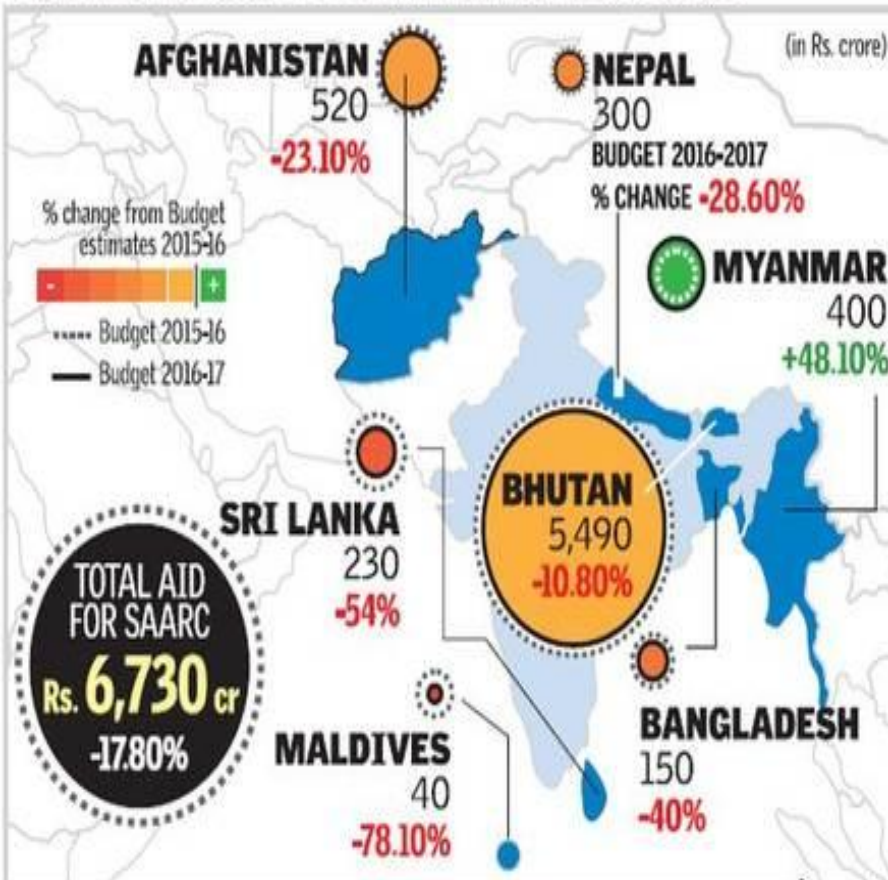


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THE BUDGET Tabled IN PARLIAMENT HAS SLASHED INDIA'S DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IN SOUTH ASIA

Budget 2016-17 sees sharp drop in development assistance (grants) to SAARC neighbours

Maldives, Nepal, Bangladesh are worst hit by cuts

MEA: revised estimates will show higher grants

India has also raised Lines of Credit to Bangladesh- \$2bn and Nepal- \$1.65 bn



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