



**SASEC EVENTS**  
TRAINING ON POST  
CLEARANCE AUDIT FOR  
NEPAL CUSTOMS



**SASEC PROJECTS**  
BANGLADESH SIGNS  
INTELLIGENT  
TRANSPORT SYSTEM  
PROJECT UNDER SASEC



**SASEC NEWS**  
BHUTAN, INDIA  
INAUGURATE THREE  
PROJECTS UNDER  
INDIAN ASSISTANCE



**PUBLICATIONS**  
REGIONAL  
COOPERATION AND  
INTEGRATION IN ASIA  
AND THE PACIFIC



# SASEC NEWS

THE SOUTH ASIA SUBREGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION NEWSLETTER

ISSUE #99

MAY 2022

WWW.SASEC.ASIA



## Gorai Flyover along SASEC Highway in Bangladesh Opened in Time for Eid al-Fitr Holiday

26 April 2022: Dhaka, Bangladesh

The Gorai flyover in Mirzapur upazila, Tangail, Bangladesh, was opened to traffic on 25 April 2022. "The flyover will ensure smooth movement of vehicles," said Mr. Noor-e-Alam, additional director of South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC)-1 project, Bangladesh Roads and Highways Department. [Read more](#)

# SASEC EVENTS



**EVENT**  
TRAINING ON POST  
CLEARANCE AUDIT FOR  
NEPAL CUSTOMS

- **Training on Post Clearance Audit for Nepal Customs**

## Training on Post Clearance Audit for Nepal Customs

**19-25 April 2022: Kathmandu, Nepal**

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) organized the Post Clearance Audit (PCA) training for customs officials of Nepal. The training focused on PCA, valuation, and risk management. The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) of the Government of India provided resource persons to assess and help strengthen the capacity of Nepal customs officials.

[Read More](#)

# SASEC PROJECTS



**PROJECT**  
SASEC ROAD CONNECTIVITY  
PROJECT 2

- **Bangladesh Signs Intelligent Transport System Project under SASEC**

## Bangladesh Signs Intelligent Transport System Project under SASEC

**9 April 2022: Dhaka, Bangladesh**

The Bangladesh Roads and Highways Department signed an \$18 million contract with NDE Ltd. and FiberHome Telecommunication Technologies Co. Ltd. for Bangladesh's first dedicated intelligent transport system project. The project, under the SASEC Road Connectivity Project 2 (Package 15), is financed by the Asian Development Bank.

[Read More](#)



**NEWS**  
**BHUTAN, INDIA**  
**INAUGURATE THREE**  
**PROJECTS UNDER INDIAN**  
**ASSISTANCE**

- **Bhutan, India Inaugurate Three Projects Under Indian Assistance**
- **Bangladesh Offers India Access to Chattogram Port**
- **Passenger Rail Service between India and Nepal Starts to Operate**

## Bangladesh for Electricity Trade with Nepal

**30 April 2022: Kathmandu, Nepal**

A bilateral meeting between Bangladesh and Nepal discussed the finalization of the process of importing hydropower from Nepal to Bangladesh. Mr. Nasrul Hamid, State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources of the Government of Bangladesh, stated that Bangladesh can import surplus electricity from Nepal during the summer and monsoon seasons.

[Read More](#)

## Bhutan, India Inaugurate Three Projects Under Indian Assistance

**29 April 2022: Thimphu, Bhutan**

Mr. Tandi Dorji, Foreign Minister of the Government of Bhutan, and Mr. S. Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister of the Government of India, jointly inaugurated three projects in Bhutan that were completed with Indian assistance. These include the Chubachu-Jungzhina four-lane road, a major trunk road in Thimphu that helps ease traffic congestion.

[Read More](#)

## Bangladesh Offers India Access to Chattogram Port

**28 April 2022:: Dhaka, Bangladesh**

Mr. S. Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister of the Government of India, called on Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, and held discussions with his counterpart, Mr. AK Abdul Momen, Foreign Minister of the Government of Bangladesh. In the meeting, Prime Minister Hasina offered India's northeastern region access to Chattogram (Chittagong) Port. She noted that Bangladesh and India need to increase their connectivity further, and access to the port would make this possible.

[Read More](#)

## **India, Maldives Discuss Energy Cooperation**

**26 April 2022: New Delhi, India**

Mr. R. K. Singh, Minister for Power and New and Renewable Energy of the Government of India, and Ms. Aminath Shauna, Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Technology of the Government of Maldives, held discussions on establishing transmission interconnection for renewable power transfer. Maldives aims to achieve net zero emission target by 2030. Their meeting proposed signing two MoUs: (i) energy cooperation, and (ii) transmission interconnection under One Sun, One World, One Grid.

[\*\*Read More\*\*](#)

## **BIMSTEC Energy Ministers Call for Accelerating Energy Cooperation**

**20 April 2022: Kathmandu, Nepal**

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) held the 3rd Meeting of the BIMSTEC Energy Ministers. Energy ministers from BIMSTEC countries adopted a joint statement calling for greater energy cooperation in the region.

[\*\*Read More\*\*](#)

## **Development of Assam's Jogighopa Riverine Port to Boost Bhutan's Subregional Trade**

**12 April 2022: Assam, India**

The inland waterways conclave held in Assam, India, on 11–12 April 2022 highlighted the importance of the Jogighopa riverine port in enhancing bilateral trade among Bhutan, India, and Bangladesh. Gelephu, Bhutan—a source of boulder exports to Bangladesh and India—is within a 100-kilometer distance of Jogighopa riverine port.

[\*\*Read More\*\*](#)

## **Inter-Ministerial Coordination Group Formed to Further Mainstream India's "Neighborhood First" Policy**

**12 April 2022: New Delhi, India**

Mr. Harsh Vardhan Shringla, Foreign Secretary of the Government of India, convened the first meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Coordination Group (IMCG). The IMCG is a high-level mechanism aimed at mainstreaming India's "Neighborhood First" policy.

[\*\*Read More\*\*](#)

## **Passenger Rail Service between India and Nepal Starts to Operate**

**3 April 2022: New Delhi, India**

The railway service between India and Nepal for passengers, the Janakpur (Nepal)—Jayanagar (India) railway service, was inaugurated by India Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Nepal Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba on 3 April 2022 at a videoconferencing event in New Delhi, India. This is Nepal's first broad gauge rail service.

[\*\*Read More\*\*](#)

# India and Nepal Note Positive Developments in Cross-border Energy Trade, Discuss Potential Energy Cooperation under BBIN

2 April 2022: New Delhi, India

India Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Nepal Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba held bilateral talks focusing on power sector cooperation between India and Nepal. Nepal Prime Minister Deuba lauded India for its enabling cross-border electricity trade regulations that have made it easier for key partners including Nepal to access India's energy market and engage in power trade. The two leaders also noted the potential to expand energy cooperation to include their neighbors in the subregion under the Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal (BBIN) framework.

[Read More](#)

## RELATED PUBLICATIONS



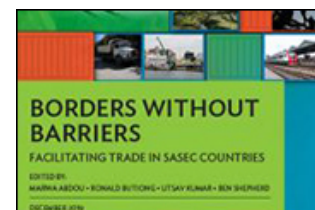
**SASEC VISION**



**SASEC VISION  
MYANMAR**



**SASEC OPERATIONAL  
PLAN 2016-2025 UPDATE**



**BORDERS WITHOUT  
BARRIERS:  
FACILITATING TRADE IN  
SASEC COUNTRIES**



**Regional Cooperation and Integration in  
Asia and the Pacific:  
Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic  
and "Building Back Better"**



**Asian Development Outlook 2022:  
Mobilizing Taxes for Development**

## Top Tweets for April 2022

Bangladesh and Sri Lanka emphasize early conclusion of the Preferential Trade Agreement with hopes that it will boost the bilateral trade [Read more](#)

An ADB-financed technical assistance supports Bangladesh's implementation of the WTO TFA and related best practices on transport and trade facilitation [Read more](#)

India, Nepal, and Bhutan can use our waterways: Bangladesh Minister [Read more](#)

Bangladesh and Nepal are now among the top 10 export destinations for India with its total exports to these two countries amounting to over \$16 billion, shared India External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar [Read more](#)

FCI flags off first vessel carrying PDS rice from Patna to Guwahati via waterways [Read more](#)

Follow  @SASECprogram |  Like us on Facebook [facebook.com/SASECprogram](https://facebook.com/SASECprogram)

### ABOUT THIS EMAIL

You received this message because you signed up for the SASEC Newsletter.

[Subscribe](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Contact Us](#)

© South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation 2012