

India's Jakson Group plans 10 biogas plants

By [Rouhan Sharma](#) | 21 May 2024 | 16:55 IST

Noida-headquartered energy and infrastructure group Jakson plans to build 10 compressed biogas (CBG) plants, a senior official told *Infralogic*.

Jakson Biofuels will invest about INR 8bn-INR 10bn (USD 96m-USD 120m) in the projects, said Group CEO  Business Officer Sanjay Gupta.

It aims to construct three plants initially, which will be built in the next 15 to 18 months, he said. The company has identified sites in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh states. The remaining plants will be developed in the second phase.

One of the areas of concern is the aggregation of feedstock due to the smaller sizes of farms in India, he said.

Jakson Biofuels also aims to expand capacity at its first ethanol plant - which it commissioned earlier this month - to 400 kilolitres per day (KLPD) from the current 150 KLPD, said Gupta. He did not reveal a cost estimate for this, adding that the company plans to complete the expansion in the next 15 months.

The customers for its CBG will be compressed natural gas pump stations as well as city gas distribution networks being set up, in line with the government's focus to reduce natural gas imports and utilise agri-waste for biofuel generation, said Gupta.

Solar, wind and storage

Jakson Green, the group's clean energy transition platform, is also looking to grow its portfolio, said Gupta, and aims to have an asset base of around 5 GW in the next four-to-five years.

This will comprise solar-wind hybrid and round-the-clock projects - along with associated power storage - he said, adding that the current portfolio in development is about 1 GW.

Earlier this year, the company signed 25-year power purchase agreements for the 1 GW portfolio - comprising three projects - with state-owned Solar Energy Corporation of India, Rajasthan Urja Vikas Nigam and hydro power generator, NHPC.

Discussions on project finance for all three projects is ongoing, said Gupta, adding that the debt may be finalised in about three or four months.

"The debt-equity ratio for the projects will be finalised as we proceed with the execution," he said, with commissioning scheduled in "the next 15 to 24 months".

"Currently, the focus is on building quality assets so we can maximise stakeholder value and any capital churn strategy will be decided based on market outlook," he said.

Apart from solar and wind generation development, Jakson Green also has a solar engineering, procurement and construction business both within and outside India, and has more than 4 GW of ongoing projects. It also provides operations and maintenance and has another 3.5 GW in this portfolio.

Jakson Group was formed in 1947, starting out as a manufacturer of diesel generators. It has since diversified into clean energy, biofuels, infrastructure, and solar modules and products and employs more than 2,500 people.

India tendered 40 GW of renewables in the year through March 2024, up from 12 GW a year earlier. Solar-wind hybrid, RTC and other complex projects accounted for 38% of the total capacity auctioned, up from 8% in 2023.

The country has a target to achieve 500 GW of non-fossil-based electricity generation capacity by 2030. As of the end of 30 April, the installed renewables capacity was 144.7 GW.

Sector:

Geography:

Topic:

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