Hindustan Times, Delhi, 30/11/2025
Page No: 3, Size: 14.45cm × 36.04cm

CM Rekha Gupta at the event with the beneficiaries. HT PHOTO

CM gives new LPG connections under PM Ujjwala Yojana

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NEW DELHI: Chief minister Rekha Gupta on Saturday distributed new LPG connections to women beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) during an event held in the Wazirpur area, reiterating the government's focus on eliminating smoke-filled kitchens in the national capital.

According to officials, more than 250,000 families in Delhi have been provided access to clean cooking fuel under the scheme since its roll out in 2016. The scheme aims to help households to switch from traditional cooking methods such as wood, coal or dung-based fuel as these are a major source of household air pollution. These pose serious health risks, particularly to women who spend long hours working in kitchens.

"The administration is preparing beneficiary lists to ensure coverage for all eligible families. The initiative is part of our push to reduce combustion of solid fuels in the city, especially during the winter season when emissions stack up due to meteorological conditions. Security personnel posted outdoors at night are also being provided with electric heaters to discourage wood burning for warmth," Gupta said during the distribution drive.

To be sure, all women over 18 years of age and from an economically weaker background who do not have any other LPG connection in the household are eligible for this scheme.

Beneficiaries who received the new connections in Wazirpur said the subsidised cylinders would reduce the financial burden of switching to clean fuel while improving cooking convenience. The Delhi government said follow-up assessments will be carried out to ensure refills remain affordable and households do not revert back to traditional methods.

Government officials said that the using LPG under the scheme has helped reduce risks of indoor air pollution in Delhi.

Pioneer, Delhi, 30/11/2025
Page No: 7, Size: 34.16cm × 31.51cm

India's urban waste crisis: A ticking time bomb

A RESEARCH BY WORLD BIOGAS ASSOCIATION

55kg per household. 170,000 tonnes per day. 1.43 billion people

India is facing an urban waste management crisis. According to the Food Waste Index Report 2024 (UNEP), each household generates 55kg of municipal solid waste per year, totalling 78.2 million tonnes annually. With 37 per cent of the 1.43 billion population now living in cities (529 million people), municipal solid waste is surging uncontrollably.

Rising mountains of garbage

The latest available figures (from financial year 2021-22) show India produced 170,000 tonnes of municipal waste daily. About 156,000 tonnes were collected, 54 per cent treated and 24 per cent sent to landfills. The remaining 22 per cent vanished into drains, open spaces, water bodies or went up in smoke, leaking toxic pollutants into the environment. Experts warn that by 2050 Indian cities could generate 435 million tonnes of solid waste annually.

Half of it is organic

Organic waste, which makes up 50 per cent of municipal solid waste (GIZ, 2022), is a ticking methane time bomb. India's 535 landfill sites emit nearly 986 kilotonnes of methane annually, worsening climate change. Methane has a warming effect 86 times stronger than CO_2 over 20 years.

Health under siege

Rapid urbanisation and population growth exacerbate pollution from urban areas, including solid waste and runoff.

Cities with populations over 100,000 generate 16,662 billion litres of wastewater daily, even though at least 30 per cent of them have no sewage treatment plants.

70 per cent of surface water is unsafe, half of 605 rivers are heavily polluted, and 37.7 million people suffer water-borne diseases annually, with diarrhoea alone killing 1.5 million children.

Meanwhile, air pollution linked to open waste burning contributed to nearly 1.8 million deaths in 2016. Open burning in cities accounts for 18 per cent of national PM2.5 pollution, considered to be one of the most dangerous air pollutants by the World Health Organisation, is projected to almost double by 2050.

Lessons from Europe

India is not the first country to face this issue. In the 1970s, many developed countries were confronting a similar waste crisis, from unregulated dumping and disposal to landfill mountains. This was the situation across Europe.

The Netherlands is widely recognised as the first European country to take decisive action on landfill sites. In the 1970s, the country faced severe environmental problems due to uncontrolled landfill dumping, including soil and groundwater contamination, methane emissions and odours.

Strict landfill regulations were introduced, mandatory waste separation and early landfill gas recovery programs. By the 1990s, the Netherlands had adopted policies aiming to reduce landfill use, promote recycling and enforce environmental monitoring.

Other countries like Germany and Sweden followed soon after. Europe-wide regulations started to emerge in the 1990s, culminating in the current mandate for separate food waste collections across all 26 member states. These stricter landfill regulations and bans on organic waste disposal were a major driver for anaerobic digestion adoption in Europe. Essentially, limiting landfill options created the "push" for alternative, sustainable treatment technologies like AD.

A chance to leapfrog

India can learn from Europe's experience. Restricting landfilling, incentivising segregation and adopting anaerobic digestion could convert the organic waste crisis into renewable energy and biofertiliser, reducing methane emissions and safeguarding public health. Key actions to usher in a new are of waste management include:

Adopt a national waste hierarchy policy

Prioritise waste reduction, segregation, recycling and resource recovery before disposal.

- Explicitly favour anaerobic digestion (AD) and composting for organics over incineration and landfilling.
- Introduce progressive landfill taxes and organic waste bans to drive the transition.

Establish universal source segregation and food waste collection systems

- Mandate separate collection of wet (organic) and dry waste nationwide, with strict enforcement.
- Support public awareness campaigns and community-level incentives for participation.
- Create standards for segregated waste quality, crucial for AD feedstock.

Invest in domestic biogas and waste-to-energy infrastructure

- Scale up AD and CBG (compressed biogas) facilities and connect them to city gas networks.
- Facilitate public — private partnerships (PPPs) and green finance instruments for large-scale deployment.
- Integrate biogas into India's renewable energy targets.

Build international and inter-State cooperation

- Leverage global success stories and funding mechanisms (e.g., German Export Finance Bank funding, EU-India clean energy partnerships).
- Foster state-to-state collaboration within India to share models and procurement frameworks.
- Promote technology transfer, training and certification standards for AD operators.

Implement spatial planning and data-driven zoning

- Map urban feedstock availability (food waste, market waste, sewage sludge).
- Designate "green energy zones" suitable for AD/CBG plants with clear environmental safeguards.
- Use GIS-based (Geographic Information System) zoning tools to optimise logistics, collection routes, and pipeline connectivity.

Promote innovative finance and business models

- Leverage public funds to de-risk private capital through guarantees, viability gap funding, green bonds and carbon markets for urban waste management.
- Incentivise circular-economy business models and strengthen the creditworthiness and market access of urban bodies / municipal corporations.
- Foster innovation ecosystems by facilitating partnerships between cities, academia and private investors to pilot scalable models for decentralised waste management.

The clock Is ticking

Without urgent action, India faces a catastrophic future: air choked with smoke, rivers poisoned and cities drowning in waste.

The time to act is now-before the country's urban population pays the ultimate price.

Call to action!

Hindustan Times, Delhi, 30/11/2025
Page No: 10, Size: 38.73cm × 22.07cm

{ THE BIG PICTURE }

Axis of good emerges in climate diplomacy

At Belém, India's focus on equitable finance, technology access, and practical partnerships reflected the growing maturity of climate diplomacy — one defined less by rhetoric and more by results

The real work of climate action increasingly occurs in smaller configurations, anchored in shared interests and grounded in delivery. AP

Amitabh Kant

Hisham Mundol

Geopolitical turbulence has become the defining feature of our times. From trade wars to real wars in Europe, the Middle East and Africa, to growing protectionism and fractured global supply chains, today's world is anything but predictable.

Climate policy continues to feel the strain. Multilateralism, once the primary conduit for global climate action, is faltering. Yet amid this fraying fabric, a quieter — and arguably more durable — pattern is emerging: A network of pragmatic, interest-driven partnerships that may prove more effective in a rapidly emergent new world order. There is a new kind of global cooperation developing, one that is more multi-nodal than unipolar and one grounded on purposeful alignment. This is what we call an "axis of good" — a constellation of countries choosing to move forward together on climate action not because they are compelled to, or not just because it is the right thing to do, but because it is in their shared interest.

India sits at the heart of this shift. In contrast to the gridlock of global climate negotiations that are unfortunately likely for the next few years, the country is quietly forging purposeful alliances across continents — not ideological blocs, but practical coalitions focused on mutual benefit.

Take India's partnership with the European Union (EU). While their formal climate negotiations often meander, cooperation on clean technology has gathered pace. Joint investments and knowledge-sharing initiatives around green hydrogen, battery storage and low-carbon industrial processes point to a shared recognition: Technology transfer and market access, not abstract commitments, are what will drive real emission intensity reductions and build the foundations for success in the new green economy that is inevitable. The EU's research and technological prowess and India's scale and cost innovation create natural synergies.

In fact, disruptive technologies like green hydrogen may become emblematic of this new age of collaboration. Countries with solar and wind resources — such as India, Australia, and several in West Asia — are natural producers, while regions like Japan and Korea are likely to be major consumers. This creates the basis for a complementary alignment of demand and supply, encouraging cross-border investment, innovation and standard setting. India's own National Green Hydrogen Mission and bilateral discussions with partners from the EU to Japan show how diplomacy, technology, industrial policy and climate leadership can reinforce each other.

In the southern hemisphere, India's relationship with Brazil is another case in point. While the two nations have aligned positions on several geopolitical issues, an exciting new area of co-operation is biofuels. They are discovering a productive overlap as large agricultural economies seek alternatives to fossil fuels that are locally sourced and politically palatable. As ethanol and biodiesel technologies mature, bilateral cooperation on standards, supply chains and research should influence global norms. The Global Biofuels Alliance announcement is a great starting point and a marker of the alliance.

More quietly still, there is a "buyers' club" that is evolving as a loose affiliation of major LNG (liquefied natural gas) importing countries including Japan, South Korea and the European Union that are working together to influence LNG suppliers to encourage monitoring, reducing and reporting of methane emissions. It's not a formal structure yet, but is gaining traction as a coordinated purchasing strategy, and the logical evolution is to have a pairing with certified low-methane LNG suppliers.

What binds these disparate strands is not a common ideology, but a shared strategic calculus. Each of these partnerships is not just driven by a sober assessment of national interest, but also a recognition that the path to energy security and economic stability increasingly runs through decarbonisation. And unlike the high-stakes theatre of global climate diplomacy, these are low-profile, high-functioning arrangements — less grandstanding, more delivery.

Underpinning these international partnerships is India's growing ecosystem of startups, entrepreneurs and innovators who are turning disruptive ideas into scalable climate solutions — from battery recycling and precision agriculture to electric mobility and the circular economy. They are the connective tissue between global technology cooperation and local transformation.

For India to stay ahead, it must keep investing in research and development. The Rs 1 lakh crore Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) fund will help provide catalytic finance. Strong linkages between industry and academia must be built up. The government can act as a facilitator, but these efforts must be industry-driven, with commercial R&D. India's innovations in energy access, clean energy, and creating markets for clean energy, will not only serve domestic needs but also contribute to global decarbonisation.

India's role is instructive. Straddling both developing and developed worlds, speaks credibly to the concerns of the Global South while influencing global trends. By leveraging bilateral and plurilateral relationships for technology access, investment, and resilient supply chains, India is demonstrating that growth and green ambition need not be at odds — and that its development path could offer a viable model for others seeking inclusive, low-carbon prosperity.

This shift matters. Multilateral institutions are struggling to adapt to a more multipolar world. While the global architecture remains relevant for setting broad targets and principles, the real work of climate action increasingly occurs in smaller configurations — coalitions of the willing, anchored in shared interests and grounded in delivery. Call it minilateralism if you will, but it is getting things done.

This is not to suggest that all is well. The world is not on track to meet its climate goals, and time is running out. But progress will not come solely from dramatic pledges or sweeping frameworks. It will come from steady, strategic alignment, and from countries like India that can bridge divides and build coalitions.

The mixed outcome of COP30 in Belém underscored that reality. Framed as a summit of implementation, it delivered modest steps on climate finance and adaptation but fell short of consensus on fossil fuels and forests — revealing that ambition remains contested even as cooperation on delivery deepens. Yet India's focus on equitable finance, technology access, and practical partnerships reflected the growing maturity of climate diplomacy — one defined less by rhetoric and more by results.

In a world that often feels defined by fragmentation, this axis of good offers a measure of reassurance and a pathway to progress. They are not perfect, nor are they permanent but they represent a pragmatic path forward in a period of uncertainty. Climate action may yet be saved not by grand alliances, but by the quiet logic of mutual self-interest.

Amitabh Kant is former G20 Sherpa and former CEO of Niti Aayog and Hisham Mundol is chief advisor, India, Environmental Defense Fund. The views expressed are personal

Times of India, Delhi, 30/11/2025
Page No: 3, Size: 17.94cm × 35.88cm

Survey to identify houses without LPG connections

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Chief minister Rekha Gupta on Saturday distributed LPG connections to women beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) at a special programme organised in Wazipur area, in a move aimed at making sure that all household kitchens in the city are smoke-free. A total of 252 poor residents of the city were given LPG connections at the function.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Ujjwala Yojana has enabled more than 2.5 lakh families in Delhi to access smoke-free kitchens. The initiative goes far beyond a simple shift in fuel; it is a transformative reform aimed at improving women's health, reducing pollution and enhancing domestic dignity. The scheme has encouraged households to adopt safe LPG in place of wood, coal and dung-based fuels," said CM.

Now, Delhi govt will conduct a survey to identify households which do not yet have LPG connections so that they can be provided LPG connections by the govt, said an official.

CM said ensuring the availability of LPG in every household is not only a step towards safeguarding women's health, but also a mission to advance Delhi towards cleaner air and a pollution-free future.

The Delhi govt is determined to phase out wood and coal-based cooking practices. "To prevent the burning of wood during winter, security guards and night-shift workers are being provided with electric heaters. Awareness campaigns are also being conducted to encourage laundry workers to transition from coal-based irons to gas or electric equipment, with the aim of completely eliminating the associated environmental hazards," said CM.

CM said ensuring the availability of LPG in every household was not only a step towards safeguarding women's health, but also a mission to advance Delhi towards clean air

Jansatta, Delhi, 30/11/2025
Page No: 3, Size: 12.41cm × 10.05cm

गाजीपुर-भलस्वा में बायोगैस, बिजली संयंत्र स्थापित करने की योजना

भूपेंद्र पांचाल
नई दिल्ली, 29 नवंबर।

दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण (डीडीए) और दिल्ली नगर निगम (एमसीडी) के बीच कई परियोजनाओं के लिए लंबित जमीन आबंटन मामलों को निपटाने की कवायद तेज हो गई है। दिल्ली के मुख्य सचिव राजीव वर्मा की अध्यक्षता में हाल ही में हुई बैठक में दोनों पक्षों को त्वरित और सामंजस्यपूर्ण कार्रवाई करने के निर्देश दिए गए।

जानकारी के मुताबिक, एमसीडी ने गाजीपुर कचरा पट्टी क्षेत्र में दो परियोजनाओं के लिए डीडीए से कुल 10.4 एकड़ जमीन मांगी है। इसमें पांच एकड़ बायोगैस संयंत्र और लगभग 5.4 एकड़ कचरे से बिजली उत्पादन परियोजना के लिए आबंटन शामिल है। डीडीए ने इस जमीन को पहले से ही एक व्यवसायिक कागज बाजार परियोजना के लिए निर्धारित किया था, लेकिन मुख्य सचिव की बैठक के बाद डीडीए ने एमसीडी को भरोसा दिया कि प्रस्ताव पर विचार किया जाएगा। इसके बदले में एमसीडी को गाजीपुर से बराबर जमीन लौटाने का विकल्प दिया गया है। इसी तरह, एमसीडी ने भलस्वा में भी डीडीए से 10 एकड़ जमीन दो परियोजनाओं को जमीन पर लाने के लिए मांगी गई है। एमसीडी ने भलस्वा कचरा पट्टी क्षेत्र के आसपास 5 एकड़ बायोमीथेनाइज़ेशन संयंत्र स्थापित करने के लिए डीडीए से जमीन मांगी है। इसके अलावा एमसीडी की यहां भी गाजीपुर की तरह ही पशुओं के गोबर को ठिकाने लगाने के लिए एक बायोगैस संयंत्र स्थापित करने की योजना है। इसके संयंत्र को स्थापित करने के लिए एमसीडी को डीडीए से 5 एकड़ जमीन की दरकार है। इन दोनों परियोजनाओं के लिए भी डीडीए दस एकड़ जमीन देने को तैयार हो गया है, बशर्ते कि एमसीडी उसको उतनी ही जमीन का वापस करने पर सहमति जताए। इस मामले पर मुख्य सचिव ने एमसीडी और डीडीए दोनों को आपसी सामंजस्य के साथ कार्रवाई करने के निर्देश दिए हैं।

परियोजनाओं के लिए 20 एकड़ जमीन आबंटित करने का प्रस्ताव।

Dainik Savera, Delhi, 30/11/2025
Page No: 11, Size: 11.85cm × 9.79cm

भारत की ऊर्जा यात्रा : दिगबोई से विकसित भारत तक प्रगति की सशक्त कहानी

सवेरा न्यूज/आकाश द्विवेदी

नई दिल्ली, 29 नवंबर : केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने भारत की शताब्दी-लंबी ऊर्जा यात्रा को दिगबोई से विकसित भारत तक की प्रेरक गाथा बताया। उन्होंने कहा कि देश की ऊर्जा क्षमता साहस, नवाचार और सतत प्रगति की मजबूत नींव पर खड़ी है, जिसने भारत को वैश्विक ऊर्जा मानचित्र में नई पहचान दिलाई है। मंत्री पुरी ने बताया कि भारत की ऊर्जा विरासत एशिया की पहली रिफाइनरी दिगबोई (1901) से शुरू हुई थी। आज यही विरासत प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के नेतृत्व में नए युग में प्रवेश कर रही है। भारत दुनिया की चौथी सबसे बड़ी रिफाइनिंग क्षमता वाला देश बन चुका है और 2030 तक यह क्षमता 258 एमएमटीपीए से बढ़कर 310 एमएमटीपीए हो जाएगी। उन्होंने बताया कि भारत आज 50 से अधिक देशों को 45 बिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर का ईंधन निर्यात करता है।

Dainik Savera, Delhi, 30/11/2025
Page No: 11, Size: 11.35cm × 17.20cm

भारत की ऊर्जा खोज को नई उड़ान, केरल-कोंकण बेसिन में ऑफशोर ड्रिलिंग अभियान का शुभारंभ हुआ

सवेरा न्यूज/आकाश द्विवेदी

नई दिल्ली, 29 नवंबर : भारत की ऊर्जा यात्रा को नई गति देते हुए केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने ऊर्जा महारत्न ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड द्वारा केरल-कोंकण बेसिन में शुरू किए गए ऐतिहासिक ऑफशोर ड्रिलिंग अभियान की जानकारी देते हुए बताया कि पहले कुएं की स्पडिंग कर इस महत्वाकांक्षी परियोजना की आधिकारिक शुरूआत की, जिसे प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की ऊर्जा आत्मनिर्भरता के विजन का महत्वपूर्ण कदम माना जा रहा है।

इस फ्रंटियर कैटेगरी-क्लास बेसिन को देश के सबसे संभावनाशील तेल-गैस क्षेत्रों में गिना जाता है। अभियान के तहत 6,000 मीटर गहराई तक ड्रिलिंग की योजना है, जो भारतीय जल क्षेत्रों में अब तक के सबसे गहरे ऑफशोर कुओं में से एक होगी। यह कुआं समुद्र तट से लगभग 20 नौटिकल माइल दूर स्थित है, जहां अत्याधुनिक तकनीक और उच्च क्षमता वाले ड्रिलिंग उपकरणों का उपयोग किया जा रहा है। ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड ने अब तक 1,028 वर्ग किलोमीटर क्षेत्र में 3ऊ सिस्मिक सर्वे पूरा कर लिया है, जिसके आधार पर वैज्ञानिकों और भू-विशेषज्ञों ने क्रेटेशियस प्ले सहित कई प्रमुख भूस्तरीय संरचनाओं की पहचान की है। आगामी ड्रिलिंग से इन संरचनाओं की ऊर्जा क्षमता का आकलन किया जाएगा।

सरकार का मानना है कि यदि इन प्रयासों से सकारात्मक परिणाम मिलते हैं, तो भारत की हाइड्रोकार्बन क्षमता में बड़ा इजाफा होगा और ऊर्जा आयात पर निर्भरता कम करने की दिशा में महत्वपूर्ण प्रगति होगी। यह अभियान भारत के नए ऊर्जा आयामों को खोजने की दिशा में एक निर्णायक कदम है, जो देश को भविष्य की ऊर्जा चुनौतियों के लिए मजबूत आधार प्रदान करेगा।