

National Green Hydrogen Mission

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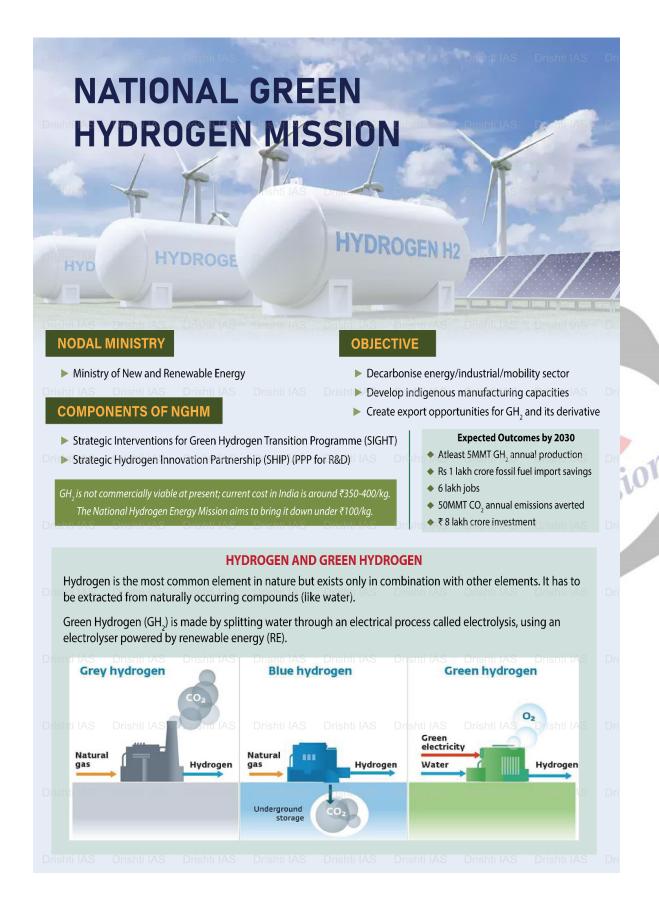
Why in News?

Recently, the <u>Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE)</u> has increased the yearly allocation of <u>Green Ammonia</u> for the <u>fertiliser sector</u> from 550,000 to 750,000 tonnes to meet rising demand, enhancing support for <u>Green Hydrogen in India</u>.

What is the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM)?

- India launched the <u>National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM)</u> in January 2023.
- The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) is implementing the NGHM with a target to achieve a production capacity of 5 million tonnes per annum of Green Hydrogen in the country by the year 2030.
 - The <u>Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT)</u> programme, under NGHM, provides incentives for the manufacturing of <u>electrolysers</u> and <u>the production</u> of green ammonia.
- Under NGHM a dedicated portal was launched to provide information on the mission and steps for developing the green hydrogen ecosystem in India.
- India has also released scheme guidelines for the use of Green Hydrogen in steel, transport, and shipping sectors.
- The **Department of Science and Technology** has initiated <u>Hydrogen Valley Innovation Clusters</u> to foster innovation and promote the green hydrogen ecosystem in India.

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Other Initiatives Related to Renewable Energy

- Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM).
- International Solar Alliance.
- PM- KUSUM.
- National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy.
- Rooftop Solar Scheme

What is Green Ammonia?

About:

- <u>Ammonia</u> is a chemical that is used mainly in the **manufacture of** <u>nitrogenous fertilisers</u>, like urea and ammonium nitrate, but can be put to other uses too, such as to run engines.
- Green ammonia production is where the process of making ammonia is 100% **renewable** and carbon-free.

Method of Production:

- It is produced by **using hydrogen from water electrolysis** and nitrogen separated from the air. These are then fed into the <u>Haber process</u>, all powered by sustainable electricity.
 - Green ammonia production makes use of renewable energy sources such as **hydroelectric**, solar power or wind turbines.
- In the Haber process, hydrogen and nitrogen are reacted together at high temperatures and pressures to produce ammonia (NH3).

Uses:

- **Energy Storage:** Ammonia is easily stored in bulk as a liquid at modest pressures (10-15 bar) or refrigerated to -33°C. This makes it an ideal chemical store for renewable energy.
- Zero-carbon Fuel: Ammonia can be burnt in an engine or used in a fuel cell to produce electricity. When used, ammonia's only by-products are water and nitrogen.
- **Marine Industry:** The <u>maritime industry</u> is likely to be an early adopter, replacing the use of fuel oil in marine engines.

Significance:

- Green ammonia is intended to be used in the production of carbon-neutral fertiliser products, decarbonizing the food value chain, and also has potential as a future climate-neutral shipping fuel.
- Green ammonia is crucial to tackling the existential challenges of producing enough food to feed a growing global population and generating CO2-free energy.

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ) Prelims: Q. Hydrogen fuel cell vehicles produce one of the following as "exhaust" (2010) (a) NH3 (b) CH4 (c) H2O Ans: (c)

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