

Track 1.5 Bangladesh-India Dialogue

Expanding Tradable Benefits of Trans-boundary Water: Promoting Navigational Usage of Inland Waterways in Ganga and Brahmaputra Basins

Hotel Royal Park Residence, Banani, Dhaka on Wednesday, 8th August, 2018

Agenda

10.00 – 10:30 am **Registration with Tea/Coffee**

10:30 – 10:45 am **Welcome Remarks & Objective of the Meeting**
Bipul Chatterjee, Executive Director, CUTS International

Opening Remarks
Atiur Rahman, Chairman, Unnayan Shamannay

10:45 – 11:15 am **Presentation of study findings:**

Title: Prospects of cross-border trade via small mechanised boats
between Dhubri (India) and Chilmari (Bangladesh)

Presenter: Veena Vidyadharan, Fellow and Centre Head (Centre for
International Trade, Economics and Environment), CUTS
International

Floor opened for Q&A

11:15 – 11:30 am **Tea/Coffee Break**

11:30 am – 13:00 pm **Roundtable Discussion**

Moderator: Bipul Chatterjee, Executive Director, CUTS
International

*Under this session, country diplomats from Bangladesh and India
representing Ministry of Shipping, Ministry of External Affairs,
Ministry of Commerce, and Department of Custom and Excise will
gather to discuss the need on furthering the scope of inland
navigation between Bangladesh and India from the perspective of
trade, transit, tourism and livelihoods.*

Discussion Points:

- ✓ What kind of specific regulatory reforms are required to facilitate cross-border trade through small mechanised boats?
- ✓ How relevant institutions from Bangladesh and India can work together to address those regulatory reforms?
- ✓ What socio-economic factors need to be considered for facilitating cross border movement of mechanised boats through protocol routes?

13:00 – 13:30 pm**Conclusion & Takeaways**

A. K. Enamul Haque, Faculty, East West University, Dhaka

Closing Remarks

Bipul Chatterjee, Executive Director, CUTS International

13:30 – 14:30 pm**Lunch****14:30 pm onwards****Visit to Sadarghat Port, Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority**