

# Russia, India, China set to forge energy ties

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BANGALORE (India: The foreign ministers of Russia, India and China agreed on Tuesday to enhance energy cooperation.

Russia's Sergei Lavrov, India's S.M. Krishna and China's Yang Jiechi met in the Indian city of Bangalore to discuss energy security, the fight against terrorism and climate change.

"India, Russia and China are seeking to intensify international energy cooperation on a new basis to help make the energy market more open, transparent and competitive and reflect the common interests of all the parties involved," the three diplomats said in a joint declaration.

The ministers recognized Russia as a leading oil and gas supplier for energy-hungry India and China, major suppliers of manufactured products and services.

"Trilateral relations can be forged in the future through the establishment of mutually advantageous energy contacts," the declaration read.

The Indian and Russian foreign ministers held talks in Moscow on October 21, while the Indian and Chinese premiers, Manmohan Singh and Wen Jiabao, met at the weekend on the sidelines of an ASEAN summit in Thailand.

The three countries are also members of the BRIC union with Brazil.

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