

*\*\*\*\*\*Remarks on the Official Opening of Solar Chiller\*\*\*\*\**

**Minister for Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment, Flavien Joubert,  
PS and Senior Officers,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is an honor to participate in the inauguration the Solar Chiller facility at Eve Island. This project, initiated through a 2022 MOU and acknowledged at the sixth International Solar Alliance Assembly (ISA) in 2023, delivers a 5 MT solar-powered chilled storage facility, worth USD 50,000. It aims to extend the shelf life of local produce and accelerate renewable technology adoption in agriculture.

**Distinguished guests,**

India, alongside France, are founding members of the ISA, which Seychelles joined in 2018. The ISA's mission is to harness solar energy, reduce technology costs, and ensure energy access, while helping member countries meet their Paris Agreement climate targets. Today's event exemplifies the relevance of the ISA, as also the growing cooperation between India and Seychelles, through bilateral and multilateral mechanisms, reflecting both our historical ties and our commitment to addressing contemporary challenges together.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Collaboration in sustainable development with emphasis on renewable energy, has become and a key area in our bilateral engagement. The Romainville solar farm, inaugurated by Prime Minister Modi and President Ramkalawan, as well as our ITEC training programs for Seychellois technical officers demonstrate this commitment. India commends and supports Seychelles' strong stance on climate change, including initiatives like the Blue Bonds and advocacy for the Multi-dimensional Vulnerability Index. We appreciate the substantive

contribution of Minister Joubert in the the three Voice of Global South Summits.

As we address global climate challenges, it is particularly crucial for island nations like Seychelles and countries like India to cooperate even further to share expertise, technology, and resources. In this regard, we hope that formalities for Seychelles to join the Global Biofuel Alliance are completed quickly. I also urge Seychelles to consider joining the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

India and Seychelles share a relationship built on cultural, economic, and political foundations, strengthened by our location in the Indian Ocean. India greatly values and appreciates Seychelles' support in the international fora, including the ISA, and I firmly believe that our partnership will go from strength to strength.

I once again thank Minister Joubert for inviting us for today's function, which will be an important point in the quest for climate friendly and compliant technology.

Thank you.

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