

Title: Reconnecting the Subcontinent: India and the New Silk Roads

Abstract:

The rise of China and its growing economic and political impact on the Subcontinent is manifest in the strong support from India's neighbours to President Xi Jinping's One Belt, One Road Initiatives on regional connectivity over land and sea. The talk explores the sources of Indian discomfort with the OBOR and the potential options in responding effectively to it. These include selective cooperation with China on regional connectivity, developing unilateral alternatives, and partnership with other powers such as Japan and the United States. The talk will argue that global connectivity initiatives offer Delhi a historic opportunity to reconnect the Subcontinent.