Vedanta's net-zero investments cross $1 billion; renewable use up 52%

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Mining major Vedanta has invested more than $1 billion in net-zero transition initiatives over the last five years, with renewable energy, lower-carbon fuels, energy efficiency and technology-led interventions driving its decarbonisation efforts, the company said on Wednesday.

As part of this transition, the group's renewable energy utilisation increased 52 per cent year-on-year to 4 billion units (400 crore units) in FY2025-26, equivalent to the annual electricity consumption of around 3 crore Indian households.

Vedanta now has nearly 2,000 MW of installed and contracted renewable energy capacity and is targeting 2.5 GW of round-the-clock renewable energy capacity by 2030.

The company's decarbonisation initiatives, along with other interventions, helped avoid approximately 36 million tonnes of carbon emissions since FY2021. Greenhouse gas emissions intensity across the group's metals and mining production also declined by approximately 14 per cent from the FY2020-21 baseline, Vedanta said.

India has set a target of 500 GW of non-fossil fuel-based power capacity by 2030, alongside its broader ambition of meeting 50 per cent of its energy requirements from renewable sources and achieving net-zero emissions by 2070.

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This expansion is expected to require significant investments in renewable generation, transmission, power grids, storage, electrification and technology, driving demand for metals and minerals needed for the energy transition.

Vedanta said its portfolio of copper, aluminium, zinc, silver and steel positions it to supply materials critical to renewable energy, electrification and power infrastructure.

The group is also developing lower-carbon products, including Vedanta Aluminium's Restora and Restora Ultra and Hindustan Zinc's EcoZen, to cater to demand for low-carbon metals. In FY2025-26, customers using EcoZen avoided approximately 8,268 tonnes of carbon emissions.

Across its businesses, Vedanta is deploying artificial intelligence, automation, Industrial IoT and advanced analytics to improve energy efficiency, optimise processes and enhance asset performance.

"The global transition to clean energy demands both, sustainable materials and sustainable operations. Vedanta operates at the heart of this shift; producing the critical metals essential for a low-carbon future while aggressively decarbonizing our own footprint. And in doing so, we are building the resilient, sustainable industrial foundation that will power an Atmanirbhar and Viksit Bharat," said Priya Agarwal Hebbar, Non-Executive Director, Vedanta Ltd. and Chairperson, Hindustan Zinc Ltd.

Vedanta said its companies are also focusing on responsible business practices. Vedanta Limited, Vedanta Aluminium and Hindustan Zinc feature among leading performers in S&P Global's corporate sustainability assessments.

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