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Press Release

Power Trade Agreement signed

The Agreement between the Government of Nepal and the Government of India on Electric Power Trade, Cross-Border Transmission Interconnection and Grid Connectivity (PTA) was signed today morning in Kathmandu. Mr. Rajendra Kishore Kshatri, Secretary, Ministry of Energy of Nepal, signed the Agreement on behalf of the Government of Nepal while Mr. Pradeep Kumar Sinha, Secretary, Ministry of Power of India signed it on behalf of the Government of India. Energy Minister Ms. Radha Kumari Gyawali and Indian Ambassador to Nepal Mr. Ranjit Rae were present in the signing ceremony. The Agreement was finalized and initialed by the Energy Secretary of Nepal and Power Secretary of India in New Delhi on September 4, 2014.

Addressing the signing ceremony, Minister of Energy, Ms. Radha Kumari Gyawali said that complementarities of energy resources, spatial and temporal variation of availability of water to generate hydroelectricity and variation in potentials and demands of electricity over different areas really demanded close cooperation between India and Nepal in the power sector. She expressed her belief that the Agreement would bring about synergistic positive changes in the bilateral cooperation and trade in power sector.

Following signing of the PTA, while addressing the press, Energy Secretary Kshatri described the features of the Agreement in brief and stated that it contained all the standard provisions that an international power trade agreement generally contains. Prior to that the Indian Power Secretary Sinha expressed the willingness of Government of India to workout the details and implement them to give effect to the Agreement. He also stressed the necessity of establishing joint institutional mechanisms that are parts of the Agreement quickly and initiating the works. In the press briefing, the two secretaries stated that the Agreement was of an umbrella type and it didn't cover the specifics of transmission infrastructure, nor did it deal with the terms and conditions or pricing of any particular power trading arrangement.

October 21, 2014

Keshab Dhoj Adhikari Joint Secretary/Spokesperson