India and Vietnam likely to sign civil nuclear pact

Why in news?

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- India is likely to seal a landmark civil nuclear pact with Vietnam this week during the visit of the President of Vietnam’s National Assembly.
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- It is the first such partnership with a neighbour of China.
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What are the provisons of the deal?

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- During Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s trip to Hanoi in early September the two sides also agreed to accelerate the negotiation process for a new Inter-Governmental Framework Agreement on Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy.
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- India has been helping Vietnam’s civil nuclear sector since signing the first agreement in 1986, besides supplying a research reactor and training a few scientists under the International Atomic Energy Agency programme.
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- The current agreement in the field of civil nuclear cooperation will entail\n
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    - Capacity building and training of Vietnamese nuclear scientists by India
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    - Assistance to improve safeguard measures of nuclear installations in the Southeast Asian country.
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- Sri Lanka is the only other developing country with which India has signed a civil nuclear pact.
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- Vietnam currently has bilateral civil nuclear pacts with Russia and Japan, a fact that will complement Indo-Vietnamese partnership. While Russia has

wide-ranging presence in India’s civil nuclear sector, India and Japan concluded a civil nuclear pact last month.
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What else will be addressed in the visit?

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- The visit of President of Vietnam’s National Assembly, third highest ranking leader of Vietnam, will push comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries.
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- The National Assembly President will be accompanied by a big business delegation to push economic and investment ties.
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- The visit will also provide a fillip to parliamentary cooperation through exchanges between leaders of parliaments, committees, parliamentary friendship groups and parliamentarians of two countries.
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