Energy Conservation in Fertiliser Industry

The Fertiliser Association of India, New Delhi, organised a Workshop on **Energy Conservation in Fertiliser Industry** during 19-22 August 2026 at Barauni in collaboration with Hindustan Urvarak and Rasayan Limited (HURL). Dr. Suresh Kumar Chaudhari, Director General, FAI inaugurated the workshop and Mr. R.K. Chopra, Managing Director, KRIBHCO Fertilizers Limited, gave the special address. Mr. Nitin Saxena, Business Unit Head, HURL, gave the opening remarks.

Dr. Suresh Kumar Chaudhari, highlighted that the fertiliser industry is among the most energy-intensive sectors, with urea production accounting for about 95% of the sector's energy intensity. He noted that India imports more than 50% of its natural gas requirement, while the fertiliser sector remains one of the largest consumers of natural gas. With energy efficiency already at a high level, he stressed that further gains would require continued technology upgrades, plant revamps and knowledge sharing. Energy conservation is no longer merely desirable; it is essential for the sustainability and competitiveness of the fertiliser industry. Our industry has made significant progress, but as efficiency improves, further gains become increasingly challenging. This makes it even more important to share experiences, identify practical solutions and learn from the successes and challenges of different plants. DG FAI acknowledged the continued support of Dr. Siba Prasad Mohanty, Co-Chairman, FAI and MD, HURL for the activities and initiatives aimed at capacity building, knowledge sharing, and bringing new learnings and industry experiences to the fertiliser fraternity.

Mr. R.K. Chopra stated that many fertiliser plants have similar designs and technologies and consequently face common operational challenges. Greater sharing of plant-level experiences, can help the industry learn from one another and address such challenges more effectively. Such knowledge-sharing is the need of the hour.

Mr. Nitin Saxena, mentioned that energy reduction is critical to improving costs, reducing the subsidy burden on the Government and advancing sustainability. As HURL progresses with new urea projects and green urea production, it is equally important to focus on plant reliability and greater integration of renewable energy. Sharing experiences from new projects can help the industry move forward collectively.

The Workshop covered energy conservation efforts across urea, ammonia and complex fertiliser plants, including latest developments, plant retrofits, energy conservation measures, improved catalysts and waste-heat recovery, optimisation of steam and power consumption, etc.

Mr. Manish Goswami, Chief Technical, FAI, provided sectoral overview of energy consumption and efficiency trends in nitrogenous and complex fertiliser plants during the Workshop.

Mr. Nitin Saxena, BUH, HURL-Barauni in his valedictory address, appreciated the efforts made by all plants, in particular, by vintage plants to improve energy efficiency. He advised participants to focus on optimizing resources and work towards sustainability. He also distributed certificates to participants at the conclusion of the Workshop.

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