



Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation

Press Release

BIMSTEC Secretary General visits Myanmar

Dhaka, 28 June 2026

BIMSTEC Secretary General, H.E. Indra Mani Pandey, undertook an official visit to Myanmar from 22 to 24 June 2026. During the visit, he called on Honourable President of Myanmar, H.E. U Min Aung Hlaing, who reiterated Myanmar's abiding commitment to expanding regional cooperation under BIMSTEC, underlined its non-political character and expressed Myanmar's desire to enhance its contribution in BIMSTEC's success.

Secretary General also called on Honourable Foreign Minister H.E. U Tin Maung Swe. Their discussion focused on strengthening regional cooperation under BIMSTEC and vital role of Myanmar in expanding cooperation in Agriculture and Food security as well as Fisheries and Livestock sectors that Myanmar leads as well as other Sectors on BIMSTEC's Agenda. Honourable Foreign Minister reiterated the high importance Myanmar attaches to BIMSTEC.

In a separate call on Honourable Home Minister, H.E. Lt Gen. Nyunt Win Swe, the two sides discussed progress in regional security cooperation under BIMSTEC in dealing with the transnational security challenges faced by the member States. They welcomed the opportunity being offered by the forthcoming Inaugural Meeting of BIMSTEC Home Ministers to review and expand regional security cooperation under BIMSTEC.

Besides, Secretary General called on Honourable National Security Adviser and Union Minister of President Office, H.E. U Tin Aung San. They reviewed progress in regional security cooperation since the 4th Meeting of BIMSTEC National Security Advisors, which was hosted by Myanmar in July 2024 in Nay Pyi Taw, and preparations for the 5th Meeting of BIMSTEC National Security Advisors, which is being hosted by India and is scheduled to be held in New Delhi on 16th July 2026. They underlined Myanmar's vital role in regional security in Bay of Bengal region, including in combating organised crime and terrorism as well as in ensuring maritime security, food security, climate security and energy security.

Secretary General called also on Honourable Union Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, H.E. U Min Naung. Their discussion focused on advancing regional cooperation in Agriculture & Food Security as well as Fisheries and Livestock Sectors, including implementation of the decisions made at the 3rd BIMSTEC Agriculture Ministerial Meeting, held in April 2025 in

Kathmandu, Nepal, and the ways to further strengthen regional cooperation in agriculture and allied sectors under BIMSTEC.

Secretary General attended a dinner hosted in his honour by Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The dinner was attended by Senior Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.

Secretary General also met with Chairman of the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS), H.E. U Thant Kyaw, and the two sides exchanged views on further strengthening regional cooperation under BIMSTEC framework.

Myanmar is one of the seven Member States of BIMSTEC and leads regional cooperation in Agriculture and Food Security as well as Fisheries and Livestock sectors. Myanmar joined as a member of the BIMSTEC in December 1997.

About BIMSTEC

BIMSTEC comprises seven countries of the Bay of Bengal region: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. It pursues regional cooperation in the following areas: Agriculture & Food Security; Blue Economy; Connectivity; Culture; Disaster Management; Energy; Environment & Climate Change; Health; Human Resource Development; Fisheries & Livestock; Mountain Economy; People-to-People Relations; Poverty Alleviation; Security; Science, Technology & Innovation; Tourism; Trade & Investment; and Women Development.

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