International Relations · GS - II

The reported demand by Bangladesh for the extradition of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina highlights the complex intersection of bilateral relations, domestic political developments and international legal obligations. Analyse the diplomatic and legal challenges such cases pose for India.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 23/11/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Extradition treaty, bilateral relations, domestic political developments, rule of law, due process, human rights safeguards, diplomatic sensitivity, regional stability, strategic autonomy

IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP

Model Answer

Introduction

Extradition is an important instrument of international criminal cooperation. However, when a request concerns a former political leader, the issue may acquire wider diplomatic and political significance. The reported demand by Bangladesh regarding Sheikh Hasina illustrates the complexities India may face in balancing treaty obligations with legal safeguards and bilateral interests.

Major Diplomatic and Legal Challenges

1. **Treaty obligations:** India and Bangladesh have an extradition framework. Any request must be examined according to the applicable treaty provisions, domestic law and prescribed procedures rather than treated as an automatic political decision.

2. **Domestic political sensitivity:** A request involving a former head of government may be closely linked to political developments in the requesting country. India must avoid actions that could be perceived as interference in its domestic affairs.

3. **Due process and human rights:** Authorities need to examine the legal basis, supporting evidence and applicable safeguards, including concerns relating to the fairness of proceedings and treatment of the individual.

4. **Bilateral relations:** The handling of an extradition request can influence diplomatic trust, security cooperation, trade and connectivity between neighbouring countries.

5. **Regional stability:** Political uncertainty in Bangladesh may have implications for border management, migration, security cooperation and India's wider neighbourhood policy.

India's Possible Approach

1. Process the request through established legal and institutional channels.
2. Ensure transparent examination of treaty conditions and applicable safeguards.
3. Maintain diplomatic communication with Bangladesh while avoiding public escalation.
4. Separate legal decision-making from partisan political considerations.
5. Continue cooperation on trade, border security and regional stability.

Conclusion

Extradition cases involving political figures test both international cooperation and constitutional commitment to due process. India's response should remain legally grounded, diplomatically measured and consistent with its broader interest in a stable and cooperative neighbourhood.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP