



## First Auction for Green Ammonia by SECI

[Source: PIB](#)

[Solar Energy Corporation of India \(SECI\)](#) has conducted its first-ever auction for [Green Ammonia](#) procurement under the **SIGHT Scheme**, as part of the [National Green Hydrogen Mission \(NGHM\)](#).

- SECI is a **Navratna Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU)** under the **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)**, and plays a key role in the promotion and implementation of renewable energy projects across India.

### SIGHT Scheme

- The **Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT) Scheme** is a flagship initiative under the **NGHM**.
- It aimed at **strengthening the supply side** of [green hydrogen](#) production through **financial incentives to manufacturers**.
- It is implemented by the [Ministry of New and Renewable Energy \(MNRE\)](#) through **SECI**.

### Green Ammonia

- It is **carbon-free ammonia** produced using **green hydrogen** (via water electrolysis) and **nitrogen** (from air).
- It is used in **climate-neutral fertiliser production**, as a **zero-carbon fuel** in engines or fuel cells, and as a **clean marine fuel** alternative.
- It can be **easily stored and transported** as a **liquid** under **moderate pressure or low temperature**, making it ideal for **renewable energy storage and long-distance energy trade**.

# 'Green' Ammonia

Green ammonia is key to meeting the twin challenges of the 21st century.

SIEMENS



By 2050 there will be ten billion people on the planet.



Using ammonia as fertilizer makes land more productive. Increasingly vital as the population grows and living standards improve.

People need food and energy and it must be CO<sub>2</sub> free – that's where green ammonia comes in.

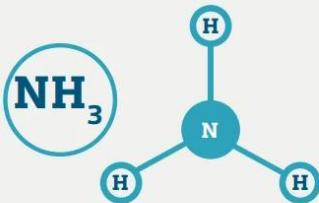
## Ammonia

Ammonia is a compound made of nitrogen and hydrogen. Chemical formula NH<sub>3</sub>. Ammonia's main use is in fertilizer.



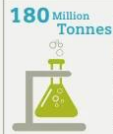
**Nitrogen** is a harmless odourless gas that makes up 78% of the air around us.

**Hydrogen** is the most abundant element in the universe. There are 2 hydrogen atoms in every molecule of water.



By using water electrolysis and renewable electricity, ammonia production can be made completely carbon-free.

## Ammonia



**180 Million Tonnes**  
Ammonia feeds the world: 180 million tonnes were produced in 2015, mainly for use in fertilizers. Growing demand for food means this must rise 3% each year.



Today, ammonia is made using the Haber-Bosch process invented and perfected in the early 1900s. Its two inventors won Nobel prizes in 1918 and 1931.

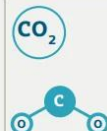


In the Haber-Bosch process hydrogen and nitrogen are converted to ammonia using high temperature and a catalyst.



The global trade in ammonia means we already know how to transport and store it safely.

## But there is a problem



Today the lowest cost way to get hydrogen is from natural gas but this produces carbon-dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) which is a cause of manmade climate change.



**Over 1%**

Ammonia production requires energy, and today this energy also comes from fossil fuels. Together with the fossil hydrogen feedstock, current ammonia production accounts for over 1% of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

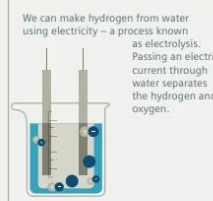


To keep under 2 degrees warming humans must emit no more than 600 billion tonnes more CO<sub>2</sub>. That's less than 25 years at the rate today.



Once CO<sub>2</sub> is released into the atmosphere it will change the climate for the next 10,000 years.

## The good news – innovating to create carbon free "green" ammonia



We can make hydrogen from water using electricity – a process known as electrolysis. Passing an electric current through water separates the hydrogen and oxygen.

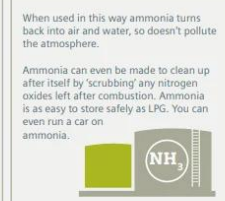


Green ammonia can support the business case for renewables, by providing an alternative revenue stream that is not dependent on a grid connection (particularly relevant in remote areas), and by being used for load-balancing.



By switching to renewable electricity to make ammonia we could save over 40 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> each year in Europe alone, or over 360 million tons worldwide.

We can also burn ammonia to make electricity when the wind is not blowing.



When used in this way ammonia turns back into air and water, so doesn't pollute the atmosphere.

Ammonia can even be made to clean up after itself by 'scrubbing' any nitrogen oxides left after combustion. Ammonia is as easy to store safely as LPG. You can even run a car on ammonia.

# NATIONAL GREEN HYDROGEN MISSION

## NODAL MINISTRY

- Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

## OBJECTIVE

- Decarbonise energy/industrial/mobility sector
- Develop indigenous manufacturing capacities
- Create export opportunities for GH<sub>2</sub> and its derivative

## COMPONENTS OF NGHM

- Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition Programme (SIGHT)
- Strategic Hydrogen Innovation Partnership (SHIP) (PPP for R&D)

GH<sub>2</sub> is not commercially viable at present; current cost in India is around ₹350-400/kg.  
The National Hydrogen Energy Mission aims to bring it down under ₹100/kg.

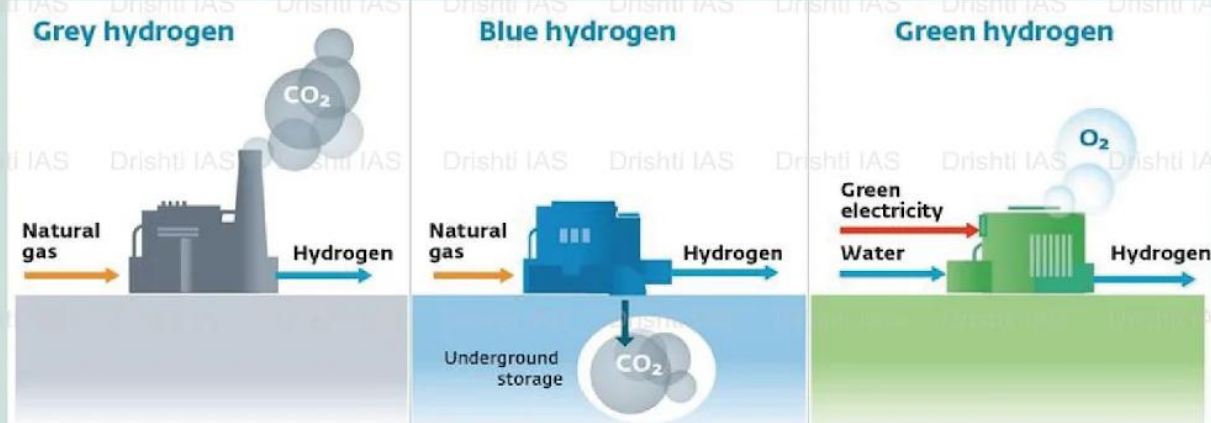
### Expected Outcomes by 2030

- ◆ Atleast 5MMT GH<sub>2</sub> annual production
- ◆ Rs 1 lakh crore fossil fuel import savings
- ◆ 6 lakh jobs
- ◆ 50MMT CO<sub>2</sub> annual emissions averted
- ◆ ₹ 8 lakh crore investment

## HYDROGEN AND GREEN HYDROGEN

Hydrogen is the most common element in nature but exists only in combination with other elements. It has to be extracted from naturally occurring compounds (like water).

Green Hydrogen (GH<sub>2</sub>) is made by splitting water through an electrical process called electrolysis, using an electrolyser powered by renewable energy (RE).



Read More: [National Green Hydrogen Mission](#)

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/first-auction-for-green-ammonia-by-seci>

