

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Budget: Indian Biogas Association seeks Rs 1,000-cr fund to promote fermented manure use in agriculture

Synopsis

In its Budget recommendations, the industry body has said it recommends a Rs 1,000-crore fund to promote fermented organic manure. Most of the government incentives are focusing on the gas part of the biogas plant, but equally important is the organic fertilizer that comes out as a byproduct.



Representational image

Ahead of the [budget](#), the [Indian Biogas Association](#) has requested the government to set a Rs 1,000-crore fund to promote the use of fermented organic manure (FOM) in agriculture. [Biogas](#) plants convert organic wastes such as crop waste, animal manure, municipal waste, vegetable waste, etc into clean biogas through anaerobic

digestion to produce clean energy. In this process FOM is generated as a waste.

As per the association, around 2,000 tonnes of FOM is generated in the country which can be used in agriculture.

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"Rs 1,000 crore fund needs to be put in place to streamline the end-to-end process, especially to form and channelise the whole process through a committee of government representatives, industry associations, and individuals working in the field of biogas. A part of the fund may go to incentivise and acknowledge producers of bio-fertilizers to promote production, and try out different business models, including contract farming," it said.

Budget 2023: Indian Biogas Association seeks Rs 1,000-cr fund to promote fermented

PTI

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THE TIMES OF INDIA

Budget FY24: Indian Biogas Association seeks Rs 1,000 crore fund to promote fermented manure use in agriculture



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The government is already discussing making the purchase of biofertilizer mandatory for every bag of urea purchased by a farmer in order to promote organic nutrients and reduce the use of chemical fertilizers. Biogas plant-based fertilizer or FOM can be an addition to it, it added.


It is important to promote balanced and sustainable use of chemical fertilisers by bundling biogas plant-based fertilizer with urea.

Under the fund, the organic fertilizer is sold to farmers at subsidised/unsubsidised prices to encourage them to opt for sustainable agricultural practices. This will

Outlook

Budget FY24: Indian Biogas Association Seeks Rs 1,000-Crore Fund To Promote Fermented Manure Use In Agriculture

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Press Trust of India 

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Under the fund, the organic fertilizer is sold to farmers at subsidised/unsubsidised prices to encourage them to opt for sustainable agricultural practices. This will ensure that the bio-fertilizers are available in bulk for agriculture.

"The government may also implement policies to procure the bio-fertilizer through Public Sector Undertaking (PSUs) at a predetermined price based on the nutrient components in the slurry. The FOM can then be linked to enrichment units such as Phosphate Rich Organic Manure units, and other organic enrichment plants for value addition," the association said.

Union Budget: Indian Biogas Association seeks Rs 1,000-cr fund to promote fermented manure use in agriculture

NewsDrum Desk

18 Jan 2023



Representative Image

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How companies are helping revolutionise India's agricultural landscape through organic farming

There's a growing adoption of bio-farming in the Indian agriculture industry. Its benefits for the environment, farmers and consumers are being recognised, slowly but steadily. And more companies are giving it a push.

Neil Banerjee | January 16, 2023



Health is wealth – goes the old dictum. More and more people are realising the wisdom behind it.

They are opting to buy products that are not only rich in their nutritional and health benefits but are also eco-friendly. And therefore, organic vegetables, fruits and other such edible products are witnessing a surge in popularity. As this behaviour gets more traction and attention, industries are helping farmers to switch to bio-farming by rolling out new initiatives. This has gone a long way in revolutionising the current agricultural landscape of India.

Bio-farming, also known as organic farming, is an agriculture method that utilises natural processes to enrich and strengthen the health and productivity benefits of crops and livestock. This method of farming involves the use of natural fertilisers while steering away from the use of synthetic chemicals and GMOs (Genetically Modified Organisms). Apart from the change in consumer behaviour, this method of farming has taken root as there is growing attention being drawn towards the impact that inorganic farming has on the environment. If not stopped now, inorganic farming will wreak havoc on the environment and the soil and affect human health adversely as well.

The road ahead

Another factor that can be beneficial in sustaining the soil environment is the use of bio-based fertilisers. Biomass generated during crop harvesting and by food processing units can also be used to generate nutrient-rich compost.

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“Bio-based fertilisers are a practical approach towards a circular economy. Biomass plants, while being grown in nature, harness the nutrients from mother earth. Therefore, in principle, crop residues or organic waste, for example from food processing units, should be converted into energy and into bio-based fertilisers. The latter should be recycled back to nature from a sustainable agriculture perspective,” asserts Gaurav Kedia, Chairman, Indian Biogas Association.

Bio-farming is a growing trend in India and for it to grow further we have to work on the multiple aspects and factors that affect it. More industries are investing in research and development to bring out innovative techniques and products. It is important for industries to continue doing so. Bringing innovative products and technologies into the market will support the growth of the bio-farming industry in India. Bio-farming has the potential to revolutionise the agricultural sector in India by reducing the reliance on synthetic inputs and by improving the sustainability of farming practices.

Can Government's Commitment towards the Biogas Industry Result in Better Air Quality?

Using biogas in place of coal, fossil fuels, and raw biomass for the generation of energy in power plants, industry, and households can reduce particulate matter in the air and carbon emissions by over 40%. Biogas can be further refined and processed into biomethane, which can be used as vehicular fuel.

January 04, 2023. By News Bureau

Tags: [articles](#) [Biogas](#) [Fossil fuel](#) [Coal](#) [Air quality](#) [Indian Biogas Association](#)
[Climate change](#)



Air pollution has far-reaching effects not only on human lives and physical health but also on poverty and mental health. Particulate matter can travel deep inside the lungs and spread all over the body, causing numerous diseases. According to the report from the State of Global Air 2020, air pollution is the largest risk factor for death and disease. Air pollution causes 11.65% of deaths globally, while it causes around 17.8% of deaths in India. The causes of death due to air pollution range from respiratory diseases to strokes, diabetes, and cancers. Using biogas in place of coal, fossil fuels, and raw biomass for the generation of energy in power plants, industry, and households can reduce particulate matter in the air and carbon emissions by over 40%. Biogas can be further refined and processed into biomethane, which can be used as vehicular fuel. BIOENERGY Can Government's Commitment towards the Biogas Industry Result in Better Air Quality? Dr. A R Shukla President Indian Biogas Association

11.6% deaths due to Air pollution globally
17.8% deaths due to Air pollution in India

Majority by Respiratory diseases, Stroke, Heart attacks and Cancer

The latest statistics from AQLI (air Quality Life Index) shows that India is the second most polluted country in the world with a particulate pollution of 55.8 ug/ m³. The annual average particulate pollution level in India is far above the WHO guidelines, which shortens the life expectancy of its people by 6.3 years. Air pollution is much worse in some areas of the country, with the air quality index reaching above the national average. For example, the pollution in Delhi and its surrounding regions, with an AQI of above 300, shortens the life expectancy of the citizens by 10 years on average.