

Prelim Bits 30-09-2018

SATAT Initiative

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- It is an initiative by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- It is aimed at providing a Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT)
- It will promote the use of Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) production plants and make available CBG in the market for use in automotive fuels.
- 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.
- Bio-mass sources include agriculture residue, cattle dung, sugarcane press mud, municipal solid waste, sewage treatment plant waste, etc.
- After purification, it is compressed and called Compressed Bio-Gas , which has pure methane content of over 95%.
- CBG is exactly similar to the commercially available natural gas in its composition and energy potential.
- CBG's calorific value (~52,000 KJ/kg) and other properties are similar to Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).
- 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
2. Additional revenue source for farmers
3. Boost to entrepreneurship, rural economy and employment
4. Support to national commitments in achieving climate change goals
5. Reduction in import of natural gas and crude oil
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.
- It was launched in 2015 and is not a public web platform.
- It is used exclusively by the Prime Minister to give suitable directions for redressal of grievance.
- It also monitors and reviews compliance on the projects and programmes of the Government of India as well as projects flagged by State Governments.
- It brings on one stage the Secretaries of Government of India and the Chief Secretaries of the States.
- It deploys three technologies - Digital data management, video-conferencing and geo-spatial technology.
- 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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