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Role of SEBI and International Regulatory Practices in India

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ABSTRACT

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) serves as the cornerstone of financial market regulation in India, ensuring transparency, fairness, and investor protection in the capital markets. Established in 1992, SEBI's primary role is to regulate stock exchanges, intermediaries, and listed companies while safeguarding the interests of investors. Its key functions include formulating regulations to prevent fraudulent and unfair trade practices, overseeing market intermediaries such as brokers and mutual funds, promoting investor education, and providing mechanisms for grievance redressal. SEBI has introduced frameworks like insider trading regulations, disclosure norms, and corporate governance standards to align the Indian markets with global best practices. In addition to domestic oversight, SEBI also draws upon international regulatory practices to strengthen India's financial system. By collaborating with global regulators such as the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) of the UK, and the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO), SEBI adopts risk management frameworks, market surveillance techniques, and compliance standards that enhance investor confidence. Practices such as electronic trading systems, standardized reporting, and stringent enforcement mechanisms are inspired by international models and adapted to India's market conditions. This integration ensures that Indian capital markets remain competitive and resilient while minimizing systemic risks. By combining domestic regulation with lessons from international best practices, SEBI not only protects investors but also fosters market efficiency, transparency, and sustainable growth. Its proactive approach has positioned India as a credible participant in the global financial ecosystem, promoting both domestic and foreign investment while maintaining the stability and integrity of the markets.