



Press Release

Minister for Information and Communications, Hon'ble Dr. Minendra Prasad Rijal visited Bangladesh from 8-11 February 2015 to participate in *Ministerial Conference on Digital Economy: Challenges and Opportunities* held in Dhaka on 10 February 2015. The ministerial conference was held as part of the Digital World Expo 2015 organised by the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in collaboration with Bangladesh Computer Council and Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services (BASIS).

Speaking at the ministerial conference, Hon'ble Minister Dr. Rijal underscored the need to bridge the digital divide by mainstreaming ICTs into the development policy frameworks so as to link the ICT revolution to the development agenda of connecting the marginalised people. He also stressed the need for increased regional cooperation and collaboration for ICT connectivity for affordable broadband access and information highway in the region.

During his sojourn in Dhaka, Hon'ble Dr. Rijal paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister of Bangladesh H.E. Sheikh Hasina at the National Parliament on 10 February 2015, together with ministers from SAARC countries participating at the ministerial conference. The Hon'ble Minister also held a courtesy meeting with H.E. Mr. A.H. Mahmood Ali, Foreign Minister of Bangladesh at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the same day. Various matters related to mutual interests, such as enhancing connectivity and sharing of the knowledge and experience of the ICT sector was discussed.

The Ministerial Conference was attended by the Information and Communication Minister of Bhutan, the Deputy Minister of ICT of the Maldives, Secretary-General, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and high level dignitaries and ICT experts from various countries.

To welcome the Hon. Minister, an interaction programme was organised in the Embassy on 8 February evening, which was attended by professional Nepali community in Dhaka.

Embassy of Nepal Dhaka
11 February 2015