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India–Myanmar strengthen cooperation in Trade, Security, Connectivity and Border Management

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi held wide-ranging talks with Myanmar President Min Aung Hlaing in New Delhi. The discussions focused on trade, connectivity, defence and security cooperation, border management, development assistance, and regional issues.?

Key Highlights:

Myanmar assured India that its territory will not be allowed to be used for activities harmful to India's security interests.

India raised concerns regarding militant groups operating near the India–Myanmar border and emphasized stronger border management.

Both countries agreed to strengthen cooperation in:

Trade and investment

Defence and security

Connectivity projects

Health and education

Energy sector

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and critical technologies

The two sides reiterated support for sovereignty and territorial integrity and stressed preventing misuse of territory against each other's security interests.

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Plot A P.127, AF block, 6 th street, 11th Main Rd, Shanthi Colony, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600040

Phone: **044 4353 9988 / 98403 94477 / Whatsapp : 09710729833**

Both countries committed to accelerating key connectivity and infrastructure projects to improve regional integration.

Importance for India:

Myanmar is a crucial partner under India's Neighbourhood First Policy and Act East Policy.

It serves as India's gateway to Southeast Asia and ASEAN.

Improved border management is vital for tackling:

Cross-border insurgency

Illegal migration

Smuggling and trafficking

Stronger connectivity with Myanmar enhances economic integration with Southeast Asia.

India–Myanmar Border:

Length: 1,643 km (approximately 1,640 km)

Indian States sharing border:

Arunachal Pradesh

Nagaland

Manipur

Mizoram

Myanmar:

Capital: Naypyidaw

Currency: Kyat

Official Language: Burmese

Member of: Association of Southeast Asian Nations

Important Connectivity Projects:

Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project

Connects Kolkata Port with Sittwe Port in Myanmar and further links to Mizoram.

India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway

Connects India with Myanmar and Thailand, promoting trade and regional integration.

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Strategic Importance:

Myanmar is the only ASEAN country sharing a land border with India.

It lies at the intersection of India's:

Neighbourhood First Policy

Act East Policy

MAHASAGAR Vision (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions).