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National and 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)

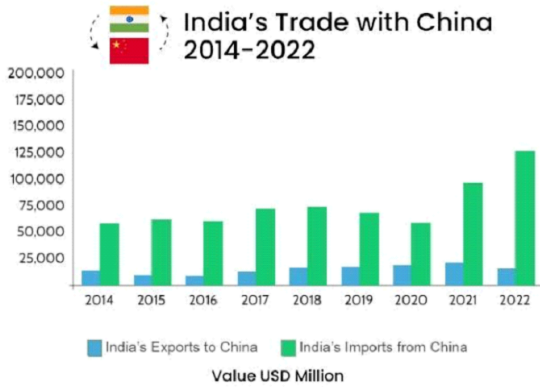
- **Leading Think Tank:** TERI is a leading think tank dedicated to conducting research for the sustainable development of India and the Global South.
- **Multidimensional Organization:** It is an independent, multidimensional organization with capabilities in research, policy, consultancy, and implementation.
- **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.



India - China Bilateral Trade



- **Location:** TERI is headquartered in New Delhi.

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.

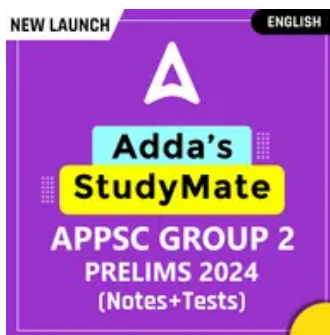
Key highlights:

- THIP's inclusion in VSN enhances the



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	<p>credibility of its vaccine safety information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adherence to strict standards and regular evaluations ensure the accuracy and trustworthiness of THIP's content.</li> <li>• Membership in VSN grants THIP access to a broader audience, facilitating the dissemination of accurate vaccine information across diverse populations in India.</li> <li>• THIP, as a VSN member, plays a pivotal role in promoting public health initiatives in India.</li> </ul>
<p><b>US Environmental Protection Efforts</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Biden administration introduces <b>stricter standards to combat soot pollution</b>, aiming to reduce fine particle matter emitted from various sources.</li> <li>• The initiative anticipates <b>preventing thousands of premature deaths</b> annually, receiving praise from environmental and public health groups.</li> </ul> <p><b>Policy Details and Impact</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new rule sets a <b>maximum level of 9 micrograms of fine particle pollution per cubic meter of air</b>, down from the previous standard of 12 micrograms.</li> <li>• It imposes air quality targets for states and countries to meet, affecting various sources of pollution such as power plants, vehicles, industries, and wildfires.</li> </ul>



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