BIMST-EC
What is Achieved and Where to Go?
A Report Prepared by
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Acknowledgement

This preliminary report on BIMSTEC is the result of a conference on “BIMSTEC: What is Achieved and Where to Go?” organized by Centre for Studies in International Relations and Development (CSIRD) and Institute of Foreign Policy Studies (IFPS) of University of Calcutta during 12-13 March 2013. Scholars and diplomats from all BIMSTEC countries participated in the conference and expressed their views on various aspects of BIMSTEC with the intent to prepare a roadmap for the future of BIMSTEC. The initiative to infuse academic inputs to BIMSTEC was taken by CSIRD which is the only organization working dedicatedly on BIMSTEC from 2004. The conference on BIMSTEC was sponsored as a partner by IFPS of University of Calcutta. We take this opportunity to thank Prof. Suranjana Das, the Director of IFPS and the Vice Chancellor of University of Calcutta for his interest on the BIMSTEC initiative and supporting the conference. We thank Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, BIMSTEC affairs for participating in the conference. Particularly our thanks are due to Shri G.S. Reddy, OSD BIMSTEC affairs for participating in the conference and delivering the special address at the inaugural session. Shri Rajiv Sikri, Former Secretary (East), MEA was kind enough to deliver the Keynote address of the conference. Lt. Gen B.S. Malik, the president of CSIRD for presiding over the inaugural session and delivering the welcome address.

We thank all the diplomatic representatives of BIMSTEC countries and the scholars for participating in the conference and sharing the perspectives of their countries regarding the challenges BIMSTEC as an organization is facing and the areas that need to be focused in order to invigorate the BIMSTEC arrangement. The scholars, subsequent to their presentations, contributed to this report in writing that we wish to present before the diplomatic and academic communities of BIMSTEC. We plan to bring out a publication shortly for wider circulation.

Dr. Binoda Kumar Mishra
Director, CSIRD
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