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Indian Delegation Explores Partnerships in the Biogas Sector at EnergyDecentral

High-level representatives from government ministries and the energy industry on a multi-day delegation visit to Germany – DLG (German Agricultural Society) and the Indian Federation of Green Energy hosted a stakeholder roundtable for Indian and European participants at EnergyDecentral trade fair – India to support the expansion of CBG plants with approximately €2.4 billion – DLG President Paetow: Circular economy offers opportunities for both sides

DLG (German Agricultural Society) welcomed a high-level business delegation from India at its EnergyDecentral 2026 trade fair held in Hanover last week. The delegation included representatives from India's Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas as well as state-owned and private oil and gas companies. The purpose of the visit was to learn about German technologies and solutions and to initiate cooperation and investment projects in the biogas sector. To this end, the delegation visited EnergyDecentral exhibitors and toured biogas plants in the Hanover region. The highlight of the visit was a roundtable held on the evening of Thursday, 12 November, organized by the DLG with the support of the Indian industry association Indian Federation of Green Energy.

EnergyDecentral was held alongside EuroTier, the leading trade fair for livestock technologies from 10 to 13 November 2026, once again demonstrated its role as an international platform for knowledge transfer and business development in the renewable energy sector.

The delegation visit forms part of the Indian government's strategy to significantly expand the production of compressed biogas (CBG). In autumn 2026, India launched the GOBARdhan programme. The ten-year funding initiative, running through the 2035/36 fiscal year, comprises approximately €2.4 billion. The programme is designed to support investments in production facilities, the expansion of pipeline infrastructure, and technology and knowledge transfer to accelerate the development of the country's biogas sector.

EnergyDecentral welcomed high-ranking representatives from Indian business and government, including the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG), represented by Joint Secretary Alok Tripathi; major state-owned energy companies such as Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum, Hindustan Petroleum, GAIL, Oil India, ONGC Green and Petronet LNG; the city gas distributor Indraprastha Gas; as well as project developers and plant operators. The delegation also included industrial companies such as automobile manufacturer Maruti Suzuki, consulting firms and research institutions.

“The energy transition is a global challenge and, at the same time, a great opportunity for agriculture and the decentralized energy sector, both in India and in Germany,” emphasized DLG President Hubertus Paetow at the opening of the roundtable. “India is a promising market for CBG. Both India and Europe stand to benefit through knowledge transfer and market opportunities. Moreover, these projects embody the principles of the circular economy and therefore contribute to global sustainability.”

“India is one of the world’s most dynamic growth markets for biogas and biomethane,” said Marcus Vagt, Show Director of EnergyDecentral at DLG. “EnergyDecentral provides the ideal framework for Indian investors and project developers to engage directly with German technology providers. Both sides benefit from this exchange. The visit by the Indian delegation underlines EnergyDecentral’s importance as a leading international platform for the decentralized energy industry.”

Roundtable: Ambitious Expansion Targets for India’s CBG Market

Alok Tripathi, Joint Secretary at India’s Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, outlined the objectives of his government. The share of natural gas in India’s energy mix is set to increase significantly. The number of CBG plants is expected to grow from approximately 250 today to 5,000, while the national network of gas filling stations is projected to expand from 1,000 to 10,000 locations within the next ten years.

According to forecasts presented during the meeting, CBG production is expected to increase from 0.35 million standard cubic meters per day in fiscal year 2025/26 to more than 3.5 million by fiscal year 2029/30 and exceed 5 million by 2035/36. Investments in the sector could rise from approximately USD 1.5 billion today to more than USD 4 billion by 2030 and exceed USD 10 billion by 2036.

According to Tripathi, between 25 and 30 percent of India’s current gas imports could eventually be replaced by CBG, contributing to greater energy independence and reducing reliance on fossil fuels. He expressed his appreciation for the technologies presented at EnergyDecentral

and emphasized that the circular economy concepts showcased at the exhibition could be successfully adapted to Indian conditions.

Representatives from Indian industry also highlighted the sector's strong development potential. As a relatively young market, India's CBG industry continues to rely on expertise and technologies from Germany and Europe.

Skilled Labor, Standards and Adapted Technologies

Dr. Claudius da Costa Gomez, Managing Director of the German Biogas Association, welcomed the opportunity for closer cooperation and pointed to the knowledge and technology transfer that the German and European biogas industries can provide. Representatives of companies from Germany, Austria and Switzerland also emphasized the market's potential, describing India as one of the most promising biogas markets worldwide. Several manufacturers already operate production facilities in India and export from there to other Asian markets.

At the same time, discussions at the roundtable highlighted important differences between the two countries. While many of Germany's approximately 10,000 biogas plants are based on energy crops, India relies more heavily on waste and agricultural residues. However, gas produced from such feedstocks is often more aggressive and places higher demands on gas upgrading technologies. This was identified as a key area for future technology and knowledge transfer.

Industry participants with experience in the Indian market also highlighted opportunities in training skilled operators and expanding service and after-sales infrastructure.
The roundtable participants concluded that cooperation with India offers the German biogas sector significant opportunities to contribute its expertise in the planning, construction and operation of biogas and biomethane plants in one of the world's most important future growth markets. Particularly in demand are plant engineering companies, suppliers of gas cleaning and upgrading technologies, digestate management solutions, pumping, mixing and measurement equipment, as well as biomethane marketers and service providers.

At the conclusion of the roundtable, the Indian delegation extended an invitation to participate in India Energy Week, which will take place from 28 to 31 January 2027 in Kolkata.

DLG Expands Its International Activities

The delegation visit is one example of the various international partnerships and initiatives launched by DLG Markets GmbH as a global trade fair organizer and facilitator of multinational cooperation projects during EuroTier and EnergyDecentral 2026.

During this year’s EuroTier, DLG announced the launch of the India Dairy XPO as a new exhibition segment within Anuga FoodTec India Dairy, scheduled for April 2027. DLG is also expanding its international trade fair portfolio through the launch of the Mexican Dairy XPO (MDX), a new event dedicated to the dairy industry in Mexico. The inaugural edition will take place in Guadalajara on 2 and 3 February 2028. With this addition, DLG Markets North America further strengthens its North American dairy portfolio, which already includes the Canadian Dairy XPO (CDX) and the American Dairy XPO (ADX).

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DLG. Progress and sustainability in the agriculture and food industry

The DLG (German Agricultural Society), founded in 1885 by Max Eyth, stands for productivity and sustainability in innovation-driven improvements in agriculture and the food chain. The aim of the DLG is to promote progress through the transfer of knowledge - especially with regard to technology and quality control. Non-profit, politically independent and with an international network, the DLG has more than 30,000 members worldwide.

As one of the leading organizations in its sector, the DLG not only organizes trade fairs and events in the fields of agriculture and food technology but also tests food, agricultural technology and equipment. With its competence centers for agriculture and food, its demonstration farm where practical trials take place along with its numerous publications, the DLG continually promotes independent knowledge transfer. In addition, the DLG works on numerous national and international committees of experts to develop solutions for the challenges facing agriculture and the food industry.
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