

## **Xiamen Declaration**

### **Why in news?**

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Recently adopted Xiamen Declaration of BRICS forum is seen as a triumph for Indian diplomacy.

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### **What is Xiamen declaration about?**

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- It explicitly called out several Pakistan-based terror organisations and expressed concern on the security situation in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region.

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- It also referred to violence caused by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and its affiliates, including the Eastern Turkestan Islamic Movement Haqqani network, Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Mohammad, Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan etc.

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- The Chinese government, as is evident from the inclusion of the Uighur-focused Eastern Turkestan Islamic Movement in the above list, is concerned about growing Islamist activity in its western provinces.

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### **What is the significance of this?**

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- India-China saw the importance of building a durable security architecture for their increasingly fraught relationship.

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- People's Republic of China a signatory to this declaration, had till recently been blocking the designation of the head of the Jaish-e-Mohammed terror group, Masood Azhar, as an international terrorist by the United Nations.

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- This was done presumably to protect Beijing's clients in Pakistan, where Azhar continues to move around freely and address massive rallies.  
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- It is not yet certain whether this declaration represents a change in China's stand on Azhar.  
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- But India's efforts to make Beijing yield its obstructive position at the United Nations should continue.  
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- It is a sign that relations between the India-China have not been harmed by the doklam stand-off, but remain cordial and co-operative.  
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**Source: Business Standard**

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