

Valorizing waste from sugar and allied industries

Innovations in pretreatment, bio-transformations and intensification



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vWa aims to valorize waste from sugar and allied industries in India

- Rural livelihood to > 60 million sugarcane farmers/ workers
- India rank 2nd in sugar cane cultivation (~ 5 million hectors) and sugar cane production (~ 362 million ton) after Brazil
- Second largest agro-based industry after cotton
- \cdot More than 500 sugar mills + more than 400 distilleries
- Sugar: > 30 million ton; Alcohol: > 2.5 billion liters
- Overall revenue: > ₹800 billion

Generates significant waste

- Bagasse: ~ 80 million ton
- Sugar cane trash: ~ 35 million ton
- Press mud: ~ 10 million ton
- Spent wash: ~ 25 billion liters

Develop processes and products for valorising waste from sugar and paper industries



Realize sustainable and inclusive growth by valorizing waste

- Contribute to 'Make in India' and 'Clean India'
- $\cdot\,$ Contribute to UN sustainable development goals



Will enhance overall wellbeing of large population Will realize lasting impact beyond the project duration

Anaerobic Digester (AD) based Bio-refinery



Multi-product bio-refineries for a circular economy

Intensifying anaerobic digester performance

- Novel pre-treatment methods of lignocellulosic biomass using hydrodynamic cavitation
- Process intensification
- Reactor engineering and scale-up



Hydrodynamic cavitation based pre-treatment

- Novel cavitation devices based on rotational flows
- \cdot No moving parts
- No small orifices / restrictions: minimal risk of clogging
- Cavity collapse occurs in vortex core away from walls: minimal risk of erosion
- · Intense contact of collapsing cavities and suspended biomass
- · Ability to tailor characteristics and scale-up





Application to spentwash digester

- Realized significant enhancement in biogas yield
- Spent wash COD: 120000
- Effectively addresses waste management problem and valorizes waste streams in a distributed & robust way



Time (days)



Multiple biomass may be treated:

Cane residues, bagasse, press-mud, spentwash ... Soya grass, rice straw, banana stem ...



Leads to significant enhancement in biogas yield with minimal pre-treatment costs



LCB loading, kg/m³

Hydrodynamic cavitation based pre-treatment can significantly boost overall economics of valorisation of waste biomass

Can be leveraged for SATAT and other initiatives of Government of India (http://pib.nic.in/newsite/ PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183787)





Key contacts

Professor Vivek V.Ranade Queen's University Belfast (QUB) <u>v.ranade@qub.ac.uk</u>

Dr. Sanjay Patil Vasantdada Sugar Institute (VSI) <u>sv.patil@vsisugar.org.in</u>

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