

**Statement by Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Mr. Sher Bahadur Deuba at the High-Level Dialogue on Energy organized by the United Nations Secretary-General
New York, 24 September 2021 (Virtual Format)
09:30 a.m. to 6:00 pm (EST)**

*Time limit- Three Minutes
Words to read: 357*

**Excellencies the Heads of State and Government,
Mr. Secretary-General,
Distinguished Delegates.**

I commend the UN Secretary-General for convening this High-Level Dialogue on Energy.

Energy is crucial in achieving the 2030 Agenda and implementing the Paris Agreement.

An inter-connecting thread across all SDGs, energy plays a catalytic role to combat climate change and attain the goals related to poverty reduction, gender equality, food security, health and education, among others.

So far, our progress on SDG 7 has been mixed and uneven.

Countries like Nepal with low income, difficult geographic terrain and dispersed settlements are facing additional challenges.

The COVID-19 has added on the challenges to deliver clean and affordable energy for all.

The world must de-carbonize energy solutions, leverage energy actions for advancing other SDGs, and eliminate harm to the health of our planet.

The COP-26 must take bold steps and provide a breakthrough on energy transition.