Case (29): Development of an Industrial Value Chain connecting the Bay of Bengal and North Eastern Region of India

1. Basic concept
- Japan is the leading country serving as the pillar of “connectivity” in the “Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI),” which is advocated by India. We have also supported development of the landlocked North Eastern Region of India through the “Japan-India Act East Forum” etc.
- For Bangladesh, Japan supports development of Matarbari deep-water port and connection among this port, Chittogram and Dhaka under the initiative of the Bay of Bengal Industrial Growth Belt (BIG-B).
- We will further promote cooperation in these frameworks, and further improve connectivity in the Bay of Bengal region through synergy created by organically coordinating deliverables of both frameworks.

⇒ We will develop business and industry across India and Bangladesh while connecting North Eastern Region of India to the sea by pursuing a comprehensive concept incorporating promotion of private investment, in addition to support for structural and non-structural connectivity. We will also aim to create an industrial value chain that can also benefit the industrial world in Japan after infrastructure development.

2. Items of cooperation
- Cultivation of narratives of the strategic importance of developing an industrial value chain connecting the Bay of Bengal and North Eastern Region of India
  (Examples) Holding Track 2 conferences involving the governments of North Eastern Region of India and Bangladesh as well as the private sector, and attracting Japanese companies’ interest
- Enhancement of (structural/non-structural) connectivity infrastructure in the region
  (Examples) “India-Japan Sustainable Development Initiative for the North Eastern Region of India,” Japan-India cooperation in infrastructure development in Bangladesh (for road/rail network improvement etc.), and Japan-Bangladesh cooperation under the initiative of the Bay of Bengal Industrial Growth Belt (BIG-B)
- Promotion of the Joint Study Group on the possibility of a Japan-Bangladesh Economic Partnership Agreement
- Enhancement of human exchange with the region
  (Examples) Invitation of youths through JENESYS, and strengthening coordination with think tanks