



CURRENT AFFAIRS



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INDIA-BHUTAN

This article covers "Daily Current Affairs" and the topic details "India-Bhutan". This topic has relevance in the International Relations section of the UPSC CSE exam.

For Prelims:

About India-Bhutan Relations?

For Mains:

GS 2: International Relations

Significance of Bhutan for India:

Why in the news?

Bhutan's King, Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, has arrived in New Delhi amidst critical border discussions with China, sparking some apprehension in the Indian capital.

Border Dynamics:

- India and Bhutan share a 649-km-long border, with a significant 267-km boundary adjacent to Assam, India.

India-Bhutan Diplomatic Relations:

- Diplomatic relations were formalized in 1968 when India appointed a resident representative in Thimphu, taking over the role previously managed by the Political Officer in Sikkim.
- The cornerstone of their bilateral ties is the 1949 Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, updated in 2007 during the visit of Bhutan's King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck to India.



Economic Relations:

- India stands as Bhutan's primary trading partner and export destination.
- Bhutan leverages its hydropower potential for substantial revenue, with India's active support in developing its hydropower projects.
- India offers financial assistance for Bhutan's development projects.

Significance of Bhutan for India:

- Bhutan holds strategic importance for India due to its location between India and China, serving as a buffer state that aligns with India's security interests.
- India has played a pivotal role in preserving Bhutan's sovereignty and territorial integrity.
- Assistance from India has bolstered Bhutan's defense, infrastructure, and communication capabilities, reinforcing its territorial integrity.
- In the 2017 Doklam standoff, Bhutan facilitated Indian troops' entry into its territory to counter Chinese incursions, highlighting Bhutan's strategic significance for India.

Challenges and Concerns:

- **China's Growing Influence:** The expanding presence of China in Bhutan, especially along the disputed Bhutan-China border, is a matter of concern for India. China's economic and military influence in the region poses challenges to India's strategic interests in Bhutan.
- **Border Disputes:** While the India-Bhutan border has generally been peaceful, there have been sporadic instances of border incursions by Chinese forces. The Doklam standoff in 2017, a tri-junction issue involving India, China, and Bhutan, raised tensions. Escalation of such disputes has the potential to strain India-Bhutan relations.

Source:

[Expert Explains | Bhutan's King in India as Beijing-Thimpu speed up border talks: Why New Delhi is concerned | Explained News - The Indian Express](#)

Q.1 Which of the following Indian states shares the longest border with Bhutan?

1. Assam
2. Arunachal Pradesh
3. Sikkim
4. Tripura

ANSWER: A

Q.2 Which of the following statements about India-Bhutan diplomatic relations is correct?

1. Diplomatic relations were established before Indian Independence.
2. Relations formalized in 1968 with the appointment of a resident representative in Thimphu.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANSWER: B

Q.3 Discuss the strategic importance of India-Bhutan relations and their impact on regional stability. Analyze the recent developments and challenges in these relations, particularly in the context of China.

Rishabh

PIRATED CONTENT ON DIGITAL PLATFORMS

This article covers "Daily Current Affairs" and the topic details "Pirated content on digital platforms". This topic has relevance in the Governance section of the UPSC CSE exam.

For Prelims:

About Content Piracy?

For Mains:

GS 2: Governance

Key Information about Pirated content regulation?

Rationale for Regulation?

Why in the news?

The government has recently appointed nodal officers responsible for issuing orders to remove pirated content from digital platforms and has introduced robust measures to combat film piracy.

Background:

- The recent decision to combat film piracy comes after the passing of the Cinematograph Amendment Bill 2023 in Parliament.
- Currently, there exists no direct institutional framework for addressing pirated film content, except for legal action under the Copyright Act and the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

Key Information:

- The government has appointed 12 nodal officers within the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and the Central Bureau of Film Certification (CBFC) to handle complaints related to film piracy. These officers are mandated to take action within 48 hours upon receiving a complaint.
- Those involved in piracy may now face fines ranging from INR 3 lakh to five percent of the gross audited value of production.
- Copyright holders or their authorized representatives can apply to the nodal officers to have pirated content removed.
- If a complaint is submitted by a non-copyright holder, the Nodal Officer may conduct hearings to determine the complaint's validity before issuing directives.

Targeted Platforms:

- Digital platforms such as YouTube, Telegram channels, websites, and other online platforms are legally required to remove internet links containing pirated content.

Understanding Content Piracy:

- Content piracy involves the unauthorized duplication of copyrighted content, which is then distributed in the 'grey' market at significantly lower prices.
- The proliferation of the internet and the widespread desire for free access to film content have contributed to the rampant growth of piracy.

Rationale for Regulation:

- The increase in piracy is attributed to easy access to technology and the desire for free access to film content. These measures aim to empower authorities to swiftly address piracy, providing relief to the industry.
- The Cinematograph Amendment Bill 2023 aims to address film piracy, a long-standing demand of the film industry. This Act was last significantly amended in 1984 and has been updated after 40 years to include provisions against film piracy, encompassing digital piracy.
- In India, legal actions against piracy are covered by various laws, including the Indian Penal Code, the Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill 2023, and the Information Technology Act of 2000. These statutes prescribe penalties, imprisonment, and fines for those involved in film piracy and unauthorized online distribution of copyrighted content.

THE ₹ COST OF PIRACY



Source:

[Pirated content: I&B Ministry empowers officers to direct social media intermediaries – The Hindu BusinessLine](#)

Q.1 Consider the following statements regarding the measures to combat film piracy in India:

1. Twelve nodal officers have been appointed to manage piracy-related complaints, with a mandatory 48-hour response time.
2. Those involved in piracy may face fines ranging from INR 3 lakh to five percent of the gross audited value of production.
3. Cinematograph Amendment Bill 2023 deals with piracy related matters

How many of the above statement/s is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

ANSWER: C

Q.2 Discuss the impact of digital piracy on intellectual property rights (IPR) and the creative industries. How can governments and international organizations enhance the protection of IPR in the digital age while also balancing the right to access information

Rishabh