

Assessing the Role of India in SAARC as a Regional Power

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Abstract

Regional Organizations are very important things in the world. The World has already developed on economically, politically, military power in the world. Among organizations, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation or (SAARC) is very important in the South Asian region. SAARC is a manifestation of the determination of the people of South Asia to work together towards finding the solution to their common problems in a spirit of friendship, trust and understanding create and order based on mutual respect, equity and shared benefits. SAARC is an economic and geopolitical organization. That was established to promote socio-economic development, stability and welfare economics and collective self-reliance within its member nation. It was included by eight countries. India, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Maldives. India is one of the oldest civilizations in the world with a kaleidoscopic variety and rich cultural heritage. It is the second-most populous country and the most populous democracy in the world. India is the largest economy in SAARC. There by having the highest influence in economic matters, political matters. Also in terms of geography, land size, population and political clout, India dominates SAARC. The real role is to ensure stability, peace and development in the South Asian Region. Hence, this study focuses on did India fulfill its responsibilities in SAARC as a regional power. This study is a qualitative research which utilizes secondary data collected from previous studies and books. India is playing the role of a big brother in the formation and functioning of SAARC. We can identify India's role in SAARC. From that we can go in to the SAARC has already succeed or not. On the time of its establishment SAARC was facing many problems. The relationship of India and Pakistan has especially affected the way of SAARC. The main problems in the way of SAARC are, Tension between India and Pakistan, Interference of superpowers, Political disturbance, Terrorism. Accordingly India has a big responsible for resolving these problems in South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

Keywords: *Regional Organizations, Regional Cooperation, South Asian Region, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation*

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