

Welcome Speech

(Final)

Honorable Minister Dipak Khadka

Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation,
Government of Nepal

Honorable Advisor Syeda Rizwana Hasan

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change &
Ministry of Water Resources, Government of Bangladesh

Honorable State Minister Purna Bahadur Tamang,

Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation,
Government of Nepal

His Excellency Secretary Mr. Suresh Acharya,

Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation,
Government of Nepal

His Excellency Secretary Najmul Ahsan

Ministry of Water Resources Government of Bangladesh

His Excellency Additional Secretary Dr. Syed Masum Ahmed Choudhary,

Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources,
Government of Bangladesh

His Excellency Mr. Naveen Srivastava,

Ambassador of India to Nepal

His Excellency Mr Salahuddin Noman Chowdhary

Ambassador of Bangladesh to Nepal

His Excellence Mr Prasanna Shribastav

Deputy Chief of Mission Embassy of India in Nepal

Mr. Md. Rezaul Karim,

Chairman, Bangladesh Power Development Board

Madam Renu Narang,

CEO, NVVN, India

Heads of Development Partners,

Other Distinguished Delegates from India and Bangladesh

Friends from Media

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Namaste and Good afternoon

It gives me immense pleasure to stand before you today at this momentous occasion-the signing ceremony of the Tripartite Power Sales Agreement amongst Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA), the NTPC Vidyut Vyapar

Nigam (NVTN), and the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB).

We are honored by the presence of honorable ministers, secretaries and high level delegates from Nepal, India, Bangladesh, as well as our valued development partners each playing a vital role in our shared mission of fostering regional energy cooperation. I extend a warm welcome to all of you who have gathered here for this historic ceremony.

Your gracious presence today underscores our collective commitment to advancing energy cooperation in South Asia, a vision that has united us in this endeavor.

Today marks a significant milestone in our journey towards power trading within South Asian region. This agreement, which facilitates the sale of 40 MW of power from Nepal to Bangladesh through the Indian Grid, represents more than just a contractual arrangement; it is the culmination of our collaborative efforts, shared vision, and unwavering determination. We are moving from bilateral power trade to a trilateral framework, opening avenues for sub-regional and regional cooperation in the energy sector.

I would like to highlight some of the key points of the Tripartite Power Sales Agreement.

NEA will deliver 40 MW power at Mujaffarpur substation in India from June 15 to November 15 each year, over a period of five years, at the rate of 6.40 US cents per unit, on a round-the-clock (RTC) basis through Dhalkebar-Muzaffarpur 400 kV Transmission Line. BPDB will draw this power from Bheramara in Bangladesh through Baharampur-Bheramara HVDC Cross-Border Link.

NVVN will act as the trader for this transaction, receiving a trading margin for the energy supplied by NEA at the delivery point from BPDB. NVVN will also oversee all scheduling, dispatch, and energy accounting related to this transaction. Additionally, all transmission charges and losses from the injection point - Mujaffarpur to the drawl point - Bheramara will be covered by BPDB. Over the five-month period each year, a total of 144 million units of electricity will be sold to Bangladesh, generating an estimated revenue of approximately 9.22 million USD annually for Nepal.

This tripartite agreement is established as per the Guidelines issued by the Government of India for the Import/Export of Electricity, 2018, and the Procedure for

approval and facilitation of Import/Export of Electricity by the Designated Authority of India, issued on February 26, 2021. **Real Power flow from Nepal to Bangladesh will take place after getting necessary approval from Designated Authority, Central Electricity Authority, Ministry of Power India.**

Nepal has become the first country to trade power in Indian Energy Exchange market from 2021. At present, Nepal exports about 900 MW to India through bilateral, Day Ahead and real time market segments. After this agreement Nepal will be the first country to export power to third country beyond the border.

Looking to the future, Nepal government aims to significantly expand its capacity to 28,500 MW by 2035, with plans to sell up to 10,000 MW to India and 5,000 MW to Bangladesh over the next decade.

Our geographical proximity provides us with a unique opportunity to develop essential transmission infrastructure and enhance our interconnections. Together, we can establish high-voltage interconnections that facilitate increased power flows, leading to a more integrated South Asian energy market.

Nepal's abundant hydro potential not only supports Energy Security of this sub-region but also plays a crucial role in our global efforts to reduce carbon emissions. This historic milestone will not only strengthen people-to-people connections among our countries but also promote the sharing of diverse and complementary energy resources, leading to economic prosperity for all

Development of Hydropower Projects, specially Reservoir type, in the mountainous country like Nepal will not only give energy benefit but also flood control, irrigation, navigation and tourism benefits to the downstream countries. Thus, Integration of all types of renewable energy resource through strong Grid network will create win-win proposition to all partner countries.

This agreement lays the groundwork for fostering a fair energy market in the region, encouraging joint investments in energy projects, and unlocking numerous benefits for our countries. I urge all of us to prioritize trust-building and maintain open dialogue among us to achieve a seamless flow of electricity, transcending physical boundaries, and paving the way for integrated sub regional and regional energy market.

We would like to bestow our deepest gratitude to the dynamic and visionary leaders, secretaries and diplomats of this sub regional countries for their untiring efforts to achieve this milestone in cross border energy trade.

We are also grateful to NVVN, and BPDB for being trusted partners with us.

Furthermore, we wish to express our sincere appreciation to our development partners for their unwavering support in advancing Nepal's energy sector.

Once again, welcome to all our distinguished guests and thank you for honoring this ceremony with your gracious presence. Your support fuels our commitment to achieving energy security and regional cooperation.

Let us embrace this opportunity for collaboration as we move forward together towards a prosperous and sustainable future for South Asia.

Welcome to this historic occasion

Thank you!