International Relations · GS - II

Discuss how India and Nepal can expand bilateral cooperation in digital technology, economic integration, energy and border management while addressing traditional and emerging security challenges.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 29/10/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Neighbourhood First Policy; open-border management; digital payments; cybercrime cooperation; hydropower and clean energy; economic integration; mutual trust

Model Answer

Introduction

India and Nepal share deep historical, cultural and economic ties. Their open border and geographical proximity create opportunities for cooperation, while also requiring coordinated approaches to emerging security and development challenges.

Emerging Areas of Cooperation

1. Digital and Financial Integration

Interoperable digital payment systems can facilitate tourism, remittances and small businesses. Real-time information sharing and joint cybercrime investigations can strengthen responses to online fraud and financial crime.

2. Energy and Economic Cooperation

Nepal's hydropower potential complements India's energy demand. Cross-border electricity trade, transmission infrastructure and renewable-energy investment can support energy security and regional economic growth.

3. Modern Border Management

Technology-enabled monitoring, intelligence sharing and coordinated customs procedures can help combat trafficking, smuggling and organised crime while preserving legitimate movement across the open border.

Challenges and Way Forward

Differences over border issues, data protection, infrastructure and implementation capacity require sustained dialogue. Both countries should establish clear protocols for information sharing, protect personal data, improve connectivity and ensure equitable benefits for border communities.

Conclusion

A forward-looking India–Nepal partnership combining digital integration, clean energy and cooperative security can strengthen mutual trust and contribute to regional stability and prosperity.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP