SAEL
SUSTAINABLE & AFFORDABLE ENERGY FOR LIFE

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SAEL is a leader in biomass-based power generation. How is it driving circular economy through technology and partnerships?

India's energy transition is unique by virtue of the growing electricity demand and supply dynamics that need to strike a balance while diversifying the energy mix. SAEL Industries Limited's Agri Waste-to-Energy (Agri WtE) business is a solid example bringing together advanced technology, sustainable resource utilization and rural development.

With SAEL's 11 Agri WtE plants in Punjab, Rajasthan and Haryana, we are converting ~2 million tonnes of Agri waste (primarily paddy straw) into clean, dispatchable 24X7 power, creating micro-ecosystems that are reducing air pollution, and generating new income streams for farmers and local jobs. We have investment partners who believe in the business model and are playing a key role in accelerating energy transition globally, driving a shift towards renewable energy.

Today, SAEL is a pioneer in Agri WtE industry and the largest Agri WtE operator in India based on operational capacity generating 165 MW of clean power. Our Agri WtE model with integrated supply chain is scalable as majority of the states in India achieve only 15-20% of the Agri WtE potential capacity leaving a significant opportunity to tap.

We are empowering farmers to become entrepreneurs and adding new employment opportunities in agri-waste collection, processing and plant operations. These steps have improved the livelihoods of the rural communities we serve, ultimately contributing to a more sustainable and equitable development.

How has the company's strategy of vertical integration across manufacturing and power generation provided a competitive advantage?

SAEL is a diversified and integrated renewable energy company that is well positioned to leverage multiple stages of the solar energy value chain. It has helped us to enhance the margins, reduce external risks, and secure long-term competitiveness. Through backward integration we have developed a muscle to build, own and operate solar power plants, selling power to DISCOMs, central government off-takers and private industry players through long-term PPAs. By investing in solar module manufacturing, SAEL ensures to remain competitive and aligned with India's Make in India ambition, reinforcing supply reliability and economic resilience. We have 3625 MW of TOPCon solar module manufacturing facility and will be setting up 5000 MW each of solar cell and module manufacturing in UP.

To significantly bend India's emissions and pollution curve by 2035, what is one unconventional step large corporates should take in the next decade?

From large corporates, the key is to move 'climate & sustainability' from CSR to core P&L strategy. That could mean signing long-term green power contracts, co investing in waste to energy or other process decarbonization technologies around their plants and logistics hubs. If these shifts happen together, the transition becomes self reinforcing instead of compliance driven. This could span across embedding climate targets into operational and financial planning, supply chain strategies, and even capital allocation. It would mobilize entire corporate ecosystems towards measurable emission reduction in a seamless manner. ■