



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

Press Release

BIMSTEC Regional Capacity Building Programme on Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism

Shillong, India | 21–22 July 2026

Following the successful conclusion of the 14th Meeting of the BIMSTEC Sub-Group on Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism (SG-AML/CFT), the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, in collaboration with the BIMSTEC Secretariat, organized the **BIMSTEC Regional Capacity Building Programme on Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) in Shillong, on 21–22 July 2026**. The Programme brought together officials from all seven BIMSTEC Member States to strengthen technical knowledge, enhance institutional capacity, and promote regional cooperation in addressing evolving AML/CFT challenges and preparing for FATF/APG Mutual Evaluations.

The two-day Programme focused on the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Standards and the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG) Mutual Evaluation Methodology. Experts from the Department of Revenue, Reserve Bank of India, Central Board of Direct Taxes, Financial Intelligence Unit–India, National Investigation Agency, Intelligence Bureau, Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre, Enforcement Directorate, and the private sector shared practical insights on technical compliance, effectiveness, risk-based approaches, financial intelligence, supervision, national risk assessments, international cooperation, and private sector engagement. Panel discussions examined emerging trends in cyber-enabled financial crime and terrorist financing, highlighting evolving risks, regulatory responses, and the importance of cross-border collaboration.

The Programme concluded with participants reaffirming their commitment to continued cooperation, capacity development, and the effective implementation of international AML/CFT standards across the BIMSTEC region. Delegations appreciated the Government of India for successfully hosting the Programme and thanked the BIMSTEC Secretariat for its continued support in advancing regional cooperation and capacity-building initiatives.

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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