



Water Innovation Challenges Initiative

Why in News

Recently, the **second edition of water innovation challenges** was announced to address the global water woes through innovations.

Key Points

▪ About:

- It was announced by the [Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog](#) and the Royal Embassy of Denmark to India as part of the [Indo-Danish Bilateral Green Strategic partnership](#) in 2020.
 - An important driving force in the **green transition - and the Green Strategic Partnership** - is technology, especially entrepreneurship driven technology.
 - The **water challenge will foster this**, but also bring it to on the ground implementation.
- This collaboration will **provide solutions to improve sustainable water supply** in India and at the global level.
 - The winners of the challenges will also represent India at the **International Water Congress 2022**.

▪ Objective:

- The initiative aims to **identify innovative & next-gen solutions in the water sector** to solve proposed challenges in collaboration with corporate and public partners.
 - The initiative will **engage young talents from leading universities and innovation hubs** across the nation to build their skills and apply their technical disciplines and innovation capacity.

▪ Need:

- For India, it is significant because **India is currently facing massive water challenges**, which in recent years have become one of the most urgent policy issues.
- The problem ranges across [depleting underground water levels](#), unsafe drinking water, water loss due to inadequate sewerage systems, access to water and untreated wastewater polluting India's major rivers.

Green Strategic Partnership

- In September 2020, **India and Denmark entered into a new age Green Strategic Partnership** following a virtual summit chaired by both prime ministers.



- India and Denmark **both have ambitious goals** within the **climate agenda** and are including more **sustainable practices day by day**.
- The Green Strategic Partnership provides a **perfect framework** because it emphasizes how **international collaboration can help accelerate the green transition** and deliver on global goals.
- The Partnership focuses on **expanding economic ties, green growth, and cooperation on global challenges** such as [climate change](#).
 - Green growth is a term to describe a path of economic growth that uses natural resources in a sustainable manner.
- Danish companies with niche technologies and expertise have offered to help India in meeting its [air pollution](#) control targets, including in the key area of tackling the problem of [burning crop stubble](#).
- Other key points under the partnership include dealing with the [Covid-19 pandemic](#) and cooperation in water efficiency and water loss.
- The creation of **India-Denmark energy parks** in areas with large numbers of Danish firms and an India-Denmark skill institute to train Indian manpower has been proposed.
- The Green Strategic Partnership builds on an existing Joint Commission for Cooperation and existing joint working groups.

[Source: PIB](#)

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