

Pioneering Green Hydrogen Solutions for a Net-Zero Future

As part of a broader commitment to helping meet global net-zero targets, KPI Green Hydrogen and Ammonia recently signed an MoU to advance their work in green hydrogen solutions, shared **Dr. Faruk G. Patel**, Chairman & Managing Director, KP Group, in an exclusive interview with **Elets News Network (ENN)**.



DR. FARUK G. PATEL

Chairman & Managing Director
KP Group

Could you provide us with an overview of your current renewable energy projects?

The KP Group has become one of India's leading renewable power-generating companies. We have 35 companies under our umbrella, with three major ones dedicated to renewables. Our flagship, KPI Green Energy Limited, operates in both solar and hybrid projects as an Independent Power Producer (IPP) and a Captive Power Producer (CPP). We're also proud to run Gujarat's largest private solar park. KP Energy is also involved in wind projects, while KP Green Engineering supports both companies by providing essential infrastructure and equipment to GETCO.

We aim to install 10 GW of renewable energy projects by 2030. We're Gujarat's top BOP wind solution provider, with a portfolio exceeding 1.8 GW. As of August 14, 2024, our current project portfolio spans more than 38 sites with a total capacity of 4.6 GW, which includes solar and hybrid (solar + wind) projects. We are also working on additional projects that bring our total to over 2.6 GW.

How does KP Group ensure efficiency and sustainability in its energy generation processes?

Since KP Group's inception, efficiency and sustainability have been at the heart of our operations. We've adopted advanced technologies like bifacial solar panels, single-axis sun trackers, and robotic cleaning systems to stay ahead of the curve. These technologies significantly optimize energy generation, ensuring our clients see tangible benefits.

In wind projects, we were the first to install wind turbines in South Gujarat, demonstrating our commitment to innovation. Moreover, we focus on optimizing resources and reducing losses throughout the lifecycle of our renewable projects. Whether solar or wind, we manage a wide range of renewable projects, including solar projects in the C&I segment, EPC, wind projects, and hybrid project development.

Our professional team also runs comprehensive

operations and maintenance (O&M) activities supported by state-of-the-art digital technologies such as SCADA. We ensure continuous 24/7 monitoring through our Network Operating Centre (NOC), preventive maintenance, and fast fault restoration. We're also proud of the environmental impact assessments and stakeholder engagements critical to our projects' long-term success and sustainability. Our robotic cleaning systems, in particular, have drastically increased efficiency while saving water and reducing overall O&M costs.

What are KP Group's future expansion plans or upcoming projects?

Just like in the past, we plan to continue expanding aggressively. We are working on several exciting projects, including hybrid projects from major players like Aditya Birla, NTPC, INGEL, Ayana, and Apraava. Our C&I portfolio alone has over 100 projects in simultaneous execution.

We recently secured a 917 MWp IPP solar project and a 100 MW hybrid project from GUVNL. The work on the 240MWp solar project for GUVNL at Khavda, Gujarat, is in the advanced execution stages. We also have won 100MW solar project from MAHAGenco, Maharashtra. Hybrid projects are a strategic focus for us, allowing us to leverage our solar and wind energy expertise. Our ambitious goal is to achieve a cumulative capacity of 10 GW by 2030. To fuel this growth, we recently raised ₹1,300 crore through a Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP), including ₹300 crore in the first round and ₹1,000 crore in the second.

In addition to solar, wind, and hybrid projects, we are diversifying into green hydrogen. We're setting up a 1 MW green hydrogen project in Gujarat, which we expect to be operational within this financial year. Also, we are developing a new factory at Matar, Bharuch, which will house Asia's largest kettle for galvanization. This factory will greatly support our renewable energy engineering requirements.



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Are there any upcoming initiatives or partnerships in the renewable energy space?

We are actively working on new initiatives and partnerships. Recently, we signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with Mahatma Phule Renewable Energy and Infrastructure Technology Limited (MahaPreit), the Uttarakhand Government, and the Government of Gujarat through Vibrant Gujarat. These partnerships will help us expand geographically and contribute to various

states' renewable energy targets.

On the green hydrogen front, KPI Green Hydrogen & Ammonia recently signed an MoU to advance our work in green hydrogen solutions. This is part of our broader commitment to helping meet global net-zero targets.

How does corporate social responsibility (CSR) align with KP Group's business strategy?

CSR is an integral part of our business strategy. At KP Group, we believe in giving back to society, and our efforts consistently exceed what is mandated by regulations. Through the KP Human Development Foundation, we've impacted over 1.25 crore beneficiaries across more than 300 initiatives, spending over ₹5.5 crore on humanitarian activities in FY 2023-24. Education is the most focused area that we look forward to by allocating almost 47% of our spending to this sector. Four governments, two other adopted schools, and a graduation college for the specially-abled are fine examples of this. KP Human is also building the World's First Old Age Home for the specially-abled in the Bharuch district of Gujarat.

Our CSR initiatives are aligned with sustainable development goals and focus on key areas like education, healthcare, environmental sustainability, and community development. By integrating CSR with our business, we aim to create a lasting social impact while continuing our business growth. 