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THE SOUTH ASIA SUBREGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION NEWSLETTER

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Commentary: More Power to You

9 July 2022: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Regional forums such as South Asia Forum for Infrastructure Regulation, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation, and South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) bring together stakeholders and more local or regional institutions are needed to gain optimal benefit from regional cooperation.

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SASEC CALENDAR

August

Workshop on Risk Management for Nepal Customs

8-10 August 2022: Pokhara, Nepal

Webinar on Charting Future Pathways for SASEC: Lessons and Best Practices from GMS and CAREC

19 August 2022: Online

SASEC NEWS



- **Bangladesh to Invest in Nepal Hydropower Project**
- **Assam Chief Minister Highlights Potential of India's Northeastern Region to Boost Trade with ASEAN & BBN Countries**
- **Siliguri-Kathmandu Bus Service Resumes**

Bhutan Sees Rise in Cross-border Electricity Trade in 2020

30 July 2022: Thimphu, Bhutan

Research on the impact of cross-border energy trade in Bhutan noted that the country's electricity exports in 2020 increased due to the guaranteed market for Bhutan's excess electricity under the power purchase agreements (PPA) between Bhutan and India. Bhutan's energy sector also noted improved hydrology in the same year.

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Assam Chief Minister Highlights Potential of India's Northeastern Region to Boost Trade and Commerce with ASEAN and BBN Countries

28 July 2022: Assam, India

Improved connectivity between India and nations of Southeast Asia has hugely benefitted the country's northeastern region, according to Mr. Himanta Biswa Sarma, Chief Minister of Assam. India's northeastern region can play a pivotal role in strengthening Indo-Association of Southeast Asian Countries and India-Bangladesh-Bhutan-Nepal relationship as a gateway.

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Planned Trial Runs Set to Help Smoothen Transshipment of Cargo to India's Northeastern Region

27 July 2022: Dhaka, Bangladesh

The Governments of Bangladesh and India are preparing to conduct comprehensive trial runs for the transshipment of cargo to India's northeastern regions via Bangladesh's Chattogram and Mongla ports. The planned trial runs aim to iron out issues and align the immigration and customs arrangements in both countries.

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Maersk Completes First India-Bangladesh Freight via Inland Waterway Transit

25 July 2022: Kolkata, India

Maersk, a global container shipping line and vessel operator, successfully completed its first India-Bangladesh inland waterway freight of containerized cargo. The company transported 50 container TEUs (twenty feet equivalent units) of beverages from Kolkata, India, to a river port near Dhaka, Bangladesh, using India's National Waterways 1.

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Business Conclave Emphasizes Siliguri's Potential as Subregion's Logistics Hub

23 July 2022: Siliguri, India

The potential of the Siliguri corridor and its surroundings to be developed as a logistics hub for India's northeastern region, and Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Nepal, was emphasized by the Confederation of Indian Industry at Logi Connect 2022. Developing Siliguri as a logistics hub would facilitate movement of goods to other states of India and its neighboring countries.

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Bhutan, India Discuss Future of Energy Cooperation

23 July 2022: Thimphu, Bhutan

Bhutan's Minister for Economic Affairs Loknath Sharma met with ministers from relevant agencies in India. The meeting focused on hydropower cooperation between the two countries and the future of their hydropower cooperation. The meeting also agreed to work toward the closure of the Kholongchhu Hydroelectric Project Limited joint venture company.

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Bangladesh to Invest in Nepal Hydropower Project

17 July 2022: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Bangladesh aims to invest in Nepal's Sunkoshi III hydropower project, according to Bangladesh's Ambassador to Nepal, Mr. Salahuddin Noman Chowdhury. The planned project will have a capacity of 683 megawatts and will be established in Lubughat, Khadadevi.

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Siliguri-Kathmandu Bus Service Resumes

8 July 2022: New Delhi, India

Mr. Firhad Hakim, state transport minister of West Bengal, India, inaugurated the Siliguri (India)-Kakarbhitta (Nepal)-Kathmandu (Nepal) bus service. A private bus operator and the North Bengal State Transport Corporation reopened the bus route after closing operations for two years.

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Andhra Pradesh Industrial Corridors to Attract Rs1 Lakh Crore Investment

8 July 2022: New Delhi, India

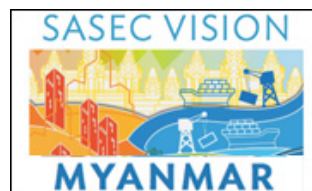
The three industrial corridors of Andhra Pradesh, the Chennai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor (CBIC), Visakhapatnam-Chennai Industrial Corridor (VCIC), and Hyderabad-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor (HBIC), to be implemented with financial assistance from ADB and the National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust of India, is set to attract around \$12.56 billion investments and generate employment for 550,000 people by 2040.

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Increased integration in the Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal subregion is critical for shared growth. CUTS International report looks at opportunities for strengthening regional, subregional, and bilateral initiatives to increase connectivity #BBIN The ADFD provided Dh110 million financing in 2013 for the SASEC Road Connectivity Project, which links Bangladesh with Nepal, Bhutan and north-eastern parts of India [Read more](#)

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