



## Nepal Rastra Bank Press Release

### 14<sup>th</sup> SAARCFINANCE Governors' Symposium and 36<sup>th</sup> SAARCFINANCE Group Meeting Convened

The 14<sup>th</sup> SAARCFINANCE Governors' Symposium was held on 27 June 2018 in Kathmandu, Nepal. The theme of the symposium was "Developing a Common Platform for Strengthening Digital Payment System in the SAARC Region".

The Chief Guest Honorable Finance Minister Dr. Yuba Raj Khatriwada, Government of Nepal inaugurated the Symposium.



The keynote address for the Symposium was delivered by Mr. Harish Natarajan, Lead Financial Sector Specialist of the World Bank. The special address was provided by H.E. Mr. Amjad Hussain B. Sial, the Secretary General of SAARC.

The welcome address was delivered by Dr. Chiranjibi Nepal, Governor of Nepal Rastra Bank, the central bank of Nepal. The inaugural session chair Mr. Fazle Kabir, Governor, Bangladesh Bank delivered the concluding remarks in the symposium.

Along with the inaugural session, the Symposium included three sessions. In the first two sessions, the representatives of each of the eight member central banks delivered country paper presentation.

The last session was a round table discussion on the Symposium Theme. The session was chaired

by Governor Dr. Nepal with four panelists. Mr. Dasho Penjore, Governor, Royal Monetary Authority of Bhutan; Mr. Shamsul Hasan, Deputy Governor, State Bank of Pakistan; Dr. Alfred Hannig, Executive Director of Alliance for Financial Inclusion (AFI); and Key Note Speaker Mr. Harish Natarajan of the World Bank were the panelists.

Prior to the 14<sup>th</sup> SAARCFINANCE Governors' Symposium, the 36<sup>th</sup> SAARCFINANCE Group Meeting was convened on the same day in Kathmandu. Governor Dr. Nepal hosted the meeting with current chair Mr. Khalilullah Sediq, Governor of Da Afghanistan Bank, central bank of Afghanistan. Mr. Amjad Hussain B. Sial, Secretary General of SAARC attended the meeting as a special invitee. Matters relating to enhancing coordination and cooperation between SAARCFINANCE members were discussed in the meeting.



SAARCFINANCE is a network of sixteen members, composed of SAARC Central Bank Governors and Finance Secretaries.

In parallel to above events the Asian Clearing Union Standing Technical Committee Meeting took place, which was followed by session presentation on Promoting Secure and Safe Cross-border Remittances in South Asia as well as a high level SAARCFINANCE Meeting.

27 June 2018

Office of the Governor