

Back To Office Mission Report (BTOMR)

Name	Nikhil Khot and Members of the Expert Appraisal Group (EAG) 1. Prof. Satyananda Kar, Department of Energy Science and Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi.
Places	Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab and Yamunanagar, Haryana
Date of Travel	February 14, 2023
Date of Report	February 23, 2023

Notes/Discussion

Purpose of visit:

A follow-up visit to review the progress of the demonstration projects selected under the financial support scheme of the GEF-MNRE-UNIDO Project to the Expert Appraisal Group (EAG) members to conduct the inspection of work and progress.

Mission Itinerary:

14 February 2023:

7:40 am to 08:55 am – New Delhi to Chandigarh

9:30 am to 11:00 am – Chandigarh airport to Fatehgarh Sahib

11:00 am to 12:30 pm – site visit to the **M/s Cities Innovative Biofuels Pvt Ltd** project

12:30 pm to 02:30 pm – Fatehgarh Sahib to Yamuna Nagar

02:30 pm to 05:00 pm – site visit to the **M/s SPSBIO-CHEM Pvt Ltd** project

05:00 pm to 10:00 pm – Yamuna Nagar to Delhi

Background

The GEF-MNRE-UNIDO Project launched its financial support scheme to demonstrate innovative organic waste-to-energy bio-methanation projects. The Expert Appraisal Group (EAG) was appointed to carry out the competitive evaluation of the applications received under the financial support scheme of the GEF-MNRE-UNIDO Project launched to promote innovations. The following are two among four projects selected by the Project Executive Committee (PEC) on the basis of the assessment of the Expert Appraisal Group (EAG).

1. M/s Cities Innovative Biofuels Pvt. Ltd.

Village Malaheri, PO Nandpur Kesho, Dist. Fatehgarh Sahib

Punjab – 147001

Size/Capacity – 8,000 m³/d

2. M/s SPSBIO-CHEM Pvt. Ltd.

Khevat No 456,16,18.952, Village Damla, Tehsil Rador, District

Yamunanagar-135001, Haryana

Size/Capacity – 16,000 m³/d

Achievements

1. Visit the project site of M/s Cities Innovative Biofuels Pvt Ltd

Mr Gurjot Singh, the project director, welcomed and walked us through the project site.

Mr Singh informed that about 5,000 tonnes of paddy has been collected from the neighbouring fields

during the harvesting season of last year. A small part of it is stored on the project site and the remaining is on 5 acres of leased land which is approximately 2-3 km away. The total cost of collection incurred is about 60,00,000 Rs (1,200 Rs/Tonne). The 3,000 tonnes of paddy collected during the previous season at a similar cost of collection was sold at about 2,400 Rs/Tonne in the open market as the biogas plant was still under construction.

The overall construction status on the site is the same as during the last visit in September 2022. There were no labourers present on site and the work is completely paused. Mr Singh informed us that the project cost has overrun by about ₹ 5 Cr, majorly due to inflation, which has interrupted further development. He told that both the equity and loan amounts, which are in a 50:50 ratio, have been completely utilised. He has raised more equity required to complete the project and work will resume on the site by the first week of March 2023.

Following the minutes of the 6th Project Steering-cum-Advisory Committee (PSAC) meeting held on 19 December 2022, a letter of intimation has been issued to the project by UNIDO to notify 30 September 2023 as the deadline for successful commercialisation¹. The letter has been handed over to Mr Singh.

Following are the pictures indicating the present status of the site.



2. Visit to the project site of M/s SPSBIO-CHEM Pvt Ltd.

Mr Rohit Singla, Director SPSBIO-CHEM Pvt Ltd and Mr Prasad Danve, Project Coordinator, Texol Energy Pvt Ltd, Technology partner welcomed us. Mr Danve walked us through the project site.

The installation of the key project equipment and systems including the weighing bridge, feedstock storage beds, goliath crane, biogas upgradation system (Pressure Swing Adsorption), digesters, feed preparation tanks, hydrogen sulphide scrubber, gas, water and slurry piping, and control panels is completed. The laying of electrical cables and construction of the organic fertiliser production section is underway. The overall pace of the work is satisfactory.

¹ Successful Commercialisation – demonstrations of the innovations and the minimum 5 days continuous plant operation at the more than 90% of the designed Bio-CNG output capacity.

Mr Danve informed us that the commissioning will begin by the March end after receiving the Consent To Operate (CTO) from the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB).

Mr Rohit Singla, Director and Mr Pranav Kulkarni, Director, Texol Energy Pvt Ltd, Technology partner welcomed the EAG members. Mr Kulkarni explained the project using the plant layout and provided further insight on innovations during the discussion in the meeting. Later he showed the complete plant during the short tour and provided detailed information about its engineering, design and equipment.

Following the minutes of the 6th Project Steering-cum-Advisory Committee (PSAC) meeting held on 19 December 2022, a letter of intimation has been issued to the project by UNIDO to notify 31 July 2023 as the deadline for successful commercialisation². The letter has been handed over to Mr Singla.



² Successful Commercialisation – demonstrations of the innovations and the minimum 5 days continuous plant operation at the more than 90% of the designed Bio-CNG output capacity.



Follow-up Actions

Action: Plan a follow-up visit

Deadline: 18 April 2023

Responsible: Nikhil Khot