

# Tata Steel eyes hydrogen-ready steelmaking at Netherlands plant in green growth push

Abhishek Law  
New Delhi

Tata Steel plans to phase out a major blast furnace at its IJmuiden plant in the Netherlands as part of its ambitious decarbonisation drive.

The company will replace coal-based production with a Direct Reduced Iron (DRI) plant and Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) setup under its Heracleus project, sources in

the know said. The nearly €1.5-billion overhaul proposed, involves shutting down Blast Furnace 7 and Coke and Gas Plant 2, targeting a cut of 5 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions annually by 2030.

Operations will begin on natural gas, but the site is being prepared to switch to hydrogen as supply infrastructure ramps up, sources said.

Tata Steel has proposed tying-up with the Netherlands' HNS hydrogen network once ready.

## AWAITING CLEARANCE

Plans need to be cleared by the Tata Steel board and by the Dutch government, those in the know said. Tata Steel is yet to respond to queries by *businessline*.

In its FY25 annual report, the company said, in the



Netherlands, concerns over noise, dust, and emissions near manufacturing facilities have increased pressure to implement decarbonisation and social impact programmes.

"Tata Steel Europe Ltd, a wholly owned step-down subsidiary of the company, is undertaking a transition towards decarbonised operations and away from the current blast furnace-based production processes across both the UK and Netherlands businesses which would affect the estimates of

its future cash flow projections," it said in the annual report.

The technology transition and investments are dependent on financial and policy support of the local governments in the country of operation, as well as an overall regulatory regime which incentivises reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Europe, it further said.

Management's assessment is that generally, these potential carbon reduction-related costs would be compensated by a combination of higher steel prices or through public spending or subsidies, it added.

During the year under review, liquid steel production from European operations - UK and Netherlands - was 7.82 million tonnes (7.80 mt a year ago).