Project Inception Webinar
Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal
Enabling a Political Economy Discourse for Multi-Modal Connectivity

Thematic Presentation
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The Current Landscape

• BBIN MVA - despite delays and concerns has been a catalyst for greater sub-regional connectivity

• Excellent growth of bilateral connectivity (road, rail and waterways and air) initiatives between India and Bangladesh

• India’s thrust on infrastructure transformation across all nodes is gaining momentum (e.g. Jogighopa MMLP)

• Greater scope for Nepal and Bhutan to increase their access to sea by use of (as well as integrating with) existing and developing inter-modal (and multi-modal) infrastructure between India and Bangladesh, among others
Growth Drivers for Multi-Modal Connectivity in the BBIN Sub-Region

- Post-pandemic economic revival, growth and resilience needs

- Political consensus for leveraging each other’s transport and transit oriented infrastructure networks has become seemingly vocal and action oriented. That has created enormous opportunities for the countries to driver infrastructure, regulatory, digital, technical and operational coherence

- Availability of electronics tools (such as Electronic Cargo Tracking System) and digital technologies can incredibly increase logistics competitiveness
Multi-modal Connectivity in the BBIN

Some Examples With Maps
India-Bangladesh Coastal Shipping Agreement

NEW PROTOCOL ROUTES
Visakhapatnam-Chittagong: 620nm
Visakhapatnam-Pangaon: 695nm
Chennai-Chittagong: 1,052nm

OLD ROUTE
Mumbai-Chittagong (via Singapore): 3,365nm

Source: Google Images
Linking inland waterways with industrial corridors and logistic parks for economical and ecological freight movement.
Inter-modal Transit for Bhutan

Trucks carrying stones from Phuentsholing (Bhutan) will travel **160km** to Dhubri jetty (Assam) & cargo will be uploaded to IWAI ship.

Ship carrying **70 truckload of stones** to take river route from Dhubri to Narayanganj (Bangladesh); to save **8-10 days' travel by road**.

Source: Google Images
**Significance of Tetulia Corridor**

- Important electoral issue in northern West Bengal and Northeast (NE) region in India for last 40 years

- Around four kilometre of 'India to India through Bangladesh stretch' can reduce more than 85 KM of detour and tremendously enhance two way connectivity for the NE and the West Bengal with the mainland India and Bangladesh with future potential of catering to Bhutan and Nepal (as an alternate to existing Siliguri corridor)

- Proximity to Asian Highway-2 and Cross Border Transport Networks

- Similar Tin Bigha Corridor ('Bangladesh to Bangladesh through India') already exists
Potential Driver for BBIN Plus
Thank You

Together We Can

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