

PM PRANAM

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In news—In order to **reduce the use of chemical fertilisers by incentivising states**, the Union government plans to introduce a new scheme called PM PRANAM.

Key features of the scheme-

- PM PRANAM stands for PM Promotion of Alternate Nutrients for Agriculture Management Yojana.
- **The proposed scheme intends to reduce the subsidy burden on chemical fertilisers**, which is expected to increase to Rs 2.25 lakh crore in 2022-2023, which is 39% higher than the previous year's figure of Rs 1.62 lakh crore.
- The scheme will **not have a separate budget** and will be financed by the "savings of existing fertiliser subsidy" under schemes run by the Department of fertilisers.
- Further, **50% subsidy savings will be passed on as a grant to the state** that saves the money, and that 70% of the grant provided under the scheme can be used for asset creation related to technological adoption of alternate fertilisers and alternate fertiliser production units at village, block and district levels.
- **The remaining 30% grant money can be used for incentivising farmers, panchayats, farmer producer organisations and self-help groups that are involved** in the reduction of fertiliser use and awareness generation.
- The government will compare a state's increase or reduction in urea in a year, to its average consumption of urea during the last three years.
- **Data available on a fertiliser Ministry dashboard, iFMS (Integrated fertilisers Management System), will be used** for this purpose.