



Electricity for Farmers in Rajasthan

Why in News?

According to the sources, the **Rajasthan government has signed new agreements to promote renewable energy** which will help Farmers to receive electricity for irrigating their fields during the day.

Key Points

- The State government's initiatives to **boost power generation would guarantee an uninterrupted daytime electricity** supply to agricultural users **by 2027**.
- A letter of intent was issued for **4,386 Megawatts projects under the Prime Minister's KUSUM-C Scheme** and a memorandum of understanding was signed for two gas-based power plants in Jaipur.
- In 2020, the **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)** introduced implementation of **feeder level solarization under Component-C of PM-KUSUM Scheme**.
 - Under the scheme, agriculture feeders already segregated or, feeders having a major load for agriculture may be **solarized using installation of grid connected solar power plants to cater the annual power requirement of feeder**. This will lead to lower cost both in terms of lower capital cost and cost of power.

PM-KUSUM

- **About:**
 - The PM-KUSUM is a flagship scheme initiated by the Indian government in 2019 with the primary objective of transforming the **agricultural sector by promoting the adoption of solar energy solutions**.
 - It operates on a demand-driven approach. Capacities are allocated based on the **demands received from various states and union territories (UTs)**.
 - Through various components and financial support, PM-KUSUM envisions achieving a significant **solar power capacity addition of 30.8 GW by March 31, 2026**.
- **Objectives of PM-KUSUM:**
 - **De-dieselisation of the Farm Sector:** The scheme aims to reduce the **dependence on diesel for irrigation** by encouraging the use of **solar-powered pumps** and other renewable energy sources.
 - It also seeks to increase farmers' income by **reducing irrigation costs through the use of solar pumps** and enabling them to sell surplus solar power to the grid.
 - **Water and Energy Security for Farmers:** By providing access to **solar pumps and promoting solar-based community irrigation projects**, the scheme aims to enhance water and energy security for farmers.
 - **Curbing Environmental Pollution:** Through the adoption of clean and renewable solar energy, the scheme aims to mitigate **environmental pollution caused by conventional energy sources**.

