

BHP, Tata Steel ink MoU to reduce carbon emission from blast furnaces

'Can bring down emission intensity of integrated steel mills by 30%'

OUR BUREAU

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Australian mining, metals and petroleum company BHP has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Tata Steel to jointly explore low carbon iron and steel-making technology.

The partners will collaborate on ways to reduce the emission intensity of blast furnace steel route which accounts for more than 60 per cent of India's steel production. Efforts to reduce the emission will be through the use of biomass as a source of energy and the application of carbon capture and utilisation (CCU) in steel production, Vandita Pant, BHP's Chief Commercial Officer (CCO), told *BusinessLine*.

The partnership will enable the companies in their respect-



Vandita Pant, Chief Commercial Officer, BHP

ive climate change goals, and support India's ambitions to be carbon neutral. The technologies explored in the partnership can potentially reduce the emission intensity of integrated steel mills by up to 30 per cent, Pant said.

"We are committed to reducing carbon emission by 30 per cent by 2030 and becoming net zero by 2050. We are also committed to helping our partners in achieving their goals," she said. BHP has similar partnerships with Baosteel Group in China, Posco in South Korea and JFE Steel in Japan. "Our partner-

ship covers 13 per cent of the reported world steel producing capacities," the BHP CCO said.

Pant said as India plans to increase its steel-making capacity by 300 million tonnes (mt) from the current 118 mt, blasting furnaces would benefit from the low carbon emission, she said.

Knowledge exchange

Beyond these projects, BHP and Tata Steel have committed to a robust ongoing knowledge exchange that will see both explore further collaborations, ecosystems and business opportunities in the steel value chain, and the research and innovation sectors in both India and Australia.

A greener steel industry will be integral to India's growth and decarbonisation journey, and "we intend to work hard with Tata Steel to enable this development and hopefully set a benchmark for others in the industry to emulate and learn from", she said.