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8 February 2024

National & International News

World Sustainable Development Summit 2024



Context:

- **Annual Flagship Event:** The WSDS is the annual flagship event of The **Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)**.
- **Legacy:** Instituted in 2001, the Summit series has a legacy of over two decades, aiming to make **'sustainable development'** a globally shared goal.
- **Global South Focus:** It is the only independently convened international summit on sustainable development and environment, with a focus on the Global South.
- **Objective:** WSDS strives to provide long-term solutions for the benefit of global communities by assembling the world's most enlightened leaders and thinkers on a single platform.
- **23rd Edition:** WSDS 2024 marks the **23rd edition of the summit**.
- **Theme:** The theme for WSDS 2024 is **'Leadership for Sustainable Development and Climate Justice'**.

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)

- **Leading Think Tank:** TERI is a leading think tank dedicated to conducting research for the sustainable development of India and the Global South.
- **Multidimensional Organization:** It is an independent, multidimensional organization with capabilities in research, policy, consultancy, and implementation.
- **History:** Established in 1974 as an information center on energy issues, TERI initiated research activities in 1982 with a focus on efficient utilization of energy and sustainable use of natural resources.

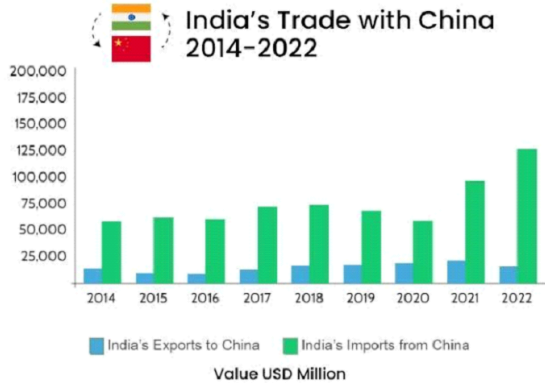
Focus Areas:

- Promoting efficient use of resources
- Increasing access to and uptake of sustainable inputs and practices
- Reducing the impact on the environment and climate.
- **Location:** TERI is headquartered in New Delhi.



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India - China Bilateral Trade



Context:

- In 2023, India-China bilateral trade surged to a new peak, surpassing the previous year's figures despite a temporary slowdown.
- The Chinese envoy to India, **Ma Jia**, disclosed that trade between the two countries reached **\$136.2 billion**.

Key points:

- Ma Jia revealed that bilateral trade volume in **2023 saw a year-on-year growth of 1.5%**, with India's exports to China also experiencing a notable 6% increase.
- The year 2022 witnessed a significant milestone in bilateral trade, with transactions amounting to **\$135.98 billion**.
- Notably, imports from China exceeded **\$100 billion, marking a 21% increase** despite persistent tensions over the military standoff at the **Line of Actual Control (LAC)**.

The Healthy Indian Project (THIP) and Vaccine Safety Net (VSN)

Context:

- **The Healthy Indian Project (THIP)** has recently joined the **Vaccine Safety Net (VSN)** established by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- This collaboration aims to provide **reliable vaccine safety information to the Indian population**, aligning with global efforts to ensure accurate immunization details.

Details:

- **THIP is a prominent health information platform in India.**
- This membership highlights THIP's dedication to delivering credible and verified vaccine safety information to the people of India.
- VSN, consisting of **110 websites from 45 countries and offering information in 43 languages**, serves as a global network providing trustworthy vaccine safety information.

Key highlights:

- THIP's inclusion in VSN enhances the credibility of its vaccine safety information.
- Adherence to strict standards and regular evaluations ensure the accuracy and trustworthiness of THIP's content.
- Membership in VSN grants THIP access to a broader audience, facilitating the dissemination of accurate vaccine information across diverse populations in India.



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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• THIP, as a VSN member, plays a pivotal role in promoting public health initiatives in India.
US Environmental Protection Efforts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Biden administration introduced stricter standards to combat soot pollution, aiming to reduce fine particle matter emitted from various sources.• The initiative anticipates preventing thousands of premature deaths annually, receiving praise from environmental and public health groups. <p>Policy Details and Impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The new rule sets a maximum level of 9 micrograms of fine particle pollution per cubic meter of air, down from the previous standard of 12 micrograms.• It imposes air quality targets for states and countries to meet, affecting various sources of pollution such as power plants, vehicles, industries, and wildfires.

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