

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



**PRIME MINISTER**  
**GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF**  
**BANGLADESH**

08 June 2026  
25 Jaishtha 1433

## **Message**

On the auspicious occasion of the 29th anniversary of the establishment of BIMSTEC, I extend my warm greetings and felicitations to the governments and peoples of all BIMSTEC Member States.

Bangladesh takes pride in its long-standing association with BIMSTEC since its inception, reflecting a deep-rooted belief in regional cooperation as a pathway to peace, stability and economic progress. This early engagement was underscored by the participation of former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia in the First BIMSTEC Summit in 2004.

This year's observance comes at a defining moment for both our region and Bangladesh. As the current Chair of BIMSTEC, Bangladesh envisions a regional organisation that is politically relevant, economically integrated and strategically connected, capable of addressing shared challenges and unlocking collective opportunities.

The Bay of Bengal region holds immense strategic and economic significance. Home to nearly a quarter of the world's population, it offers vast potential in trade, connectivity, energy, technology, maritime cooperation and the blue economy.

At a time of profound global transformation, BIMSTEC has the opportunity to emerge as a strong regional voice representing the aspirations of the peoples of South and Southeast Asia.

Our region also shares a rich historical and cultural legacy shaped by centuries of interaction across the Bay of Bengal. Bangladesh believes that strengthening people-to-people connectivity through education, tourism, cultural exchange, youth engagement and academic collaboration is essential to building lasting regional solidarity.

On this important occasion, let us renew our collective resolve to build a stronger, more resilient and more effective BIMSTEC. May the spirit of friendship and cooperation among our Member States continue to grow.

Long live the spirit of BIMSTEC.

**Tarique Rahman**