

# Cross-Border Trade and Navigation through Trans-boundary Inland Waterways between India and Bangladesh

**28**  
**FEBRUARY, 2022**  
**Monday**  
**11:00 - 13:00**  
**(IST)**



**BIPUL CHATTERJEE**  
Executive Director  
CUTS International  
Welcome Remarks & Moderator



**JYOTIRAJ PATRA**  
Project Manager, Transboundary  
Rivers of South Asia, Oxfam  
Opening Remarks



**JAYANT SINGH**  
Vice-Chairman, Inland  
Waterways Authority of India  
Special Address



**COMMODORE GOLAM SADEQ**  
Chairman, Bangladesh Inland Water  
Transport Authority  
Special Address



**SYED MONOWAR HUSSAIN**  
Former Director, Bangladesh  
Inland Water Transport Authority  
(BIWTA), Bangladesh



**ATOWAR RAHMAN**  
President  
Dhubri Waterways International  
Traders Association



**DEBORISHI BHATTACHARJEE**  
Trader in Karimganj, India

India and Bangladesh share 54 trans-boundary rivers. These rivers can generate opportunities for the local communities in the sub-region through economic, political and socio-cultural interactions between the two countries. On September 29, 2021, CUTS International organised a Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on 'Promoting Cross-border Trade through Transboundary Waterways between Bangladesh, Bhutan and India' in Guwahati, Assam, India. It was recommended in the dialogue that the inland waterways has a potential to be the backbone of development and cross-border trade leading to creation of jobs and increased livelihood opportunities.

In this context, CUTS International is organising this virtual meeting with relevant stakeholders particularly with traders of India and Bangladesh, with an aim to "build consensus among private sector and various government institutions at local, subnational and national levels". The virtual meeting aims to build consensus among stakeholders in Bangladesh and India so that a Memorandum can be prepared and submitted to relevant authorities in both the countries on having an inclusive approach in cross-border trade via trans-boundary waterways; and to identify the scope for future interventions based on the stakeholders feedback.

