

Interview

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Dr. Faruk G. Patel
Founder, Chairman & MD
KP Group

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Q ■ Dr. Patel, your journey from Surat to building one of India's leading renewable energy and heavy infrastructure groups is truly inspiring. What has been the core philosophy and driving force behind transforming a small entrepreneurial idea into the KP Group we see today?

For me, KP Group has never been just another business; it has always been driven by a larger purpose. From day one, I have firmly believed that "Business should create value for society, not just wealth for promoters." That philosophy continues to define every decision we make and every milestone we achieve.

Our journey began in 1994 with a modest capital of approximately ₹1 lakh. We started with transportation and carting services before expanding into mobile tower installation, fabrication and, eventually, renewable energy. At every stage, we consciously diversified our business, constantly adding new capabilities and strengthening our foundation.

Our entry into renewable energy was inspired by a vision to build a sustainable business that could create long-term value while bringing meaningful and positive change to people's lives. We wanted to establish an enterprise that would remain relevant for generations while contributing to India's clean energy transition.

The driving force behind this journey has been simple clear intent, honest hard work and an unwavering commitment to keeping our promises. Every challenge has reinforced my belief that when your intentions are genuine, success naturally follows.

We have always maintained a long-term perspective, embraced technology and innovation at an early stage, and earned the trust of our customers and stakeholders through consistent execution. Today, KP Group's greatest strength is not merely its assets or scale but its credibility and the exceptional team that stands behind the organisation. Together, they have transformed a small idea into three listed companies with a renewable energy portfolio of over 9 GW.

Q ■ KPI Green Energy, KP Energy and KP Green Engineering operate across different segments of the renewable energy ecosystem. What inspired you to build this integrated business model, and how do these companies complement one another?

From the very beginning, we realised that India's energy transition would require much more than simply generating electricity. It was equally important to build the supporting infrastructure within the country to ensure a truly self-reliant renewable energy ecosystem.

This vision led us to create three listed companies that complement one another perfectly.

KPI Green Energy focuses on developing solar and hybrid renewable energy parks. KP Energy specialises in wind and hybrid renewable energy projects. KP Green Engineering provides the critical engineering structures and solutions required for renewable energy infrastructure. Together, these businesses create a fully integrated value chain that enables us to maintain better control over quality, execution and efficiency.

At KP Green Engineering, we manufacture 23 major engineering products under one roof at our 55-acre manufacturing facility, equipped with advanced automated machinery and Asia's largest galvanizing kettle with a capacity of 90,000 MT per year.

Within the same manufacturing complex, we have also established a Green Hydrogen Plant, which supplies nearly 20% of the fuel requirement for the galvanizing kettle, making our manufacturing operations greener and more sustainable.

As a result, we enjoy a strong competitive advantage in terms of quality, cost, speed and self-reliance. By controlling the entire value chain from renewable energy generation to engineering and manufacturing, we are able to deliver greater value and efficiency to our customers.

Q ■ KP Group is playing an important role in strengthening India's manufacturing ecosystem under the 'Make in India' initiative. How do you see the Group contributing to India's emergence

as a global manufacturing hub?

Advanced manufacturing has become one of the strongest pillars of our business strategy. Today, we manufacture transmission towers, solar module structures, telecom towers, windmill structures and several other engineering products entirely within India.

Our products have been supplied to major projects involving organisations such as Chennai Metro, BSNL and GETCO. Even before tariff-related issues emerged, we were already exporting 'Make in India' products to the United States, demonstrating the global competitiveness of Indian engineering.

All the solar modules manufactured or deployed in our projects are completely Made in India. Even the robotic systems used for solar panel cleaning are designed and manufactured in-house, making them entirely Made in India as well.

With our Matar manufacturing facility, our combined manufacturing and galvanizing capacity has reached 400,500 MTPA. We are now expanding our capabilities into railways, highways, telecommunications and defence applications.

Our objective goes beyond meeting domestic demand. We aim to establish Indian engineering excellence and manufacturing quality on the global stage. I firmly believe India has the potential to become a global hub for green manufacturing in the years ahead.

Q Large-scale expansions such as your Matar manufacturing facility are creating significant employment opportunities. What is KP Group's vision for local employment generation and skill development?

I firmly believe that the true success of any industry lies in ensuring that its growth directly benefits the local community.

Our new production facility at Matar, Bharuch, alone has generated approximately 3,000–4,000 direct and indirect employment opportunities, and our ongoing expansion projects are expected to create thousands more.

Across nearly 180 operational solar and wind sites, along with several projects currently under

construction, we continue to generate substantial direct and indirect employment opportunities across the country.

Our approach is straightforward. Every new project should create employment for local youth while providing on-the-job training and skill development opportunities. We also prioritise local vendors and strengthen regional supply chains wherever possible.

Beyond employment, our CSR initiatives focus on upgrading villages and contributing to education and healthcare. Our objective is not merely to establish factories but to contribute to the overall social and economic development of the regions in which we operate.

Q KP Green's revenue has grown by nearly 78%, while KPI Green has reported an impressive profit growth of around 57%. In an increasingly competitive market, how does KP Group continue to maintain its competitive edge?

Financial performance is not merely reflected in numbers; it is a result of sound strategy, disciplined execution and a long-term vision. Our competitive advantage is built on three fundamental pillars like Execution Excellence, Technological Innovation and Cost Efficiency.

We continue to invest consistently in new technologies while building a strong team and maintaining a customer-centric approach. This disciplined strategy has enabled us to sustain an annual growth rate of nearly 60–70%.

Research and Development also remains one of our strongest competitive pillars. We have made early investments in digitalisation, robotic manufacturing for operations and maintenance, Green Hydrogen technologies and innovative projects such as Gujarat's largest floating solar project. These initiatives enable us to remain ahead of the market while creating long-term value.

All three of our listed companies continue to deliver strong operational performance, and with a work pipeline extending nearly 10 years, we enjoy strong business visibility and confidence for sustained future growth.



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Q KP Group has recently strengthened its Board by inducting eminent experts such as Prof. Sunil Kumar Maheshwari and Mr. Rajesh Srivastava. This reflects your strong commitment to corporate governance. What is your roadmap for transforming KP Group from a promoter-driven company into a globally benchmarked institution with world-class governance?

In today's business environment, the true strength of a global organisation is measured not only by the scale of its business but also by the quality of its governance. Sustainable growth can only be achieved when an organisation is built on transparency, accountability and strong institutional practices.

With this philosophy, we have inducted highly respected independent professionals and subject-matter experts onto our Board, including Prof. Sunil Kumar Maheshwari of IIM Ahmedabad and Mr. Rajesh Srivastava. Their extensive experience and strategic insights help ensure that our decision-making process remains objective, institution-driven and aligned with global best practices.

Our long-term roadmap is to progressively evolve from a promoter-driven organisation into a world-class institution governed by robust systems and processes. This includes strengthening Board

committees, enhancing independent oversight and ensuring complete compliance with SEBI regulations across all three listed entities. Our objective is to uphold the highest standards of transparency, accountability and long-term investor trust, enabling KP Group to emerge as a globally respected corporate institution.

Q Green Hydrogen, Green Ammonia and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) are widely regarded as the next frontier of the clean energy transition. How is KP Group positioning itself in these next-generation technologies through research, development and investments?

The future of clean energy will extend well beyond solar and wind. Technologies such as Green Hydrogen, Green Ammonia and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) will play a defining role in shaping the global energy landscape over the coming decade.

At our Matar manufacturing facility, we have installed a 1 MW Green Hydrogen Plant, powered entirely by renewable energy. The project has been integrated with a 5 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) to ensure uninterrupted green hydrogen production even after sunset. The installation has been completed, and the facility is currently undergoing live testing.

KPI Green Energy has also entered into an agreement with GUVNL for a 1+ MWh utility-scale Battery Energy Storage System project, further strengthening our presence in the energy storage segment.

Looking ahead, our roadmap includes developing a 1 TPD Green Hydrogen project, establishing Hydrogen Refuelling Stations, advancing Hydrogen-Natural Gas blending, investing in Waste-to-Hydrogen technologies, and building strategic international technology partnerships.

Our technology alliances with Delta Electronics India for BESS, EV charging infrastructure and inverters, along with collaborations with AHES and GH2 Solar for a 100,000 TPA Green Ammonia facility, are helping us bridge technology gaps at an accelerated pace.

Our vision extends beyond producing green hydrogen. We aspire to build a comprehensive hydrogen ecosystem in India that will contribute significantly towards achieving the nation's energy self-reliance by 2047.

Q India has set an ambitious goal of becoming energy independent by 2047. How do you see KP Group contributing to this national mission and strengthening India's clean energy future?

India's vision of becoming energy independent by 2047 can only be realised through large-scale domestic production of clean and sustainable energy. KP Group is contributing across every critical segment of this value chain from renewable power generation and engineering manufacturing to grid infrastructure, Green Hydrogen and energy storage solutions.

One of the most important priorities for the country is reducing dependence on imported fuels. Recent global geopolitical developments have clearly demonstrated that nations with lower external energy dependence have been better positioned to withstand economic disruptions. This serves as an important lesson for India's future energy strategy.

Today, China, with nearly 2,258 GW of renewable energy capacity, is the world's largest renewable energy producer, while India, with approximately 250 GW, is among the fastest-growing renewable

energy markets globally. The coming decade presents a tremendous opportunity for India to establish global leadership in renewable capacity expansion, domestic manufacturing and green hydrogen technologies.

Through our clean energy operations, KP Group has already contributed to reducing nearly 5.6 million tonnes of carbon emissions, demonstrating the tangible environmental impact of our initiatives. If we continue progressing with the same momentum under the visionary leadership and national mission for clean energy, I am confident that India will achieve its goal of becoming a truly energy-independent nation.

Q Your entrepreneurial journey continues to inspire young business leaders across the country. As India enters the Amrit Kaal, what message would you like to share with the next generation of entrepreneurs?

I would like to share three simple yet powerful thoughts with every young entrepreneur.

First, dream big but be equally prepared to work tirelessly in the right direction to transform those dreams into reality. Second, there is no business model more powerful than honesty and trust. These values form the strongest foundation for sustainable success.

Third, build businesses that create value not only for shareholders but also for society, the environment and the nation. True entrepreneurship is about making a meaningful difference. I firmly believe that the poorest business is one that generates wealth but lacks humanity. If your purpose is nation-building and creating a positive impact on people's lives, success will naturally follow.

Closing Message

Dr. Faruk G. Patel:

"Our goal is not merely to build a successful company, but to create an institution that serves as a strong foundation for India's energy security, self-reliance and sustainable development for generations to come. Our success becomes truly meaningful only when it contributes to the nation's progress." 