



BCIM Not a Part of BRI

China has said that the **Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar (BCIM)** Corridor will not be a part of the [Belt & Road Initiative](#).

- **India's decision to skip the Belt and Road Forum (BRF)** may have led to the exclusion of the Bangladesh- China- India- Myanmar (BCIM) Economic corridor from the list of projects covered by the China-led Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) umbrella.
- Citing sovereignty concerns, **India**, for the second time, **has not officially participated in the BRF**, as China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)—a flagship of the BRI—[passes through Pakistan occupied Kashmir \(PoK\)](#).
- In the official communique of BRF, South Asia is covered by three major undertakings—**the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor (CMEC)**, **the Nepal-China Trans-Himalayan Multidimensional Connectivity Network** and **the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)**.

Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar (BCIM) Corridor

- The **2800 km BCIM corridor proposes to link Kunming in China's Yunnan province with Kolkata**, passing through nodes such as **Mandalay in Myanmar and Dhaka in Bangladesh** before heading to Kolkata.

China-Myanmar Economic Corridor (CMEC)

- The **1,700-km corridor provides China another node to access the Indian Ocean**.
- The CMEC will run from **Yunnan Province of China to Mandalay in Central Myanmar**.
- From there it will head towards Yangon, before terminating at the Kyaukpyu Special Economic Zone (SEZ) on the Bay of Bengal.
- The **CMEC will reduce Beijing's trade and energy reliance on the Malacca straits** — the narrow passage that links the Indian Ocean with the Pacific.
- China is worried that US Naval domination over the Malacca straits can threaten one of China's major economic lifeline.

Nepal-China Trans-Himalayan Multi-dimensional Connectivity Network

- The **Nepal-China Trans-Himalayan connectivity network starting from Chengdu, from where it is linked to Tibet by the Sichuan-Tibet Highway and Railway**.
- China has visualized that that **railway can eventually be connected with the Indian railway network**, linking China and India across the Himalayas.

China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)

- The [CPEC is a bilateral project between Pakistan and China](#), intended to promote connectivity across Pakistan with a network of highways, railways, and pipelines accompanied by energy, industrial, and other infrastructure development projects.
- **CPEC links the Western part of China to the Gwadar Port in Balochistan**, Pakistan running some 3000 km from **Xinjiang to Balochistan via Khunjerab Pass** in the Northern Parts of Pakistan.

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