

# The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)

February 9, 2021

**In news:** The Energy and Resources Institute's (TERI) flagship event- the World Sustainable Development Summit, will be held online from 10th to 12th February.

## A brief note on TERI

TERI is a research institute located in New Delhi that specializes in the fields of energy, environment and sustainable development.

## Origin:

- Established in 1974, it was formerly known as the Tata Energy Research Institute. As the scope of its activities widened, it was renamed The Energy and Resources Institute in 2003.
- Its origin lies in Mithapur, a remote town in Gujarat, where a TATA engineer, Darbari Seth, was concerned about the enormous quantities of energy his factory spent on desalination.
- He proposed the idea of a research institute to tackle the depletion of natural resources and energy scarcity. J. R. D. Tata, chairman of the TATA Group, liked the idea and accepted the proposal.
- Dr R K Pachauri was the founder-director of TERI
- On the invitation of the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, TERI was registered in Delhi in 1974 as the Tata Energy Research Institute

## Activities of TERI

The scope of the organisation's activities includes climate change, energy efficiency, renewable energy, biotechnology,

and social transformation. Following are the some of the initiatives of TERI;

- **World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS)** – An annual summit which facilitates the exchange of knowledge on diverse aspects of global sustainable development.
- **Lighting a Billion Lives** – An initiative to provide clean lighting access to the bottom of the pyramid communities.
- **Green Olympiad** – Conducted in association with MoEF, it is an international environment examination that is annually organized for middle and high-school students.
- **Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (GRIHA):** It was conceived by TERI and developed with Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, is a national rating system for green buildings in India

### **The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS)**

- WSDS is the annual flagship event of TERI.
- WSDS brings together Nobel laureates, political leaders, decision-makers from bilateral and multilateral institutions, business leaders, high-level functionaries from the diplomatic corps, scientists and researchers, media personnel, and members of civil society; on a common platform to deliberate on issues related to sustainable development.

**The WSDS 2021** will be held under the umbrella theme of 'Redefining Our Common Future: Safe and Secure Environment for All'