



PRESS RELEASE

Government of Japan and UNDP have joined hands to boost oxygen supply in North Eastern Region in India

10 May 2021, New Delhi, India: As the second wave of pandemic continues to spread in India at an unprecedented pace, the Government of Japan and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India have partnered to provide oxygen generation plants to the North Eastern Region in India. Since June last year, the Government of Japan and UNDP India have been jointly supporting the Government of India's response to the COVID-19 pandemic through strengthening of health and social protection systems and reviving livelihoods to address the devastating impacts on the lives of the most vulnerable population.

In the context of the ongoing pandemic overwhelming the health system across the country, one of the key challenges has been the acute shortage of medical oxygen. In light of the critical need to ensure uninterrupted oxygen supply, the support from the people of Japan has enabled UNDP in procuring and installing eight Pressure Swing Absorption (PSA) oxygen generation plants in the States of Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura in the North Eastern Region of India.

The hospitals, with a capacity of approximately 1,300 beds in total, have been identified in the region for these oxygen generation plants. Excess oxygen will be distributed among other health facilities in the hospitals' vicinity. The installation sites are being prepared so that the oxygen production can start at the earliest possible.

"Japan stands with India, our friend and partner, in her efforts to fight against COVID-19 pandemic in this critical time. I am pleased that Japan is working with UNDP to provide vital oxygen generation plants for the people of India's North East. India's North East occupies a special place for Japan-India relations and I sincerely hope that the Oxygen generation plants will help those people in need in the North Eastern Region of India", shared by His Excellency Mr. Satoshi Suzuki, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Republic of India.

"I would like to thank the people of Japan for this critical support that will allow UNDP to ensure uninterrupted flow of oxygen in hospitals and health centres in the region, especially those in hard-to-reach areas. The situation in India is devastating and the pandemic continues to threaten millions of lives. UNDP urgently needs additional support to ensure that we reach the last mile to leave no one behind," mentioned by Ms. Shoko Noda, Resident Representative, UNDP India.



In addition to this, UNDP has also been supporting the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare with digitization of supply chain of vaccines and tracking beneficiaries across states to ensure better access and coverage. It has also helped build capacities of 820,500 frontline workers across the country to support the 'world's largest vaccination drive'. The Government of Japan has also committed a sizable commitment of providing critical items to India, including ventilators and oxygen concentrators.

.....

About UNDP: UNDP works across 170 countries and territories to eradicate poverty while protecting the planet. We help countries develop strong policies, skills, partnerships, and institutions so they can sustain their progress. UNDP has worked in India since 1951 in almost all areas of human development, from systems strengthening to inclusive growth and sustainable livelihoods, as well as sustainable energy, environment, and resilience. UNDP's programmes continue to integrate a global vision for catalytic change with India's national priorities. With over 30 projects on the ground in almost every state, today, it works to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by transforming traditional models to do development differently.

Please visit <https://www.in.undp.org/>

Follow UNDP India on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

For more information, please contact:

Embassy of Japan in India

KAJITA Takuma

Counsellor

takuma.kajita@mofa.go.jp

UNDP India

Moumita Dastidar

Head of Communications, UNDP India

moumita.dastidar@undp.org; +91-99784-45741

Yuta Kono

SDGs Coordination Officer, UNDP India

yuta.kono@undp.org; +91-99711-24189