

## **Facilitating Connectivity in Bay of Bengal Region**

**11 April, 2017**

BIMSTEC Secretariat  
Gulshan-2, Dhaka, Bangladesh

### **Agenda**

**0900 – 0930 Registration**

**0930 – 0945 *Welcome and Introduction to the Theme***

- Bipul Chatterjee, Executive Director, CUTS International
- Sumith Nakandala, Secretary General, BIMSTEC Secretariat

**0945 – 1115 Session 1: Strengthening Land Corridors in Bay of Bengal Region**

***Chair:*** Subir Bhowmik, South Asia Correspondent and Senior Editor, BD News 24

#### ***Panellists***

- Takayuki Kawakami, Head of Economic and Development Section, Embassy of Japan in Bangladesh
- Selim Raihan, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
- U Kyaw Myaing, Member, Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies\*
- Chandan Kumar Dey, Joint Secretary, Road Transport and Highways Division, Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Government of Bangladesh

**1115 – 1130 Break**

**1130 – 1300 Session 2: Integrating Land Corridors with other modes of Connectivity in Bay of Bengal Region**

***Chair:*** A. K. Enamul Haque, Professor, East West University

#### ***Panellists***

- Mr Samitha Mohan Perera, Vice President, Far Shipping Agency Lanka (Pvt) Ltd.
- Syed Monowar Hussain, Former Director, Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority
- Admiral Dr Jayantha Colombage, Director centre for Indo Lanka Initiatives, Pathfinder Foundation
- Sudip Dey, Secretary, Calcutta Customs House Agent Association, India

**1300 - 1400 Lunch**

**14:00 – 15:15      Session 3: Energy Connectivity in Bay of Bengal Region**

**Chair:** Mustafizur Rahman, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka

**Panellists**

- S. Padmanabhan, former director of the USAID SARIE program and former energy advisor, World Bank
- Tanvir A. Siddiqui, Vice President, Infrastructure Development Company Ltd., Dhaka
- Mollah Amzad Hossain, Editor, Energy and Power, Bangladesh

**1515 – 1530 Break**

**1530 – 1645 Session 4: Connectivity and Investment in Bay of Bengal Region**

**Chair:** Atiur Rahman, Professor, Dhaka University

**Panellists**

- Mohammad A. Razzaque, Head, International Trade Policy Selection, Commonwealth Secretariat
- Sudip Bhaju, Director, Nepal Economic Forum
- Md. Tanveer Islam, General Manager (Export-SAARC), PRAN-RFL Group
- Subir Bhowmik, South Asia Correspondent and Senior Editor, BD News 24

**1645 – 1800 Closing: The Need for a Broader Agenda for Trade, Transport and Investment Facilitation in the Bay of Bengal Region**

**Chair:** Sumith Nakandala, Secretary General, BIMSTEC Secretariat

**Panellists**

- Badrul Hassan Babul, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce. Government of Bangladesh
- Prashant Agrawal, Joint Secretary (SAARC), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India\*
- Duncan Overfield, Senior Regional Economic Adviser, Asia Regional Team, Department for International Development, British High Commission, India
- Bipul Chatterjee, Executive Director, CUTS International

**1930              Cocktail Dinner**

*\* Speakers to be confirmed*