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இலங்கை சனாதிபதி
President of Sri Lanka

BIMSTEC Day Message

As we commemorate the 28th anniversary of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), I extend greetings and best wishes to the Governments and peoples of the BIMSTEC Member States.

BIMSTEC continues to serve as a vital platform for fostering regional cooperation and connectivity, encompassing the diverse landscapes and cultures of South and Southeast Asia. Under the able leadership of Thailand, our current Chair, I am confident that BIMSTEC will take significant strides in charting a course towards collective prosperity and peace for the region.


As we approach the 6th BIMSTEC Summit scheduled to be hosted on September 4th, 2024, I am certain that our collaboration will enable the Member States to realize the Bangkok Vision 2030 which will be adopted at the 6th Summit in Thailand. Sri Lanka stands ready to collaborate closely with fellow BIMSTEC Member States to unlock new opportunities for growth and prosperity, guided by the principles of cooperation, solidarity, and mutual respect.

When considering the seven pillars of cooperation, our nation has played a pivotal role in advancing the sector of Science, Technology, and Innovation. Through initiatives such as the proposed technology transfer facility in Colombo, we aim to harness the power of innovation to drive sustainable development and economic growth across Member States.

Furthermore, Sri Lanka has been instrumental in driving progress in the Connectivity and Security sectors, recognizing their critical importance in promoting peace and stability in the region.

Sri Lanka reaffirms its unwavering commitment to the founding principles of the BIMSTEC and stands ready to work closely with our fellow Member States towards realizing our shared goals. Let us harness the potential of our collective strength to build resilience to address the contemporary challenges faced by our region and to unlock new opportunities for growth and prosperity.

On this auspicious occasion, let us renew and reaffirm our dedication to build a brighter future for the peoples of the BIMSTEC.



Ranil Wickremesinghe

President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

May 17, 2024