# Top Solar Power Company: Leading the Way in Renewable Energy Solutions



Fossil fuels, being the lifelines of our economy, have turned out to be the major source of climate change. Solar power appears to be one of the most significant contributions to saving energy for the future. Azure Power, an independent sustainable energy solutions provider and renewable power producer in India, stands among the leading companies involved in this revolution. This top solar power company is on its way to maximizing assets in renewable energy for high-performance stakeholder values creation and is making strides in the renewable energy arena.

# Pioneering Renewable Energy Projects

Azure Power has helped develop and operate some of the largest grid-connected renewable energy projects across India. The electricity produced is delivered to the national grid, government utilities and independent industrial and commercial customers through long-term fixed-price contracts. This guarantees a steady revenue stream, as well as affordable and clean energy sources for a variety of customers.

Punjab 4 is among the iconic projects of Azure, which is a 150 MW solar power plant commissioned in 2016. This facility is located across the districts of Fazilka, Muktasar, and Bhathinda; at the commissioning, it became the largest private solar power project in North India. Another landmark project is Andhra Pradesh 2, with a capacity of 100 MW commissioned in 2017 at Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh. These acts showcase the esteem with which Azure Power attaches to developing India's renewable energy structure.

## **Expansive Renewable Energy Portfolio**

Currently, Azure Power has over 3 GWs of operational capacity in its renewable energy asset base and has contracted and awarded around 1.2 GWs, thus summing up to over 4.3 GWs across India. Such widespread capability demonstrates the required potential to take on and manage large renewable energy projects and further fortifies its stature as a top solar power company in the region.

## Sustainability and Impact on the Environment

What can be more testimony of commitment toward sustainability than operations and initiatives? In 2020-21, the company generated about 3,369 GWh from renewable energy, which was responsible for removing 3 million tons of GHG from the Indian grid. The company also works toward achieving water neutrality by 2023. During FY 2020-21, 28% of the consumed water was recharged back through groundwater recharging structures while adapting robotic, dry cleaners increasingly to minimize water consumption in PV panel cleaning.

## **Recognition and Certifications**

Azure Power has been conferred with many awards in the area of sustainability and responsibility of corporate citizenship. The company was rated by Sustainalytics, a leading ESG rating agency, among the top 10 most sustainable global renewable energy companies. The company was also adjudged the World's Most Sustainable Solar Company in 2020 by World Finance Magazine. In July 2022, Azure Power became the first renewable energy company in India to obtain SA8000 certification, showing an adherence to social accountability standards.

# Strategic Partnerships and Collaborations

Azure Powers has built up strategic partnerships with leaders in other fields to bolster its technological capabilities and look into extending the renewable energy portfolio. In June 2022, the company entered into a Module Supply Agreement with Premier Energies Group, one of the leading manufacturers of solar PV cells and modules in India, for delivery of modules up to 600 MW annually for the next four years. Additionally, in August 2022, Azure Power partnered with Siemens Gamesa to supply 96 units of SG 3.6-145 onshore wind turbines for wind projects with an aggregate capacity of approximately 346 MW.

#### Financial Performance and Growth

The financial performance of Azure Power is resilient and indicates robust growth. For the quarter ending December 31, 2021, the operating revenue of the company stood at INR 4,480 million, which is a growth of 27% year on year. This financial position assists Azure Power, the <u>top solar power company</u>, in investing in new projects and technologies, strengthening its leadership position in the renewable energy sector.

## Leadership and Governance

Strong leadership and governance are vital for Azure Power's success. The board comprises seasoned professionals devoted to steering Azure Power toward its strategic goals. Appointment as Chief Executive Officer in July 2023, Mr. Sunil Gupta brought extensive experience in the energy sector. The experience of the entire board strives to keep Azure Power lining the renewable energy front.

## Community Engagement and Corporate Social Responsibility

Beyond business operations, Azure Power works towards the community and positively impacts the lives of people in those communities. Its CSR initiatives promote education, healthcare, and skill development, embodying 300,000 beneficiaries in different locations. From a community development perspective, Azure Power helps not only in enhancing the livelihoods of people living in the area but also helps to build goodwill and support for its projects.

## Innovative Technologies and Research

Azure Power has a very strong track record of investing in new technologies, and research focused on increasing the efficiency of its renewable energy projects. An example of this effort is the robotic dry cleaners for solar panels, which reduce water use and increase cleaning effectiveness. Moreover, it is exploring advanced energy storage technologies to balance the intermittency of renewable energy sources and, in that way, to provide more reliable and stable power to the grid.

# Challenges and Risk Management

The renewable energy business faces many challenges, including regulation changes, market competition, and environmental concerns. Risk management shines when Azure Power anticipates and prepares for such risks, using its systems that evaluate risks and deploy adaptive planning. It is its experience of handling complex regulatory maps that Azure Power is able to leverage as a basis for operational excellence that mitigates such potential risks.

#### **Future Outlook and Commitment**

Going forward, Azure Power remains set to lead in renewable energy. It is uniquely positioned to capitalize on opportunities in the emerging green energy space through innovation, sustainability, and strategic alliances. Azure Power is firmly holding on to its commitment to displacing 230 million tons of global emissions by 2030, furthering its agenda to fight climate change and enhance the realm of environmental sustainability.

#### To Summarize

As the world moves toward cleaner and greener energy, Azure Power looms large among the solar energy players, not only in India but across the globe. From being a trailblazer in large-scale grid-connected solar and wind projects to enabling the rural populace through education, water

conservation, and livelihood initiatives, Azure Power has consistently demonstrated leadership, innovation, and accountability.

Azure's vast operational and contracted capacity of more than 4.3 GW, together with landmark projects in Punjab and Andhra Pradesh, exemplifies its ability to deliver top-notch renewable energy infrastructure across jurisdictions. With water neutrality, reduced carbon footprint, and SA8000 certification, Azure Power has more than exemplified ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) compliance.

Strengthening the foundation of Azure Power as an icon for steering the energy transition are accolades from renowned global agencies, such as Sustainalytics, collaborations with global supply chain ecosystems, such as Premier Energies, Siemens Gamesa, crucial technology providers, and a foresighted strategic vision. Financial agility and concepts like robotic panel cleaning and smart energy storage solutions further make it ready for the future.

In conclusion, Azure Power is not just providing renewable energy; it is reimagining energy production, distribution, and sustainability for generations ahead. As a top solar power company, Azure Power has been firmly leading the way in delivering clean energy solutions that are reliable, responsible, and scalable, both for the progress of mankind and the planet.