

Government unveils pilot projects harnessing Green Hydrogen for industrial transformation

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In a bold move towards decarbonisation, the central government has introduced comprehensive guidelines for pilot projects aimed at leveraging green hydrogen across multiple sectors. As part of the National Green Hydrogen Mission, these initiatives target significant reductions in carbon emissions while fostering innovation and sustainability.

The guidelines encompass two pivotal areas: the steel sector and shipping industry

Steel Sector Transformation

Under the stewardship of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and the Ministry of Steel, pilot projects will revolutionize steel manufacturing. With a budget allocation of Rs 4.55 billion until 2029-30, the scheme emphasizes substituting fossil fuels with green hydrogen. Key areas of focus include integrating hydrogen in iron production processes, blast furnace operations, and gradual fuel replacement strategies. The initiative aims to pioneer a green hydrogen ecosystem within the steel industry, driving towards 100% green steel production.

Shipping Industry Revolution

Simultaneously, the government's initiative targets carbon neutrality in the shipping sector. Led by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways (MoPSW), pilot projects will explore the feasibility of utilizing **green hydrogen** for ship propulsion. A budget of Rs 1.15 billion until 2025-26 is allocated for retrofitting vessels and establishing bunkering facilities at ports along international shipping routes. The projects aim to assess the technical and financial viability of green hydrogen in maritime transportation, laying the groundwork for widespread adoption.

Both initiatives share a common goal of fostering a sustainable future through the widespread adoption of green hydrogen technologies. The pilot projects will serve as testing grounds, providing invaluable insights and best practices for future scaling. With transparent evaluation processes and strategic oversight, these efforts signify a transformative step towards a low-carbon economy.