



Nanar Refinery: Maharashtra

Why in News?

Recently, the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has indicated that the **Nanar oil refinery project in Konkan region may be revived** as the Maharashtra government was reconsidering its decision about stalling the project.



What is the Nanar oil Refinery Project?

- The project was mooted by the Centre and the Maharashtra government **in 2014 and it was aimed at bringing development to the backward Konkan region.**
 - The project was **scrapped ahead of the 2019 Assembly and Lok Sabha elections.**
- It was supposed to be a **joint venture between Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum**, and Saudi Arabia-owned Aramco and United Arab Emirates' National Oil Company.
- It was estimated that the project would bring in investment to the tune of Rs 3 lakh crore and **generate employment for at least one lakh local residents.**
- It would also **create new job generating avenues by setting up ancillary units.**

Why was the Project Stopped?

- To start the project, the government required 14,000 hectares of land spread across 17 villages in the region.
- **Local leaders vehemently opposed the project**, saying the oil refinery would be detrimental for the environment of Konkan region.
- In 2019, 14 gram [panchayats](#) adopted a resolution **demanding scrapping of the project and local residents took to the streets to protest**, saying the project would be **hazardous to fishing and cultivation of paddy, mangoes and jackfruit**, which are traditionally grown by local residents.

Source: IE

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