

Press Release

iFOREST Trains Kanpur's Small Industries to Reduce Carbon Emissions and Air Pollution from Boilers

Uttar Pradesh operates nearly 2,800 steam boilers, accounting for about 6% of India's boiler base. These boilers are a major source of industrial air pollution, with Kanpur among the districts housing more than 100 units, underscoring the scale and urgency of the state's challenge in reducing industrial air pollution.

Kanpur, 15 September 2026 — The International Forum for Environment, Sustainability and Technology (iFOREST) held a training and workshop on industrial boilers for industries and regulatory bodies, such as the Directorate of Boilers and the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board. The training covered topics such as clean technologies, the use of cleaner fuels such as biomass and piped natural gas (PNG), the adoption of pollution-control devices, and guidance on operating boilers more efficiently.

The programme is part of iFOREST's industrial heat decarbonisation initiative, which focuses on improving the energy and environmental performance of boilers, resulting in cleaner and low-cost steam for industries, especially MSMEs. The initiative is being undertaken in collaboration with the Directorate of Boilers, Government of Uttar Pradesh, and under MoUs with the Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board (UPPCB).

Boilers are critical to manufacturing across a wide range of MSME sectors, including food processing, textiles, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, paper and sugar. Improving boiler efficiency and reducing carbon emissions is therefore an important step towards India's commitment to achieving net-zero emissions.

Sanjeev Kumar Kanchan, Director, ESG and Industrial Decarbonisation, iFOREST, said, "Uttar Pradesh has nearly 2,800 operating steam boilers registered under the Indian Boiler Regulations, accounting for around 6% of India's boilers and 11% of the installed capacity. Sugar and food-processing industries account for more than half of the state's total boiler capacity, while bagasse and biomass together fuel more than two-thirds of the capacity."

The Director of Boilers, Kanpur, Sandeep Kumar Gupta, emphasised the collaboration between his office and iFOREST, noting that iFOREST works with multiple state governments, the central government and the Uttar Pradesh government specifically to help industries improve boiler performance. He said, "Improving boiler operations will reduce plants' operating costs by enhancing fuel and energy efficiency, making industrial processes leaner and more competitive."

Given the scale of heat used for generating steam in industries, improving the energy performance of boilers has significant implications for reducing energy consumption and carbon emissions. Over the past year, iFOREST has conducted energy and environmental assessments across industrial boiler units in Uttar Pradesh. These assessments have consistently highlighted the need for greater awareness, technical knowledge and capacity among boiler operators.

The boiler training programme in Kanpur was organised to address this gap and support the transition towards more efficient, cleaner and lower-carbon industrial heat systems. It brought together industry owners and boiler operators, officials from the Directorate of Boilers and UPSIDA, boiler manufacturers and service providers, and technical experts.

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