

# Bangladesh Issue



## Context:

- India-Bangladesh relations have worsened **amid violence** following death of a **Bangladeshi student leader** and **lynching of a Hindu man**.

# **HINDU MAN BRUTALLY LYNCHED INDIA DEMANDS JUSTICE**



**Enlist the recent events which led to chaos in  
Bangladesh?**



BANGLADESH

## **Osman Hadi dies in Singapore after being shot in Dhaka**

C.

Date	Event
November 17, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Sheikh Hasina is sentenced to death by a Bangladeshi court for her involvement in the deadly violence in the student-led uprising in 2024.</b></li><li>● After the sentence, India responds saying that it "remains committed to peace, democracy, inclusion and stability in Bangladesh", while Dhaka seeks handing over of the 'fugitive' former PM by India.</li></ul>

<b>December 12,2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prominent student leader, <b>Inqilab Moncho's Sharif Osman Hadi</b>, is <b>shot by by masked gunmen</b> while leaving a Dhaka mosque.</li> </ul>
<b>December 15,2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>NCP leader Hasnat Abdullah</b> makes a controversial statement saying that <b>Bangladesh can shelter separatist forces from India</b> and sever the seven northeastern states - also known as the "<b>seven sisters</b>" - <b>from the rest of the country</b>.</li> <li>Abdullah, one of the key student leaders who led the protests against <b>Hasina</b>, <b>was speaking at an event organised in Dhaka by Inqilab Mancha</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>December 17,2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Police stops a group of protesters marching towards the <b>Indian High Commission in Dhaka's Gulshan area</b>, demanding the <b>return of deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina</b> and others who fled during and after the July uprising last year, according to <b>The Daily Star</b>.</li> </ul>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The protest march <b>prompts India and NCP leader Abdullah's</b> remark prompts <b>India to summon Bangladesh high commissioner Riaz Hamidullah</b> and register a protest over the <b>deteriorating security environment</b> in the neighbouring country and plans by extremist elements that</li> </ul>

	could affect the <b>security of the Indian mission in Dhaka.</b>
<b>December 18,2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Osman Hadi succumbs to injuries</b> during treatment at a hospital in Singapore.</li></ul>



- **Sharif Osman Hadi** was a key figure in last year's pro-democracy uprising, during which **Sheikh Hasina** stepped down as the prime minister and fled the country.

- **Hadi's death sparks fresh violence in Bangladesh, with protesters taking to streets, vandalising and burning down news offices.**

December  
18,2025

- Amid the protests, a **Hindu worker named Dipu Chandra Das is lynched by a mob** which ties his body to a tree and sets it on fire.



## 'THEY TIED BURNT TORSO, HEAD OUTSIDE' FATHER OF HINDU MAN LYNCHED IN BANGLADESH RECOUNTS HORROR

- The incident takes place on the night of **December 18, along the Dhaka-Mymensingh highway in the Jamirdia Dubaliapara area**, and is initially reported to have been triggered by **alleged insult to religion by Das**.

	 <p><b>Bangladesh Unrest: Hindu Garment Worker Dipu Chandra Das Allegedly Lynched by Mob Over Blasphemy Claims</b></p> <p><b>THE LOGICAL INDIAN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Police and accounts by family later suggest that a <b>workplace dispute led to Das's lynching</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>December 20,2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A group of protesters gathers near the <b>Bangladesh mission in New Delhi</b> and is dispersed by police.</li> <li><b>Indian visa application centre in Bangladesh's Chittagong</b> (Chattogram) is shut down <b>indefinitely amid security concerns</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>December 21,2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>India expresses concern at the <b>“horrendous killing” of the Hindu man</b>.</li> <li><b>Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal</b> says India is keeping a close watch on the <b>evolving situation in Bangladesh</b>.</li> <li><b>Jaiswal also dismisses reports of a security breach at the Bangladesh high commission in New Delhi</b> as <b>“misleading propaganda”</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>December 22,2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protest incidents are reported at the <b>Bangladesh Visa Centre in West Bengal's Siliguri</b>, resulting in <b>Bangladesh to suspend visa operations in the town along with Delhi</b>.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The <b>assistant high commission of Bangladesh in Tripura</b> also makes a similar announcement on the <b>suspension of visa services</b> after protests were held outside the mission on Sunday, reports say.</li> </ul>
<b>December 23,2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Bangladesh foreign ministry summons Indian envoy over security of Bangladeshi missions.</b></li> <li>● The incidents cited for the summon include "<b>vandalism at the Bangladesh Visa Centre in Siliguri</b> on December 22 and a <b>protest outside the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi on December 20</b>.</li> <li>● Hours after this, the <b>Bangladeshi High Commissioner Riyaz Hamidullah</b> is called to the <b>Ministry of External Affairs in India.</b></li> </ul>

## Who is Osman Hadi?

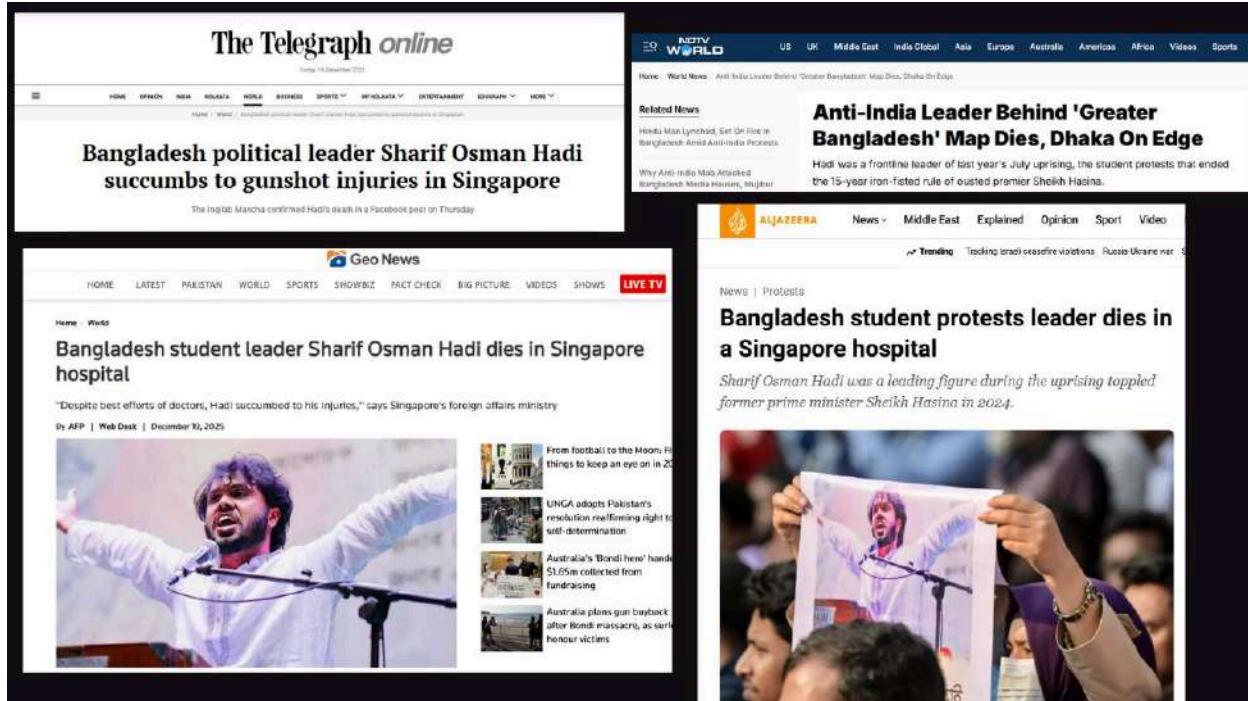


## Who was Sharif Osman Hadi whose assassination sparked nationwide protests?

- Osman Hadi, 32, was a prominent leader of Bangladesh's 2024 student-led uprising.
- He acted as a spokesperson for **Inquilab Mancha**, or “Platform for Revolution”, and was planning to stand as a member of **parliament for the Dhaka-8 constituency** in the Bijoynagar area of the city in the upcoming elections, **expected in February 2026**.

- Hadi was also an outspoken critic of India, where **Bangladesh's ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina** fled following the **uprising last year, and its influence on domestic politics in Bangladesh.**

## Where, when and how did Hadi die?



- **Osman Hadi died** in a hospital in **Singapore**, where he was receiving treatment after **being wounded in an assassination attempt** on December 12.
- He was **shot in the head** by two assailants on a **motorcycle**, which pulled up beside the **battery-powered auto-rickshaw** he was travelling in. He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.
- Hadi was found to have suffered **brain stem damage** and was transferred from **Dhaka** to **Singapore General Hospital's neurosurgical Intensive Care Unit (ICU)** on December 15 for treatment.

## How have Bangladeshi authorities responded to the shooting on Hadi?



- On December 12, Bangladeshi police launched a hunt for the attackers who shot Hadi.
- The country's counterterrorism unit, the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) is also involved in this manhunt.
- In a news release on December 13, the police released stills of CCTV footage of the incident, showing two key suspects. Police offered a reward of five million taka (about \$42,000) for information leading to their arrest.
- Both men in the CCTV stills are seen wearing black clothes and glasses.
- While one is wearing a black hoodie, the other is wearing a black dress shirt and a wristwatch.

- Bangladeshi newspaper **The Daily Star** reported that the country's police and border guard have arrested at least 20 people linked to the incident so far, but the **investigation** is ongoing.

## **How have Bangladeshi leaders reacted to Hadi's death?**

- The country's interim government head, **Muhammad Yunus**, expressed his condolences and described Hadi's death as "an irreparable loss for the nation".
- "The country's march towards democracy cannot be halted through fear, terror, or bloodshed," he said in a televised speech on December 18, 2025.



**DNA**

# **MUHAMMAD YUNUS ADDRESSES MOURNERS AT OSMAN HADI'S FUNERAL, MAKES BIG PROMISE**

- The government also announced special prayers at mosques after Friday prayers and a half-day of mourning on **December 20, 2025**.

- “We are deeply saddened by the death of Sharif Osman Hadi, spokesperson of Inqilab Manch and independent candidate for Dhaka-8 constituency,” the acting chairman of the Bangladesh National Party (BNP), Tareq Rahman, wrote on Facebook.

## How have protesters responded to his death?



- Following the news of Hadi's death, violent protests broke out in Dhaka and other parts of the country on December 18, 2025.
- Protesters are demanding the resignation of the heads of the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Law, accusing the authorities of failing to ensure Hadi's security.

- They also demand the **return of the gunmen, who many believe have fled to India.**
- Reporting from Dhaka, Tanvir Chowdhury said: “It’s mostly students, but also people from all walks of life, with some political party elements as well.”
- “Their main slogan is ‘We want justice’ for the killer of Osman Hadi.
- One group of protesters gathered outside the head office of the country’s leading Bengali-language Prothom Alo daily, which they view as taking a pro-India editorial line, in Dhaka’s Karwan Bazar area.
- They then **surged into the building**, according to online portals of various leading media outlets.



- A few hundred metres (yards) away, another group of protesters pushed into the **premises of the Daily Star**, also viewed as **pro-India**, and set fire to the building.





## THE DAILY STAR BUILDING SET ON FIRE BY MOB, SOME EMPLOYEES FEARED STUCK ON ROOF

- Soldiers and paramilitary border guards were deployed outside the two buildings to monitor the situation, but did not immediately take any action to disperse the protesters.

**What are the allegations made by Osman Hadi's brother?**

**Sharif Omar Hadi, brother of slain leader Sharif Osman Hadi, has accused a “vested quarter” within the government of orchestrating the murder to derail the upcoming national election, according to media reports.**

- Days after Bangladesh student leader Sharif Osman Hadi died after being **shot in the head in Dhaka**, his **brother has accused a section within the Muhammad Yunus-led interim** government of orchestrating the assassination to derail the upcoming national election in February.
- **Sharif Osman Hadi, the spokesperson of Inquilab Moncho**, a cultural organisation born out of the 2024 July uprising that **led to former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's ouster**, was shot at close range in **Dhaka on December 12**.
- He was airlifted to **Singapore**, where he died during treatment on **December 18**.
- **Osman Hadi's killing triggered violent protests, with mobs targeting the offices of prominent newspapers and cultural organisations.**
- **Osman Hadi's brother, Sharif Omar Hadi, targeted the government** at a protest gathering in Shahbagh in Dhaka.

- "You had Osman Hadi killed, and now you are trying to foil the election by using this as an issue," Omar said, bringing a massive charge against the interim government led by Nobel laureate Yunus.

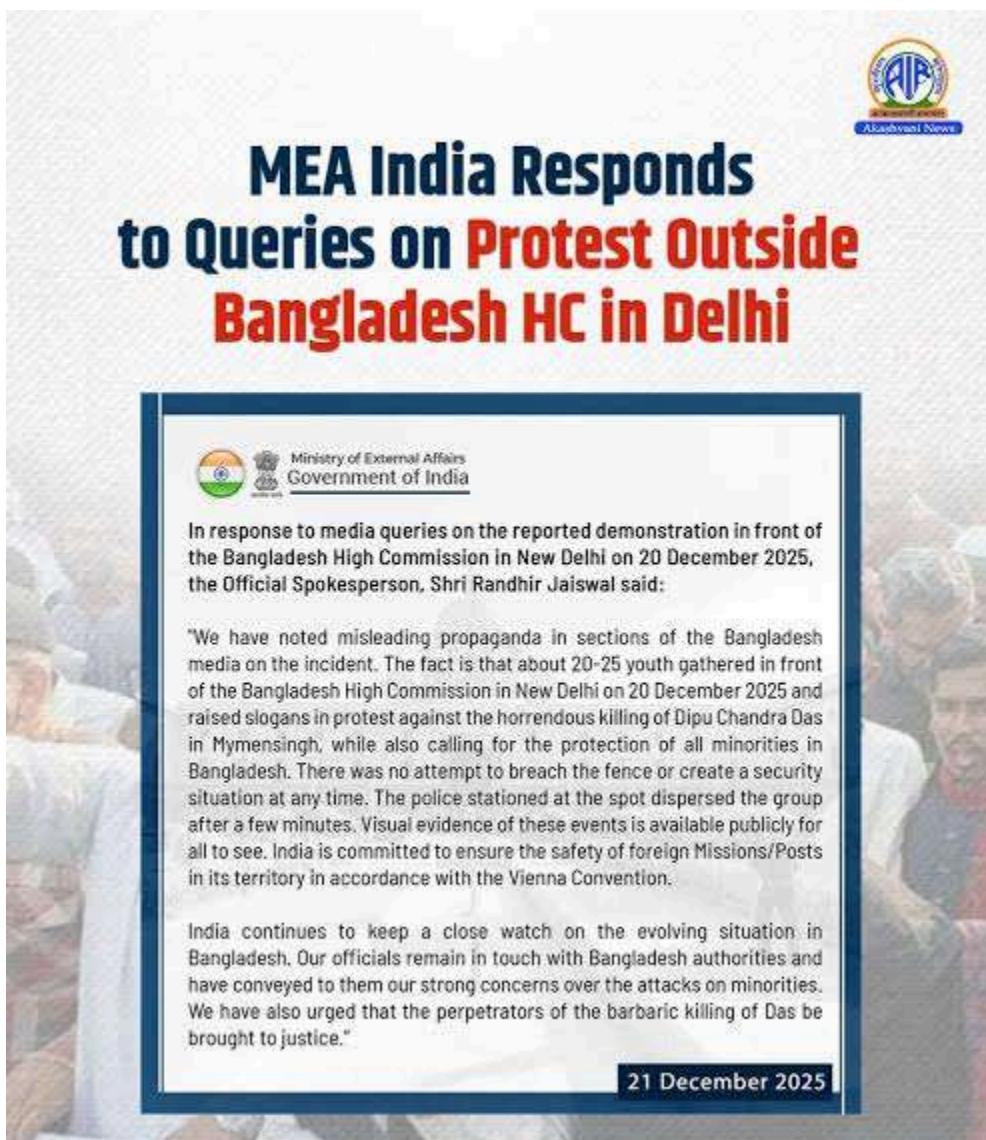
## HADI'S BROTHER SLAMS YUNUS GOVT



### How did the India's MEA respond to Bangladesh allegation?

- India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) issued a strong clarification following protests held outside the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi, rejecting claims of any security breach.
- The statement came after sections of the Bangladeshi media reported that demonstrators had attempted to breach the High Commission's perimeter.

- The MEA said these **reports were misleading** and asserted that **the gathering was small, peaceful, and swiftly dispersed by police.**
- The protests were sparked by the **killing of a Hindu youth in Bangladesh** amid escalating unrest following the death of a prominent student leader.
- India is committed to ensure the **safety of foreign Missions/Posts in its territory** in accordance with the Vienna Convention.



**MEA India Responds  
to Queries on Protest Outside  
Bangladesh HC in Delhi**

Ministry of External Affairs  
Government of India

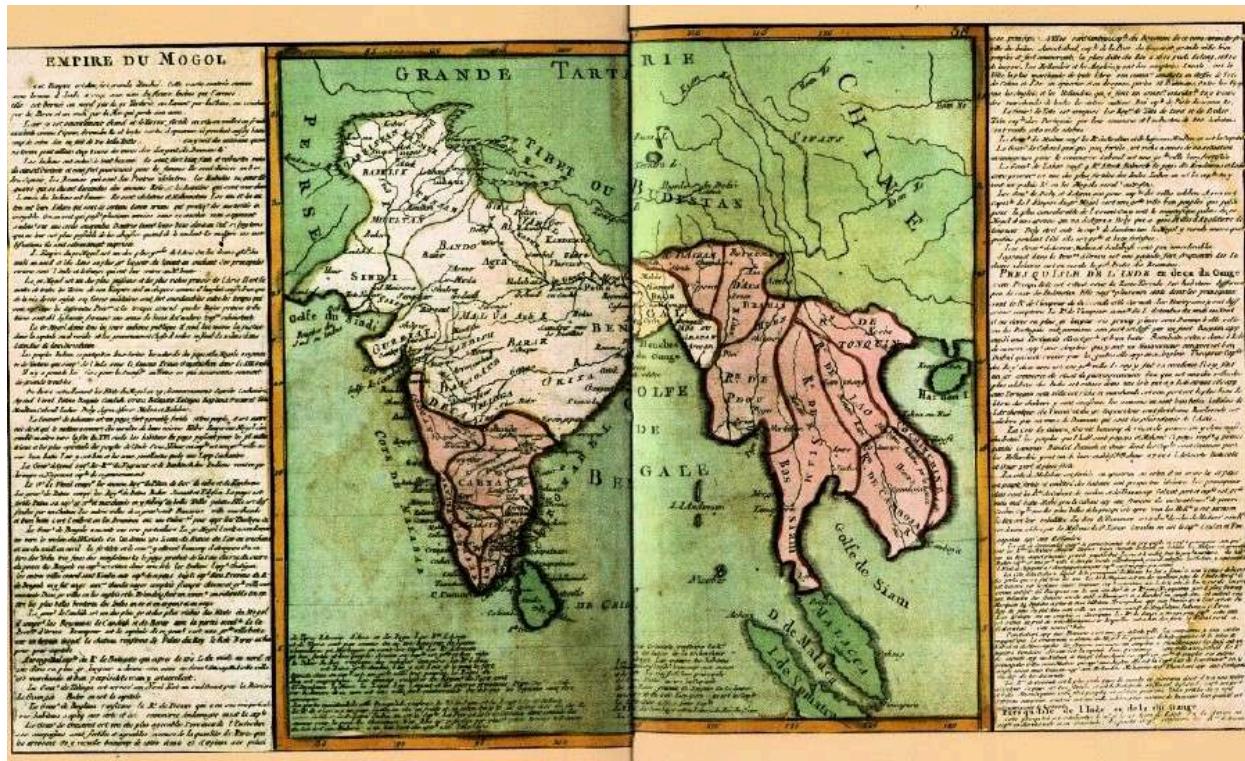
In response to media queries on the reported demonstration in front of the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi on 20 December 2025, the Official Spokesperson, Shri Randhir Jaiswal said:

"We have noted misleading propaganda in sections of the Bangladesh media on the incident. The fact is that about 20-25 youth gathered in front of the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi on 20 December 2025 and raised slogans in protest against the horrendous killing of Dipu Chandra Das in Mymensingh, while also calling for the protection of all minorities in Bangladesh. There was no attempt to breach the fence or create a security situation at any time. The police stationed at the spot dispersed the group after a few minutes. Visual evidence of these events is available publicly for all to see. India is committed to ensure the safety of foreign Missions/Posts in its territory in accordance with the Vienna Convention.

India continues to keep a close watch on the evolving situation in Bangladesh. Our officials remain in touch with Bangladesh authorities and have conveyed to them our strong concerns over the attacks on minorities. We have also urged that the perpetrators of the barbaric killing of Das be brought to justice."

21 December 2025

# What is the history of Bangladesh?



# History of BANGLADESH

The Ganges Delta Civilization



## 300 BC - TO AD

Gangaridai

Bengal was known to the Greeks as **Gangaridai**, notable for mighty military power. It was described by Greek historians that

**Alexander the Great** withdrew from South east Asia, anticipating a counterattack from an alliance of

Gangaridai

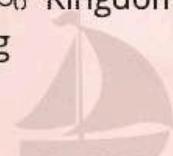
## 1500 - 500 BC

Vanga Kingdom

The Vanga / Banga বঙ্গ রাজ্য Kingdom was an ancient seafaring nation Lived in the **Ganges Delta** - mentioned in various Vedic and Greek text

Mahasthangarh মহাস্থানগড় 300 BC

bdnews24.com



## 200 - 500 AD

Gupta Empire was an empire centered in the Bengal existing from the mid-to-late 3rd century CE to 590 CE

## 800 - 1200 AD

Pala Empire

A **Buddhist** imperial power which originated in the Bengal .

## 1204 - 1339 AD

Delhi Sultanate

Muhammad bin **Bakhtiyar Khilji** Conquered Bengal & Bengal fall to Delhi Sultanate rule .

## 1338 - 1576 AD

Bengal Sultanate

The **Sultanate of Bengal** শাহী বাঙ্গলা an Independent Bengal Empire.

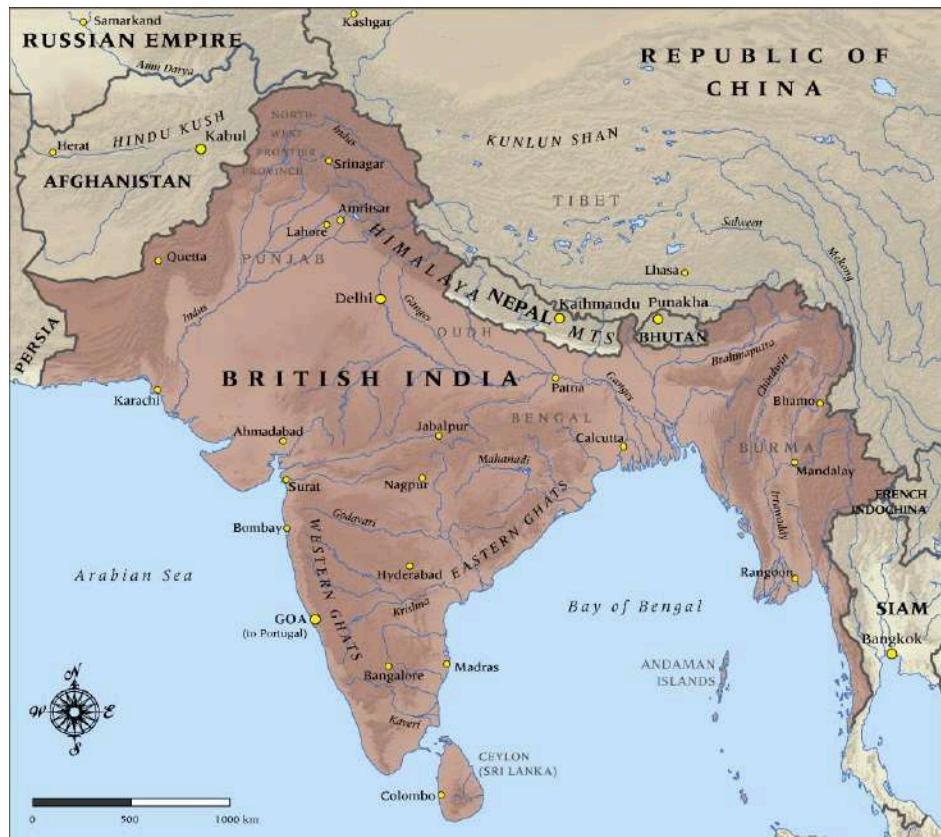
## 1576-1757 AD

Mughal Bengal / Independent Nawab of Bengal

**Babur** defeated Sultan Nasiruddin Nasrat Shah of the Bengal

Time Period	Events
14th Century	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Bangladesh</b>, located in <b>South Asia</b>, is a country with a rich history and <b>cultural heritage</b>.</li> <li>● The first significant <b>Islamic dynasty to rule</b> the region was the <b>Bengal Sultanate</b>, established in the 14th century by <b>Sultan Shamsuddin Ilyas Shah</b>.</li> </ul> 
During British Rule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In the <b>18th century</b>, the <b>British East India Company</b> gained control of Bangladesh, leading to the <b>exploitation of the region's natural resources</b> and the introduction of <b>European-style education and administration</b>.</li> </ul>

- This period also saw the **rise of nationalist movements**, culminating in the formation of the **All India Muslim League in 1906** and the eventual **partition of India and Pakistan in 1947**.



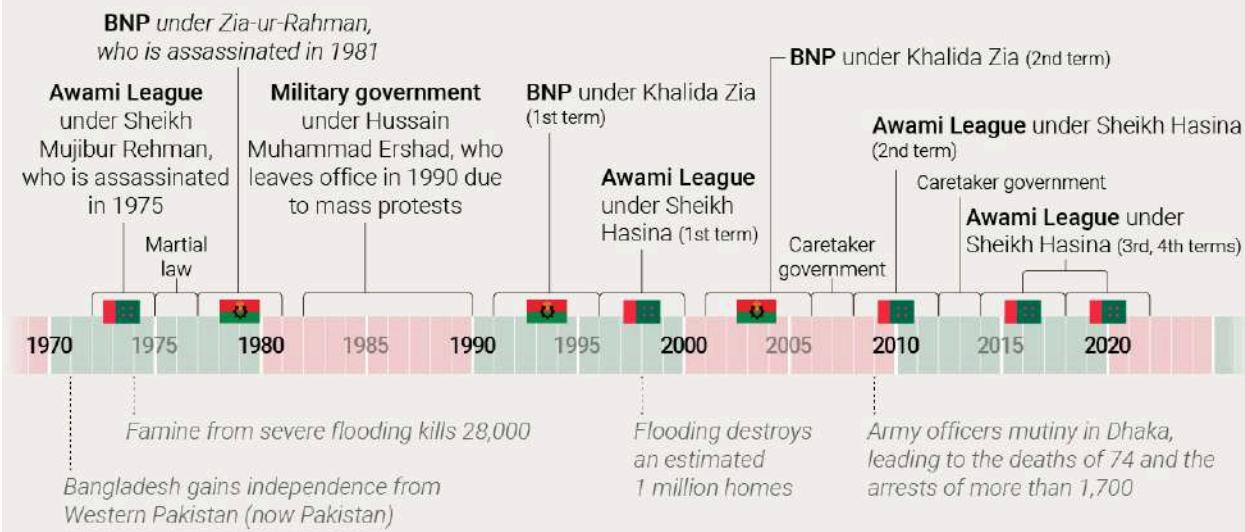
**1947-1971**

- Following the partition, **East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) became part of Pakistan**, but it struggled to **achieve autonomy and equal rights** with West Pakistan.
- This led to a mass movement for independence, culminating in the **Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971**.



- After a nine-month-long war, **Bangladesh finally achieved independence on December 16, 1971.**

## Bangladesh Governments, 1971-2022



# What is India's role in the creation of Bangladesh as a nation?

- India played a pivotal role in the **Bangladesh War of Independence**, which led to the **creation of Bangladesh from East Pakistan in 1971**.
- India and Bangladesh share deep-rooted **bonds of history, language, and culture**.

Role of India	Analysis
<b>Strong support to Bangladesh</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● India extended strong diplomatic support to the Bengali nationalist movement led by <b>Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the Awami League</b>, which sought <b>independence from Pakistan</b>.</li><li>● <b>The Indian government</b> also provided covert training and intelligence support of <b>Mukti Bahini in the months leading to its official involvement in the War</b>.</li></ul> 
<b>Humanitarian</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The Government of India took a firm stand</li></ul>

<p><b>assistance</b></p>	<p>of <b>offering asylum to all those who were fleeing from East Pakistan</b> to save their lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● India provided shelter, food, and medical aid to over <b>10 million refugees, despite the significant economic strain</b> this placed on the country.</li> </ul> 
<p><b>Military intervention by India</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The <b>Indian Armed Forces</b> led by <b>Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw</b>, in coordination with the <b>Mukti Bahini (Bangladeshi freedom fighters)</b>, launched a full-scale military campaign against <b>Pakistani forces in East Pakistan</b>.</li> <li>● India's military strategy included rapid and decisive operations by the <b>Army, Navy, and Air Force</b>, culminating in the <b>fall of Dhaka on December 16, 1971</b>.</li> <li>● This led to the surrender of the Pakistani military and the independence of Bangladesh.</li> </ul>



## What is the Significance of India- Bangladesh relation?

# TWO NATIONS, ONE RIVER

Total length: **414km**

Sikkim: **151km**

Sikkim-West

Bengal boundary: **142km**

Bangladesh: **121km**



## Why Teesta is important:



### - for Bangladesh

According to the report of Asian Foundation in 2013, its flood plain covers about 14% of the total cropped area of Bangladesh and provides direct livelihood opportunities to approximately 73% of its population.



### - For India

Teesta is the lifeline of North Bengal and almost half a dozen of districts of West Bengal are dependent on the waters of Teesta.

The negotiations on how to share the water have been going on since 1972.



|| I always want Bangladesh to get water. But we have a problem with the Teesta water because the water supply in the river has gone down ||

Mamata Banerjee, after meeting Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in April 2017 at New Delhi.

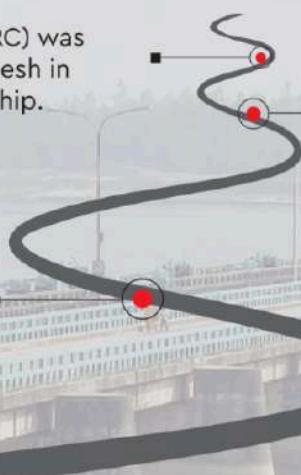
**1972:** Joint River Commission (JRC) was established by India and Bangladesh in the Indo-Bangla Treaty of Friendship.

Water sharing in **1983**  
ad-hoc agreement:

India **39%**

Bangladesh **36%**

Unallocated **25%**



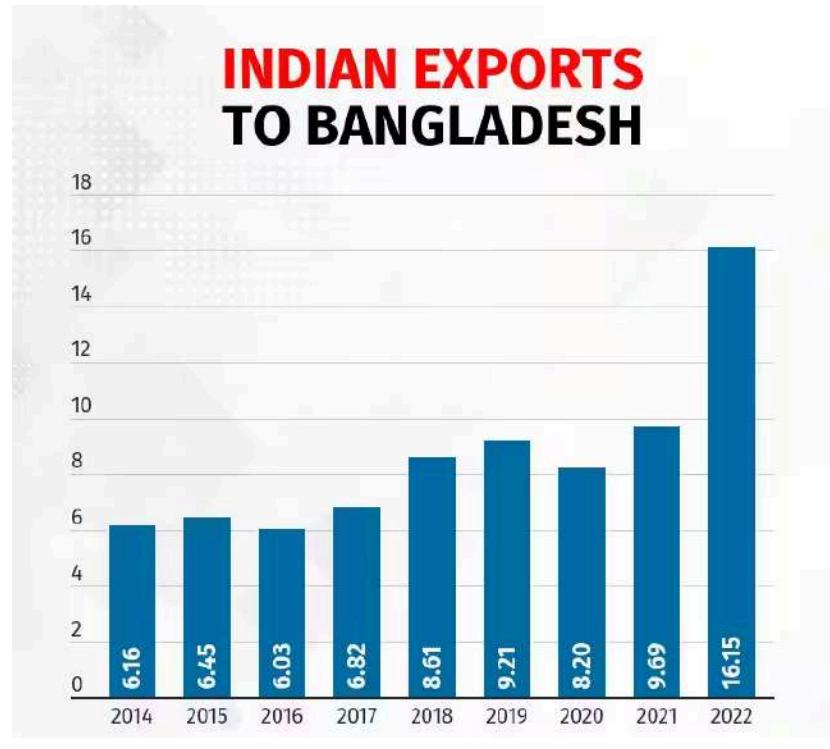
**1983:** Agreement on ad-hoc sharing of Teesta water. According to agreement, ad-hoc sharing is valid until 1985 end.

**1998:** Bangladesh started "Teesta Barrage" irrigation project (3 cropping seasons per year).

Dimensions	Significance
<b>Geopolitical:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>India shares its longest land boundary of 4,096-kilometer with Bangladesh</b> and more than 50 transboundary rivers.</li> <li>● <b>Bangladesh is almost entirely surrounded by India on three sides</b> and India's northeastern states are connected to the rest of India by a narrow corridor called the "Siliguri Corridor" or "Chicken's Neck."</li> <li>● The <b>easiest and most efficient access</b> for trade, travel, and strategic movement to and from the <b>Northeast often passes through or near Bangladesh</b>, making the region somewhat <b>dependent on Bangladeshi cooperation</b>.</li> </ul> 
<b>Economic:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>India is Bangladesh's largest export destination in Asia</b>, with approx <b>USD 2 billion of Bangladeshi exports to India in</b></li> </ul>

FY 2022-23.

- Similarly the value of **Indian exports to Bangladesh was the highest** among countries in **South Asia** in fiscal year **2024**, valued at over **11 billion U.S. dollars**.
- In **FY 2022-23**, the total bilateral trade has been reported as **USD 15.9 billion**.





Cultural:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>India and Bangladesh have a shared history, culture, and heritage which includes Bengal region, linguistic and cultural ties, passion for music, literature and the arts.</li> </ul>
Multilateral Cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>India and Bangladesh are engaged in regional cooperation through multilateral forums such as <b>SAARC</b> (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation), <b>BIMSTEC</b> (Bay of Bengal Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) and <b>Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)</b>.</li> </ul>
Gateway to ASEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bangladesh is located at the crossroads of <b>South Asia and Southeast Asia</b> and is important for <b>India's Act East Policy</b>, which aims to build closer ties with the countries of Southeast Asia.</li> <li>"<b>Bangladesh can be a bridge between ASEAN and SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation)</b>,"</li> </ul>

	as quoted by Mohd. Yunus.
Defence Cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>India and Bangladesh</b> conducts Joint Exercises: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Army (Exercise Sampriti):</b> India and Bangladesh commenced the <b>11th edition</b> of annual joint military exercise, <b>SAMPRITI</b> on <b>03rd October 2023</b> in Umroi, Meghalaya</li> <li>○ <b>Navy (Exercise Bongo Sagar):</b> <b>Bongosagar 2025</b>, the joint naval exercise between <b>India and Bangladesh</b>, took place in the <b>Bay of Bengal</b> in <b>March 2025</b>, enhancing maritime security with drills like tactical maneuvers and <b>VBSS</b>, featuring <b>INS Ranvir (India)</b> and <b>BNS Abu Ubaidah (Bangladesh)</b> for better interoperability and regional stability.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

The India-Bangladesh Naval Exercise Bongosagar 2025 and Coordinated Patrol was conducted in Bay of Bengal this week.



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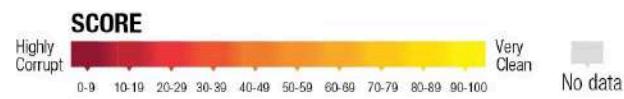
## What were the underlying reasons behind the Internal Crisis in Bangladesh?

Reasons	Implications
<b>Erosion of Democracy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Parliamentary elections in <b>2014, 2018, and 2024</b> were <b>controversial</b> and <b>non-participative</b> as they were marred by <b>low turnout, violence, and boycotts by opposition parties</b>.</li></ul>

	<p><b>BANGLADESH ELECTIONS 2024</b></p> <h2>Controversial elections under Hasina</h2> <p>Previous two polls were accompanied by widespread irregularities and accusations of vote rigging.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <p>PM Sheikh Hasina's 15-year tenure has been marred by allegations of rights abuses, laws curtailing press and civic freedoms, and a government crackdown on the opposition.</p> </div> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center; background-color: #e6e6fa;">2024</th><th style="text-align: center; background-color: #e6e6fa;">2018</th><th style="text-align: center; background-color: #e6e6fa;">2014</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Main opposition BNP and others boycotting</td><td>Electronic voting machines used for the first time</td><td>Four major opposition parties boycotted vote</td></tr> <tr> <td>BNP calls for weekend protest, asks people not to vote</td><td>Hasina's Awami League won 288 of 300 seats</td><td>153 of 300 seats are uncontested</td></tr> <tr> <td>More than 20,000 opposition activists arrested</td><td>Allegations of vote rigging and intimidation by Hasina's party</td><td>Hasina's Awami League won 234 seats</td></tr> <tr> <td>US warns of visa ban on election officials if vote unfair</td><td>Rights groups and global observers say election is a 'sham'</td><td>Widespread violence, with nearly two dozen killed on polling day</td></tr> <tr> <td>300 foreign observers and journalists authorised to monitor polls</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	2024	2018	2014	Main opposition BNP and others boycotting	Electronic voting machines used for the first time	Four major opposition parties boycotted vote	BNP calls for weekend protest, asks people not to vote	Hasina's Awami League won 288 of 300 seats	153 of 300 seats are uncontested	More than 20,000 opposition activists arrested	Allegations of vote rigging and intimidation by Hasina's party	Hasina's Awami League won 234 seats	US warns of visa ban on election officials if vote unfair	Rights groups and global observers say election is a 'sham'	Widespread violence, with nearly two dozen killed on polling day	300 foreign observers and journalists authorised to monitor polls		
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<b>Autocratic style of governance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's government increasingly relied on <b>hard power</b> to maintain control.</li> <li>● This created a <b>climate of fear and repression</b>.</li> <li>● Provisions like <b>The Digital Security Act 2018</b> became a potent weapon to silence criticism against the government.</li> <li>● Begum Khaleda Zia who served as the prime minister of Bangladesh and is chairperson and leader of the <b>Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP)</b> which is the main opposition party was <b>arrested and remained in Dhaka Central Jail from 2018 until 5 August 2024</b>.</li> </ul>																		
<b>Student protest</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The peaceful student protest against the freedom fighter reservation of 30% in civil services, galvanized into a <b>nationwide movement</b> due to the <b>Government's heavy-handed approach</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Around 130 people have been killed</b> in the</li> </ul>																		

	<p>student <b>protest clashes</b> against quotas for government jobs in <b>Bangladesh</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The <b>anti-quota protests have come at a time when Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was settling down to power after winning a controversial election in January that gave her an unprecedented fourth consecutive term.</b></li> </ul> 
<b>Government reaction to protest</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina had termed the <b>protesters who opposed quotas</b> for freedom fighters' families as '<b>razakars</b>' or traitors who supported the Pakistani military in carrying out large-scale <b>atrocities against men and women in 1971</b>.</li> <li>● This <b>enraged the students who demanded an apology</b> from her and occupied public squares.</li> </ul>
<b>2024 Elections</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The <b>2024 elections in Bangladesh were marked by the Opposition's boycott, limited democratic space, erosion of human rights, economic downturn, and high youth</b></li> </ul>

	<p><b>unemployment.</b></p>
<b>Rise in Islamic fundamentalism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Religious outfits like <b>Hefazat-e-Islam</b> and <b>Jamaat-e-Islami</b> have openly opposed the secular judicial system, calling for a <b>revolution and creation of an Islamic State in Bangladesh under Sharia Law.</b></li> </ul> <div style="background-color: #e0e0ff; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>Will Jamaat-e-Islami find a lasting role in Bangladesh's political system?</b></p> <p>By Asif Bin Ali</p>  </div>
<b>Corruption</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Corruption is widespread in Bangladesh, affecting various aspects of society, including politics, business, and law enforcement.</b></li> <li><b>It undermines trust in institutions and exacerbates social and economic disparities.</b></li> </ul>

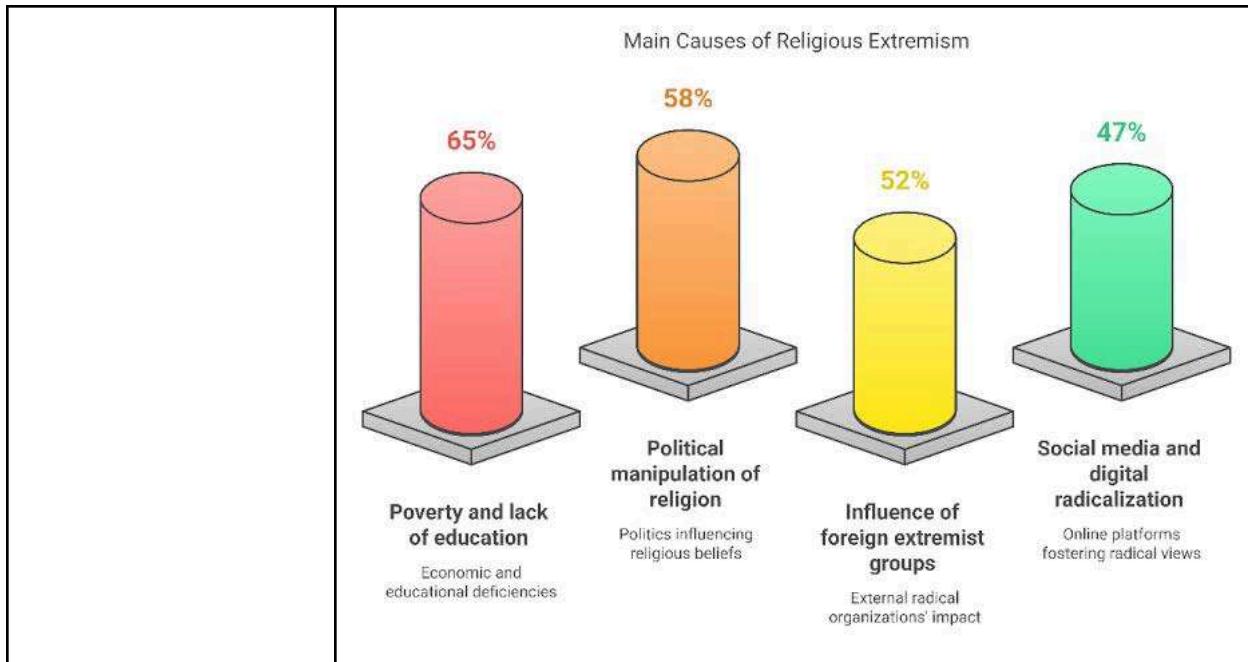
 **BANGLADESH**



#### Environmental Challenges

- Bangladesh is vulnerable to natural disasters, such as **cyclones and floods**, exacerbated by climate change.
- These disasters can lead to **displacement, loss of livelihoods, and conflicts over resources**.

	<p>BANGLADESH IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF EMERGING HEALTH CRISES RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE</p>
<b>Secularism vs. Islamism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Bangladesh's secular identity</b> is sometimes challenged by <b>Islamist groups</b> seeking to <b>impose stricter interpretations of Islam</b> on society.</li> <li>● This tension manifests in debates over <b>laws, education, and cultural norms</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Violent Extremism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Bangladesh</b> has faced <b>challenges from violent extremist groups</b>, including <b>Islamist militants</b>.</li> <li>● Attacks on <b>religious minorities, secular activists, and foreigners</b> have raised <b>concerns about security and stability</b>.</li> </ul>



## What is Greater Bangladesh?

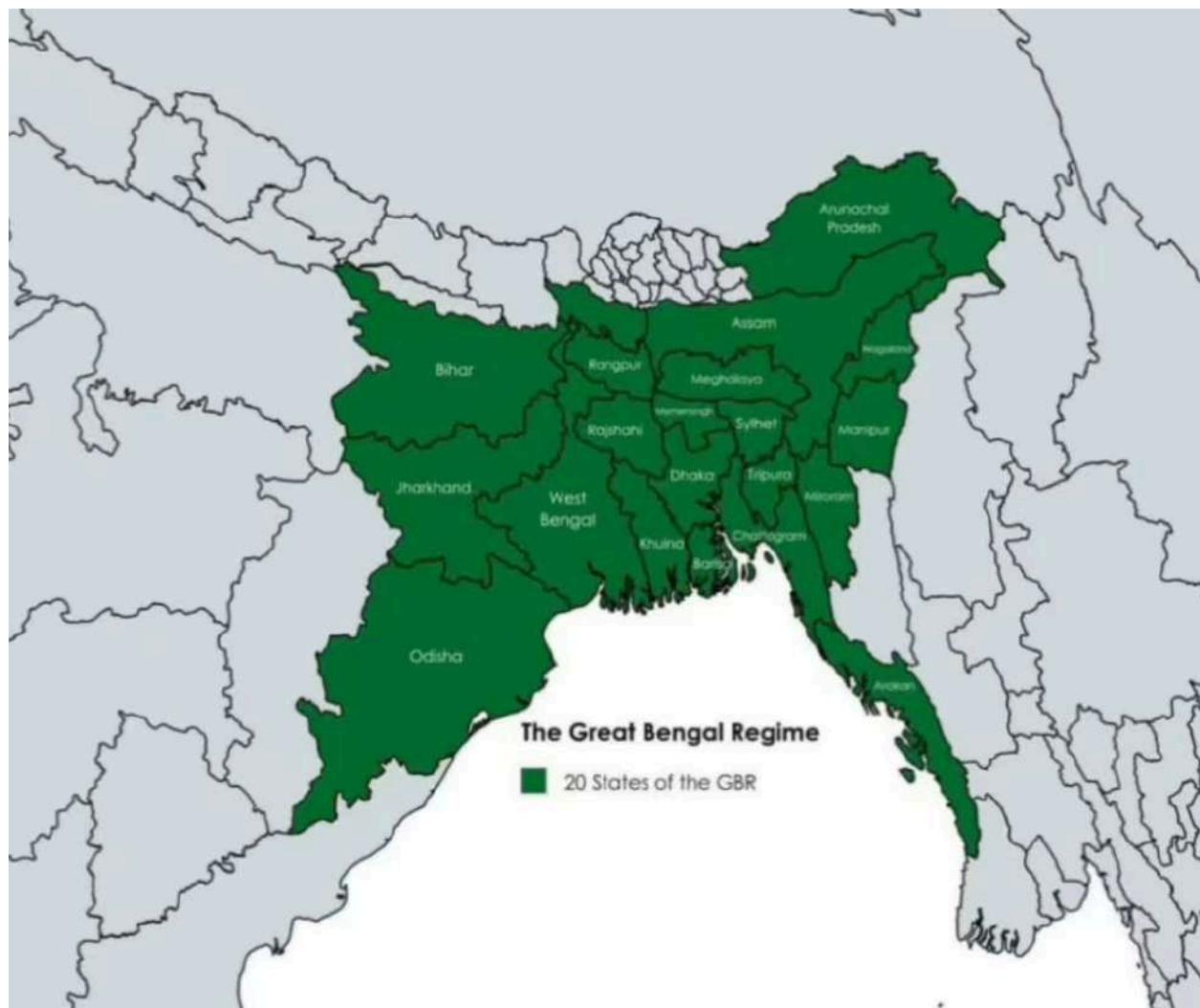
- On December 12, 2025, Sharif Osman Hadi posted an image titled "The Natural Borders of Bengal."



- It was not a standard map of Bangladesh.
- It depicted a **massive sovereign entity** painted in green that swallowed:
  - **West Bengal (including Kolkata).**
  - The "Seven Sisters" (Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh).
  - **Bihar and Jharkhand (parts of historical Bengal Presidency).**
  - **Arakan (Rakhine State) from Myanmar.**
- Simultaneously, the map showed **Kashmir and Punjab fully merged into Pakistan**, visually suggesting the complete disintegration of India.



- The idea behind the **controversy goes back to the final years of British rule.**
- In **1947**, leaders such as **Sarat Chandra Bose**, brother of Subhas Chandra Bose, and **Muslim League leader Huseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy** suggested a **united and independent Bengal**, separate from both **India and Pakistan**.
- This proposal was called the '**Sarat Formula**' or '**Bengal Pact**'.
- It got **initial support from Gandhi and Jinnah** but failed after facing **strong opposition from Congress and League high commands**.



**How will the Bangladesh crisis affect bilateral trade between the two countries?**

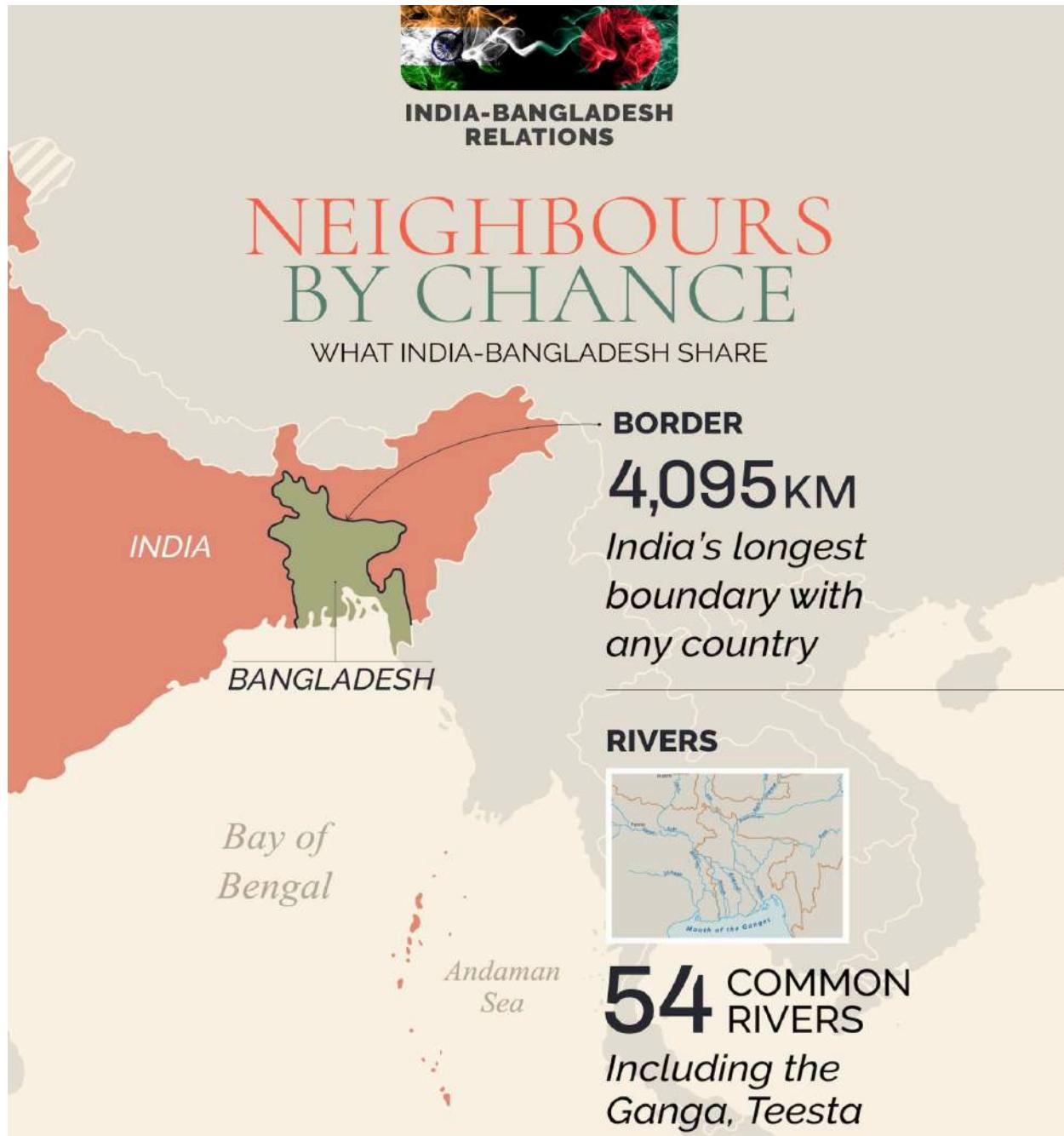
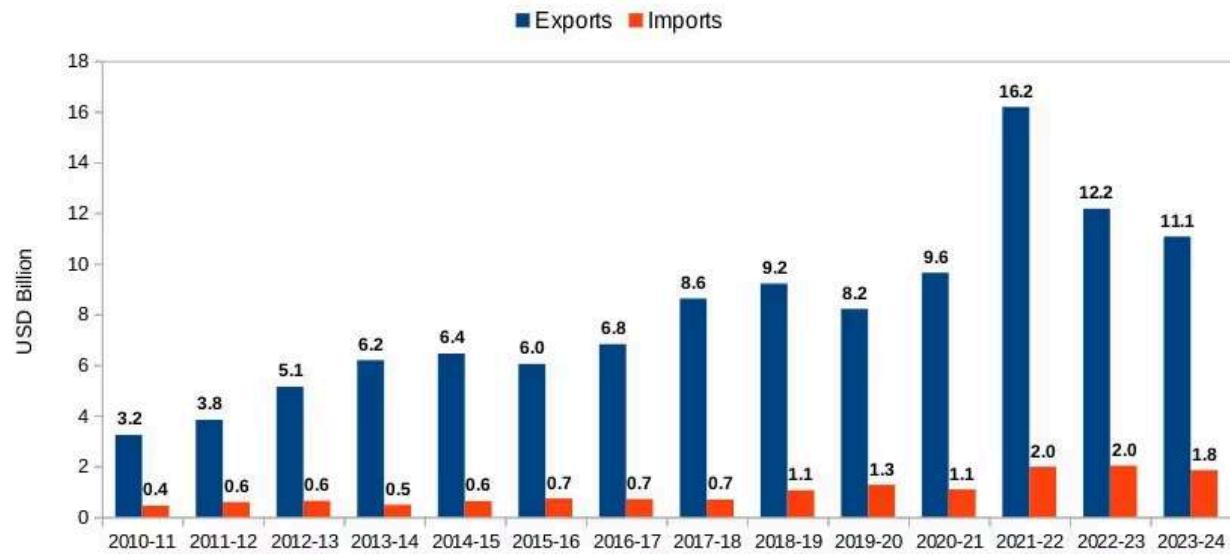
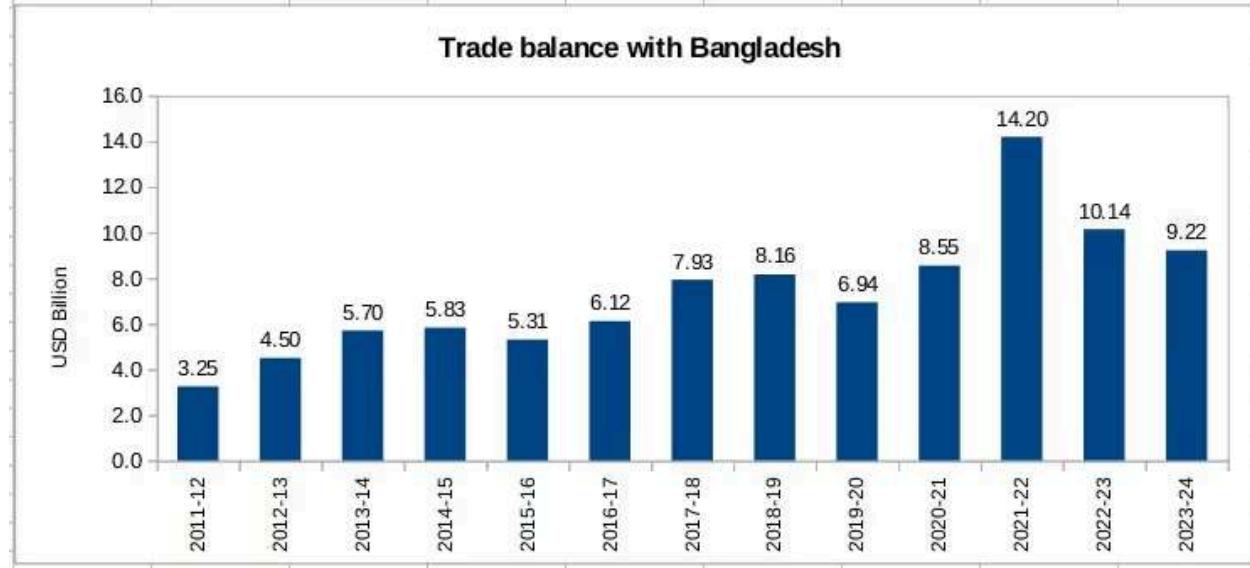


Figure 1. Exports to and imports from Bangladesh



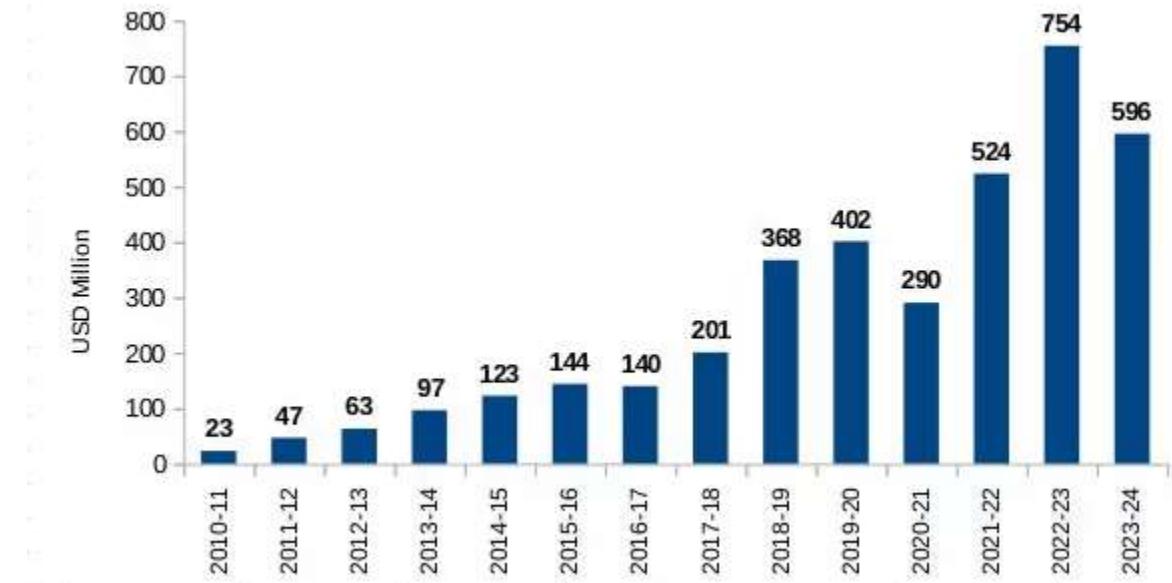
*Source: CMIE (Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy) Economic Outlook.*

**Figure 2. Trade balance with Bangladesh**



*Source. CMIE Economic Outlook.*

**Figure 3. India's imports of readymade garments from Bangladesh**



**Note: U5MR stands for under-five mortality, IMR stands for infant mortality, and NMR stands for neonatal mortality**  
**Source: CMIE Economic Outlook..**

Impact	Analysis
Bilateral Trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>India-Bangladesh bilateral trade reached <b>USD 13 billion in FY 2023–24</b>, making Bangladesh India's largest trade partner in the subcontinent.</li> <li><b>Duty-free access was provided</b> on most tariff lines under the <b>South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA)</b> agreement under Hasina's administration.</li> </ul>

- Due to the ongoing crisis there might be **disruption in trade among both nations in terms of value and volume.**

### Trade figure between Bangladesh and India for three years

fiscal year	Export	Import	Shortage
2019-20	109	579	470
2020-21	127	859	732
2021-22	199	1,619	1,420

\*Data shows export to India from Bangladesh and import from India to Bangladesh

### Bilateral trade initiative in BDT-INR

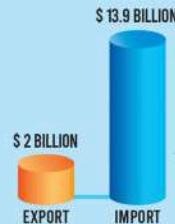


### Impact on Indian Investments

- Indian businesses and investments in Bangladesh might face uncertainties **due to the political upheaval.**
- Around **25% of textile units in Bangladesh are owned by Indian companies** which are impacted by the ongoing crisis.
- A potential **free trade agreement (FTA) gained momentum in 2023** which could boost Bangladesh's exports to India by up to **297%** and India's exports by **172%**, now seems doubtful.

## HOW CEPA WOULD AFFECT INDIA-BANGLADESH TRADE 8

Bangladesh's trade with India in FY22



Source: Commerce Ministry



Bangladesh's import duty earnings from Indian goods TK17,964 CR

### ONCE CEPA SIGNED



Bangladesh's export growth will be **190%**



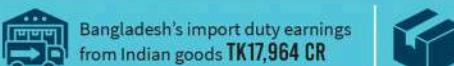
Indian's export growth will be **188%**



Bangladesh GDP growth will increase **1.72%**



Indian GDP growth will increase **0.03%**



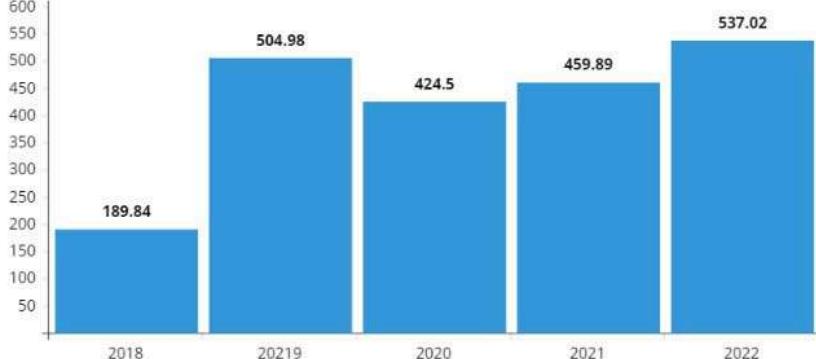
Bangladesh enjoys **duty-free quota-free** for all goods except **25** tobacco and alcoholic items

## Power Sector Projects

- Bangladesh imports nearly **2,000 megawatts (MW) of electricity from India**.
- **Adani Power's 1600 MW Godda plant**, which was supposed to exclusively supply to Bangladesh is still awaiting for its **dues worth over \$800 million to be cleared**.



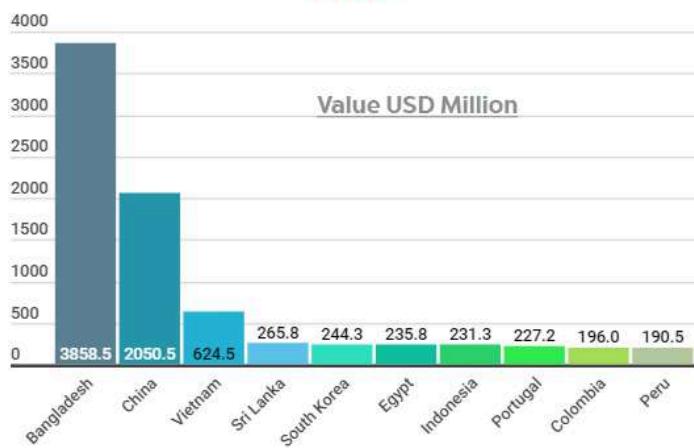
- Indian companies are helping build **Bangladesh's Rooppur nuclear plant** by Rosatom, featuring **VVER-1200 reactors with 2,400 MW capacity**, 160 km from Dhaka.

	<p style="text-align: center;">India's Electricity Exports To Bangladesh (2018-2022)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Value USD Million</p>  <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Value (USD Million)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>189.84</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019</td> <td>504.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020</td> <td>424.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021</td> <td>459.89</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022</td> <td>537.02</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Value (USD Million)	2018	189.84	2019	504.98	2020	424.5	2021	459.89	2022	537.02
Year	Value (USD Million)												
2018	189.84												
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2020	424.5												
2021	459.89												
2022	537.02												
<b>Textile Industry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Bangladesh's garment industry, the second-largest in the world, accounts for about 85% of its foreign exchange earnings.</b></li> </ul>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>India's cotton exports to Bangladesh may be affected but there's an opportunity for Indian apparel manufacturers to capture some market share.</b></li> <li><b>The Indian textiles witnessed growth in its shares post Bangladesh crisis.</b></li> </ul>												

## Turns attractive

	BSE close (₹)	% gain
Vardhman Textiles	518.15	3.93
GHCL Textiles	114.15	3.02
Nitin Spinners	436.75	6.67
Sportking India	1,300.95	2.76
Sangam (India)	391.85	1.70
Welspun Living	180.10	3.30
Loyal Textile Mills	617.6	5.68
KPR Mills	946.65	14.79
Gokaldas Exports	1,061.40	14.36

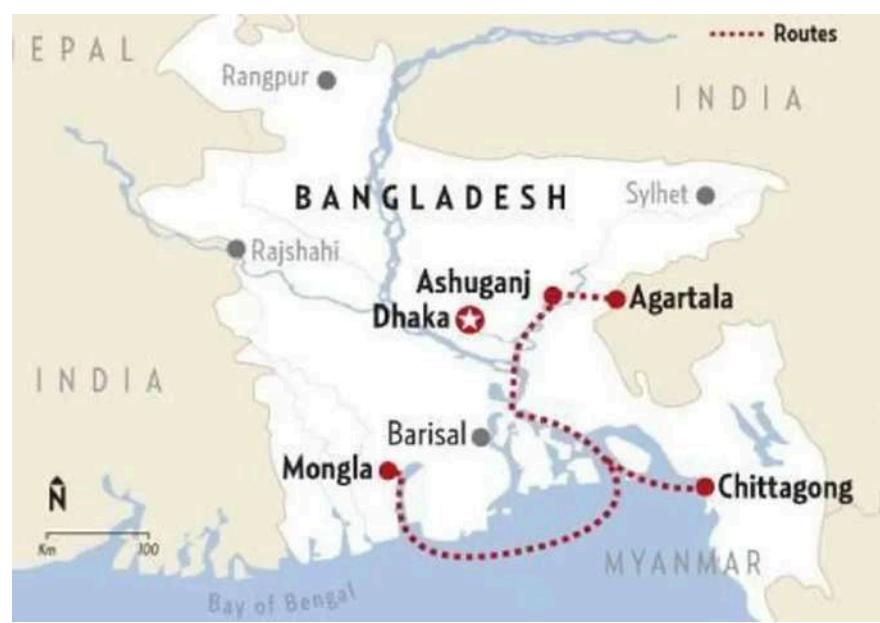
### India Exporting Partners For Cotton 2021



## Infrastructure Projects

- **Infrastructure projects**, including railways and cross-border connectivity initiatives, may **face short-term challenges**.
- The recent project awarded to **RITES** for **supplying passenger coaches to Bangladesh Railway** may experience some delays.
- **Agartala - Akhaura Rail Link between Agartala (Tripura) and Akhaura (Bangladesh)** would be the **first train** from the northeastern region to Bangladesh.
- **India** has secured a **strategic win by winning operational rights for the Mongla port** terminal in Bangladesh over China which is the **country's second-largest seaport** after Chittagong.

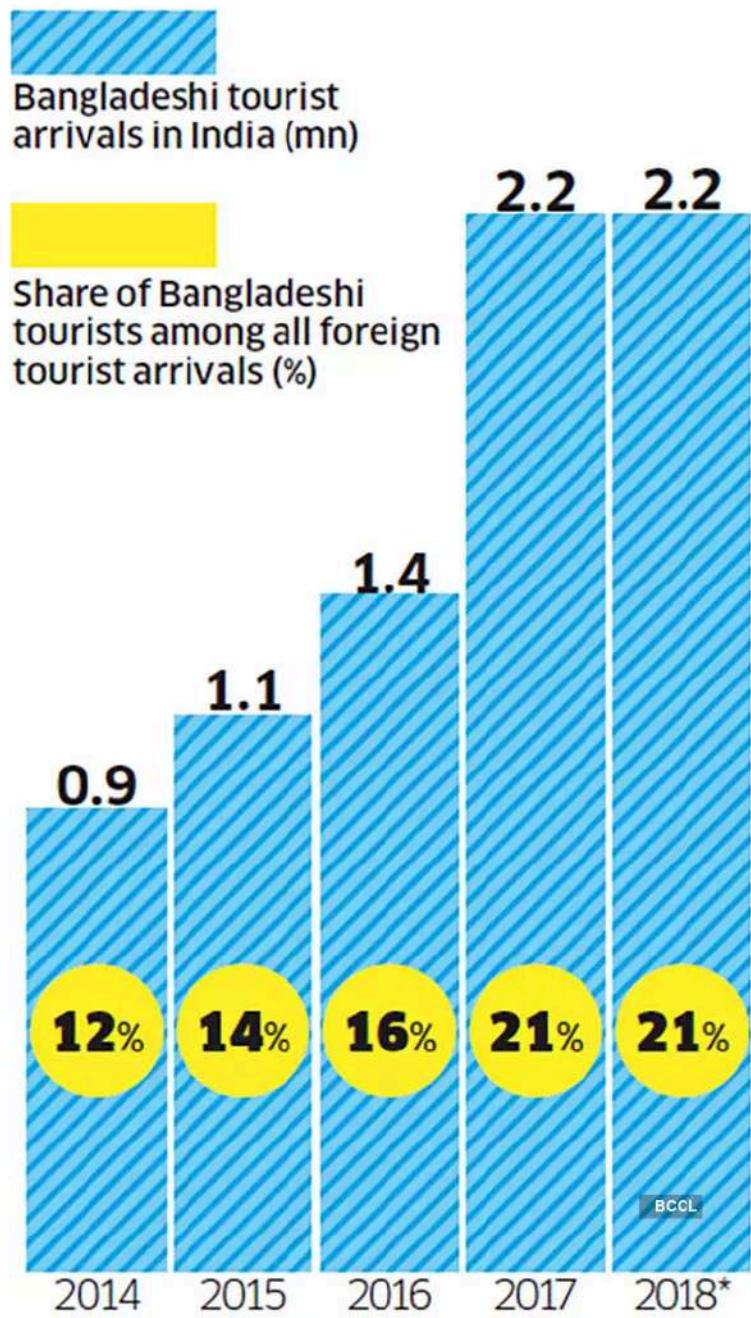




### India's Tourism Sector

- The tourism sector in India, especially **medical tourism**, is expected to face disruptions.
- **Bangladesh was the largest source of tourists to India in 2023**, contributing **22% of total arrivals, the highest from any single country**.

## Bangladesh accounts for 1/5th of foreign tourists in India



### Defense ties

- India has provided Bangladesh a \$500-million line of credit.
- The Bangladesh Navy had signed a contract

for 'Made in India' 800 tonne ocean going tug with India's **Garden Reach Shipbuilding and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd** as part of the line of credit offered by India.



## How do growing Pakistan–Bangladesh ties pose a threat to India?



- From **high-profile military, diplomatic and political visits**, **Bangladesh and Pakistan** are moving briskly when it comes to ties, despite **Pakistan's history of torture, rapes and atrocities** on ordinary Bangladeshis during the **liberation struggle of 1971**.
- The push for closer ties with Pakistan has happened with **Chief Adviser of the Interim Government Muhammad Yunus** steering Bangladesh's **foreign policy away from India**, a country with which Bangladesh shares almost its entire land border.
- Over the past few months, **several top Pakistani defence officials have made back-to-back visits to Bangladesh**.
- Amid tensions with India running high, **Pakistan and Bangladesh are now eyeing a defence agreement**, similar to the one Islamabad signed with Saudi Arabia.

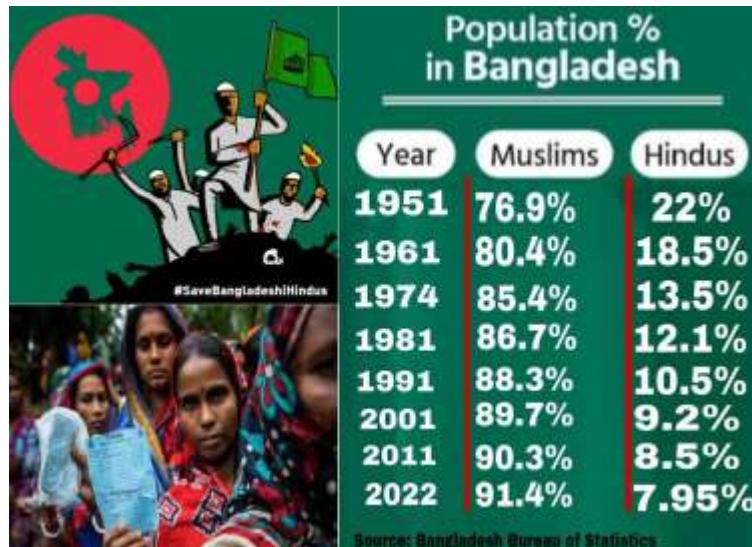


## IS PAKISTAN'S ISI TRYING TO EXPLOIT INDIA'S FROSTY TIES WITH BANGLADESH?

- Now, the buzz is that **Pakistan is looking to sign a similar NATO-style defence pact** with its newfound ally, Bangladesh.
- It will be the first such arrangement since the **1971 liberation of Bangladesh**.
- On **December 23, 2025**, a leader of Pakistan's ruling party demanded a formal military alliance between the countries, **only adding credence to the speculation**.

- "If India attacks Bangladesh, Pakistan will stand with Dhaka with full force... Those who control ports and seas rule the world," Pakistan Muslim League leader Kamran Saeed Usmani said.
  - He argued that a Pakistan-Bangladesh military partnership would significantly alter regional power dynamics.

## What is the status of minorities in Bangladesh?



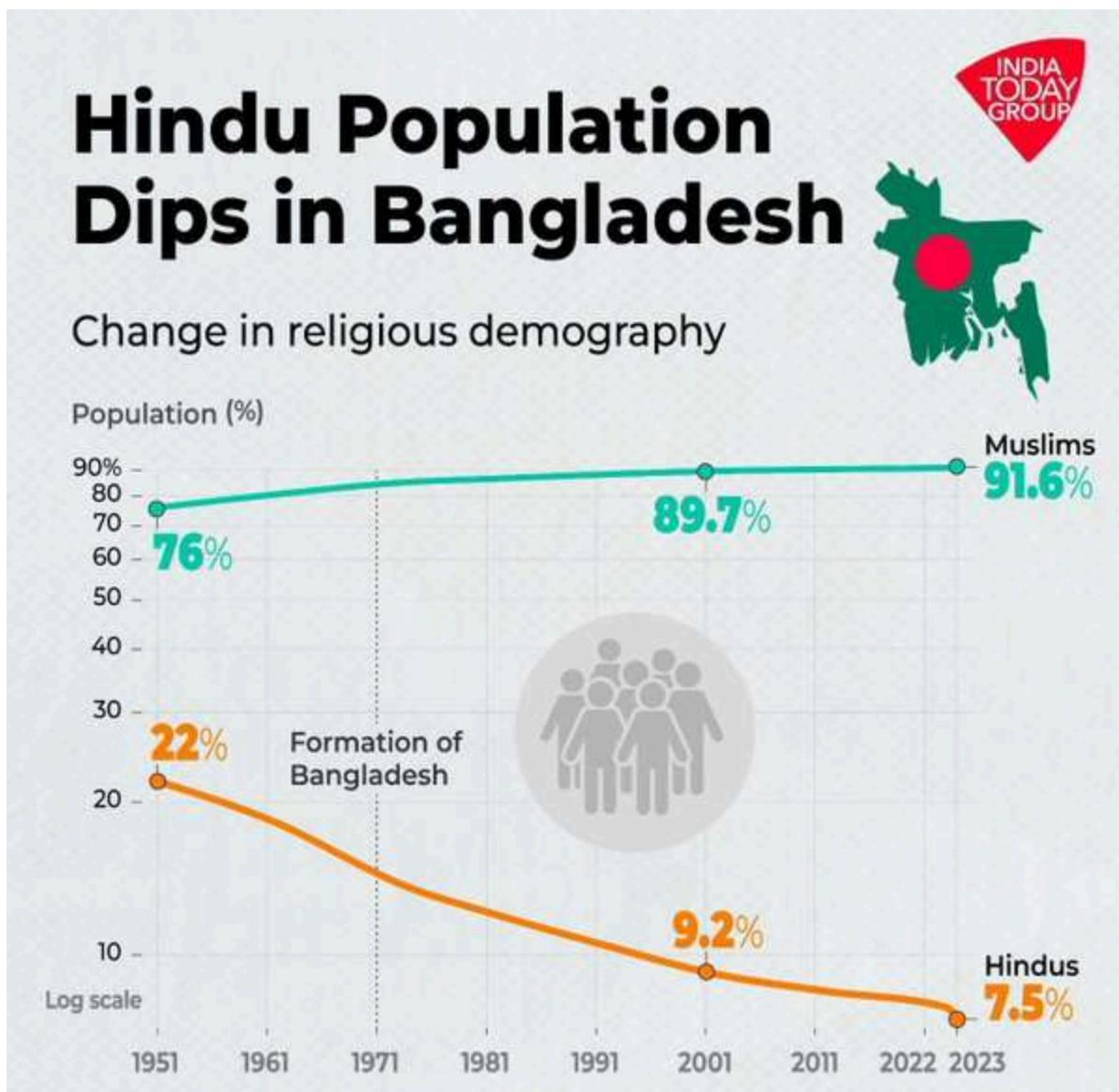
- The Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council (BHBCUC) presents its annual report on violence against religious and ethnic minorities recording over 1,000 cases of human rights violations in a year and resulting in the death of 45 people.
- According to the BHBCUC, 70-75 percent of the violence is centered on land grabbing, often under the influence of political parties and with the complicity of government agencies.



- Before the 1971 Bangladesh war of independence against Pakistan, the minority population was about 19 per cent but now it has come down to 8.6 per cent.



- The latest census in 2023 found that **90 percent of the total population of 170 million in Bangladesh are Muslims**, with Hindus still making up the largest minority group at 8 percent, while Christians represent less than 1%.



## Why is CAA important for Hindus?

- The **Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB)**, now the **Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA)**, is important for Hindus primarily because

it offers an **expedited pathway to Indian citizenship** for persecuted **Hindus (and other non-Muslim minorities) who fled from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan.**



Upananda Brahmachari @upananda · 15h

Hindu genocide-The greatest untold truth in this subcontinent. So, Citizen Amendment Bill is an utter necessity to Protect Hindus here & in this world. Idiots like @ShashiTharoor @adhircinc @asadowaisi @RahulGandhi @MamataOfficial @salimdotcomrade will not understand it.



Sadhvi Pragya Official and 9 others

2

4

5

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Importance	Analysis
<b>Protection from Persecution:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>primary objective</b> is to help religious minorities who were "<b>forced or compelled to seek shelter in India due to persecution on the ground of religion</b>".</li> </ul>
<b>Pathway to Citizenship:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Act prevents Hindus (and Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians) who arrived in India on or before <b>December 31, 2014</b>, from being treated as "<b>illegal migrants</b>".</li> </ul>
<b>Expedited Naturalization:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It reduces the <b>residency requirement for naturalization</b> from the standard <b>11 years</b> to just <b>five years</b> for these specific communities.</li> </ul>
<b>Legal Security:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upon <b>acquiring citizenship</b>, all legal <b>proceedings against them</b> concerning their status as <b>illegal migrants</b> are <b>closed</b>, and they are <b>considered citizens from their date of entry</b>.</li> <li>This ends decades of living in India with <b>uncertain legal status</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Humanitarian Grounds:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporters argue the law aligns with India's "<b>civilizational ethos</b>" of providing refuge to <b>persecuted groups</b>, addressing a long-standing demand to <b>protect minorities who were left in neighboring countries after the Partition</b>.</li> </ul>

# WHY IS CAB IMPORTANT FOR HINDUS?

## Population % in Bangladesh

Year	Muslims	Hindus
1951	76.9	22
1961	80.4	18.5
1974	85.4	13.5
1981	86.7	12.1
1991	88.3	10.5
2001	89.7	9.2
2011	90.4	8.5

\*CAB : Citizenship Amendment Bill

## Meanwhile, Muslim population in India

Year	Muslims	Hindus
1947	9.8%	85%
2011	14.2%	79.8%



**The Hindu community needs shelter!**

**What are the wider implications of the  
Bangladesh crisis for India?**

EDITORIAL

Screengrab from Video/x

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## **Bangladesh's Unrest Puts India To The Test Of Neighbourhood Diplomacy**

As protests in Bangladesh turn anti-India, New Delhi must balance restraint and resolve, avoiding overreaction while protecting its interests and long-term relationship with a close neighbour.



Implications	Analysis
Security Challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Bangladesh crisis comes just three years after President Ashraf Ghani's government fell in Kabul and the Taliban regained control over Afghanistan after about two decades, giving an advantage to Pakistan and causing unease for India.</li></ul>



© Zabi Karim/AP/picture alliance

- According to **media sources**, the **United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA)**, the **National Democratic Front of Bodoland**, and the **National Liberation Front of Tripura** all run camps in Bangladesh.

## Border management

- India shares around **4096 km of land border with Bangladesh** which is **still not completely fenced**.



	 <p><b>CATTLE SMUGGLING AT THE INDIA BANGLADESH BORDER</b></p>
<p><b>Rise in Radicalisation and Terrorism</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There might be an <b>increase in the incidents of Drug and Arms trafficking, cattle smuggling, cross border terrorism.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>India's access to North East</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• India has extended <b>three lines of credit to Bangladesh since 2016</b> amounting to <b>\$8 billion for the development of road, rail, shipping and port infrastructure.</b></li> <li>• <b>Any disruption in Indo-Bangladesh ties could restrict India's access to northeast, which is connected to mainland India</b></li> </ul>

through 'Chicken's Neck' between West Bengal and Assam.



#### Loss of a Trusted Ally

- India has lost a key partner in Sheikh Hasina, who has been instrumental in countering terrorism and strengthening bilateral relations.



“

F.

**They are caused by his sponsorship of extremists, his failure to protect religious minorities, and the anti-India rhetoric emanating from his administration. These are actions of an inexperienced leader who does not recognise the value of our partnership. I am grateful for India's patience as they wait for a leader with the authority and expertise to return our country to stability.**

**OUSTED BANGLADESHI  
PM SHEIKH HASINA  
ON INDIA'S RESPONSE TO HER  
EXIT AND DHAKA'S CHANGING  
GEOPOLITICAL EQUATION**



**Teesta river  
dispute:**

- An agreement on **Teesta river** was concluded in **2011** between both countries that gave **India 42.5% of the water, Bangladesh 37.5%, and the remaining 20% of the river's water flow-free rein.**



## WHY BENGAL NEEDS TEESTA

### THE ISSUE

If Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina convinces her people that India has given them a fair deal in the Teesta water dispute, it will be a big breakthrough for her. But Mamata Banerjee — among the five chief ministers originally scheduled to accompany Singh on the only one affected the Teesta treaty — has to take Bengal's interests into account.

### THE DEAL

According to a tentative deal, Bangladesh and India will share the water equally. Now, Bangladesh gets 25%. A clause was to have been introduced to allow India to draw more water during certain months.

### Dzongu

The 315km-long Teesta (tri-sarota or three streams) originates from this glacier in Sikkim.

### Bangladesh

The neighbour depends on the Teesta waters, especially for irrigation downstream during the dry December-March period.

### Ramblu

An NHPC dam coming up here. Water is the lifeblood of these hydel projects.

### Kalijhora

NHPC building another dam here.

### Gajoldoba

The barrage in Jalpaiguri releases water into the Teesta river entering Bangladesh and into the Teesta Main Canal.

### Teesta Canal

Water from the Teesta Barrage Project irrigates 60,000 hectares now and is eventually expected to cover 9.22 lakh hectares in north Bengal.

### Phansidewa

The water from the Teesta Main Canal also feeds a hydel project here.

- The current ongoing crisis may further disrupt the **river agreements among both nations.**



### Refugee Crisis:

- Due to attacks on minority communities **India will be facing a refugee influx from Bangladesh similar to the situation in 1971.**
- **BSF had to send back 1,000 men**, mostly Hindus gathered at **India-Bangladesh border in Cooch Behar district to enter India.**



### Economic Implications

- The **crisis in Bangladesh** could disrupt **bilateral trade and regional supply chains**, particularly **affecting key sectors such as**

**textiles, pharmaceuticals, and food commodities** that are vital to **India–Bangladesh economic relations**.

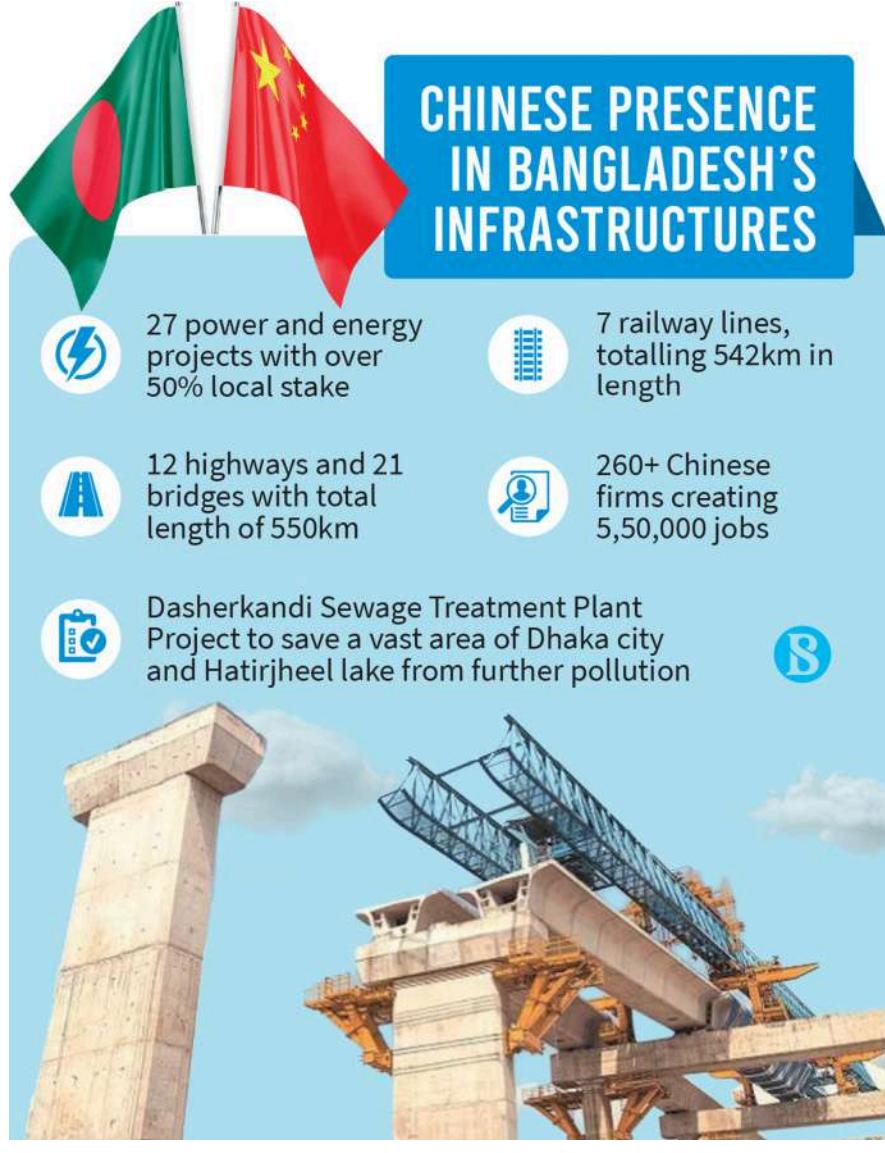
- Instability may hamper ongoing connectivity **projects and transit arrangements**, thereby constraining **India’s access to its Northeast region**, which heavily depends on **Bangladesh for shorter and cost-effective routes**.
- **Prolonged uncertainty** could also slow down **regional economic integration** initiatives, **weakening cooperation under frameworks such as BIMSTEC and BBIN**, where India and Bangladesh play pivotal roles.



#### Influence of China

- China has been increasing its **investments in Bangladesh**, particularly in the areas of **infrastructure development, energy, and telecommunications**.
- **Bangladesh** has been an active partner in the **Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)**.
- **Bangladesh's total debt obligations to China** now stand at around **\$17.5 billion**, which

may become a new victim of **Chinese debt trap policy in India's neighbor after Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan.**



## CHINESE PRESENCE IN BANGLADESH'S INFRASTRUCTURES

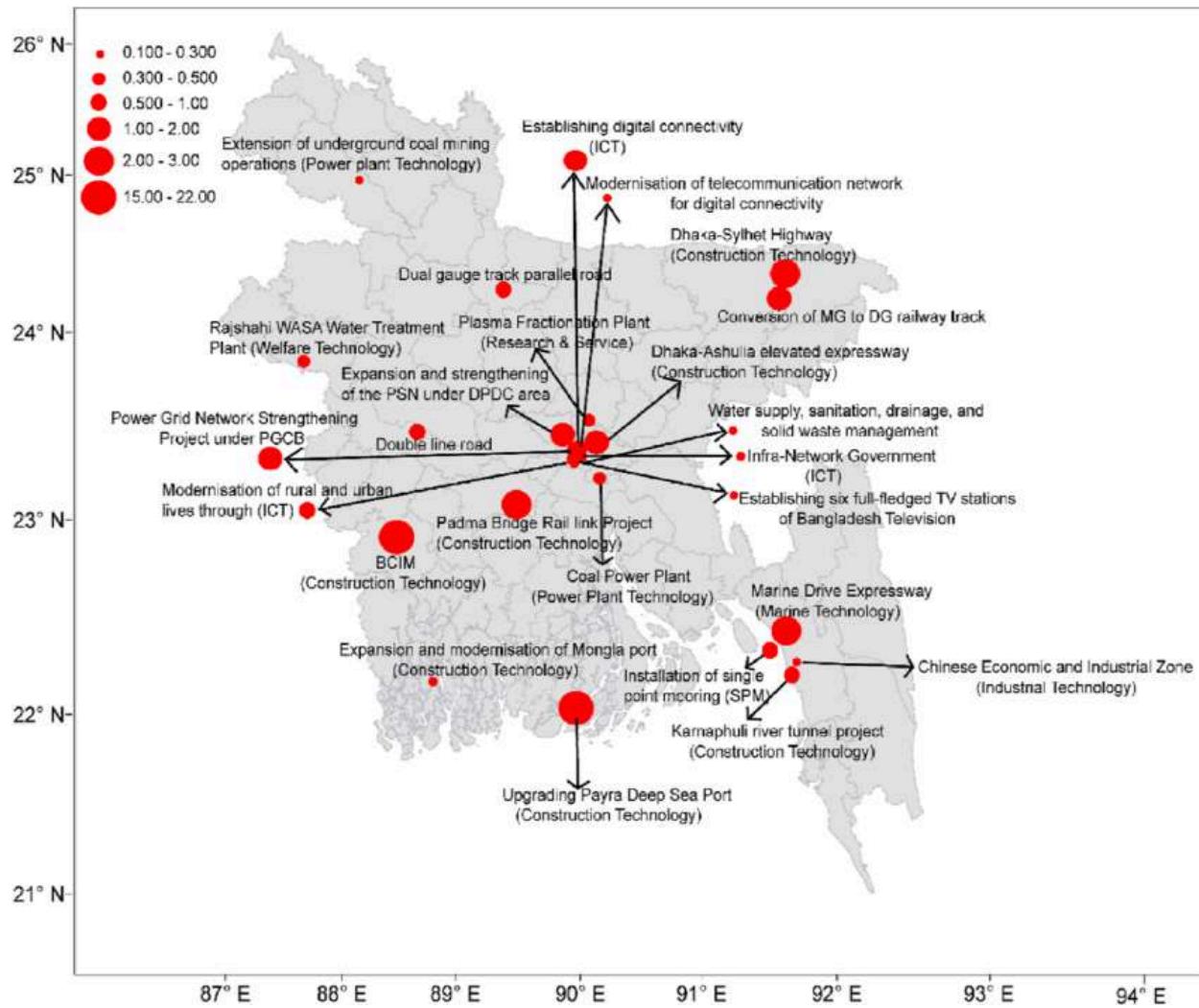
 27 power and energy projects with over 50% local stake

 7 railway lines, totalling 542km in length

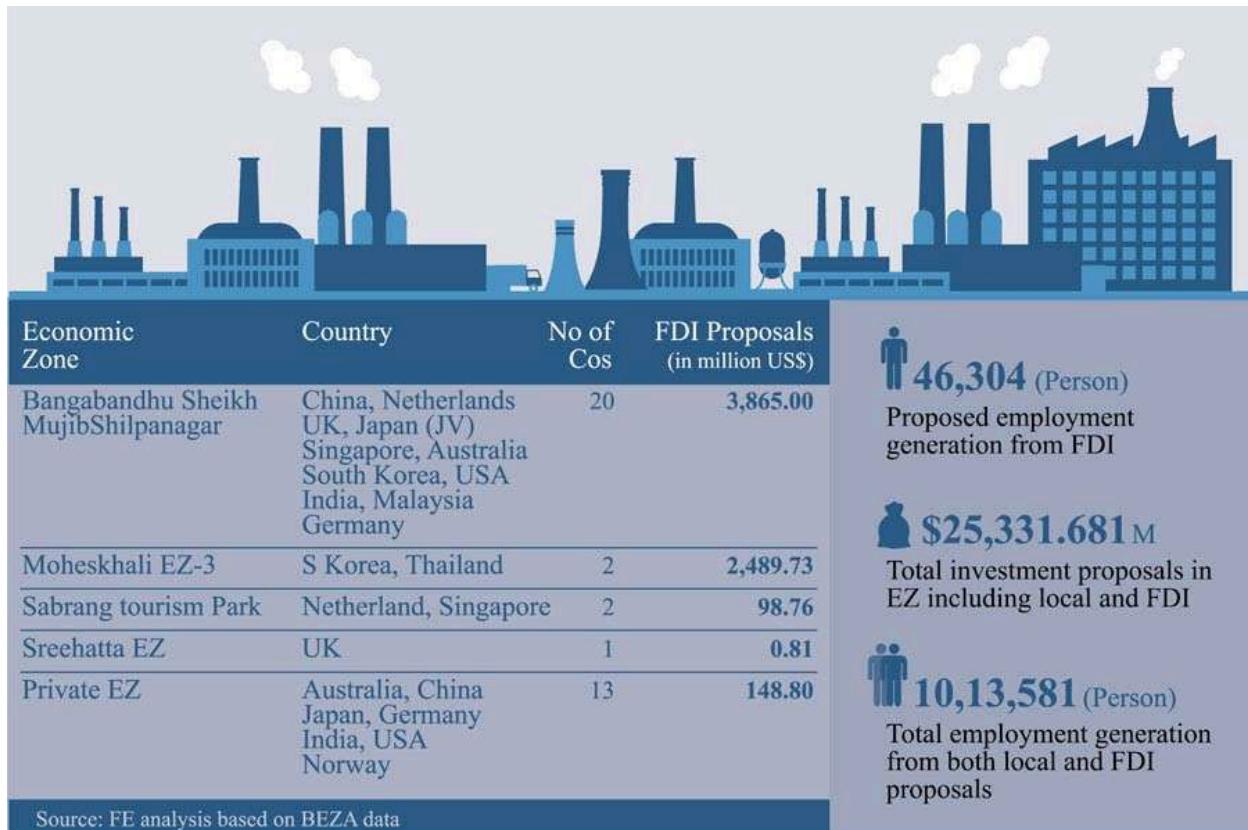
 12 highways and 21 bridges with total length of 550km

 260+ Chinese firms creating 5,50,000 jobs

 Dasherkandi Sewage Treatment Plant Project to save a vast area of Dhaka city and Hatirjheel lake from further pollution 



**Technological projects by China in Bangladesh under BRI (red circles denote money in USD in billion).**



## What should be India's approach in dealing with the Bangladesh crisis?

Approach	Analysis
Diplomatic and Political Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Engage Broadly:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>India should maintain open channels of communication with the current interim government led by Muhammad Yunus and other diverse political factions, including student leaders who drove the 2024 uprising.</b></li> <li><b>This moves beyond the previous one-party strategy and builds goodwill</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

with potential future leadership.



15th December, 2025 |  
Bangladesh needs strong diplomatic engagement to delay LDC graduation, says RAPID chief

- **Support Democratic Processes:**
  - New Delhi consistently advocates for free, fair, inclusive, and credible elections to restore stability and democratic governance.



- **Avoid Interference Perception:**
  - India must carefully balance its approach to avoid being perceived as interfering in Bangladesh's internal affairs, which could exacerbate

	<p>anti-India sentiment and push <b>Dhaka</b> towards rivals like <b>China</b> and <b>Pakistan</b>.</p>
<b>Support Democracy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke with Bangladesh government's interim head and Nobel Peace laureate Muhammad Yunus and extended India's full support in restoration of peace in the neighboring country.</li> </ul>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● India's explicit support to Muhammad Yunus and the interim government can help restore law &amp; order and protect citizens' rights, including minorities, in Bangladesh.</li> </ul>

	
<b>Support to Minorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● India should continue <b>advocating for minority rights</b> but avoid focusing exclusively on the <b>Hindu minority</b>.</li> <li>● A <b>five-member committee</b> led by a <b>senior Border Security Force (BSF)</b> official has been set up to communicate with <b>Bangladesh authorities</b> to ensure the safety and security of Indian nationals, Hindus, and other minority communities living there.</li> <li>● India must attempt reopening <b>bilateral channels of communication</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Enhancing Security Measures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● India should bolster its <b>security measures along the border and in areas with significant Bangladeshi expatriate populations</b> to address potential spillover effects and maintain stability.</li> </ul>

**Launch of BOLD-QIT project in Dhubri, Assam by Union Home Minister  
Shri Rajnath Singh**



River Brahmaputra in Dhubri district covered with data network generated by Microwave communication, OFC Cables, DMR Communication, day and night surveillance Cameras and intrusion detection system



Provide feeds to BSF Control Rooms and enables Quick Reaction Teams to stop cross border crimes



Earlier on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 Home Minister had inaugurated two smart fencing projects along International Border in J&K



<p><b>Geopolitical Move</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● India should ensure that <b>Pakistan and China</b> may not take advantage of the <b>Bangladesh crisis to harm India</b>.</li> <li>● India should use its <b>Geopolitical influence</b> involving <b>US, UK, and European nations</b> to support <b>Bangladesh's economic stabilization and counter extremist influences</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Current expert opinions and policy recommendations suggest India should leverage its influence and work with</b></li> </ul>
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	<p>international partners to manage the <b>evolving situation in Bangladesh</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b><i>India is advised to:</i></b></li> <li>● <b>Strengthen border management:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This includes <b>accelerated fencing and enhanced surveillance</b> to manage <b>potential security risks</b> like insurgent activity and refugee spillover.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Counter anti-India sentiment:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ India needs to <b>counter the growing anti-India propaganda</b> and <b>disinformation campaigns</b> within Bangladesh.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Diversify engagement:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Broaden outreach</b> beyond the former <b>Awami League government</b> to include <b>civil society and various political factions</b> to ensure <b>more balanced ties</b>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Long-Term Strategy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Long-Term Strategy</b> of India should include <b>patient and empathetic approach</b>.</li> <li>● India should <b>reaffirm with its Act East Policy</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Cultural &amp; People-to-People Ties:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Fostering shared heritage and mutual understanding</b> through exchanges, crucial for <b>sustained engagement</b>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



## What is the relevance of the topic for UPSC CSE?

- **For Prelims:** Inflation, European Union, India-Bangladesh Relations, Bangladesh Liberation War 1971, Akhaura-Agartala rail link, CAA 2019.
- **For Mains:** India-Bangladesh Relations, Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests, Refugee crisis, Economic implication, Security challenge.

## Some previous years prelims questions.

**Q) Consider the following statements in respect of BIMSTEC: (2025)**

1. It is a regional organization consisting of seven member States till January 2025.
2. It came into existence with the signing of the Dhaka Declaration, 1999.

3. Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Nepal are founding member States of BIMSTEC.

4. In BIMSTEC, the subsector of 'tourism' is being led by India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2

(b) 2 and 3

(c) 1 and 4

(d) 1 only

**Answer: D**

**Q2)Which of the following statements about 'Exercise Mitra Shakti-2023' are correct?(2024)**

1.This was a joint military exercise between India and Bangladesh.

2.It commenced in Aundh (Pune).

3.Joint response during counter-terrorism operations was a goal of this operation.

4.Indian Air Force was a part of this exercise.

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

(a) 1, 2 and 3

(b) 1, 2 and 4

(c) 1, 3 and 4

(d) 2, 3 and 4

**Answer:D**

**Q2)Consider the following statements: (2020)**

1.The value of Indo-Sri Lanka trade has consistently increased in the last decade.

2.“Textile and textile articles” constitute an important item of trade between India and Bangladesh.

3.In the last five years, Nepal has been the largest trading partner of India in South Asia.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer:B**

### **Some previous years mains questions.**

Q1)Analyze internal security threats and transborder crimes along Myanmar, Bangladesh and Pakistan borders including Line of Control (LoC). Also discuss the role played by various security forces in this regard. (2018)

### **Some questions from this year and previous years interview transcripts.**

#### **Board Sujata Chaturvedi mam:**

- What's happening in Bangladesh?
- Which international laws have been violated by Bangladesh, and what recourse should India pursue?

#### **Board Sujata Chaturvedi mam:**

- What happened on 16th Decemberwrt Bangladesh?
- Why did it happen?

#### **Dr Ajay Kumar sir:**

- How to curb illegal migration across India specifically at Bangladesh ?

**Board Dinesh Dasa sir:**

- Why the youth in nepal Bangladesh protesting and indulging in violence?

**Board Sheel Vardhan Sir:**

- Why are Bangladesh and Vietnam ahead of us in textiles ?

**Board Suman Sharma mam:**

- What's the name of the border line between India and Bangladesh called as?

**Board BB Swain sir:**

- Tell me about issues in bilateral relations between India and Bangladesh? Which river?
- What infrastructure/connectivity are we building between India and Bangladesh? Why?

**Board Lt. Gen Raj Shukla Sir:**

- Tell me about issues in bilateral relations between India and Bangladesh?

## **Some questions for QUIZ.**

Q1) Consider the following Countries:

- 1.Bangladesh
- 2.India
- 3.Myanmar
- 4.Maldives
- 5.Bhutan

How many of the above countries are part of the BIMSTEC multilateral group?

- a)Only two
- b)Only three
- c)Only four
- d)All five

**Answer: C**

### **Some questions for POLL.**

Q1)Do you think the Bangladesh crisis is part of a bigger geopolitical game?

- a.YES
- b.NO
- c.Can't say.

Q2)Has the concentration of power weakened democratic institutions in Bangladesh?

- a.YES
- b.NO
- c.Can't say.

Q3)Could prolonged instability affect India–Bangladesh bilateral relations?

- a.YES
- b.NO
- c.Can't say.

Q4)Does regional geopolitics influence Bangladesh's internal situation?

- a.YES

- b.NO
- c.Can't say.

Q5)Does the Bangladesh crisis have implications for India's security interests?

- a.YES
- b.NO
- c.Can't say.