

APEC Summit | When Xi Met Biden

Why In News

- The attention of the world has been drawn to the meeting between US **President Joe Biden** and his **Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping** during the **Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC)** forum in San Francisco amid efforts by Washington and Beijing to deescalate the geo-economic tensions between them.



- This was **the second in-person dialogue of Biden with Xi** since the US president assumed office in 2021.
- India's Union Minister Piyush Goyal will also be attending the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation meeting in the United States.
- U.S. President Joe Biden greets China's President Xi Jinping at the Filoli Estate in Woodside, Calif., on November 15, 2023 on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperative conference.

Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation

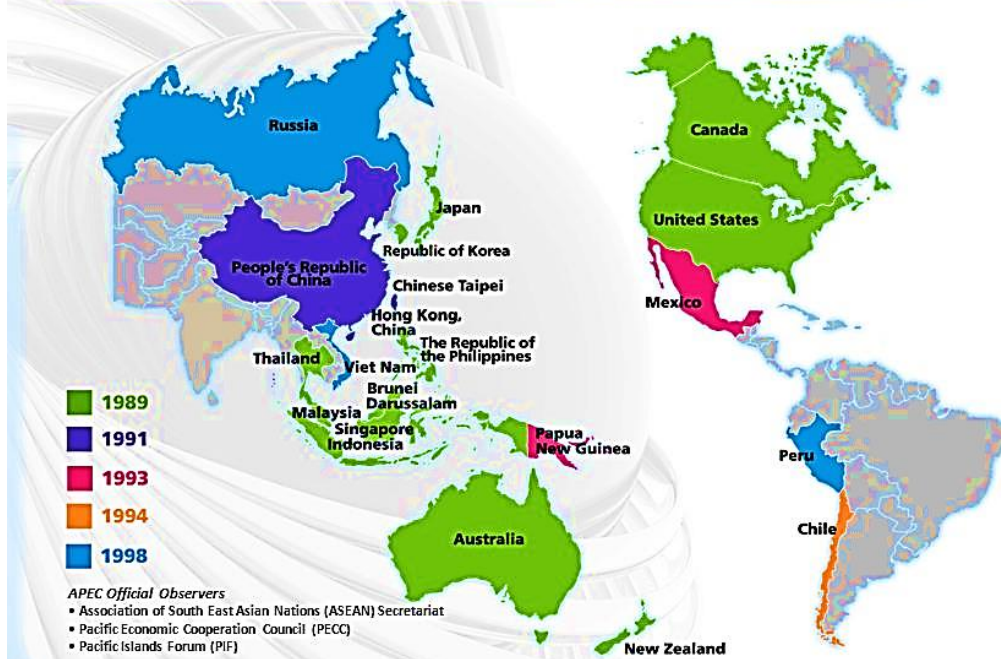
- The Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) is a **regional economic forum** and was **formed in 1989**. It has 21 members in its groups, however, India is not one of them.



Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

- The grouping stated that its aim was to “leverage the growing interdependence of the Asia-Pacific and create greater prosperity for the people of the region through regional economic integration”.
- The grouping's current members are Australia, Brunei, Hong Kong (which the APEC website refers to as Hong Kong, China), New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Indonesia, China, Japan, South Korea, Russia, Canada, the United States, Mexico, Peru, Chile, Malaysia, Vietnam, Singapore, Thailand and Chinese Taipei (Taiwan).

APEC Member Economies (21)



Biden – Xi Meet

- US President Joe Biden and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping spent some four hours together on Wednesday in their first face-to-face meeting in a year.
- As they convened at the **Filoli Estate in northern California**, the two leaders were aiming to make some headway in rebuilding ties strained over a whole host of issues – from **trade to Taiwan, Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine and the pandemic**.

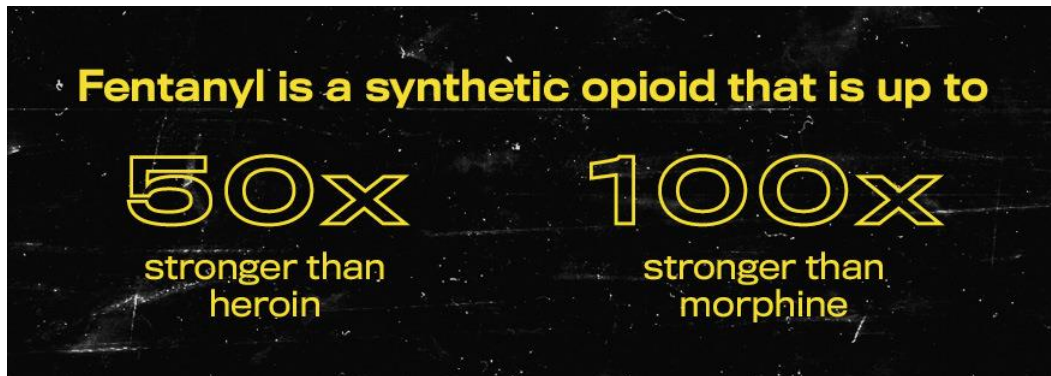


- The two countries have **resumed military-to-military communications**, which China had ended after then House Speaker Nancy Pelosi visited Taiwan last year.



- There was progress in efforts to tackle the **production of fentanyl**, the synthetic opioid that is the leading cause of drug overdoses in the US.
- China agreed to crack down on the manufacture and export of Fentanyl, a deadly drug and adulterant in narcotics.

- Xi and Biden touched on the **ongoing war in Gaza** as the **UN Security Council passed a resolution** calling for extended humanitarian “pauses” in the besieged enclave.



After Meeting

- Mr. Biden held a **solo news conference** after four hours of talks with Mr. Xi on the outskirts of San Francisco.



- At the end of the news conference, he was asked whether he still held the view that **Mr. Xi was a dictator, something he said in June.**
- "Look, he is. He's a dictator in the sense that he's a guy who runs a country that is a communist country that's based on a form of government totally different than ours," Mr. Biden said.