



India-Bhutan Relations

Marking the **Golden Jubilee of the establishment of formal diplomatic relations between India and Bhutan**, the Prime Minister of Bhutan, H.E. DashoTshering Tobgay is visiting India from 5-7 July 2018.

- During the visit, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bhutanese counterpart held talks on defence, security, strategic cooperation and development cooperation between the two countries.

Other Takeaways

- Review of bilateral economic and hydro-power co-operation, including the progress in the implementation of the on-going Gol-assisted-hydro-electric projects in Bhutan.
- Reaffirmation in their commitment to further strengthen collaboration in the hydropower sector in the spirit of close friendship and co-operation that characterize relations between India and Bhutan.
- In their talks, the two PMs are also expected to deliberate on the situation at the Doklam tri-junction, the site of the 73-day-long standoff between Indian and Chinese armies last year.

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- Diplomatic relations between India and Bhutan were established in 1968 with the appointment of a resident representative of India in Thimphu.
- Before this India's relations with Bhutan were looked after by India's Political Officer in Sikkim.
- The basic framework of India- Bhutan bilateral relations was the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation signed in 1949 between the two countries, which was revised in February 2007.
- The India-Bhutan Friendship Treaty not only reflects the contemporary nature of their relationship but also lays the foundation for their future development in the 21st century.