

UN Sanctions on North Korea

Why in news?

\n\n

The UN Security Council has unanimously approved the U.S.-drafted sanctions on North Korea.

\n\n

What are the sanctions for?

\n\n

\n

- The sanctions are in response to the North Korea's two intercontinental ballistic missile tests recently, that appears to have the range to hit major US cities.

\n

- The sanctions prohibit North Korea from buying, selling or transferring coal, iron, iron ore, seafood, lead and lead ore to other countries.

\n

- They also attempt to restrict North Korean labour abroad.

\n

- It is said that if fully implemented, the sanctions would cut North Korea's foreign earnings by \$1 billion.

\n

\n\n

What is North Korea's response?

\n\n

\n

- North Korea has firmly made it clear that new United Nations sanctions would not stop it from developing its nuclear arsenal.

\n

- It also rejected calls for negotiations and warned the US of retaliation.

\n

- North Korea also reiterated that unless the hostile policy and nuclear threat of the U.S. against it are fundamentally eliminated, it would not change its course on nuclear policy.

\n

- On the other hand, US has stated that it would consider talks only if Pyongyang halted its ballistic missile programme.

\n

- Pyongyang's defiant statement also hit out at Beijing and Moscow, which have also acceded to the sanctions.

\n

\n\n

Are sanctions effective?

\n\n

\n

- There are opinions that sanctions are a blunt instrument and can take a long time to have any effect because of ineffective implementation.

\n

- This is due to factors like North Korea exploits illicit supply networks, individual states don't implement sanctions fully and private-sector firms can often undermine them.

\n

- Even earlier sanctions on North Korea have not fully materialised to choke off all economic activity of the present North Korean regime.

\n

- New sanctions are a necessary and potentially useful precondition but this is a kind of a security problem that requires more skilful diplomacy and alliance-building.

\n

\n\n

\n\n

Source: The Hindu

\n

