

UPSC

Test

Ques. Discuss India - Nepal relationship. How growing Chinese influence in Nepal is affecting it?
150 words

Ans. Nepal has recently released new political map that claimed Kalapani, Limpiyadhura and Lipulekh of Uttarakhand as a part of Nepal's territory.

Though, ~~map~~ Kalapani has been a disputed territory between India and Nepal, this cartography assertion by Nepal appears to threaten the special relationship between them.



There is a similar dispute over Susta region due to change of course by the Gandak river which demarcates the Indo - Nepal border in Champaran (Bihar).

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In recent times, China has made inroads into Nepal in infrastructure, education and health sectors. Also, Nepal wants to take advantage of China's BRI project.

India is worried that China's chequebook diplomacy would turn Nepal into a client state which would undermine India's security interest.

However, Nepal has asserted that its relationship with China is purely economic and will not be hurting the Indian strategic interests in any way.

India should cooperate with Nepal on multiple dimensions, abide by its neighbourhood first policy and focus on completing its infrastructure project on time.

India should stop Nepal from turning into another Hambantota.

As Suresh
Expell!