

**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Home Affairs**

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**In pursuance of the Policy of the Modi Government of encouraging faster economic development and connectivity, new Passenger Terminal Building (I) at ICP Petrapole inaugurated**

**Under guidance of Union Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah the new Passenger Terminal Building (I) will facilitate smooth and comfortable movement of passengers, equipped with Immigration, Customs and Security facilities under one roof**

**New Delhi, September 18, 2021**

In pursuance of the policy of the Modi Government of encouraging faster economic development and connectivity and under the guidance of the Union Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Communication Shri Amit Shah, a new Passenger Terminal Building (I) at ICP Petrapole was inaugurated on September 17<sup>th</sup>. This signals a major boost to modernization of border infrastructure and to further strengthen India's connectivity with Bangladesh.

The inauguration was held jointly by officials from the Government of India and Government of Bangladesh. From the Indian side, the inauguration was done by the Ministers of State for Home Affairs Shri Nityanand Rai, and Shri Nisith Pramanik,. The Minister of State for Shipping, Government of Bangladesh Mr. Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury, was the Chief Guest from the Bangladesh side. The inauguration took place in the presence of the High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh Shri Vikram Doraiswami. Chairman, Land Ports Authority of India Shri Aditya Mishra, and Additional Secretary and Chairman, Bangladesh Land Port Authority Md. Alamgir, were also present on the occasion.



ICP Petrapole, the largest land port in South Asia, is the most important port for passengers coming from Bangladesh. It is also the ninth largest international immigration port of India, handling about 23 lakh passengers annually. Built by the Land Ports Authority of India, the new PTB (I) is spread across an area of 1,305 Sqm and is designed to handle around 550 passengers at any point of time. The new PTB (I) will facilitate smooth and comfortable movement of passengers and is equipped with facilities such as Immigration, Customs and Security under one roof. The Terminal Building is also equipped with 32 immigration counters, 4 customs counters, 8 security counters and has adequate office spaces for allied stakeholders.

As India-Bangladesh celebrate 50 momentous years of diplomatic partnership, all the esteemed dignitaries reaffirmed the importance of strengthening the bilateral relationship and putting in place requisite modern infrastructure facilitating greater people-to-people connectivity.

LPAI is also in the process of constructing a new state-of-the-art Passenger Terminal Building (II) at ICP Petrapole which is planned to cater to half a million handling capacity. The construction work commenced in February 2020 and is expected to be completed by end of 2022.

During the inaugural ceremony, the Chief Guests also laid the foundation stone of a common second cargo gate along the India-Bangladesh border. By setting an example of strong Border Agency Coordination between LPAI and BLPA, this move is expected to speed up the release/clearance of goods at the border crossing through a better institutional arrangement and further enhance bilateral trade and connectivity between the two countries.



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