

Statement of India  
2<sup>nd</sup> Asia Pacific Energy Forum  
(3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> April 2018)

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**Mr. Chairman,  
Excellencies, Ministers, Distinguished delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Let me congratulate you for an excellent session and effective proceedings at the Second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum of the ESCAP.

India reaffirms its commitment towards the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We also acknowledge and appreciate the importance of ESCAP in promoting regional cooperation among countries in the Asian and Pacific region, for achieving the stated goals of ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

The Government of India recognizes that Energy Security is our common goal and a key prerequisite for people centric development and related activities and in view of this, India attaches utmost importance to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The idea of clean energy is inextricably linked to the issue of climate change which endangers the very existence of mankind today. We, in India, recognize that a successful transition to clean energy is an important step in tackling the threats which emanate from global warming and climate change. We are of the belief that renewable energy is an important means to achieve a less carbon intensive future and in this regard, solar and wind energy based systems can offer important sustainable alternatives to further our common goal of energy security. We also believe that the key to clean energy transition lies in fostering mutual cooperation between countries in areas pertaining to provision of finance and transfer of suitable technologies such that the countries in abundance of these resources are able to harness them successfully, to the benefit of their people.

The Government of India has pushed for the inclusion of both public and private players in this sector through the development of public-private partnerships that can work to improve the accessibility and affordability of clean energy. In view of this, we in India have launched the world's biggest renewable energy program, with a target to generate 175 GW of electricity from renewable resources by 2022. To supplement solar energy generation, India has distributed 28 crore LED bulbs in the last three years which have helped save \$2 billion and 4 GW of electricity.

Based on our firm belief in the strength of collaboration between countries as a means to achieve our common goals of energy security, sustainable energy and action against climate change, and as a reaffirmation of our commitment towards them, we launched the International Solar Alliance during the COP 21. The International Solar Alliance's major objectives include global deployment of over 1,000 GW of solar generation capacity and mobilization of investment of over \$1 trillion towards solar energy by 2030. Recently, on 11 March 2018, the Founding Conference of International Solar Alliance was held in New Delhi which witnessed the participation of several Heads of State/Heads of Government, vice-Presidents, ministers apart from high level delegations from the Multilateral Development Banks, energy think tanks, corporates and civil society.

India is of the firm belief that regional initiatives to promote infrastructure must be based on universally recognized, international norms, good governance, rule of law, openness, transparency and equality. They must follow the principles of financial responsibility and must be pursued in a manner that respects sovereignty and territorial integrity. The ease of access to capital is one of the biggest impediments to progress of nations and therefore, we may need more collaborative initiatives that can help provide financial access to developing and least developed nations in the region, critical to their needs of energy security and transitioning to clean energy.

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