India’s proposed largest Agriwaste-to-Fuel project

Prelims: *Current events of National and International Importance| Energy*

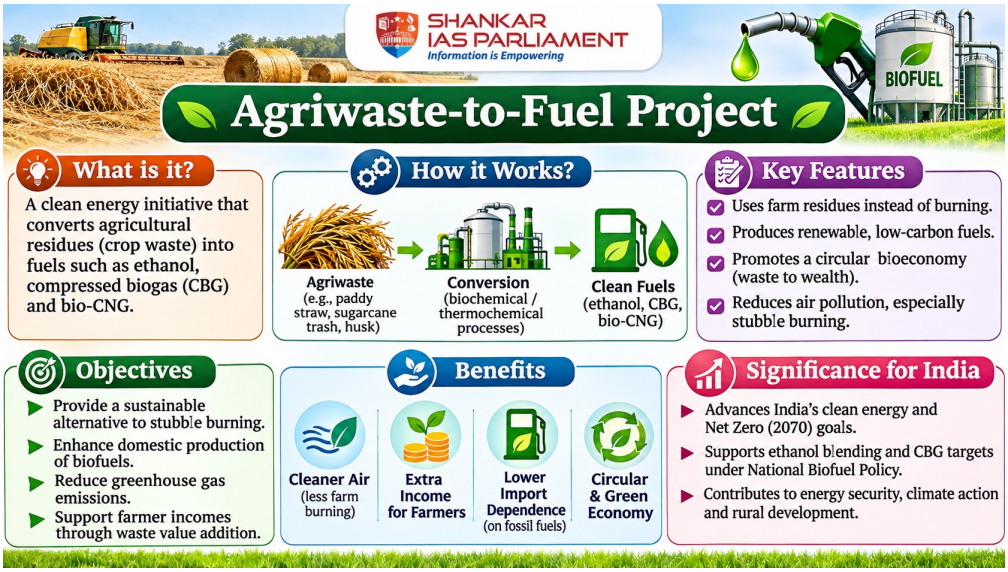
Why in News?

Greenjoules Private Ltd plans to set up a plant at Khed City, near Pune, to produce up to 2 lakh litres of bio-crude daily from agricultural residues.

- **Developer & Location–** Greenjoules is building the proposed agriwaste-to-biocrude facility at Khed City near Pune, Maharashtra.
- Technology used – The company claims to use its proprietary **Integrated Catalytic Thermo Cracking (ICTC) technology** to convert these residues into bio-crude for further processing into renewable diesel and bio-naphtha.
- **Funding –** The project has ₹250 crore in backing, combining a ₹100 crore loan from the Technology Development Board (TDB) and ₹150 crore from a Series B round.
- **Scale & Output–** Development is slated in phases starting in 2027, with plans to produce 2 lakh litres of biocrude daily initially and potentially scale to 5 lakh litres a day by 2028.
- The biocrude can be refined into renewable diesel and bio-naphtha.

Why Biofuel Production Matters?

- **Energy Security & Lower Imports–** Domestic biofuels reduce reliance on imported crude oil and help lower India's foreign exchange outflow.
- **Cleaner Air & Emissions–** Converting crop waste helps reduce open-field burning and lowers lifecycle greenhouse gas and air-pollutant emissions compared to raw biomass burning or fossil fuels.
- **Farm Income & Rural Jobs–** Monetizing agricultural residues gives farmers a secondary revenue stream and supports rural supply-chain jobs.
- **Circular Economy–** Waste valorisation turns discarded farm residues into fuels and useful by-products instead of leaving them as waste.



Reference

[The Indian Express| India's proposed largest Agriwaste-to-Fuel project]

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