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## **Burma and India sign pact for on new Burmese port**

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It is reported that India will build a transportation and seaport system in Myanmar under an agreement that was signed after talks between Indian officials and Mr Maung Aye vice chairman of Myanmar. Kaladan transport corridor agreement was signed in the presence of Mr Maung Aye and Mr Mohamed Hamid Ansari VP of India in New Delhi recently.

The agreement will allow India's northeastern states access to the sea and Southeast Asia bypassing the transit through Bangladesh. The project includes construction of a road from Setpyitpyin in Myanmar to the Indo Myanmar border at a cost of MMK 5.3 billion as well as upgrading of the Kaladan waterway and Sittwe port.

The ministry said in a statement that "The project will greatly enhance connectivity between Myanmar and India, in particular with India's northeast states. The ministry said several agreements, including the one on the Kaladan multi modal project and a pact for avoidance of double taxation were signed after talks between Mr Maung and Mr Ansari.

India has been investing in Myanmar, particularly its hydrocarbon sector, despite international criticism for its support for the military regime which violently suppressed pro-democracy protests last year.

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