

Ambassador's Speech for Belt and Road Energy Ministerial Conference

Theme: Join Hands towards a Greener and More Inclusive Energy Future

18-19 October 2021, Qingdao

Mr. Zhang Jianhua,

Administrator, National Energy Administration of China

Excellencies,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to express my profound gratitude to the National Energy Administration (NEA) of China for inviting me to participate today in the 2nd Belt and Road Energy Ministerial Conference. I would like to congratulate the NEA and the government of Shandong province for holding this important event.

I am confident that today's conference would serve as an important platform for Belt and Road countries to devise a long term strategy for jointly shaping a green and inclusive future.

Distinguished Guests,

Our world today is undergoing profound transformation unprecedented in the history. While this great wave of change has swept all facets of life, its impact is most evident in the ongoing energy transition for sustainable growth and development of our societies.

In view of the abrupt and arbitrary climate change, humanity's quest for energy security and energy efficiency has assumed a greater urgency. It would not be an exaggeration to remark that the future high quality development of human civilization is now inextricably linked with the green and inclusive energy resources.

Seen from this perspective, the Belt and Road Energy Partnership Forum is an important platform for the BRI countries to exchange views and experiences on several key areas including clean energy development; technology innovation; identifying new areas of cooperation and exploring investment opportunities for the green development of Belt and Road.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Chinese success in shift towards green energy is worth emulating for developing countries. China is leading global efforts for mitigation of climate change by peaking carbon emissions in 2030 and carbon

neutrality in 2060. It is heartwarming to note that China is willing to share its experience with the developing countries for upgrading their own energy infrastructure. The results of China's shift to smart energy are encouraging and an inspiration for developing world to continue their efforts with similar zeal and enthusiasm.

Dear Friends,

Nature has blessed Pakistan with enormous renewable energy potential which can be utilized for power generation and to meet energy needs of the country. This is not only necessitated by advancing climate change but also to preserve ecological balance and clean environment. We have taken major steps to harness the indigenous renewable resources for the attainment of aforesaid objectives.

Pakistan is mindful of the pressing need of green energy for sustainable economic growth and development. As per National Alternative and Renewable Energy Policy-2019, Pakistan is planning to shift 30% of energy generation to renewable resources by 2030. It focuses on key areas including energy security, energy affordability, environmental protection, sustainable development and mitigation of climate change. This policy specifically aims to target international investment for developing smart energy resources for national growth.

As a developing country with immense potential for investment in energy sector, Pakistan welcomes leading Chinese and international companies to invest in green energy development. Under the China Pakistan Economic Corridor, many Chinese companies are already working on several smart energy development projects which would be connected to national grid in future. I am confident that Chinese investors and technology enterprises would benefit from the liberal investment policies of Pakistan for shared benefits and win-win cooperation.

Distinguished Guests,

With joint efforts, we would succeed in turning Belt and Road into a successful model of green and inclusive energy development worthy of emulation by the other regions and nations.

I would like to conclude by adding that green energy is no more a luxury to be afforded by a few; in fact, it has become a necessity to ensure our sustainable livelihood and securing future existence of our planet.

Let's joint hands to deepen our cooperation for a common future rooted in green, efficient, smart and affordable energy for all.

I thank you all!

