



BIMSTEC Youth Summit 2025

[Source: PIB](#)

The first-ever [Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation \(BIMSTEC\) Youth Summit 2025](#) was inaugurated in **Gandhinagar, Gujarat**, the event emphasized **skill development, entrepreneurship, and regional cooperation**.

- **Key Highlights of Summit:**
 - **Theme:** "Youth as a Bridge for Intra-BIMSTEC Exchange."
 - **Youth-Centric Focus:** The summit highlighted that **over 60% of BIMSTEC's 1.8 billion population comprises youth**, underlining their role in **regional growth**.
 - Highlighted India's goal of becoming a [developed nation by 2047](#), stressing youth participation.
 - **Startup Network:** India proposed a **BIMSTEC-wide startup network** to boost **innovation and entrepreneurship**.
- **BIMSTEC:** The **BIMSTEC** is a regional organization comprising **India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Nepal, and Bhutan**.
 - It tackles climate change, [poverty](#), and sustainability while strengthening cooperation in the [Bay of Bengal region](#).
- **India's Commitment to Youth Empowerment:** India's [Skill India Mission](#), [National Education Policy \(NEP\) 2020](#), and [PM Internship Scheme](#) have trained **15 million youth** in AI, robotics, and digital technologies.
 - India's [startup ecosystem](#) is the world's third-largest, with **157,000 startups**, nearly **half women-led**.

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BIMSTEC

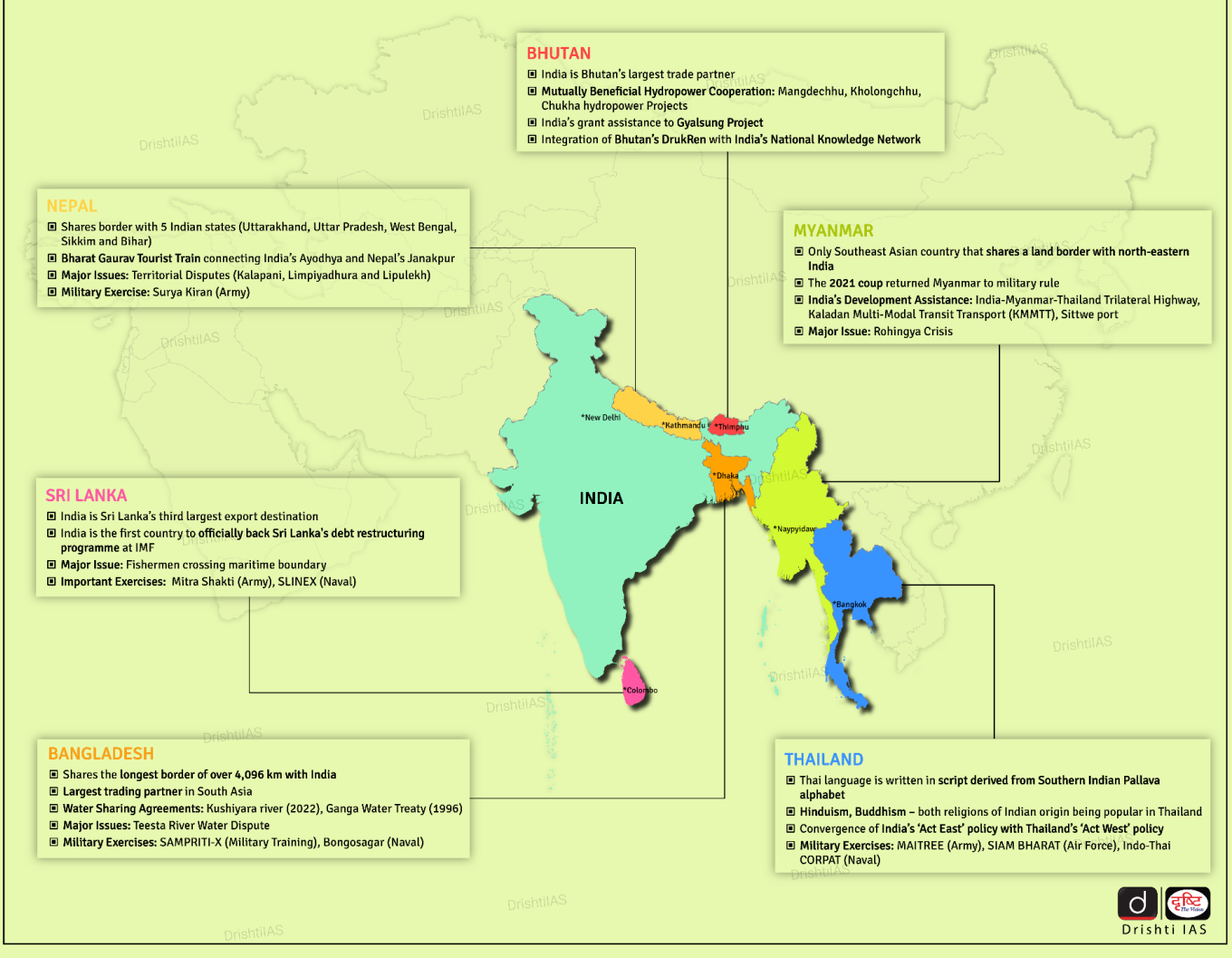
Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation

Members: 7

Significance: Hosts 22% of the world population, accounts for 3.8 trillion of GDP

Formation: 6th June 1997 (Bangkok Declaration)

Secretariat: Dhaka, Bangladesh



Read more: [BIMSTEC Charter](#)

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/bimstec-youth-summit-2025>