

Stubble, cowdung to be used for producing green fuel: CM

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Lucknow: The state would soon get 100 City Gas Distribution plants that would use stubble generated in agricultural fields to prepare biofuel.

Union minister of petroleum and natural gas and housing and urban development Hardeep Singh Puri and chief minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday launched the first such plant in Badaun that has been set up with a budget of Rs 135 crore. Yogi said during the launch of the plant in Dataganj area of Baduan that the compressed biogas plants (CBGs) will not only serve as additional source of income for farmers as both stubble and cowdung would be utilised for producing the green fuel. Yogi added that one CBG, on an average, would yield in tackling waste produced through 147 acre of farm fields.

“West UP is our focus area in the initial phase as stubble burning leads to increased pollution in national capital region before the onset of winter season,” said Puri, adding that the central and state governments are collaborating to create infrastructure that would convert the agri-waste into biofuel.

Seven more plants are going to be made operational soon, Puri said and congratulated CM Yogi for fast-tracking the land clearance process for setting up the plants. “A total of 37 locations have been identified for setting up plants out of which the one in Baduan has been made operational,” he said. The



CM Yogi Adityanath with Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri in Badaun on Saturday

Puri praises devpt work done in UP

Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri praised the development work done in UP in the last 7 years. Highlighting key transformations in the petroleum sector under the double engine government, the Union minister noted substantial growth in infrastructure. He stated that in 2014, there were a total of 5,506 petrol pumps in the state, a number that has now surged to 11,124, marking a remarkable 102 percent increase. Similarly, LPG distributors increased by 113 percent from 1,944 in 2014 to 4,142 today. The state now boasts 870 CNG stations, with aviation fuel stations increasing from 7 to 11. Additionally, LPG gas connections rose from 1 crore 80 lakh to 4 crore 80 lakh. The Union minister applauded the CM for the strides made under the Smart City and AMRUT Yojana, assuring that the Central Ministry would fulfill every need of the state government. TNN

seven plants besides the one that was launched in Baduan would come up in Jaunpur, Amethi, Sitapur, Fatehpur, Bahraich, Bareilly and Kannauj. Each plant would yield at least 100 direct and indirect job opportunities.

Puri also highlighted the key incentives being offered by the central and UP governments for the entrepreneurs taking up biofuel projects. “The contracts for the plant operators have been finalised. Our objective is to bring down stubble burning through friendly policy

structure,” added Puri. Yogi said farmers will get an opportunity to make additional amount by selling the stubble to the plant operators.

Moreover, to procure heavy machines required in the plant, incentives are offered by the Central government.

“UP government is proactively disbursing incentives to interested entrepreneurs. Those interested can get incentive up to Rs 20 crore,” said Pankaj Jain, secretary in petroleum ministry.