



Prime Minister .

Message

As we commemorate the 27th anniversary of inception of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), on behalf of the peoples and Government of Nepal as well as on my own, I would like to extend my warm felicitations and best wishes to the governments and peoples of BIMSTEC Member States.

In today's complex, dynamic and interconnected world, regional cooperation stands as a mainstay of stability, economic prosperity and solidarity. As an intergovernmental forum comprising friendly countries of South Asia and South East Asia, BIMSTEC was established to realize the shared aspirations of our peoples for a well-integrated, peaceful and prosperous region through strengthened regional cooperation and partnerships. In this regard, BIMSTEC has come a long way in making some landmark achievements while much remains to be done to translate the spirit of its Charter into a concrete reality.

BIMSTEC as a region holds immense potentials and opportunities in uplifting millions of peoples out of poverty; establishing missing links in connectivity; expanding energy cooperation; enhancing trade, investment, and tourism; and keeping progress of Sustainable Development Goals, leaving no one behind. By leveraging its diverse strengths and complementarities, BIMSTEC has continued to make strides towards institution-building processes, forge synergies for win-win benefits, and deepen collaboration in agreed areas of cooperation.

As a lead country in People-to-People Contact sector, Nepal stands steadfast to further working closely with all the Member States, in a spirit of unity and friendship, for meaningful partnerships to unlock regional potentials for common prosperity.

The peace, prosperity and collective well-being of the peoples of our region hinge on the success stories of BIMSTEC. Thus, our regional policy frameworks should focus on implementing agreements, building on broader political commitments and consensus for enhanced collaboration, and achieving people-centred development. The coming into force of BIMSTEC Charter in May of this year has provided added momentum to this end.

On this special day, I am happy to reiterate our unwavering commitment to the purposes and principles enshrined in BIMSTEC Charter to carry forward regional processes and activities in the collective interests of our peoples and the region.

Y. D. S.
Pushpa Kāmal Dahal 'Prachanda'

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