

This group stands for the 'green' cause

SETTING EXAMPLE Aghor Foundation is developing a centre, which preserves, recycles and uses natural resources

HT Correspondent

■ htvaranasi@hindustantimes.com

VARANASI: For the first time in Varanasi, a social organisation is working towards creating an environment, which is in sync with the nature, by using natural resources.

Aghor Foundation launched the Amrit Sagar educational ecological centre project five months ago.

Situated on the eastern bank of the Ganga, the centre is a working model that follows the best environment practices. It aims at fostering and promoting eco-friendly practices by creating an environment that uses the latest innovative technologies like alternative energy models, waste management, recycling composting etc.

Girish Sharma, project manager and active member of the foundation, told HT, "The Amrit



■ The biogas plant

Sagar project has been started to promote alternative sources of energy and prominently for producing pure organic compost, which is further recycled in foundation's biogas plant. Besides, we have solar energy, which is work-

ing as an alternative energy resource here."

"Pure organic compost also comes under the project. This compost is made of cow dung, household waste, dry starching material, green waste and cattle food which fosters

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GIRISH SHARMA
Project manager,
Aghor foundation

growth of plants in a big way," added Girish.

"The working model of Amrit Sagar, an educational eco-centre, is in itself a role model and also producing pure milk, honey and cultivating Ayurvedic herbs," he added.

Besides, the project also includes a dairy project and three biogas plants, he said.

Ten cows have been kept there and fresh cattle food is being given to them for get-

ting pure milk, butter and ghee.

"Produced dairy products and other things are being used by foundation members. Our cow shelter is being run by solar energy. Since there is an electricity crisis in the city, solar energy is being used in the project," said Girish.

Kamla and Loknath, an Italian couple, are actively participating in the project and handling foundation's school.

They said the foundation would soon start teaching other students of Varanasi, telling them how to make the organic composts, its benefit and many other things about the ecological centre.

"Currently, Varanasi children and schools have virtually no access to an environment where they could learn about ecology. We will soon dedicate a part of the eco centre for Varanasi school groups," said Kamla.