

Approaches to the Development of the Bay of Bengal Region and Asian interactions: Communities, Agencies and Ecology

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Abstract

Bay of Bengal Zone is an important cultural region of Asia connecting South Asia and Southeast Asia. The region has cultural developments from the prehistoric period and interactions have been there from the first millennium BCE. The coastal stretch of the region has been the home of several communities and villages and urban centres. With the development of fisheries, industries and urban centres in the coastal areas, the issues of ecological balance have become important. While marine resources are important for the development of the blue economy, we need to ensure the ecological balance of the coastal areas. The coastal areas have the traces of ancient cities and coastal heritage monuments which bear the changes along the coastline. The stakeholders of the region need to work together for the sustainable development of this region. The paper addresses the issues of conservation, ecology and development and the participation of communities, corporates and stakeholders in this initiative.

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