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PRESS RELEASE

CSEP Hosts Launch of Trade Sentinel: Real-Time Alerts and Analysis of South Asian Trade and Investment Policy

The Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP) hosted the [Launch of the Trade Sentinel: An Early Monitoring Mechanism for Trade Policy and Related Changes in South Asia](#) on Thursday, March 07, 2024, at the CSEP Auditorium.

The Trade Sentinel has been co-founded by CSEP Senior Visiting Fellows [Sanjay Kathuria](#) and [T.G. Srinivasan](#), and has been made possible through the generous support of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS), via its Regional Economic Programme Asia (SOPAS), and CSEP.

The launch event can be viewed [here](#).

The event featured a panel discussion with trade policy experts from the South Asian region including Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

The Trade Sentinel can be accessed via the [website](#).

About the Trade Sentinel:

The Sentinel is dedicated to providing a comprehensive, curated, and easily understandable tracking of all trade policy shifts of South Asian countries as they happen. To begin with, this includes tariff measures on imports, including disguised or “para-tariffs,” as well as export controls. In time, it will cover service restrictions, and foreign direct investment (FDI) policies.

Trade Sentinel is an early monitoring mechanism for trade policy changes in South Asian countries. Currently, the platform offers near real-time alerts, trends, and analysis of trade policy changes in five South Asian countries: Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. It also features a user-friendly tool that allows for the comparison of import tariffs across these countries by specific products selected by the user. When relevant, any trade policy notifications issued by the government are also shown for those products.

The Sentinel is crafted to be a significant public good, freely accessible via a website. The databases developed and analyses provided are downloadable for free. It stands as a crucial addition to the arsenal of tools available for monitoring trade and investment measures. It is intended to become an important resource for informed conversations on trade in and about South Asia.

For media enquiries, please get in touch with [Trishna Wahengbam](#) or [Ayesha Manocha](#).

CSEP Research Foundation

Regd. Off: Second floor, 6, Dr Jose P Rizal Marg
Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110 021 India
T: +91 11 2415 7600 E: info@csep.org W: www.csep.org
CIN: U74999DL2013NPL248687