Prelim Bits 30-09-2018

SATAT Initiative

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- It is an initiative by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
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- It is aimed at providing a Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT)
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- It will promote the use of Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) production plants and make available CBG in the market for use in automotive fuels.
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- It will be launched in association with PSU oil marketing companies, which invites potential entrepreneurs to set up CBG plants.
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Bio-Gas

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- Bio-gas is produced naturally through a process of anaerobic decomposition from waste / bio-mass sources.
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- Bio-mass sources include agriculture residue, cattle dung, sugarcane press mud, municipal solid waste, sewage treatment plant waste, etc.
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- After purification, it is compressed and called Compressed Bio-Gas , which has pure methane content of over 95%.
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- CBG is exactly similar to the commercially available natural gas in its composition and energy potential.
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- CBG's calorific value (~52,000 KJ/kg) and other properties are similar to Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).
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- CBG can be used as an alternative, renewable automotive fuel.
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- Benefits of production of CBG on a commercial scale includes,
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1. Responsible waste management, reduction in carbon emissions and pollution
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2. Additional revenue source for farmers
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3. Boost to entrepreneurship, rural economy and employment
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4. Support to national commitments in achieving climate change goals
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5. Reduction in import of natural gas and crude oil
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6. Buffer against crude oil/gas price fluctuations
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PRAGATI

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- PRAGATI (Pro-Active Governance And Timely Implementation) is a multi-purpose and multi-modal platform existing in the Prime Minister’s Office.
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- It was launched in 2015 and is not a public web platform.
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- It is used exclusively by the Prime Minister to give suitable directions for redressal of grievance.
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- It also monitors and reviews compliance on the projects and programmes of the Government of India as well as projects flagged by State Governments.
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- It brings on one stage the Secretaries of Government of India and the Chief Secretaries of the States.
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- It deploys three technologies - Digital data management, video-conferencing and geo-spatial technology.
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- Recently, PM chaired the 29th interaction with PRAGATI and reviewed the progress made in the working of the Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana.
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Japan's Investment in India

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- Two loan agreements were recently signed between Ministry of Finance and Japan International Cooperation Agency.
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- The projects are Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Project and Kolkata East-West Metro Project.
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Embryo Transfer Technology

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- Government has undertaken a Mass Embryo Transfer programme in Indigenous Breeds under National Mission on Bovine Productivity.
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- Embryo transfer refers to a step in the process of assisted reproduction in which embryos are placed into the uterus of a female with the intent to establish a pregnancy.
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- It is implemented with the objective of conservation and development of indigenous breeds under RashtriyaGokul Mission.
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- Under this programme, embryos of higher genetic merit indigenous bovines are being transferred in to surrogate cows.
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- Embryos of Indigenous breeds such as Sahiwal, Gir, Red Sindhi, Ongole, Deoni and Vechur have been proposed to be transferred under this programme.
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- Twenty Embryo Transfer Technology Centres are being established in the country.
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Source: PIB

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