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Title: Regarding Indo-Nepal diplomatic relations - laid

SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN (KASARAGOD): Recently, Prime Minister of Nepal demanded withdrawal of Indian military personnel from the Kalapani region. Nepal has witnessed street protests since India published a new political map on November 2, 2019 which portrayed the Kalapani enclave as part of India.

Souring of the relationship between India and Nepal is not an ignorable affair. India and Nepal have a strong political, cultural and geographical bonding. But for the last few years, the Indo-Nepal relations have soured. China has been accelerating its grip over Nepal mainly by including Nepal in China's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative.

In this context, it would be a Himalayan blunder to allow the Indo Nepal relations to be jeopardized. Steps may be taken to avoid a stand-off between India and Nepal and diplomatic routes may be activated to avoid further escalation of tension.