trade to Taiwan, that have strained relations. Instead, both sides appear focused on injecting some stability into a relationship that has, of late, seen many ups-and-downs. Mr. Xi offered a new label for ties, calling for "a constructive relationship of strategic stability" for the remaining years of Mr. Trump's term and beyond. If both agree on the need for some stability, their priorities appear to differ. Mr. Xi told Mr. Trump that Taiwan was the most important issue in the relationship, which could descend into conflict if not properly managed. The U.S. stance on Taiwan remains unchanged, which includes substantial arms sales. How this détente will handle the Trump administration's next sale remains to be seen. For Mr. Trump, getting China to buy more American goods and relax controls on rare earths is key metrics of the health of ties. He said that Beijing had agreed to buy 200 Boeing aircraft, step up purchases of soyabean, and relax restrictions on U.S. beef exports – the "three Bs" he has emphasised. The U.S. has also allowed 10 Chinese firms to resume purchases of advanced Nvidia chips.

Both sides have discussed setting up a Board of Trade to manage trade issues, including reducing tariffs on some Chinese goods, and a Board of Investment to green light Chinese investment in non-sensitive sectors. These deals, if confirmed, may at most lead to a pause in a bruising trade war. However, the Beijing summit has also served as a reminder of the broader changing structural dynamics in relations between the world's two biggest powers. If the U.S. remains the pre-eminent military power today, it is the limits of its ability to command global influence that have come into question increasingly, all the more so after the Iran war. China, for its part, has made clear it is no longer interested in biding its time or hiding its global ambitions. As Mr. Xi put it to Mr. Trump, can China and the U.S. avoid the Thucydides Trap, of an inevitable conflict between the established power and the rising power, and create a new model of relations? This question holds significance for India and the rest of the world, which have to navigate this rivalry. Standing up to U.S. pressure, while managing difficult relations with an increasingly confident China, will be two key tests of India's diplomacy in the years to come. Reinforcing India's strategic autonomy and independence, rather than diluting it, will offer the best path forward.

Speak

1. Which of the following statements is/are true according to the passage?
- A. China called for a “constructive relationship of strategic stability” with the U.S.
 - B. The ~~summit~~ resulted in a final solution to the Taiwan dispute.
 - C. Donald Trump focused on increasing Chinese purchases of American goods.
- (a) ~~Only A and B are true~~
- (b) ~~Only A and C are true~~
- (c) ~~Only B and C are true~~
- (d) ~~All A, B and C are true~~

2. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- A. Taiwan was described by Xi Jinping as the most important issue in U.S.-China relations.
- B. The U.S. completely stopped arms sales to Taiwan after the summit.
- C. China agreed to increase purchases of soyabeans and Boeing aircraft.

- ~~(a) Only A and B are true~~
- ~~(b) Only A and C are true~~
- ~~(c) Only B and C are true~~
- ~~(d) All A, B and C are true~~

200

3. Which of the following statements is/are true regarding the trade discussions?

A. Both countries discussed creating a Board of Trade.

B. The U.S. agreed to ban all Chinese firms from purchasing Nvidia chips.

C. There were discussions on reducing tariffs on some Chinese goods.

(a) Only A and B are true

(b) Only B and C are true

(c) Only A and C are true

(d) All A, B and C are true

4. Which of the following statements is/are correct according to the editorial?

A. The U.S. continues to remain the leading military power.

B. China has clearly shown that it no longer wants to hide its global ambitions.

C. The Iran war strengthened America's unquestioned global dominance

~~(a) Only A and B are true~~

~~(b) Only B and C are true~~

~~(c) Only A and C are true~~

~~(d) All A, B and C are true~~

reinforce
fortify buttress
bD/sten
support

5. Which of the following statements is/are true about India's position?

- A. India must strengthen its strategic autonomy.
- B. India will need to manage difficult relations with a more confident China.
- C. The editorial suggests India should completely align itself with either the U.S. or China.

- (a) Only A and B are true
- (b) Only B and C are true
- (c) Only A and C are true
- (d) All A, B and C are true

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