

23 September | 2025

Bangladesh Foreign Policy Watch

CGS Centre for Governance Studies



A Bi-Weekly Roundup of Key Events

Bangladesh's PMI Drops August 2025

Bangladesh's Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) fell to 58.3 in August 2025, down 3.2 points from July's 61.5, indicating a slower economic expansion. Growth in manufacturing and services moderated, while agriculture and construction sectors entered contraction. Manufacturing sustained its 12th consecutive month of expansion, and services its 11th, though both at reduced rates. Political instability, seasonal slowdowns, and rising costs were cited as key factors affecting business activity. The report, jointly released by the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Policy Exchange Bangladesh, emphasised that despite 11 months of continuous growth, the economy's momentum is weakening.

08 Sep

China sought to enhance entrepreneurship

During a bilateral trade discussion at the Chinese Embassy in Dhaka, DCCI President Taskeen Ahmed called for Chinese support in developing Bangladeshi entrepreneurs through skill enhancement, technological advancement, and sectoral

07 Sep

Two Indians caught with firearms

Two Indian nationals were arrested by the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) at the Benapole border in Jashore district for possessing a pistol and 93 rounds of bullets. The individuals—Orjit Saluga, 31, and Ram Dasnauwadi, 24, both from Betul in Madhya Pradesh—were working as a truck driver and assistant, respectively, transporting green chilli into Bangladesh. The firearm and ammunition were discovered during a routine inspection of their truck around 1:45 AM. Following the seizure, a case was filed and the suspects were handed over to Benapole police for further legal proceedings.

cooperation. He highlighted collaboration opportunities in agriculture, ICT, renewable energy, semiconductors, and shipbuilding to boost global trade competitiveness. Chinese Ambassador Yao Wen noted recent Chinese investments of nearly \$800 million in Bangladesh's RMG and textile sectors and expressed interest in the electric vehicle market, while citing high tariffs and policy gaps as obstacles. Both sides emphasised diversifying exports beyond garments and strengthening economic partnership to support post-LDC graduation objectives.

Hilsa export to India begins

Ahead of Durga Puja, Bangladesh has approved the export of 1,200 tonnes of hilsa fish to India, nearly halving last year's quota of 2,420 tonnes. The Ministry of Commerce issued a notification inviting applications from trading firms and set a minimum export price of \$12.5 per kilogram (approximately Tk 1,521). Despite the ongoing peak fishing season, domestic hilsa prices have surged, with larger fish selling for Tk 3,000 to Tk 3,500 and smaller ones ranging from Tk 1,300 to Tk 2,100, making the popular fish increasingly inaccessible to many locals.

09 Sep

Bhutan envoy gifts fruits to Khaleda

The Bhutanese ambassador to Bangladesh, Dasho Karma Hamu Dorjee, sent a basket of seasonal fruits to Khaleda Zia, the chairperson of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party and former prime minister. The gesture was delivered to her office in Gulshan, Dhaka, and received by BNP standing committee member Abdul Moyeen Khan. The party's media representative, Shairul Kabir Khan, expressed gratitude to the ambassador and highlighted the friendly ties between Bhutan and Bangladesh.

Biman flights denied Kathmandu landing

A Biman Bangladesh Airlines flight (BG 371) bound for Kathmandu was denied landing permission at Nepal's Tribhuvan International Airport due to prevailing security concerns and was forced to return to Dhaka. In response to the unrest in Nepal, the Bangladeshi Embassy in Kathmandu issued an urgent advisory urging all Bangladeshi nationals to avoid travelling to Nepal.

Additionally, the return flight from Kathmandu to Dhaka (BG 372) was cancelled. Biman arranged hotel accommodations for the 116 passengers of the outbound flight and 94 passengers of the cancelled return flight, ensuring their safety amid the disruption.

10 Sept

Bangladeshi teens rescued from trafficking

Two Bangladeshi teenage boys, Mahim (15) and Sohel (16), were rescued by the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) in the Keruntali area of Teknaf upazila, Cox's Bazar, while allegedly being trafficked to Myanmar. Acting on a tip-off, the BGB launched a raid near the Naf River border and apprehended Md Rashed, an 18-year-old Rohingya youth from Kutupalong Camp, who is believed to be part of an organised human trafficking ring. The victims were later handed over to the Teknaf police station for reunification with their families. The incident highlights ongoing trafficking threats along the Bangladesh–Myanmar border.

Bangladesh advises citizens amid Nepal crisis

Bangladesh is closely monitoring rising political unrest in Nepal, where violent anti-government protests have erupted following a controversial social media ban and corruption allegations. The government has advised Bangladeshi nationals in Nepal to stay indoors and suspended flights to Kathmandu for safety. A Biman Bangladesh Airlines flight was forced to return to Dhaka after being denied landing permission, while another was cancelled, affecting the national football team and a military delegation. Despite widespread vandalism and arson, all Bangladeshi citizens in Nepal remain safe. Dhaka expressed condolences for the casualties and urged peaceful dialogue to restore stability.

Bangladesh opens embassy complex in Thimphu

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Bangladesh condemns Israeli attacks on Qatar

Bangladesh has strongly condemned the recent Israeli military aggression against Qatar, labelling it a blatant violation of Qatar's sovereignty and international law. In an official statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed unwavering solidarity with the Qatari government and its people, calling the attack unlawful and unprovoked. Dhaka urged the international community, especially the United Nations, to take decisive action to ensure accountability and uphold global norms. The statement also criticised Israel's continued disregard for regional stability and international peace, warning that such actions threaten broader efforts towards global security.

Dhaka urges Gaza ceasefire immediately

Foreign Affairs Adviser Md Touhid Hossain has called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and accountability for Israeli actions, emphasising the urgent need for lasting peace in the region. During a meeting with Chief Justice of Palestine Dr Mahmoud Sidqi Al-Habbash at the State Guest House Padma, Touhid reaffirmed Bangladesh's unwavering support for the Palestinian cause and the two-state solution based on pre-1967 borders. Dr Al-Habbash, on a three-day official visit to Bangladesh, expressed gratitude for the country's steadfast solidarity and highlighted the importance of unity within the Muslim Ummah on the issue.

11 Sept

Bangladesh Cultural Festival begins in Melbourne

The Colours of Bangladesh art exhibition, organised by Abinta Gallery of Fine Arts, is currently on display at SOL Gallery, Melbourne. Curated by Muntasir Ahsan, the 13-day group show features 52 works by 11 Bangladeshi artists, including Monirul Islam, Rafiqun Nabi, and Kanak Chanpa Chakma, alongside emerging talents. Artworks span acrylic, oil, watercolour, and sculpture,

reflecting Bangladesh's cultural diversity, traditions, and natural beauty.

US wheat shipment heads towards Bangladesh

The first shipment of U.S. wheat to Bangladesh under a newly signed five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has departed from Corpus Christi, Texas, carrying 55,000 metric tonnes of hard red winter wheat. Expected to arrive at Chattogram Port by mid-October, this shipment marks the beginning of an annual supply of 700,000 metric tonnes of wheat from the U.S. to Bangladesh. The MoU, signed in Dhaka on 20 July 2025 between Bangladesh's Directorate General of Food and U.S. Wheat Associates, aims to ensure a stable supply of high-quality wheat amid global market volatility. The deal also reflects efforts to strengthen trade ties between Bangladesh and the United States.

12 Sept

BRI Bangladesh Exhibition opens second edition

The second Bangladesh edition of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) Exhibition opened at the International Convention City Bashundhara (ICCB), aiming to strengthen economic, commercial, and technological cooperation with China. Organised by the Chinese Embassy, the two-day event featured 80 booths representing 40 companies, including 32 Chinese firms. Commerce Adviser Sk. Bashir Uddin urged Chinese investment in local truck manufacturing and highlighted trade imbalances, noting \$22 billion in imports versus limited exports. Chinese Ambassador Yao Wen commended Bangladesh's early BRI support and reported a 254.3% rise in Chinese investment since last August. Officials also stressed collaboration in renewable energy and industrial development.

EU Ambassador inspects Khulna water treatment plant

EU Ambassador Michael Miller visited a water treatment plant in Khulna under the LOGIC project, producing 1,000 litres of safe drinking water per hour, sold locally at Tk 0.50 per litre to fund maintenance. Meeting beneficiaries, Miller highlighted Khulna's climate vulnerability and lauded LOGIC as a model initiative. Jointly implemented by the Government of Bangladesh, UNDP, UNCDF, EU, Sweden, and Denmark, the project strengthens

local governments' capacity for climate adaptation planning and financing. Since 2017, LOGIC has expanded to 94 unions across nine districts, including Khulna, Sunamganj, and Rangamati, enhancing access to affordable, safe drinking water and climate resilience.

BGB confiscates Tk 3.25 crore goods

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) has seized smuggled goods worth Tk 3.25 crore in a series of coordinated raids across the Sylhet border region. Acting on tip-offs, units from Tamabil, Panthumai, Sangram, Banglabazar, and Minatila Border Outposts conducted operations in Haripur, Jaintapur upazila, under magistrate supervision. The confiscated items included a large quantity of Indian-origin cosmetics, chocolates, food products, smuggled Barbel fish, and a sand-laden dump truck used for illegal transportation. Legal proceedings are currently underway, according to Lieutenant Colonel Md Nazmul Haque, Commander of the Sylhet Battalion (48 BGB).

Bangladesh launches voter services in Canada

The Bangladesh Election Commission (EC) has inaugurated voter registration and smart National Identity (NID) card services for Bangladeshi expatriates in Canada, advancing inclusive democratic participation. The launch, held at the Bangladesh High Commission in Ottawa, was attended by Chief Election Commissioner AMM Nasir Uddin, who underscored the significance of enabling overseas citizens to engage in the nation's democratic processes. He emphasised the contributions of expatriates through remittances, investments, and knowledge exchange. Under this initiative, Bangladeshis in Canada can now register to vote and obtain smart NIDs at the High Commission in Ottawa and the Consulate General in Toronto, ensuring their electoral and civic inclusion.

Vatican urges fair elections in Bangladesh

At a Pope's Day ceremony at the Vatican Embassy in Dhaka, the Vatican emphasised the importance of free, fair, just, and transparent elections in Bangladesh, reaffirming neutrality and non-interference in political outcomes. Ambassador Archbishop Kevin S. Randell stressed that the Holy See does not support any party or candidate, and

Bangladeshi Christians will vote according to conscience. The event coincided with Cardinal George Jacob Koovkad's visit, which included interfaith dialogues at mosques, temples, and a pagoda. The Vatican highlighted religious harmony, condemned violence justified by religion, and recalled Pope Francis' 2017 concern for the Rohingya, urging sustained international support.

China firm invests \$3mn CEPZ

Chinese-owned Direction Technology (Bangladesh) Co Limited is investing \$3 million to establish a manufacturing facility at Chattogram Export Processing Zone's South Halishahar site. The plant will produce Bluetooth headsets, wired headphones, and data cables, generating employment for 478 workers. The agreement was signed between Bepza and Managing Director Li Fanfan, with Bepza Executive Chairman Major General Abul Kalam Mohammad Ziaur Rahman welcoming the initiative. This investment signifies a strategic effort to diversify Bangladesh's export base beyond apparel into technology-based manufacturing. Bepza assured full support and emphasised adherence to compliance standards, highlighting the country's shift towards electronics exports.

13 Sept

Dhaka anticipates reduced US tariffs

Bangladesh is negotiating with the United States to secure a reduction in the recently imposed 20% tariff ahead of finalising a trade agreement. A two-day visit by a USTR delegation, led by Brendan Lynch, aims to advance discussions on the draft deal, though a final agreement is not expected during this visit. Bangladesh seeks further tariff concessions after the previous rate was reduced from 35% following prior negotiations. To strengthen its position, Dhaka has committed to reducing the trade deficit by purchasing Boeing aircraft and importing wheat, cotton, edible oils, and LNG. In 2024, Bangladesh exported \$8.4 billion to the US, mainly garments, while importing \$2.2 billion in goods.

Chief Adviser congratulates new Nepal PM

Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus has extended warm congratulations to Sushila Karki on her appointment as the new Prime Minister of Nepal. In his message, Yunus acknowledged the significance of her leadership during a challenging

period and expressed confidence in Nepal's continued progress under her guidance. He emphasised the deep-rooted friendship and cooperation between Bangladesh and Nepal, expressing a desire to work closely to strengthen bilateral ties. Additionally, he conveyed heartfelt condolences for the recent loss of lives in Nepal's political unrest, wishing peace, prosperity, and recovery for the Nepalese people.

14 Sept

US imports of cotton, soy and fuel rise

Bangladesh is set to finalise a bilateral trade agreement with the United States, following discussions aimed at reducing the current 20% reciprocal tariff on Bangladeshi exports. The US has welcomed Bangladesh's efforts to narrow the \$6 billion trade deficit and indicated potential further tariff reductions. Bangladesh has increased imports of US goods—including cotton, soybeans, wheat, LNG, and ships—to rebalance trade, benefiting from superior quality and yield. The pending agreement could lower tariffs to approximately 15%, enhancing export competitiveness. Key elements include adherence to labour standards and continued strategic imports to strengthen bilateral trade relations.

15 Sept

US citizen Enayet Karim arrested

Enayet Karim Chowdhury, a 55-year-old US citizen of Bangladeshi origin, was arrested in Dhaka for allegedly conspiring to destabilise Bangladesh's interim government. Apprehended on Minto Road for suspicious behaviour, police seized his SUV and two iPhones. Authorities allege that Enayet, who migrated to the US in 1988 and became a citizen in 2004, acted as a contract agent for a foreign intelligence agency, holding secret meetings with influential figures and collecting sensitive political information for his handlers. He reportedly claimed the US opposed the current administration and anticipated a Supreme Court ruling reinstating a caretaker government. He was sent to jail pending further interrogation.

CA Yunus pushes for deeper US trade

Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus reaffirmed Bangladesh's commitment to enhancing trade and investment ties with the United States during a meeting with Assistant U.S.



Trade Representative Brendan Lynch in Dhaka. The discussion highlighted the recent reduction of reciprocal tariffs on Bangladeshi exports from 35% to 20%, hailed as a significant milestone. Both sides explored addressing the trade imbalance, with Bangladesh ready to increase imports of US agricultural products, LPG, and civil aircraft. Yunus emphasised compliance with the US-proposed Labour Action Plan and investment climate improvements. Lynch praised Bangladesh's proactive approach. The meeting reinforced optimism on a bilateral trade agreement and expanded sectoral cooperation.

16 Sept

EU pledges support to Bangladesh elections

The European Union has reaffirmed its support for Bangladesh in conducting free, fair, and participatory elections in February 2026. EU Ambassador Michael Miller, during a views-exchange in Dhaka, underscored the necessity of political consensus and expedited reforms by the interim government. He emphasised deepening EU–Bangladesh relations grounded in democracy, human rights, and freedom of expression, while promoting legal migration and skilled labour exports. Miller highlighted that European investors prioritise stability and investment security. He also reiterated EU backing for voluntary Rohingya repatriation and called for strengthened cooperation in security and military sectors, reflecting a comprehensive engagement agenda.

Bangladesh seeks additional \$2bn from IMF

Bangladesh is negotiating with the IMF to augment its existing \$5.5 billion loan programme by an additional \$2 billion to manage challenges linked to its impending graduation from Least Developed Country (LDC) status in November

2026. The transition will end trade privileges, including quota- and duty-free access to developed markets, and discontinue direct exporter subsidies. Finance officials, including Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus and Finance Secretary Khairuzzaman Chowdhury, will discuss the matter virtually with IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva. Strengthened by recent economic reforms, Bangladesh has already secured an extension of the programme to January 2027 and an increased total from \$4.7 billion.

37 firms set to export hilsa

Ahead of Durga Puja, Bangladesh has authorised 37 companies to export 1,200 tonnes of hilsa fish to India from 16 September to 5 October, under the Export Policy 2024–27. A minimum export price of \$12.50 per kilogram has been set, with strict compliance measures. Customs will inspect all shipments via the ASYCUDA World System, and exporters must provide proof of prior exports to secure future permissions. Approvals are non-transferable and subject to revocation. This year's quota is nearly half of last year's 2,420 tonnes, contributing to rising domestic prices and reduced affordability during the peak fishing season.

Apparel exports to EU rise

In July 2025, Bangladesh's apparel exports to the European Union grew 7.05% year-on-year, reaching €1.68 billion, slowing from June's 20.57% surge. Knitwear led with €1.06 billion, while woven apparel rose 4.48%. Despite growth, competitiveness concerns persist as China's EU exports increased 23% to €14.06 billion. Rising operational costs, including a 41% increase in port handling charges and ongoing energy shortages, are pressuring manufacturers. Industry experts urged the government to stabilise utilities, reduce costs, enhance productivity, and promote product diversification to maintain Bangladesh's export momentum and sustain its position in the highly competitive EU apparel market.

17 Sept

Chief Adviser Pledges Festive February Election to EU Lawmakers

Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus has vowed that Bangladesh's upcoming general election, scheduled for early February before Ramadan, will be free, fair, transparent, and festive. He made the assurance during a meeting with a European Parliament



delegation led by Mounir Satouri at the State Guest House Jamuna. Yunus highlighted youth enthusiasm following the revival of student polls and expressed confidence in record turnout. The MEPs praised ongoing reforms and expressed optimism about Bangladesh's democratic transition, while Yunus urged greater EU support for Rohingya refugees, particularly for reopening schools in the camps.

Bangladesh advances labour export to Japan

The Bangladeshi government is intensifying efforts to expand labour exports to Japan, addressing a projected workforce deficit of 11 million by 2040. At the third meeting of the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment's 'Japan Cell', strategies included establishing a 'Japan Desk' to assess market demand, promote jobs, and provide language and skills training. Partnerships with Japanese and Bangladeshi agencies will facilitate recruitment under the Specified Skilled Worker (SSW) category. Plans also involve a model training campus in Chattogram and enhanced coordination with Japanese authorities to ensure quality standards, aiming to increase employment and reduce poverty in Bangladesh.

Dhaka and Delhi should work together

Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh, Pranay Verma, emphasised the importance of deeper cooperation between Dhaka and Delhi to harness their geographic proximity and economic potential for mutual benefit. Speaking at the National Defence College in Dhaka, Verma highlighted both nations' roles in regional integration through BIMSTEC and reiterated India's commitment to a stable and constructive partnership rooted in mutual respect. He also outlined India's foreign policy priorities, including 'Neighbourhood First', 'Act East', the MAHASAGAR doctrine, and the Indo-Pacific Vision, stressing the need for inclusive development and stronger ties that prioritise the welfare of both peoples.

IMF praises Bangladesh forex stability

IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva has praised Professor Muhammad Yunus for his leadership in stabilising Bangladesh's economy, particularly the foreign exchange market, since taking office as chief adviser. In a video call, Georgieva commended the bold reforms introduced under Yunus, including a market-based exchange rate and restructuring of the banking sector. She emphasised the need for continued reforms and increased domestic revenue to strengthen the country's economic position. Yunus acknowledged the IMF's support and outlined his government's efforts to recover from a severely damaged economy. The conversation also touched on regional developments, infrastructure initiatives, and Bangladesh's aspiration to join ASEAN.

Beijing invites Dhaka for GGI cooperation

China has invited Bangladesh to participate in its Global Governance Initiative (GGI), a framework proposed by President Xi Jinping to promote a more equitable global governance system. During a meeting between Chinese Ambassador Yao Wen and Bangladesh's Foreign Secretary Asad Alam Siam, both sides discussed bilateral relations, regional and international issues, and practical cooperation. Ambassador Yao emphasised the strong momentum in Bangladesh–China ties and expressed China's readiness to deepen collaboration. In response, Bangladesh welcomed the GGI and reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening cooperation across various sectors to benefit both nations.

18 Sept

EU lawmakers praise Bangladesh on human rights

A European Parliament delegation, led by Mounir Satouri, Chair of the Subcommittee on Human Rights, expressed strong approval of Bangladesh's human rights initiatives during a recent visit. The group commended the interim government's commitment to democratic reforms, dialogue, and public engagement in voting, as well as Bangladesh's accession to key UN human rights treaties and preparations for the 2026 general elections. The delegation also praised Bangladesh's hosting of Rohingya refugees and provision of humanitarian aid despite limited resources. In response,

Foreign Adviser Md Touhid Hossain highlighted the importance of continued EU support to address aid gaps and facilitate early Rohingya repatriation.

176 Bangladeshis repatriated from Libya

A total of 176 Bangladeshi nationals, detained in Libya while attempting illegal migration to Europe, have been safely repatriated with assistance from the Bangladesh Embassy and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). They arrived in Dhaka via Buraq Airlines from Tripoli following coordinated identity verification and travel permit issuance. Ambassador Major General Abul Hasnat Mohammad Khairul Bashar personally bade farewell, urging returnees to avoid illegal migration and raise awareness of its risks, emphasising that such actions endanger individuals and harm national reputation, while legal migration benefits families and national prestige.

BSF detains Bangladeshi youth

A Bangladeshi youth named Robinash was detained by the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) while cutting grass near the Bordai Para border in Lalmonirhat's Hatibandha upazila. The incident occurred close to Main Pillar 95 in Tongbhanga Union and sparked panic among local residents. Eyewitnesses reported that BSF personnel took Robinash across the border, raising concerns about security and cross-border tensions. In response, Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) and local authorities have initiated communication with the BSF to ensure his safe return. Police confirmed that steps are underway to bring Robinash back to Bangladesh.

19 Sep

BSF Pushes 12 Rohingyas Bangladesh

India's Border Security Force (BSF) allegedly pushed 12 Rohingya individuals—including men, women, and children—into Bangladesh through the Bata-moral Pan Punji border in Moulvibazar's Barlekha upazila. The Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) detained and interrogated them before handing them over to the local police for legal procedures. According to BGB officials, the group was forced across the border early in the morning and lacked identity documents, which may delay verification. Authorities are now coordinating with officials in Cox's Bazar to determine the next steps.

20 Sep

US Urges Bangladesh for Fiscal Transparency

The U.S. State Department's 2025 Fiscal Transparency Report urges Bangladesh to advance reforms to strengthen fiscal transparency, despite progress by the interim government. While improvements have been made in budgetary openness and natural resource procurement, gaps remain in meeting international standards. The report highlights delayed audit reports, incomplete budget breakdowns, and opaque procurement contracts. Economists view the recommendations as vital for good governance, economic development, and citizens' rights. Key suggestions include timely end-of-year report publication, detailed expenditure disclosures, and greater audit institution independence. Experts note capacity constraints but stress prioritizing transparency and accountability for sustainable, inclusive growth.

Bangladesh, Malaysia Strengthen Economic Relations

Bangladesh and Malaysia have taken a significant step toward strengthening their economic partnership by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) of Bangladesh and the Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE). The agreement, signed at the Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre in Kuala Lumpur, sets a framework for enhanced collaboration in trade and investment. Key goals include boosting exports, creating new business opportunities, and deepening bilateral economic ties. This move reflects both nations' commitment to expanding their commercial relationship and fostering mutual growth.

22 Sep

Chief Adviser Departs for UNGA in New York

Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus left Dhaka for New York to attend the 80th United Nations General Assembly. His Emirates flight departed Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport at 1:40am. He is accompanied by senior leaders from BNP, Jamaat-e-Islami, and the National Citizen Party, with Jamaat's Mohammad Nakibur Rahman

joining from the US. Yunus is scheduled to address the UNGA on 26 September and return home on 2 October.

23 Sep

US Envoy Meets Yunus, Focus on Elections and Regional Ties

Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus assured US Special Envoy Sergio Gor that Bangladesh's general election, scheduled for February, will be "free, fair, and peaceful." During their meeting, Gor praised Yunus's leadership and pledged continued US support, particularly for over one million Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar. Both sides discussed trade, disinformation challenges, and regional cooperation, including the revival of SAARC and Bangladesh's interest in joining ASEAN. Yunus stressed deeper ties with Nepal, Bhutan, and India's Northeastern states, highlighting regional integration as key to economic growth. He invited Gor to visit Bangladesh soon.

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