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## NEPAL OFFERS TO PLAY ROLE OF MEDIATOR BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

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India Today (25 January 2020)

Tensions between India and Pakistan have spiked since India abrogated Article 370 of the Constitution to revoke the special status of Jammu and Kashmir in August last year.

Nepal on Saturday offered to play the role of a mediator between India and Pakistan, saying that it was important for the two countries to have dialogue to resolve their issues.

"Dialogue is the best way to resolve any problem. There may be differences but it can be resolved through dialogue. If necessary, we can play the role of a mediator too," a Nepal government source said.

The source said that better solution to resolve the issues would be to develop better dialogue between two countries. "We can be instrumental, but it will be better (for the two sides) to develop direct contact," the source said.

Tensions between India and Pakistan have spiked since India abrogated Article 370 of the Constitution to revoke the special status of Jammu and Kashmir in August last year. India's decision evoked strong reactions from Pakistan, which downgraded diplomatic ties and expelled the Indian envoy.

"When we come together, sit together and share views then things will be resolved. In every situation, we have to sit together and try to resolve the problem otherwise things can be deteriorated," the source said.

Expressing concern over the uncertainty prevailing over the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) summit, the source said the grouping should be revitalised and misunderstandings should be removed.

Read more at: <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/nepal-offers-to-play-role-of-mediator-between-india-pakistan-1640091-2020-01-25>