

Regarding need for decentralized Bio-CNG units at Pilgrimage hubs under SATAT to extract green energy from Floral Waste-laid

SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI (BHUBANESWAR): I draw the attention of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy to an urgent ecological challenge and green energy opportunity: temple floral waste. India generates over 3,00,000 metric tonnes of floral waste annually. Due to religious sentiments, these sacred offerings are routinely cast into rivers rather than landfills, dumping toxic chemical pesticides that choke aquatic life. However, floral biomass is an exceptional substrate for anaerobic digestion, yielding over 57% pure methane. Converting this waste into compressed biogas presents a massive opportunity. Therefore, I urge the Government to launch a dedicated framework under the Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) initiative to deploy decentralized bio-CNG units at major pilgrimage hubs. This turn from 'Pooja' to 'Urja' will protect our rivers while driving sustainable rural energy.