

South Asian University (SAU)

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About South Asian University (SAU):

- SAU is an **intergovernmental university funded by the governments of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) countries.**
- The University is currently **functioning from Akbar Bhawan Campus in Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.**
- It falls under the **purview of the Ministry of External Affairs.**
- Its degrees are accredited in and **recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC)** and its equivalents in all the eight SAARC countries.
- The university **offers graduate and doctoral level courses.**

What is SAARC?

- SAARC is an **economic and political regional organisation of countries in South Asia set up in 1985.**
- It aims to accelerate the process of **economic and social development in its member states** through increased **intra-regional cooperation.**
- **The Secretariat** of the Association was set up in **Kathmandu, Nepal**, on 17 January 1987.
- SAARC has **eight member countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri-Lanka).**

Q1) What is BIMSTEC?

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a regional organization that was established on 06 June 1997 with the signing of the Bangkok Declaration. Initially known as BIST-EC (Bangladesh-India-Sri Lanka-Thailand Economic Cooperation), the organisation is now known as BIMSTEC and comprises seven Member States: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

Source: [4 SAU faculty members suspended: 500 scholars write to SAARC, foreign ministers of member countries](#)

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