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GS-II (Bilateral Relations)

1) India and Bhutan have the potential to change the development story of the region. Comment (150 words).

Bhutan is the neighbouring country of India. India and Bhutan have the relationship bilaterally for many decades.

India - Bhutan :-

- * Bhutan is located north to India.
- * It is sharing border with four Indian states - Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam & West Bengal.
- * Historically, India & Bhutan have bilateral ties.
- * People-people connectivity, Bilateral trade are the features of India - Bhutan relationship.
- * Both the countries sharing their culture & tradition in many ways.

* India giving importance to Bhutan as 'Neighbouring First' policy

Potential:

* Recently, Both the countries have been notified for Connectivity projects.

* As Bhutan is land locked, India can give ways to increase its trade & commerce.

* Both the countries are shared by many tributaries of the rivers.

* It gives ways to increase Hydro-electric power projects

* people-people connectivity, Tourism, trade & commerce, security ties are the other potential.

Limitations:

* China also shares borders with Bhutan & is investing more projects in Bhutan.

* It affects India's security & sovereignty.

* political instability in Bhutan may concerns the ties.