

Press Release

Bhutan and Bangladesh Reaffirm Commitment to Strengthening Customs Cooperation and Trade Facilitation

8th Meeting of the Bhutan–Bangladesh Joint Group of Customs concludes in Dhaka

The Department of Revenue and Customs (DRC), Ministry of Finance, Royal Government of Bhutan, participated in the 8th Meeting of the Bangladesh–Bhutan Joint Group of Customs (JGoC), held at the InterContinental Dhaka, Bangladesh, on 14–15 October 2026.

The Bhutanese delegation was led by Mr. Sonam Jamtsho, Director General, Department of Revenue and Customs, while the Bangladesh delegation was led by Dr. Md. Al Amin Pramanik, Member (Customs: Audit, Modernization and International Trade), National Board of Revenue (NBR). Senior officials from the Department of Revenue and Customs, the Department of Trade, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also participated in the meeting on behalf of Bhutan.

The meeting reviewed progress on the decisions of the 7th JGoC Meeting, held in Paro, Bhutan, in May 2024, and deliberated on key areas of mutual interest, including the implementation of the Bangladesh–Bhutan Preferential Trade Agreement (BBPTA), transit arrangements, customs procedures, border operations and information exchange.

Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening customs cooperation, facilitating legitimate trade, simplifying clearance procedures and reducing the time and cost of cross-border transactions. The discussions also highlighted the importance of enhanced coordination between relevant authorities, customs modernization and capacity building to support more efficient and predictable trade flows.

The meeting was held in a cordial and constructive atmosphere, reflecting the longstanding friendship between Bhutan and Bangladesh and their shared commitment to strengthening bilateral trade and economic cooperation. Senior officials from the Department of Revenue Customs, the Department of Trade and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade took part in the meeting on behalf of Bhutan

The Bhutanese side offered to host the 9th Meeting of the Bangladesh–Bhutan Joint Group of Customs in Bhutan in 2027. The offer was welcomed by the Bangladesh side, reaffirming both countries' commitment to continued dialogue and cooperation.