

MODI, OLI OPEN CROSS-BORDER PIPELINE

Relevant for: International Relations | Topic: India - Nepal

Close bond: PM Narendra Modi and Nepalese counterpart K.P. Sharma Oli during the video-link launch of the pipeline. PTI

The India-Nepal relationship will continue to intensify across multiple sectors, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Tuesday during the video-link launch of the Motihari-Amlekhgunj energy pipeline during which he was invited to visit Nepal by Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli.

“Prime Minister Modi said the 69-km Motihari-Amlekhgunj pipeline, having a capacity of 2 million metric ton per annum, will provide cleaner petroleum products at affordable cost to the people of Nepal. He welcomed the announcement made by Prime Minister Oli to reduce the price of petroleum products by Rs. 2 per litre in Nepal,” said a press release from the office of the Prime Minister of India.

The project is one of the several connectivity schemes that India and Nepal have been planning for years, and was inked in 2015.

A test supply was carried out in July after which both sides agreed to operationalise the energy route, a first time effort in South Asia. Sources say it will help Nepal ensure stable energy supply for its domestic market.

The project is being led by the Indian Oil Corporation and the Nepal Oil Corporation, which built the infrastructure in Amlekhgunj.

Mr. Modi accepted the invitation from his Nepali counterpart to visit Kathmandu.

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