

Extradition Request for Sheikh Hasina

Source: HT

Recently, India had received a **note verbale (unsigned diplomatic correspondence)** from Bangladesh to **extradite** former Prime Minister **Sheikh Hasina**.

- Sheikh Hasina is accused of mass killings during student protests for which Bangladesh's interim government wants her to face trial.
- Hasina could be brought back under the India-Bangladesh extradition treaty of 2013, amended in 2016.
- Exceptions to the treaty:
 - Article 6: Extradition may be refused if the offence of which it is requested is an offence of a political character.
 - Article 8: A person may not be extradited if the accusation against him or her is not "made in good faith in the interests of justice".
- 2016 Amendments: Objective was to simplify and hasten the extradition process
 - Article 10 (3): It removed the need for evidence from the country requesting extradition.
 - **Competent Court:** Only an **arrest warrant** from a **competent court** is enough for extradition. Hasina faces multiple arrest warrants in **Bangl**adesh.
- The treaty enabled India to extradite <u>ULFA</u> leader Anup Chetia in 2015.

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Rocky ties: Rising India-B'desh tensions

A timeline of major controversies since Bangladesh's ex-PM Sheikh Hasina fled the country

AUGUST

Sheikh Hasina steps down and flees to India amid protests

- Marks beginning of tensions between interim government and India
- Muhammad Yunus becomes interim government head



NOVEMBER

Diplomatic tensions over minority protection

- Interim govt dismisses Indian concerns about Hindu minority persecution
 - Yunus claims Indian media is exaggerating reports of violence
 - India formally calls on Bangladesh to protect minorities

DECEMBER

- Bangladesh summons Indian high commissioner Pranay Verma, the first time in recent years a senior Indian diplomat was summoned
- Protests over treatment of Hindu monk Chinmoy Krishna Das
- Yunus raises concerns about Hasina making statements from India, claims they "create tension"
- Yunus seeks India's help to clear "dark clouds" over bilateral ties



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