



**Opinion in Lead**

**US Inflation Reduction Act disrupts green industrial race**

South Asia is [rich in resources](#) for renewable energy generation: hydropower in Nepal and Bhutan, solar energy potential in Bangladesh and Pakistan, and wind and solar energy generation in Maldives and Sri Lanka. Despite relying heavily on fossil fuels, South Asian countries have been steadily making progress in clean energy projects.

In the market for end products that use or potentially use clean energy, India hosts companies with potential for international competitiveness, such as Tata Motors which dominates the domestic as well as South Asian electric vehicle (EV) markets and has been looking to [expand](#) exports to international markets. As of July 2021, India has 380 EV manufacturers, including 19 companies that [manufacture](#) four-wheelers. Industry exports were valued at US\$13.3 billion in FY21, with USA, Germany, UK, Thailand and Italy as major importers. Exports were [projected](#) to grow to US\$80 billion by 2026. However, the United States' new [Inflation Reduction Act](#) (IRA) could change this trajectory.

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**News**



**Trademark bill languishes as infringement cases rise**

The cases of trademark infringement in Nepal have been on the rise each passing year due to the failure of the government to enact a new law.

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**Pak govt unhappy as IMF 'shifts goalposts'**

Pakistani authorities say IMF 'changed its mind' on at least four prior actions and they hint at '1998-like situation', adding foreign capitals working for Pakistan's 'meltdown'.

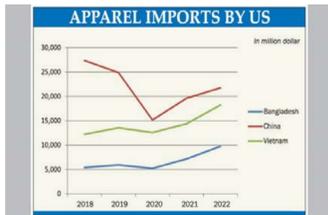
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**National pashmina sector export strategy launched**

The National Pashmina Sector Export Strategy 2022-26 was launched on Tuesday with an aim to boost the export of "Chyangra pashmina" from NPR2.82 billion in 2021 to NPR10 billion by the end of 2026.

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**Bangladesh's RMG exports to US cross \$10b**

Bangladesh's apparel and textile exports to the United States crossed US\$10 billion in 2022 amid global economic volatility as the US shifted a good chunk of its business from China.

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**Sri Lanka-India negotiate revised trade pact, linking electricity grids**

Sri Lanka and India are looking into ways to strengthen their relationship and will step up their efforts with a revised trade agreement and a deal to connect the electricity grids of the two countries.

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**India to WTO: carbon border rules protectionist**

India has slammed the carbon border measures being implemented by some countries, terming them discriminatory and protectionist in a submission to WTO.

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**Paris Club to give Sri Lanka financing assurances amid IMF debt talks**

The Paris Club of creditor nations is ready to provide financing assurances to Sri Lanka, a key step needed to unlock a US\$2.9 billion bailout by the International Monetary Fund (IMF)

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**More Asian countries interested in Rupee trade**

More Asian countries, such as Indonesia and the United Arab Emirates, are showing interest in using the Rupee as a trading unit, potentially reducing dependence on the world's reserve currency for cross-border exchange of goods and services.

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**Editor**

Dikshya Singh

**Contact**

South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE)  
 P.O. Box: 19366, Tukucha Marg, Kathmandu, Nepal  
 Tel: 977-1-4424360, 4444438 Fax: 977-1-4444570  
 Email: [newsletter@sawtee.org](mailto:newsletter@sawtee.org)  
 Web: [www.sawtee.org](http://www.sawtee.org)

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