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“European Union- South Asia Development Co-operation with special reference to India”

The European Union (EU) development cooperation policies with third countries have undergone significant changes over the years. The striking aspect of the recent development cooperation agreements of the EU with other countries is the incorporation of political objectives/agenda. This is manifest also in the cooperation development programmes of the EU with South Asia, a region long neglected by the EU for its low economic performance and internal political problems. EU now is stepping up its cooperation with countries of South Asia, notably India with which it has varied agreements on diverse sectors. But the implications of EU development cooperation programmes, especially its linkages with political priorities have come to be debated in South Asia. This paper examines the nature and nuances of EU cooperation agreement with South Asian countries with special reference to India and aim to discern its larger implications.