ADB, India Sign Loan Agreement for the Industrial Corridor Development Program (Subprogram 1)
1 December 2021: Manila, Philippines

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a loan agreement for the Industrial Corridor Development Program (Subprogram 1). Under the Program, ADB will lend $250 million (about Rs 1,872 crore) support to India. Mr. Rajat Kumar Mishra, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance, signed on behalf of the Government of India, and Mr. Takeo Konishi, Country Director of ADB India Resident Mission, signed on behalf of ADB. Read More
**Virtual Workshop on Road Asset Management Study**

1-2 December 2021: Online

ADB organized a two-day virtual workshop on Road Asset Management Study. The workshop presented the ongoing study being conducted under ADB TA 9420: Implementation of Sustainable Transport for All. The workshop (i) discussed the approach to assessing road asset management maturity and development of improvement plans; (ii) presented the approach and data requirements for road investment strategy analysis to examine long term financing needs; and (iii) sought support from delegates in supporting downstream activities.

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**Bangladesh’s National Board of Revenue Proposes Trade Facilitation Development under the SASEC Program**

22 December 2021: Dhaka, Bangladesh

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) of the Government of Bangladesh has drafted a proposal to upgrade trade infrastructure and three priority land ports to improve trade with its neighbors in the subregion. The NBR submitted the proposal for the project “Integrated Trade Facilitation Development under the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) Development Program” to the country's Planning Commission.

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Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Meets with Maldives President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

23 December 2021: Malé, Maldives

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Maldives President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih held bilateral talks on 23 December 2021 at the President’s Office in Malé, Maldives. They discussed matters of mutual interest and witnessed the signing of four instruments on health, education, dual taxation, transfer of prisoners, youth and sports. Their meeting emphasized the importance of signing a Preferential Trade Agreement, and remarked on developments in air connectivity between the two countries.

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Bangladesh and Nepal Preferential Trade Agreement in Final Stage

14 December 2021: Dhaka, Bangladesh

The Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Nepal Confederation of Nepalese Industries signed a memorandum of cooperation on 14 December 2021. Mr. Tapan Kanti Ghosh, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Commerce of the Government of Bangladesh, spoke as the chief guest. In his remarks, he noted that the Preferential Trade Agreement between Bangladesh and Nepal is in the final stage.

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Thailand Transport Ministry Unveils Planned Shipping Routes along East Corridor

13 December 2021: Bangkok, Thailand

The Ministry of Transport of Thailand has released a route map for its national shipping line. The route is part of the country’s plan to connect the Southern Economic Corridor with a land bridge linking Chumphon on the eastern coast of the Gulf of Thailand to Ranong on the Andaman Sea, which will serve as a transit port connecting the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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BIMSTEC Secretary General Pays Courtesy Call to Sri Lanka Foreign Minister
11 December 2021: Colombo, Sri Lanka

Mr. Tenzin Lekphell, Secretary General of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), paid a courtesy call on Mr. Gamini Lakshman Peiris, Foreign Minister of the Government of Sri Lanka. Mr. Peiris assured Mr. Lekphell of Sri Lanka’s commitment to furthering BIMSTEC goals in the region.

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Bangladesh, India Renew Power Trading Agreement
2 December 2021: Dhaka, Bangladesh

The Governments of Bangladesh and India renewed their power trading agreement on 2 December 2021. Under the new agreement, India through the Tripura State Electricity Corporation Limited will supply 192 megawatts (MW) of power to Bangladesh. This is an increase of 20% from the 160 MW India previously supplied Bangladesh.

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