

India's First SSLNG Plant in Madhya Pradesh

Why in News?

Recently, the Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas dedicated to the nation **India's first small-scale liquefied natural gas (SSLNG)** unit at **GAIL (India) Ltd's** in Vijaipur, Madhya Pradesh.

Key Points

- The government aims to increase the share of <u>natural gas</u> in its primary energy mix to 15% by 2030 from a little more than 6% at present.
 - This is because natural gas is far less polluting than conventional hydrocarbons like coal and oil; it is also cheaper than oil, more than 85% of India's requirement for which is met through costly imports.
 - Natural gas is seen as a key transition fuel in India's journey towards green energy and future fuels.
- However, a major challenge in scaling up gas consumption lies in the transportation of gas to places that are not connected by the country's natural gas pipeline grid.
- Small-Scale Liquefied Natural Gas (SSLNG):
 - It refers to the liquefaction of natural gas and its transportation using unconventional means in a significantly smaller-scale operation than the usual large-scale liquefaction, regasification, and transportation infrastructure and processes.
 - The SSLNG chain can start from a large-scale LNG import terminal from where the LNG, instead of being regasified and supplied through pipelines, can be transported to consumers by cryogenic road tankers or small vessels.
 - The chain can also start at locations with ample natural gas supply or production, where small liquefaction plants can be set up.
 - The SSLNG unit at Vijaipur, which is GAIL's largest gas processing facility, is an example of the latter kind of location.

["] How Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) is made



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