

# Tata Power: Generating More than Power in Mundra

The surrounding villages of CGPL plant in Mundra district of Gujarat is witnessing a comprehensive development, since the Tatas have stepped into their village for setting up of India's first-of-its-kind greenfield power project.

In line with its philosophy for the betterment of the community in and around its project, Tata Power through its wholly owned subsidiary CGPL is undertaking various initiatives for the communities in Mundra, Gujarat. The initiatives include timely health check ups, animal husbandry support, need-based livelihood, infrastructure development (solar lighting, improved roads), water and sanitation initiatives, education support, amongst others.

The company project influence zone lies in 10 km radius includes Mandvi Taluka cluster and Mundra Taluka which comprise approximately 10 villages each.

Few of the unique initiative undertaken by the company are as follows:

Project Sujaan- The project is aimed towards formalizing education system through the added value of computer literacy. The project has been successful in educating more than 900 students in Mundra, Kutch.

For more than a year now 'Project Sujaan' through its various collaborative ways has helped students to actively participate and familiarize themselves with computer literacy and education. The project initiated learning stations in the villages, where they were imparted trainings on innovations in technology hardware / software design and cognitive. Project Sujaan has made a significant contribution to improving elementary education and life skills of children across Mundra.

Project Uttkarsh- A holistic community development program catering to the needs of the community through their active participation. Uttkarsh is giving impetus to safe drinking water by installing RO plants, rural energy and water management by construction of check dams, creation of Adarsh Agwanwadi, and establishment of milk collection centers, activities related to farming and drip irrigation and many more. Within two months of initiation project Uttkarsh achieved wide acceptance among the people and a total revenue of Rs. 3,57,142 was generated against a collection of 14,755 litres of milk that re-established the per-litre milk price at Rs. 24, which is much higher than the earlier price.

Gaushala- (Cattle Rearing) - Under this initiative, CGPL has provided an innovative and replicable model by establishing fodder supply centres and building Gaushalas (animal shelters) in 2 panchayats of Mundra, Gujarat. The Gaushalas are spread across 13 acres of company's land with two fodder storage sheds, 5 cattle sheds and cattle troughs. Presently around 3000 cattle are catered to by these Gaushalas, which receive a supply of 4777 MT Green Fodder and 3942 MT Dry fodder. The grazing land mitigation plan and interim supply of fodder has set up new benchmarks in the region as well in the state of Gujarat.

Project Swachh Jal- Understanding the need of the villagers for safe and clean drinking water, Project 'Swachh Jal' was launched. The main objective of the project is to provide clean and safe drinking water to the residents of the area, who used to travel a long distance due to the unavailability of safe drinking water in the nearby area.



Project Surya Prakash- Under the project “Surya Prakash”, CGPL installed boat lights at a fishermen hamlet Modhva. The target for installation is 65 boats. This arrangement will boost their fish catch quantum as now with this system they are going into the sea three times in a day which significantly increases their fish catch. This arrangement will also avoid the collision with other boats which ply in the sea.

Project Shiksha Sarathi – The company focuses on educational excellence for the children in its communities hence is focused on enhancing experience and arranging varied programs for the school children. The Company has availed opportunity for participating in the ongoing government sponsored program so that children can get the excellence of education and secure their future.

Self Help Group (SHG)- This initiative provides support to 227 women of the villages by initiating microfinance activity and health management comprising of prevention of blindness programme reaching out to 244 people.

The company is also working in partnership with NGOs, state and central bodies to widen the reach and leverage each partner’s individual experience and expertise, thereby making substantial difference in the lives of communities.

CGPL has taken special care in ensuring regular supply of clean potable water, particularly in the

district of Kutch, where problem of scarcity of potable water is acute. The water of this region was infected with the viruses causing waterborne diseases. As a part of its ‘Swachh Jal Project’, The company installed the RO plant with a capacity of 1,000 liters per hour in the district. After the completion of the installation and demonstration process, the Tunda village panchayat took the responsibility of managing and maintaining the RO plant. The management and supply is designed in such a manner that each and every family of the village can avail the drinking water facility. To oversee seamless distribution of safe drinking water, the panchayat has nominated an individual to oversee the process; the concerned individual will also oversee the logistics of providing safe drinking water free of cost to those who cannot afford the same. A nominal service charge at the rate of Rs. 5 is levied by the panchayat for the maintenance of the plant.

Company’s future endeavors include setting up of institutions with market linkages and building a strong brand to benefit the local artisans, sustainable livelihood for fishermen. These will be achieved through SAGARBANDHU program, investments in “Shiksha Saathi” project and enabling rural youth to develop life skills needed for employment through skill based vocational training programs.

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# Interview with Mr Anil Sardana

Managing Director, Tata Power in conversation with PWI...

**C**an you please brief about the community development activities that CGPL is carrying out.

In line with its philosophy for the betterment of the community in and around its project, Tata Power through its wholly owned subsidiary CGPL has regularly undertaken various initiatives for the community in Mundra, Gujarat. Initiatives undertaken by the company for the community and environment includes timely health checks, animal husbandry support, need based livelihood, infrastructure development (solar lighting, improved roads), water and sanitation initiatives, education support, amongst others.

**UMPP has a complex process that has huge implications on the environment. What are the operating standards being followed by Tata Power to ensure cleaner environment safety of its workforce?**

The Mundra UMPP is part of the government’s strategic plan for catering to the country’s energy needs. In addition, it is compliant with the IFC/ World Bank norms. The project uses supercritical technology. This technology and the choice of unit sizes will help the project produce lower greenhouse gas emissions than regular coal-fired power stations. In addition, the choice of coal significantly lowers sulphur emissions.

Supercritical technology will help the project achieve higher efficiency, which saves fuel and



reduces greenhouse gas emissions. The greenhouse gas emissions per kilowatt hour of energy generated will be about 750 grams of carbon dioxide per kWh, as compared to India's national average of 1,259g CO<sub>2</sub> / kWh. In fact the world average of 919g CO<sub>2</sub> / kWh, and the average for OECD countries is 888g CO<sub>2</sub>/ kWh is higher than our figure.

As compared to any other sub-critical power plant in India, this project will avoid burning 1.7 million tonnes of coal per year, thus averting carbon emissions of 3.6 million tonnes per year.

The company is also using renewable energy resources (solar power) through installation of solar plant at the township to cater to the hot water requirements at the kitchen facility. Tata Power is also in the process of installing a micro-hydel plant in the outfall channel to harness the flow of water, which will be one more way of generating clean / green power.

In addition to this, we have installed high efficiency Electro Static Precipitators (ESPs) to control particulate matter emission. We are using low Nox burners for burning of pulverized coal which are specially designed to reduce at least 35 per cent Nox emission in comparison with other burners. In the premises, special acoustic enclosure is provided to control TG noise level.

While safety in power plants is traditionally incorporated once the plant is operational, in the case of CGPL, safety and security best practices were created keeping in mind the demands of all levels of workforce and were incorporated from the start of the construction phase of the project.

**How much budget has been earmarked for these**

### **CSR initiatives? How many villages are being covered under these initiatives?**

The company project influence zone lies in 10 km radius includes Mandvi Taluka cluster and Mundra Taluka which comprise approximately 10 villages each. Villages in Mandvi Taluka include Bag, Bidada, Faradi, Gundiyali, Maska, Mota Bhadiya, Nana Bhadiya, Nani Khakkar, Pipari and Tragadi. The villages in Mundra Taluka include Deshalpur, Jarpara, Kandagara Mota, Khakhar Moti, Moti Bhujpar, Nani Bhujpar, Navinal, Pratappur, Shiracha and Tunda.

### **What is the basic premise of the CSR activities of the company? And, what are the procedures to keep track of the progress of the projects?**

Since the beginning, the organization has worked with a 'Triple Bottom Line Approach' of sustainable development and this has helped in achieving a satisfied community with trust and faith in the company and its operations.

The company has conducted extensive research in the region to assess the need of the residents and how to address the need with a proper execution plan. Community participation is a critical success factor for any community development effort and building on this, the community relations team started a series of consultative dialogues with village elected representatives, opinion leaders and the community.

As mentioned above, the company has been following systematic strategy for the identification and grouping of stakeholders based on their influence, leading to a phased stakeholder dialogue. It includes exploring and engaging, building and formalizing, implementing actions and then continuously evaluating in a manner that institutionalizes relationship with communities. The programs and their outcomes are aligned to achieve high level of impact and level of sustenance.

### **UMPP plants are associated with serious waste management issues. How will CGPL tackle it?**

As part of its solid waste management initiative for the project township, CGPL has commissioned a Biogas plant of capacity of 300 kg/day.

All coal ash generated from the plant is collected and stored within the plant premises in silos and pond. Dry ash is transported in closed and sealed bulk carriers to the cement industry. There is no possibility of any ash being exposed to the environment or otherwise where it can release heavy metals that can bio accumulate as has been wrongly construed by some. Tata Power has provided a well-designed and lined ash pond in line with the Government of India guidelines to store the ash, which is only a backup arrangement.