

BIMSTEC Secretariat, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Press Release, 31 July 2024

Secretary General of BIMSTEC Visits Myanmar

Secretary General (SG) of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), H.E. Indra Mani Pandey, paid his first visit to Myanmar during 22-27 July 2024. SG also participated in the 4th Meeting of the BIMSTEC National Security Chiefs and called on the Heads of Delegation of the BIMSTEC member States participating in the Meeting.

SG joined the Heads of Delegation of the member States participating at the 4th BIMSTEC National Security Chiefs in the Courtesy Call on H.E. Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Hon'ble Chairman of the State Administration Council and Prime Minister of Myanmar.

During his visit, SG called on H.E. Admiral Moe Aung, Hon'ble National Security Adviser and Union Minister for Ministry (1) at office of Chairman of the State Administration Council of Myanmar, and discussed with him regional security cooperation under the BIMSTEC; he also hosted a dinner for SG and his wife.

Further, SG called on H.E. Min Naung, Hon'ble Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, and discussed with him regional cooperation under the BIMSTEC, especially in Agriculture and Food Security Sector, which is led by Myanmar.

During the visit, SG called on H.E. Lwin Oo, Hon'ble Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, and reviewed with him the matters related to BIMSTEC cooperation mechanisms, the work of BIMSTEC Eminent Persons' Group (EPG) on the future directions of BIMSTEC and the need for holding of the core and sectoral BIMSTEC meetings regularly. Hon'ble Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs reiterated Myanmar's commitment and reassured SG of Myanmar's full support to BIMSTEC. He also hosted a dinner for SG and his wife.

Furthermore, SG met with H.E. Aung Kyaw Tun, Hon'ble Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications, and discussed regional cooperation under BIMSTEC, especially in enhancing regional connectivity including digital and people-to-people connectivity.

Myanmar is one of the seven member States of the BIMSTEC and leads regional cooperation in Agriculture and Food Security Sector and Fisheries and Livestock Sub-sector. Myanmar joined as a member of the BIMSTEC in December 1997.

BIMSTEC comprises seven countries of the Bay of Bengal region: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand. It pursues regional cooperation in seven broad sectors: Agriculture and Food Security; Connectivity; Environment and Climate Change; People to People Contact; Science, Technology and Innovation; Security; and Trade, Investment and Development. The cooperation also covers 8 sub-sectors: Blue Economy, Mountain Economy, Energy, Disaster Management, Fisheries and Livestock, Poverty alleviation, Health and Human Resource Development.

Attachment: Photograph

