



## Extra Neutral Alcohol

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### Why in News

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Alcohol manufacturers have written to NITI Aayog asking for reduction in import duty so as they can import Extra Neutral Alcohol (ENA) from global markets cost effectively.

- Like ethanol, ENA is a **byproduct of the sugar industry**, and is formed from molasses that are a residue of sugarcane processing.
- The **ENA market in India** stood at a volume of **2.9 billion litres in 2018**.

### Uses of Extra Neutral Alcohol

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- **ENA is the primary raw material for making alcoholic beverages** such as whisky, vodka etc.
- It serves as an essential ingredient in the **manufacture of cosmetics and personal care** products such as perfumes, toiletries, hair spray, etc.
- Given its properties as a good solvent, it also finds **industrial use** and is utilised in the production of some lacquers, paints and ink for the printing industry, as well as in pharmaceutical products such as antiseptics, drugs, syrups, medicated sprays.

**Source: IE**