Today the world is facing unprecedented challenges due to climate change and rising food prices. Both of these have serious consequences for developing countries, including those in South Asia, and can be addressed only if the international community and national governments act collectively. The role of SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry has increased in creating the progress, peace and furtherance of regional cooperation. Regional associations are always given top priority in the global space. We have the European Union & ASEAN, which has gone a step further by introducing a common currency in the region. The same European nations, that were once bitter enemies during World War II, have become great trade partners thanks to regional cooperation.

The SAARC chamber role with regard to peace in Asia is significant. Recent tensions & conflicts can be resolved on business table. The Indo-Pak bitterness is often termed as bilateral issues and is thus not raised at SAARC Chamber meetings. I firmly assure SAARC Chamber can assume a greater role as a regional trade body and hence promote forth coming greater economic dependence among nations.

Poverty and foreign debt are common economic problems. These problems can be only dealt through attracting foreign direct investments. Unfortunately one particular factor that South Asian nations urgently need to realize is the favorable impact of foreign direct investment. South Asia, regrettably, has not received FDI at even close to those received by other regions. FDI is an important force for integration through trade. International companies help in breaking border barriers through supply chains and integrated production networks. Also, a corollary of a pro-active FDI policy environment creates opportunities for FDI outflows from domestic investors.

Being a representative of business community, I always stress for practical implementation of SAFTA. The EU’s experience as well as those of other regional trade arrangements indicates that SAFTA could spur growth and poverty reduction, but the results are by no means automatic. As free trade always has a direct impact on spurring growth within the region. I will recommend the role of SAARC Chamber should be close proximity to the policy making bodies of countries, like EU or ASEAN. Dissimilar economies have greater chances of success due to the opportunities to exploit larger markets, different relative wage rates, capital availability and differing technologies that give rise to differing factor proportions in production. Integration is likely to be most successful when partners streamline borders transactions through active trade facilitation policies.

SAARC CCI has undertaken several initiatives for promotion of economic cooperation in the region. SAARC Business Leaders Conclave is right initiative at the right time to address the common problem of South Asia under the inimitable recommendation of South Asian & International Speakers. I welcome all participants of this conclave and hope their valuable comments will force SAARC Governments to make such policies which would drive South Asia towards regional cooperation.

Tariq Sayeed
President, SAARC CCI
Launching of SAARC Trade Information Portal

The South Asian Association of Regional Co-operation (SAARC) on October 29, 2009 launched the first official trade information portal dedicated to intra-regional trade in Kathmandu, Nepal. The portal is a product of the SAARC Trade Information Project (SAARC-TIP) jointly implemented by the SAARC Information Centre (SIC) Nepal, GTZ and by SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SAARC CCI) with funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

The portal would be a single point to access all kinds of business and trade information. The data has been collected from all eight SAARC countries in the portal and would continuously be validated by 26 regional and national partners from both the private and public sectors.

The Nepalese Minister of Commerce and Supplies, Mr. Rajendra Mahato, Mr Sheel Kant Sharma, SAARC Secretary General and Mr. Thomas Labahn, Country Director of German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) jointly launched the portal www.saarctrade.info with the joint effort of twenty-six stakeholders from eight SAARC countries, which includes Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

Mr. Zubair Ahmad Malik, EC Member and Mr. Bader Munir, Asst Secretary represented the SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Shahid Khalil representing the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) & Mr. Iftikhar Hussain from Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority(SMEDA) from Pakistan Chapter and Several trade ministers of the SAARC member countries were present at the launching ceremony. The in charge SAARC desk i.e Mr. Manish Mohan from Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Mr. Hildon U.Hamangoda from Federation of Chambers of Commerce & Industry of Sri Lanka (FCCISL) and number of people from business community and public organizations were also present on the occasion.

SAARC Information Centre (SIC) and German Technical Co-operation (GTZ) and SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SAARC CCI) being co-implementing partners believe that having access to reliable trade information generates faster, efficient and cost-effective ways of trading. As a result, businesses will create more job opportunities and thus contribute to the socio-economic development in the SAARC region. The businesses, particularly, the Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in the SAARC region were demanding a website that could help them searching reliable information.

The portal is also directly connected to the International Trade Centre (ITC) in Geneva and the ITC trade tools representing best practices and global standards in information delivery. The portal is highly dynamic and interactive site. The software for the portal has been designed and developed by an IT firm to showcase and demonstrate the available expertise in the region.

Successful launching of the portal was accompanied by the OCM-4 (Organizing Committee Meeting-4). The issue of sustainability of this portal was also discussed in the subsequent meeting along with the cultivation sense of ownership among the stakeholders and private sector along with its launching at the next 3rd SAARC Business Leaders Conclave at Colombo, Sri Lanka.
Why Is South Asia So Vulnerable to Climate Change?

Geography coupled with high levels of poverty and population density has rendered South Asia especially vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. The region faces daunting climate-related development challenges. High population levels translate into increased resource demands on an already stressed and largely degraded natural resource base. With an estimated 600 million people subsisting on less than US$1.25 a day, even small climate variations can cause irreversible losses and tip large numbers into destitution.

The region is highly susceptible to natural disasters. Over 50 percent of South Asians more than 730 million people—have been affected by a natural disaster in the last two decades. The human and economic toll has been high with almost 230,000 deaths and about US$45 billion in damages. The region shares common geological formations and river basins, so that natural hazards frequently transcend national boundaries. With climate change the frequency and incidence of such natural disasters is projected to increase.

Nothing in the world is permanent, and we’re foolish when we ask anything to last, but surely we’re still more foolish not to take delight in it while we have it. If change is of the essence of existence one would have thought it only sensible to make the premise of our philosophy.

W. Somerset Maugham (1874–1965).

Compounding these risks is the region’s heavy reliance on the monsoon. The monsoon is the most significant climate event in the region’s economic calendar. It carries over 70 percent of South Asia’s annual precipitation in a brief four-month period. A buoyant monsoon heralds bountiful harvests and financial security, yet when the monsoons fail, or are excessive, suffering and economic loss is widespread. If climate projections are indicative of future trends, the risks associated with water-related climate variability are likely to worsen.

The retreating glaciers of the Himalayas could present the most far-reaching challenge to the region. The Himalayas are a vital life-sustaining resource for South Asia. The Himalayan ecosystem supports some 1.5 billion people who live directly in the floodplains of its many rivers (e.g., Indus, Ganges, Brahmaputra, and Meghna). The Himalayan system influences monsoon dynamics, acts as a natural reservoir to sustain crops, provides groundwater recharge, and is home to a unique ecosystem with an abundance of endemic species. But with rising temperatures the ice mass of the Himalayas and Hindu Kush is retreating more rapidly than the global average. This poses an unprecedented threat to water supplies, lives, and the economies of the region. With melting glaciers, flood risks would increase in the near future. In the long term, there can be no replacement for the water provided by glaciers, which could result in water shortages at an unparalleled scale. Agriculture and the region’s economic structure will need to undergo significant adjustment to cope with these changes.

Sea level rise is a further concern in the region. The region has long and densely populated

Change has a considerable psychological impact on the human mind. To be fearful is threatening because it means that things may get worse. To be hopeful is encouraging because things may get better. To be confident is inspiring because the challenge exists in making things better.

(King Whitney Jr.)
coastlines with many low-lying islands. In the severe climate change scenarios, sea level rise poses an existential threat that would submerge much of the Maldives and inundate 18 percent of Bangladesh’s total land, directly impacting 11 percent of the country’s population. Saltwater intrusion from sea level rise in low-lying agricultural plains could lead to food insecurity, further spread of water-related diseases, and reduced freshwater supplies. Many of the region’s primary cities (e.g. Karachi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Cochin) – the engines of its growth – are located on the coast and threatened by sea level rise. The immediate impact of sea level rise is on coastal communities and ecosystems. Ripple effects could be felt beyond borders if there is large-scale displacement of populations in densely inhabited coastal areas and erosion of protective coastal ecosystems.

Many of the most severe impacts of climate change are likely to be regional and will call for coordinated regional responses. Bangladesh has 54 shared rivers with India, so that changes in upstream runoff and demand due to climate change could significantly impact future water availability across all these rivers. Likewise, sea level rise could displace much of the population along the coastal zone and induce cross-border migration. Climate sensitive diseases could spread rapidly across borders in a globalized world. The last decade saw dengue fever, cholera and Rift Valley fever spread across and between continents. Adaptation to climate change might therefore require not just local action but also cross-boundary cooperative arrangements. Partnerships and coordinated approaches provide a cost effective way of adapting to the impending regional climate related risks.

The cascading effects of more variable rainfall and higher temperatures will impact most aspects of life and the economy. Weather extremes and greater fluctuations in rainfall have the capacity to refresh the region’s comparative advantage. Food security, health, livelihoods, and access to basic services of water, sanitation, energy, and shelter could all be compromised. Expected impacts of climate change include the following:

- Reduction of yields of major crops by as much as 20 percent and an even sharper decline in agricultural incomes in the worst-case climate scenarios.
- Growing scarcity of water, with a need to balance more variable water supplies with the accelerating demand for water.
- Economic losses and damage to high-value infrastructure, particularly in the cities and vulnerable coastal belt.

I begin to think, that a calm is not desirable in any situation in life... Man was made for action and for busyness, I believe. (Abigail Adams, 1784)

- An increase in the incidence of diseases, with some ailments, such as heatstroke and vector-borne water-borne diseases, becoming more widespread with higher temperatures or less reliable water supplies.
- The possibility that climate change could exacerbate prevailing social disparities among vulnerable groups such as women, children, the poor and indigenous people.
- Irreversible loss of ecosystems and ecological services, particularly in fragile and unique biomes covering terrestrial and marine ecosystems (such as the Himalayas, the Western Ghat biosphere encompassing India and Sri Lanka, and the fragmented coral reefs).

**In sum, high population densities, a large concentration of poverty, and the region’s climate variability have all combined to make South Asia especially sensitive to the consequences of climate change. Climate change has the potential to compound existing development problems and increase pressures on key resources needed to sustain future growth, urbanization and industrialization.**

**Source:** South Asia Region, The World Bank Group

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**Region in Brief**

domestic industrial policy matches up with that of the neighboring states, it will fail to catalyze investment and industrial growth in the country.

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An agreement was signed with Dubai’s Ridge Solutions International Holdings to establish an Islamic bank in the Maldives, Haveeru reports. The Dubai company will own 75 percent shares of the bank, while the government will own 25 percent. The agreement was signed on behalf of the government by Finance Minister Ali Hashim. The bank’s capital when it starts out will be US$20 million. Hashim said the government hoped the bank will begin operations in the near future.

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SAARC CCI Members
An Introduction

November 2009

Life Members from Bangladesh

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Director FRCCI
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Jewellers

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Fax No. 880-2-8813879
EM: chairman@pagroupbd.com

Business Area:
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Life Members from Pakistan

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Business Area:
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Business Area:
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Chairman
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Fax:042-3777417
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EM:yahya.chawla@burque.com.pk

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Poultry Business, Country wise distribution

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Partner
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Construction Business

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Garden Town, Lahore
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Fax:042-5866503
EM: info@adiltextile.com

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Fancy Yarn Ne 6 to 40
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MILLS: Raiwind Manga Road, Raiwind, District Kasur.
Phone: (+92-42) 3539-1031, 3539-2651, 3539-2652 Fax: (+92-42) 3539-1032
Quantification of Benefits from Regional Cooperation in South Asia (2008)

Bangladesh
Bangladesh's welfare gains are one of the highest for South Asian countries. Its high welfare gains may be attributable to the complete liberalisation of high MFN tariffs, which generates consumptive benefits, for both user industries as well as household consumers. Bangladesh also sees an increase in global exports by a very significant 4.31% on account SAFTA. Export gains for plastics and ceramics.

India
A full SAFTA will help India to nearly double its exports to South Asia. India's export gains from SAFTA are limited to a few agriculture sectors and the auto sector where it is seen to have relative competitive advantage vis-à-vis the rest of South Asia. There are two agricultural sectors where India does gain significantly from SAFTA—poultry and sugar. In fact its highest output gain is in the poultry sector. There is a 1.33% increase in output in sugar. Pakistan will be the main market for sugar exports in the region. India's auto sector grows by 1-4% on account of SAFTA, with its regional exports in this sector increasing by 10-40%. India's global wearing apparel imports increase by 7% and with its output declines by 2.5%.

Pakistan
Like India, a full SAFTA for Pakistan will help it double its exports to South Asia. Pakistan sees good results for important employment intensive agriculture sectors like wheat, horticulture, meat products (mainly poultry) and other food products. The textile sector which is very important to the Pakistan economy sees an output expansion of about 0.5%. Also, like India, Pakistan tends to lose in both wearing apparel and leather products sectors. It also sees losses in the sugar sector, perhaps on account of its increased imports of this product from India.

Sri Lanka
Sri Lanka's gains in the first phase of liberalisation are almost nil. This is largely because Sri Lanka already has close to free access to the Indian market, and also because LDCs and DCs have not committed to substantial liberalisation vis-à-vis Sri Lanka in the first phase. Sri Lanka's gains are more improved in the second phase, when all energy from coal in the country. Two proposals of 1,200 MW each of imported coal based projects by AES (Pak) Ltd, and Mitsui and Co Japan were both for Gaddani, Balochistan.

Sri Lanka:
Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) chairman Priyath Bandu Wickram said that Colombo port has re-opened its northern entrance channel which had been closed for years owing to the threat of attacks by Tamil Tiger separatists who were defeated by government forces in May. The move will speed up the movement of ships calling at the port, south Asia's transshipment hub. He said the reopening of a second channel for ships would improve productivity in the port and reduce navigation delays. An Indian container vessel, Lal Bahadur Shastri, was the first ship to leave the port after the northern entrance was reopened.

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Pakistan:
Rice Commissioner Mr. Inayatullah Khan said the Ministry of Food and Agriculture has revised downward production estimates for basmati and irri varieties for the crop year.
countries participate fully (and remove their negative lists). The increase in output in vegetable oils corroborates empirical evidence of duty structures that favour manufacture of edible oils. The textiles sector which contributes to about 5% of total output in Sri Lanka sees a growth of about 4%. Negative employment and output effects are seen for wearing apparel and some agricultural products.

**Afghanistan, Bhutan, Maldives and Nepal (ABMN)**

The ABMN sees gains in primary commodities with complete liberalisation in 2016. With the removal of sensitive lists in a full liberalisation scenario, ABMN groups see good export growth in agriculture products and primary commodities. Given that the agriculture and forestry sector in ABMN accounts for over 50% of domestic output, and given that these sectors are employment intensive, a full SAFTA is beneficial to ABMN. However the manufacturing sectors in ABMN are by and large uncompetitive, and hence suffer output and employment losses.

The current growth of intra-SAARC trade shows the benefits of SAFTA have started coming through and SCCI expects that by end of 2016, when the tariffs would be zero-rated, the intraregional trade would become almost double i.e. to $20 billion. However the analysis to date - interpreted through its most protectionist lens - does not give rise to optimism about the amount of new trade that will be created. Table 2 presents a summary of the number of total tariff lines under the “sensitive list” by each country, these as share of the total tariff lines and estimation of what share of value of imports and exports would be affected by being included in the sensitive lists. Although most countries have adhered to keeping the sensitive lists close to the 20% target they had agreed to, the estimated value of imports from the SAARC region protected under SAFTA is quite excessive. For instance, Bangladesh has protected 65% of its imports from the SAARC region through its “sensitive list,” while 22% of its exports to the region would be affected by the sensitive lists of other countries. Paradoxically, Pakistan, which has the largest number of tariff lines among non-LDCs in its sensitive list, would only be protecting an estimated 17% of its exports from the region, while 34% of its exports (largely textile products) would not get concessional tariffs under SAFTA by other SAARC countries. Although SAFTA has a provision for reviewing the sensitive lists every four years with the aim of reducing them, since there is no well-defined time frame for reducing the list, it is feared that pruning of the sensitive list would not be binding on member states.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Tariff Lines in Sensitive List</th>
<th>As % of Total Tariff Lines</th>
<th>% of Value of Imports</th>
<th>% of Value of Exports</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>1,274</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>671</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>1,130</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>1,133</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>1,065</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SOURCE: ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK**

* Boss is becoming more and more SAARcstic after attending the endless SAARC Meets!

**Region in Brief**

and Irri varieties for the crop year 2009-10, but overall rice production target will remain unchanged. Talking to The News, Inayatullah said rice production would be 6.4 million tons as formal varieties have been replaced by other unknown varieties. “Both basmati and Irri will be short by one million tons mainly because of less monsoon rains in the summer, leading to a reduction in their yield. This will also affect the export of basmati.”

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Applications are invited for

1st SAARC CCI

Business Excellence Awards

22nd December, 2009

Karachi (Pakistan)

SAARC CCI proudly announces Business Excellence Awards to acknowledge the services of the businessmen and industrialist of the SAARC region and to create healthy competition amongst the enterprises of Pakistan and South Asian Region, which are extensively involved in promoting intra-SAARC trade.

The 1st SAARC Business Excellence Award will be held in Pakistan and the representatives of the selected companies will receive awards from the highly prestigious personality of the host country.

Over all, 99 awards would be given in following categories:

- SAARC PRESIDENT AWARD (1)
- BUSINESSMAN OF THE YEAR GOLD MEDAL (7)
- BEST WOMEN ENTREPRENEUR TROPHY (7)
- BEST TRADE PERFORMANCE AWARD (35)
- BEST EXPORT PERFORMANCE AWARD (35)
- MERIT AWARD (TRADE; 7)
- MERIT AWARD (Services; 7)

The Awards will be given to only short-listed companies from all the SAARC countries who meet the criteria prescribed for evaluation and selection. Interested companies/individuals can submit their applications to SAARC CCI with a cheque/pay order/demand draft of $100/- (non-refundable) as processing fee of application in favour of SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS FOR PROCESSING:

November 15, 2009

For details please visit our website: www.saarcchamber.org or contact to SAARC CCI for further information

SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SAARC CCI),
House 397, Street 64, I-8-3, Islamabad-Pakistan. Tel: 0092-51-4860611-3, 8316023, Fax: 8316024
Email: info@saarcchamber.org, nafeza.hashmi@saarcchamber.org

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Ph: 0092-52-4590249, Fax: 0092-52-4594007
Email: lailasart@yahoo.com
Global Warming Impact in South Asia

At 8 feet below sea level, Pakistan’s financial capital Karachi shows up on the list of world’s mega-cities threatened by global warming. Other South Asian cities likely to come under rising sea water in the next 100 years include Mumbai, Kolkata and Dhaka.

The South Asian governments are sufficiently concerned about potential effects of global warming to warrant a meeting to hammer out a regional response. South Asian experts on climate change are beginning two days of talks in Dhaka today, ahead of a meeting of environment ministers from countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). According to Reuters, Bangladesh has proposed the creation of a fund to fight climate change in densely populated South Asia, which experts say is vulnerable to rising seas, melting glaciers and greater extremes of droughts and floods. For the rich South Asians thinking of fleeing to real estate in Dubai, the forecast for the GCC countries is no better. Experts believe the Palm and the World projects in Dubai will disappear underwater in 50 years if the issue of climate change fails to be addressed by governments.

The nonprofit Worldwatch Institute has compiled a list of 21 “mega-cities” of 8 million people or more that are in direct danger as a result of global warming and rising seas: They include Dhaka, Bangladesh; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Shanghai and Tianjin in China; Alexandria and Cairo in Egypt; Mumbai and Kolkata in India; Jakarta, Indonesia; Tokyo and Osaka-Kobe in Japan; Lagos, Nigeria; Karachi, Pakistan; Bangkok, Thailand, and New York and Los Angeles in the United States, according to studies by the United Nations and others.

More than one-tenth of the world’s population, or 643 million people, live in low-lying areas at risk from climate change, according to U.S. and European experts. Most at risk, in descending order, are China, India, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Indonesia, Japan, Egypt, the U.S., Thailand and the Philippines.

As a nation, Bangladesh has the most to worry about the effects of climate change in South Asia.

A recent story in the Guardian talks about Bangladesh as "flood-prone" because of its geography. Situated across a vast delta where three great rivers join, Bangladesh is known to be flood-prone. Not only does it have monsoon rain to deal with, but the slow warming of the earth's atmosphere is releasing more water from Himalayan glaciers above the flatlands of Bangladesh. Climate change, say scientists, also means higher tides in the Bay of Bengal. The result is trillions more liters of water sloshing over the country, depositing billions of tons of sediment. Experts say a third of Bangladesh's coastline could be flooded if the Bay of Bengal rises three feet in the next 50 years, displacing 20 million Bangladeshis from their homes and farms, according to Reuters. Across the region, warmer weather could cause more intense and more frequent cyclones and storm surges, leading to more salt water fouling waterways and farmlands, the experts said. Crop yields in South Asia could decrease up to 30 percent by the mid-21st century, they added.

Bangladesh has taken the initiative by proposing a SAARC fund for climate change and allocated US$44 million for this purpose in its current fiscal year budget. "We want to find a common stand among the South Asian countries and will raise our voice together against the perils of climate changes," said Raja Devasish Roy, head of the Environment and Forest Ministry of Bangladesh, after opening the experts' meeting in Dhaka today. Devasish said industrialized countries were the most to blame for global warming and should compensate poorer nations by providing them grants -- not loans -- to fight the effects of climate change.

While Bangladesh is admirably leading the charge to address the impact of climate change, it is important that the rest of South Asians, particularly India and Pakistan, join it to protect the planet in this noble effort. As part of this challenge, it is time for SAARC leaders to think of structural changes needed for a world without oil. The SAARC nations owe it to their future generations and the rest of the planet.

Like slavery and apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made and it can be overcome and eradicated by the actions of human beings. (Nelson Mandela (1918))

Discretionary: The articles in SAARC biz are published for information of its reader and the views point of authors and don't necessarily reflect the policies of SAARC CCI.

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SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry Building
A State of Art Project

The SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SAARC CCI) was established in 1993, as the first recognized regional apex Business organization of SAARC, with its constituent units in all member states and its permanent headquarters in Islamabad, Pakistan. Since its very inception, SAARC CCI is based in Islamabad thus, a pressing need was felt for a permanent institutional building for the organization to enhance its role in the promotion of trade and economic cooperation through disseminating information about the content, scope and potential of SAFTA among the business community in the region.

In the light of the decision taken by SAARC CCI’s senior management and Executive Committee Members, the permanent building of the organization is being planned to be constructed at Plot No. 26, Mauve Area, G-10/4, Islamabad.

Hierarchy and the designs of the building have been done and will be sooner sent to Capital Development Authority, Islamabad for approval. This is project of worth Pak Rs. 650 million and will be completed in 36 months.

Mr. Tariq Sayeed, President and Mr. Ifikhar Ali Malik, Vice President of SAARC CCI who is the Chairman of SAARC CCI building committee have a strong desire to accomplish this project during their tenure as the Presidency of SAARC CCI has been handed over to Pakistan after 14 years after completion of rotation.

Salient Features of the Building

- The building will provide state of the art facilities, having central air-conditioning and heating system
- The structure will be basements+Ground+Mezzanine+1st Floor to 9th Floor for office use
- 9th Floor will have an auditorium with seating capacity of 256 participants and conference rooms
- It is located at a central and ideal place of Islamabad surrounded by many important government and on the way to future Islamabad airport
- The building will be RCC frame building.
- The size of the building is approximately 160ftx70ft, having covered area of about 1,60,000 sq. ft.
- The maximum grid/column spacing is 25ftx24ft. The loading on columns will be in the range of 2000-2400 Kips.
- The maximum height of the building is about 128 feet above natural ground level.
- The bottom of basement will be placed at 18 feet below N.G.L.
- World class parking facilities will be available.

This project offers tremendous opportunities for offices on rental for multinational, Banks, Insurance companies, corporate houses and members of SAARC CCI who wish to establish their offices in this magnificent building.

SAARC CCI welcomes any offer regarding the completion of the project from any interested organization in Pakistan and from the region based mutual consent. The interested parties may contact Mr. Iftikahr Ali Malik, Vice President SAARC CCI or Mr. Iqbal Tabish, Secretary General, SAARC CCI at our official address and contact Numbers.

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