

ECONOMY

India eyes global bio-energy leadership with unified push on capital, missions and SAF exports

On SAF, Rohit Kumar, Secretary General of the SAF Association, said India can meet domestic needs and export

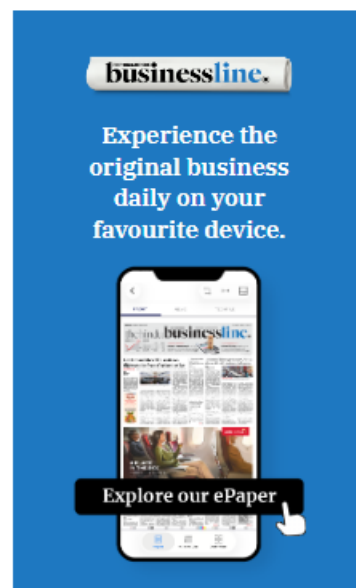
By ANI

Updated - June 13, 2026 at 03:13 PM. | New Delhi

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India can turn bio-energy into a major export engine and a pillar of energy security, industry leaders said on the sidelines of India Bio-Energy Conference 2026, with calls for a single nodal agency, state-wise resource missions and a big push on implementation for bio-fuels and Sustainable Aviation Fuel.

"Time now for a big bank announcement and more importantly, the big bank implementation," said Lt Col Monish Ahuja (Retd), Co-Chair of the National Committee on Bio-Energy under the Trade Promotion Council of India. "Announcements we will make but we need to go on the implementation side for these bio-fuel projects and I think sky is the limit for India," Ahuja said India's leadership is already visible through the Global Bio-Fuel Alliance launched during the G20 Presidency and the government's focus on Atma Nirbharta, energy security, net zero and carbon circularity.



However, he flagged fragmented governance as the top challenge.

"Capital requirement for this sector, nodal agency for this sector... we still have multiple actions of government dispersed. Ministry of Agriculture for resource, Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, Ministry of Petroleum... Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Rural Development, Finance Ministry... But where is one single port of call where the bio-energy sector can go?" he asked.

He suggested either a nodal ministry or an independent department to streamline decisions and funding. He also urged a targeted resource mission, adding, "Resource utilisation mission should be the way. Target that the resource of agriculture residue per state, per district, that pin-pointed number of development needs to be set," Ahuja said. Looking outward, he said the Global South is watching India's model.

"Africa, South East Asia, all the agrarian economies. India's model needs to go there and get replicated. From compressed bio-gas and 2G ethanol to sustainable aviation fuel, e-methanol for shipping, green hydrogen from biomass and bio-chemicals replacing petrochemicals, he called bio-energy "a molecule and the molecule is a circular clean molecule."