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Commodities

## India to invest \$1.61 bln to link more green energy projects to grid

Reuters 2 minute read 2













Power generating windmill turbines are pictured during the inauguration ceremony of the new 25 MW ReNew Power wind farm at Kalasar village in the western Indian state of Gujarat May 6, 2012. REUTERS/Amit Dave

NEW DELHI, Jan 6 (Reuters) - India's cabinet approved a plan on Thursday to build transmission lines costing \$1.61 billion over 5 years to link 20 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy projects from seven states with the grid, as the nation moves to cut its carbon emissions.

India, the world's third biggest emitter of greenhouse gases, aims to cut its projected emissions by a billion tonnes by 2030 and raise renewable power generation to 430 GW, equivalent to about half of the country's energy mix.

Prime minister Narendra Modi last year announced 2070 as the target for India to reach net zero carbon emissions.

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The federal government will provide assistance equal to about a third of the overall 120 billion rupee investment required for the expansion of transmission lines in the second phase of the so called green corridor project, a government statement said.

The scheme will add about 10,750 circuit kilometres of transmission lines, for projects in western state of Gujarat, the desert state of Rajasthan, the northern state of Himachal Pradesh, and the southern states of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh, it said.

In the first phase of the project to be completed this year, India is building 9,700 circuit kilometers of transmission lines.

(\$1 = 74.4460 Indian rupees)

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