

375 oxygen plants in 6 months, number up from 25 to 400 in Uttar Pradesh



Picture used for representational purpose only

LUCKNOW: Uttar Pradesh has recorded a phenomenal 16-fold increase in the number of medical [oxygen plants](#) in just six months, as per the official data.

“There were just 25 plants providing medical oxygen functional in the state before the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic attacked. In six months, the number of such plants has gone up to 400,” an official statement said, adding, “12 units got functional in the past four days.”

Officials said the oxygen plants have been set up with the joint effort of the state health and medical education department. Several units have been mobilised by the state industries and excise departments through the corporate social responsibility allocations. Funds from the PM Cares have also been provided. “Another 155 medical oxygen projects are in the pipeline,” they said.

Officials said the oxygen plants have come up under state’s plan to become self-reliant in oxygen supply before the anticipated third Covid wave. “CM Yogi Adityanath had directed officials to work in mission mode so that there is minimum loss of life in case the third Covid wave turns out to be as dangerous as the second one,” they said.

CM reviews the progress of the project daily. On Friday, he told the officials to expedite the work of the remaining 155 oxygen plants. The departments concerned have undertaken a real-time monitoring of the installation work, with the district administrations being asked to continuously monitor the progress of installation work and ensure availability of raw material for timely completion of the plants.

Officials said to ensure that there is no shortage of workforce to run and maintain the medical oxygen plants, training of paramedical staff and pharmacists at the local level is also underway. In addition to this, to strengthen Covid Control Management and to connect youth with employment, around 372 government ITI trainees in Uttar Pradesh will be engaged in operation of the oxygen plants.