

**Remarks by Ambassador H.E. Mr Sibi George at the Event on
'Hydrogen and Ammonia : Future of Clean Energy', Embassy of
India, Tokyo, 24 July 2023**

Mr Tatsuya Terazawa Chairman and CEO, the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan

Mr. Shigeru Muraki, President, Clean Fuel Ammonia Association

Shri Ajay Yadav, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India

Representatives from Indian and Japanese industry

Distinguished guests

Ladies and gentlemen

Good afternoon!

It is with immense pleasure that I welcome you to our event today - "Hydrogen and Ammonia: The Future of Clean Energy." The relevance of this topic cannot be understated, especially considering the critical role India and Japan play in the global clean energy landscape.

Friends,

2. Our countries share a long-standing history rooted in spiritual affinity and robust cultural and civilizational connections. In recent years, through a Special Strategic and Global Partnership, our ties encompass various domains, including historical, cultural, political, security, and economic facets. With shared values of democracy, freedom, and respect for the rule of law, our partnership continues to respond to the opportunities and challenges of our evolving world.

3. Economic cooperation forms a cornerstone of our bilateral relationship. Japan has played a pivotal role in India's economic transformation and infrastructure development, standing as our fifth-largest investor and supporting key infrastructure projects.

Friends,

4. India and Japan also share robust cooperation in the area of energy. The Energy Dialogue, established between our countries in 2007, exemplifies our commitment to energy sector cooperation. The India-Japan Clean Energy Partnership (CEP), launched in 2022, aims to promote cooperation in a wide range of areas, including clean and green hydrogen and ammonia.

5. India's unwavering commitment to ambitious climate goals is recognized globally. India is placing a keen focus on renewable energy across all sectors of our economy to address the decarbonization challenge on our journey to Net Zero by 2070. India's renewable energy sector has seen unprecedented growth in the last decade.

6. Let me quote from the remarks by Prime Minister this week when he addressed the G – 20 Energy Ministers meeting in Goa. He said and I quote: “Small steps lead to big results. In 2015, we began a small movement by launching a scheme for the use of LED lights. This became the largest LED distribution program in the world, saving us more than 45 billion units of energy per year. We have also started the largest agricultural pump solarization initiative in the world. India's domestic electric vehicle market is projected to reach 10 million annual sales by 2030. We have commenced the rollout of 20 percent Ethanol Blended Petrol this year. Our aim is to cover the entire country by 2025. For decarbonizing India, we are working on a Mission mode on Green Hydrogen as an alternative. The aim is to make India a Global Hub for the production, use, and export of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives.” Unquote.

7. Green Hydrogen has emerged as a promising tool in India's energy transition. Its potential applications are vast and to harness this potential, India has launched the National Green Hydrogen Mission, aiming to make India a global hub for production, usage, and export of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives. The Mission will have wide ranging benefits - creation of export opportunities for Green Hydrogen and its derivatives; Decarbonisation of industrial, mobility and energy sectors; reduction in dependence on imported fossil fuels and feedstock; development of indigenous manufacturing capabilities; creation of employment opportunities; and development of cutting-edge technologies. India's Green Hydrogen production capacity is likely to reach at least 5 MMT per annum by 2030, with an associated renewable energy capacity addition of about 125 GW. It will facilitate the transition of the economy to low carbon intensity and reduce dependence on fossil fuel imports. We will have a presentation by the Joint Secretary in the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of Government of India on our Hydrogen Mission.

8. Japan has set a target to achieve net zero by the year 2050. Japan is committed to green transformation and through its Green Growth Strategy and Green Innovation Fund is supporting the use of hydrogen and ammonia fuel and development of their supply chains. I had the opportunity to visit some of the major hydrogen facilities in Japan, I recall the visit to Yamanashi Hydrogen Co, and Komekurayama Electric Storage Technology Research Site that produces clean Hydrogen from solar energy.

9. Cooperation in this important area is on the top of the bilateral agenda of India and Japan. I referred to the Clean Energy Partnership which India and Japan entered into at the last Annual Summit held between India and Japan in March 2022. Leveraging this framework and also the complementarities between our countries – Japan's technological lead and India's large renewable base which can generate clean and green hydrogen – India and Japan can further deepen cooperation in the area of hydrogen and ammonia.

10. Today, we are joined by representatives from Indian industry – NTPC Ltd., ACME Group, and Avaada Group, who will provide their valuable insights on the subject at hand.

11. As we initiate this engaging and productive dialogue, I look forward to discussions on identifying potential avenues for collaboration between India and Japan in this significant sector.

Thank you for joining us.
