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Nepal starts exporting surplus energy to India

Synopsis

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In what would boost cross-border energy partnership, <u>Nepal</u> has started selling electricity to India through its power exchange market since last week.

Following the rainy season, Nepal's hydel power projects produced excess power which prompted the <u>Nepal Electricity Authority</u> to sell <u>surplus energy</u> to the Indian market."We started selling 37.7MW of electricity to Indian buyers starting from 12.15 am on Thursday," <u>Suresh Bhattarai</u>, spokesperson at the Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) told reporters in Kathmandu.

According to him, electricity produced from the 24MW Trishuli and 15MW

Devighat power plants was sold on Thursday. The average price of electricity has been maintained at Rs 6 per unit, Kathmandu Post reported quoting Lokendra Shahi, another NEA official. The NEA earned around Rs 10 million by selling electricity last Thursday.

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Last month, NEA had invited bid from Indian companies to sell its 2,00MW surplus energy in the upcoming rainy season under a longterm power purchase agreement.

NEA said in a statement that it would sell surplus energy from July 1 to November 29. All open access consumers, regulated utilities, power distribution companies and traders having valid trading licences issued by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission of India can participate in the bidding process, according to the statement.India has allowed NEA to sell 346 MW in the open market here so far and Nepal wants to increase this figure.