



SASEC PROJECTS
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DIRECTOR VISITS
SASEC ROAD PROJECT
IN NEPAL



SASEC PROJECTS
PROPOSED ADB
PROJECT TO ENHANCE
BANGLADESH'S LAND
PORTS CAN BOOST
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SASEC NEWS

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Completed SASEC Projects Help Decongest Traffic in Phuentsholing

15 February 2022: Phuentsholing, Bhutan

A road connectivity project under the SASEC program has completed construction of [Bhutan's first mini dry port](#) in Phuentsholing, and the [Northern Bypass Road \(NBR\)-Project I](#). The mini dry port can process customs clearances for imports and exports, helping decongest Phuentsholing by allowing heavy trucks to bypass the customs office within the town. The NBR is a 2-kilometer four-lane road that includes an underpass near the Omchhu bridge.

[Read about the Mini Dry Port](#)

[Read about the Northern Bypass Road](#)

SASEC PROJECTS



PROJECT
ADB COUNTRY DIRECTOR
VISITS SASEC ROAD
PROJECT IN NEPAL

- **ADB Country Director Visits SASEC Road Project in Nepal**
- **Proposed ADB Project to Enhance Bangladesh's Land Ports Can Boost Foreign Trade**

ADB Country Director Visits SASEC Road Project in Nepal

17 February 2022: Kathmandu, Nepal

Mr. Arnaud Cauchois, Asian Development Bank (ADB) Country Director for Nepal, visited the Narayanghat-Butwal section of the SASEC Road Improvement Project to observe the status of the construction on 14–15 February 2022. Mr. Cauchois, joined by Mr. Sushil Babu Dhakal, project director for ADB, and staff members from the Department of Roads, visited four bridge construction sites, crushing plant sites, a concrete batching plant site, and labor and contractor camp sites.

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Proposed ADB Project to Enhance Bangladesh's Land Ports Can Boost Foreign Trade

10 February 2022: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Bangladesh's foreign trade volume will increase by 50%, cargo shipment and customs-clearance time will decrease by 50%, and smuggling will be prevented if the Government of Bangladesh undertakes customs reform and improvement in trade facilitation, ADB noted to the Government of Bangladesh.

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NEWS
INDIA AND NEPAL DISCUSS
ENERGY SECTOR
COOPERATION

- **India and Nepal Joint Working Group and Joint Steering Committee on Energy Sector Meet**
- **Cargo Ship Sails from Bihar to Assam via Bangladesh**
- **India and Nepal Sign MoU to Build a Bridge over Mahakali River**

India and Nepal Joint Working Group and Joint Steering Committee on Energy Sector Meet

25 February 2022: Kathmandu, Nepal

The Governments of India and Nepal held the 9th Joint Working Group and Joint Steering Committee meetings on bilateral power sector cooperation. The meeting discussions focused on joint development of power generation projects in Nepal; joint development of cross-border power transmission infrastructure; power trade under respective domestic regulations and policy framework; and capacity building assistance.

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India Plans New Waterway Connectivity in Tripura

15 February 2022: Tripura, India

The Government of India will create a new waterway connectivity on the Gomati river in Tripura that will facilitate improved trade and movement between Bangladesh and India, and ease transport bottlenecks in the country's northeastern region. Passenger and cargo vessels will use the new route once opened.

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Bangladesh Railway Procures New Broad-gauge Wagons with ADB Assistance

5 February 2022: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Bangladesh Railway continues to undertake initiatives to improve the country's rail connectivity across the country and the subregion. On 5 February 2022, Bangladesh Railway signed an agreement with the Hindustan Engineering and Industries Limited of India to purchase 420 broad-gauge wagons worth BDT231 crore (around \$26.89 million) with financing from ADB. Bangladesh aims to improve freight transportation. It is also working on connecting its river and seaports to railways and converting one-way lines to two-way double lines.

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Cargo Ship Sails from Bihar to Assam via Bangladesh

5 February 2022: Bihar, India

India flagged off a pilot run of a cargo ship using waterways from Patna Port in Bihar, India, for the Pandu Port in Assam, India, via the Jamuna River, Bangladesh, on 5 February 2022. This 2,350 kilometer route that will be traveled by the carrier MV Lal Bahadur Shastri commenced from India's western part to its northeastern region, passing through Bangladesh, under the Bangladesh-India Protocol for Inland Water Trade and Transit.

[Read More](#)

India and Nepal Sign MoU to Build a Bridge over Mahakali River

5 February 2022: New Delhi, India

The Governments of India and Nepal signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to build a bridge over Mahakali River with grant assistance from the Government of India. The planned 110-meter bridge will connect Dharchula (Uttarakhand, India) with Darchula (Sudurpaschim, Nepal).

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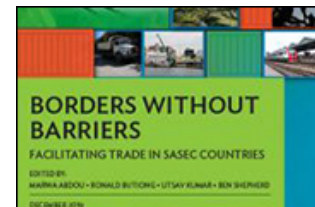
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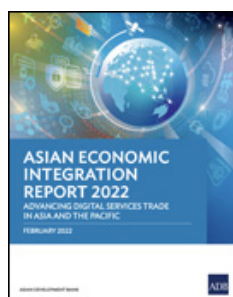
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