

Date 31/7/2025

Write a note on South Asian Association
Regional co-operation.

"Introduction"

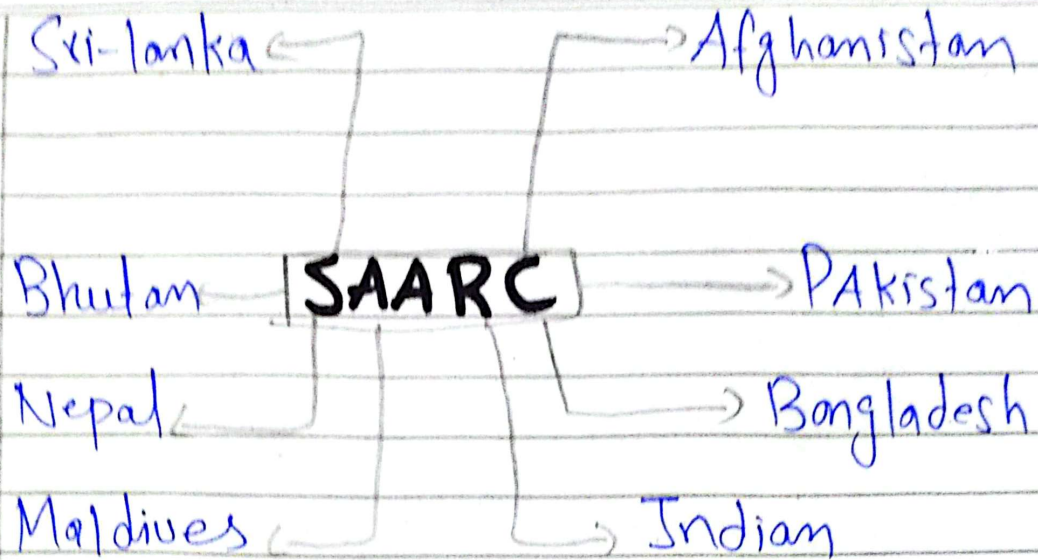
South Asian Association Regional
co-operation known as Saarc. This
organization was made in 1985.

The idea was by the former Presid
ent of Bangladesh. The aim of this
organization was to engage South
Asian countries through regional trade
and cultural programs. However, due to
certain factors this organization became
unuseful. This answer will highlight the
challenges and solutions as well to
revive this organization.

"Main Headings"

1) Objectives:-

There are many objectives of this
organizations, but to engage regional
through trade was the main. Furthermore
personal growth of the people. In
addition to this, social growth
and revival of identity of South Asian
people were also main. These four
were the main objectives of the Saarc.
Lastly, promote peace and stability
within the region.



2) Structure of SAARC:-

There are three main institutions of Saarc.

Firstly, Saarc Summit is the highest decision making body within the saarc. This body takes all necessary decisions.

Secondly, council of minister in which all eight member's foreign minister are enrolled.

Thirdly, Secretariat, it is situated in Kathmandu (Nepal). Its main to regulate all administrative functions of the organization.

3) Achievements of SAARC:-

The saarc had achieved its main objects.

Firstly, SAFTA (South Asian Free trade agreements) is one of the most

achievement of the Saarc. Through which tariffs would be reduced and the countries could increase its export through this agreement.

Secondly, exchange of Cultural is another main achievement of this organization. The reason behind this is that, the countries send its students in different countries where they could show their cultural's heritage in different functions and shows.

u) Challenges to SAARC:-

The Saarc has been Challenges since long time. The main Challenge, Saarc has been facing since long time that is Pakistan-India contention. The last Summit of Saarc was held in 2014.

The next Summit ~~was~~ would be hold in 2016 in Pakistan. However, India made false flage propaganda of Uri attack and stated that Pakistan is involved in this attack and due to which the summit was cancelled. The recent example is Phalgam attack where

India again alleged Pakistan and attacked on Pakistan. Further more, India has been Inteforing in Pakistan's internal issues since long time like its proxies in Balochistan.

In addition to this, Kashmir issue and water problems are also main reasons behind Pakistan-India conflict.

Secondly, another challenge is that the decision of saarc Summit is not binding.

Thirdly, the regional trade is very low among the countries despite of SAFTA that is 5% only as compared to Asean where regional trade is 25%.

Fourthly, the rising of alternative organizations within the region. most importantly, 'Bimstec' is the new rising organization within the region. Furthermore, there are many countries are the part of this organization except Pakistan. India is leading this organization. The aim of this organization is to connect region through road initiatives and railways.

5) Suggestion to revive SAARC

The Saarc can be revived in many ways.

Firstly, all countries should increase its trade within the region.

Secondly, they create a common market of Saarc with some

import and export policy.

Thirdly, the decision of Saarc Summit should be binding upon all countries.

Fourthly, small countries like Maldives and Nepal act as a mediator between Pakistan and India.

Fifthly, India and Pakistan should not interfere in its internal matters.

Sixthly, India and Pakistan should set aside its disputes and work of technology, pandemic, and Climate Change.

Seventhly, Summit of Saarc should be revived that was suspended in 2016.

Eighthly, strengthen the Saar Secretariat and reaffirm the monitoring units.

Lastly, every country should rely on Charter of Saarc and promote trade, peace and stability within the region.

Conclusion

The Saarc was made to connect region through trade and cultural. However, the Saarc was not able due to ~~its~~ several challenges like Pakistan-India conflict, low trade, suspended summits, and due to lack of binding authorities. However, Saarc can be revived by simply relying on above-mentioned arguments like resume summits, decisions should be binding, and small countries play mediation role.