

Modi and Yunus set aside differences, discuss minorities, situation at border

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Context

- Setting aside the tensions of the past eight months in their first meeting since the regime change in Dhaka, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh's Chief Advisor Muhammad Yunus held talks on the sidelines of the **BIMSTEC regional summit in Bangkok** on Friday.
- While both leaders raised contentious issues including India's call for the protection of minorities in Bangladesh, Dhaka's demand for the extradition of former Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina, and border security issues during the meeting that lasted about 40 minutes, they met on cordial terms and exchanged commitments to bilateral ties.
- Bangladesh will host the BIMSTEC summit next year, and Mr. Modi congratulated Mr. Yunus for assuming its chairmanship.

BIMSTEC

Founded in 1997 by Bangkok Declaration

The BIMSTEC Secretariat is located in **Dhaka**, **Bangladesh**.

Initially it was BIST – EC.

After some time, it became BIMSTEC by addition of Myanmar, Nepal & Bhutan.

First Summit held in Bangkok (Thailand). Current summit is also held in Bangkok

Next year, it will be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh

BIMSTEC

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation















Bhutan

Bangladesh

India

Thailand

Myanmar

Sri Lanka





Objectives of BIMSTEC



To enable environment for rapid economic development.



To collaborate and mutually assist members on matters of common interest.



To maintain close and beneficial cooperation with existing international and regional organizations.



To endeavour to eradicate poverty from the Bay of Bengal region.



To establish multidimensional connectivity, promote synergy among connectivity frameworks in the region.

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