

India-Japan Joint Statement during the visit of our Prime Minister to Japan in November -2016 covered two important aspects related to ship breaking industry

H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, was on an official visit to Japan at the invitation of H.E. Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan. In view of reviewing various projects being assisted by Japan, the two Prime Ministers held wide-ranging consultations on 11 November 2016, in Tokyo, during which they undertook a comprehensive review of the Special Strategic and Global Partnership as outlined in the "India and Japan Vision 2025" set forth on 12 December 2015. They acknowledged the significant progress in bilateral relations over the past two years since Prime Minister Modi's visit to Japan in August-September 2014.

Under Point No: 16 of the Joint Statement:

Prime Minister Modi appreciated the significant contribution of Japan's ODA in the development and modernisation of infrastructure in India. In this regard, the two Prime Ministers welcomed progress in the ODA projects in urban transportation sector such as the Chennai and Ahmedabad Metro, the Mumbai Trans Harbor Link project, and the introduction of the Intelligence Transport System along the Eastern Peripheral Highway in Delhi. **Prime Minister Abe expressed Japan's intention to support the upgrading of the ship-recycling yards of Alang, Bhavnagar District of Gujarat.**

Status of the Upgradation of existing environmental infrastructure Alang Ship Recycling Yard:

While reviewing the Detailed Project Report submitted by GMB through Government of India to JICA, following components are being finalized under the scope of the project to cater further safe & environmentally sound ship recycling:

- 1) Improvement of existing 70 ship recycling yards
- 2) Improvement of environment facilities of TSDF
- 3) Introduction of Mobile Decontamination Units
- 4) Introduction of Large Mobile Cranes and Beach Cleaning wheel loaders
- 5) Introduction of Tank Cleaning Barge
- 6) Improvement of workers colony and construction of community Hall and School
- 7) Introduction of Multi-purpose Vessel

Towards cleaner and greener future of ship recycling, joint statement was made is as under Point no-29:

The two Prime Ministers expressed their intention to achieve an early conclusion of the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009.

Status

Hong Kong Convention for Ship Recycling -2009 is an international regulations for safe &

environmentally ship recycling to be promoted in the globe with common environmental norms in Ship Recycling Countries. The International Maritime Organization (UN Body for regulations of maritime traffic to protect marine environment) adopted the convention in the May-2009. Government of India in the Ministry of Shipping in consultation with GMB and other key stakeholders is considering the ratification process.

The Ship Breaking Code-2013 is a codified mandatory guidelines enacted by Ministry of Steel, Government of India is being aligned in line with the technical requirement of the Hong Kong Convention 2009 for safe & environmentally sound ship recycling. Present code is almost seen in agreement with HKC. So after amendment of the existing Code, the Standard Operating Procedures will complying with HKC requirement for Ship Recycling States (Countries).

Currently there are total 26 ship recycling yards who have acquired Statement of Compliance to Hong Kong Convention-2009 from the International & National Classification Societies. Out of total 131 operational yards further about 30 yards are under the process of acquiring SOC from ICS & NS.

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