Revised Guidelines for Waste-to-Energy Projects

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Environment

Why in news?

Recently the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) issued the Revised Guidelines under the National Bioenergy Programme.

- **National Bioenergy Programme** – It is launched by Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).
- **Objectives –** To promote the use of **bioenergy technologies** for clean energy generation.
- It supports efficient use of biomass, biogas and industrial/agricultural waste for energy production.
- It contributes to India's Net-Zero Emissions target by 2070.
- **Sub schemes** – It includes sub-schemes for:
  - Waste to Energy (WtE)
  - Biogas Programme
  - Biomass Programme
- **Waste-to-Energy (WtE) Project** – It facilities to convert urban, industrial, agricultural, and municipal waste into useful energy such as biogas, compressed biogas (CBG), or electricity.

Revised Guidelines

- MNRE announced to make the ecosystem efficient, transparent, and performance-driven.
- It focuses on reducing paperwork and easing approval processes.
- **Central Financial Assistance (CFA) structure –** CFA is now released in two stages,
- 50% on obtaining Consent to Operate from State Pollution Control Board (with bank guarantee).
- Remaining 50% after achieving 80% of rated capacity or maximum eligible capacity.
- **Pro-rata CFA** – It is available for plants performing between 50-80% of capacity.

- No CFA for plants with less than 50% plant load factor.
- **Time flexibility for claiming CFA –** Developers can claim CFA within 18 months from the date of commissioning, or date of in-principal CFA approval, whichever is later.

Reference

DD News| Revised Guidelines for Waste-to-Energy Projects

